



ATLAS  
STRANGE TALES

STRANGE TALES OF SUSPENSE

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# STRANGE TALES

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ALL BRAND-  
NEW STRANGE  
TALES

WHAT WAS THE STRANGE  
SECRET OF  
"KARNOFF'S  
PLAN"?

WHAT HAPPENED TO  
THE  
"FIVE WHO  
VOLUNTEERED"?

# KARNOFF'S PLAN!

NEVER HAS A STRANGER, MORE MYSTERIOUS THING HAPPENED TO THIS CITY—OR ANY OTHER CITY IN THE WORLD! EVERY NIGHT ANOTHER BUILDING COMES CRUMBLING DOWN, AS IF CRUSHED BY SOME UNSEEN GIANT'S HAND!!!



WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF THIS STRANGE DESTRUCTION? SPACE BOMBS FROM ANOTHER PLANET?



BRICK TERMITES?



THE END OF THE WORLD?



EVERYONE ASKS QUESTIONS, BUT NO ONE KNOWS THE RIGHT ANSWER!



**B**UT IF THEY'D ASK THE LITTLE MAN HURRYING HOME FROM THE SCENE, THEY'D *KNOW* THE CAUSE ....



**H**E CHUCKLES TO HIMSELF AS HE CLIMBS THE STAIRS OF THE BOARDING HOUSE TO HIS ROOM ....



**B**UT THE CHUCKLE DIES ON HIS LIPS WHEN HE REACHES THE DOOR ....



I'VE TOLD YOU THAT YOU'D GET IT A THOUSANDFOLD WHEN I BECAME THE *KING OF THE WORLD!*

AND I TOLD *YOU* THAT I'D RATHER HAVE MY THIRTY DOLLARS RIGHT *NOW!*



IF YOU DON'T PAY UP, I'LL SELL ALL THAT JUNK YOU'VE GOT IN THERE FOR THE RENT MONEY!

*DON'T YOU EVER DARE GO INTO MY ROOM!*



I'LL PAY YOU NEXT WEEK, I PROMISE! NOW PLEASE LET ME INTO MY ROOM!

ALL RIGHT-- I'LL WAIT ANOTHER WEEK! BUT IF I DON'T GET THE MONEY, *OUT YOU GO!*



*THAT STUPID WOMAN! SHE'D SELL ALL THIS FOR A FEW DOLLARS-- AND RUIN MY PLAN FOR RULING THE WORLD!*



AND WHEN I'M **KING OF THE EARTH**, I'LL MAKE THE SCIENTISTS **BOW BEFORE ME** FOR REFUSING TO SHARE MY PLAN WHEN I OFFERED THEM THE CHANCE TWO YEARS AGO!

WE COULD CONTROL ALL THE GREAT SCIENTIFIC SECRETS OF THE WORLD, AND THUS BECOME THE **RULERS OF THE EARTH!**

YOU'RE **MAD, KARNOFF!** I'LL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!

I'M GOING TO DEMAND YOUR IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL!



I'M **LEAVING!** I'LL ACCOMPLISH MY PLAN ALONE! IT WILL TAKE ME LONGER, BUT I'LL DO IT!



I MOVED TO THIS PLACE RIGHT AFTER THAT.... IT'S SMALL, BUT IT'S CHEAP! AND I STARTED MY EXPERIMENTS HERE IMMEDIATELY....

I'LL DISCOVER A POWER MORE DESTRUCTIVE THAN NUCLEAR FISSION!



THAT ACCIDENTAL CHARGE OF ATOMIC ENERGY SATURATED A BLACKSMITH'S ANVIL I HAD, AND MADE IT SOFT AND PLIABLE AS CLAY!

**AMAZING!** THE IRON DOESN'T RESUME ITS NATURAL STATE! I CAN WORK IT JUST LIKE MODELING CLAY!



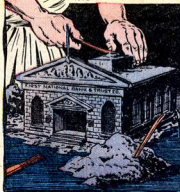
OUT OF THE MOLTEN IRON, I FASHIONED A FIGURE OF MYSELF, AND AS I WORKED ON IT, I DISCOVERED A STRANGE THING ABOUT THE LITTLE FIGURE....

WHenever I TOUCH THE **FIGURE** OF ME, I CAN **FEEL** THE SAME SENSATION IN THE SAME SPOT ON MY **BODY!** IF THIS STUFF WILL DO THE SAME THING WITH **OTHER OBJECTS** I DUPLICATE, I'LL HAVE THE **GREATEST DESTRUCTIVE POWER** IN THE WORLD!!!





"I MADE A SMALL MODEL OF THE BANK BUILDING OUT OF THE URANILUMIZED IRON...."



"THEN I PUT IT ON THE TABLE, AND I CRUSHED IT!"



"I TURNED ON THE RADIO, AND IN A FEW MINUTES A NEWS FLASH CAME OVER...."

THE BANK BUILDING IN THE HEART OF THE CITY COLLAPSED A FEW MINUTES AGO! THE CAUSE IS UNKNOWN!



AND TONIGHT I TOOK MY SMALL MODEL OF THE INSURANCE BUILDING DOWNTOWN, SO I COULD WATCH THE BIG BUILDING FALL AS I SMASHED THE REPLICA OF IT FROM A SAFE DISTANCE!



I CAN DESTROY WHOLE CITIES THIS WAY, UNTIL THE PEOPLE RECOGNIZE ME AS THEIR MASTER! NOW I'LL GET TO WORK ON THE CITY HALL BUILDING -- AND TOMORROW I'LL WATCH IT COLLAPSE!



THE NEXT EVENING, PROFESSOR KARNOFF UNCOVERS HIS SMALL MODEL OF THE CITY HALL IN THE PARK ACROSS FROM THE REAL BUILDING....



THEN HE STEPS ON IT-- AND THE REAL CITY HALL IS FLATTENED, JUST AS IF SOME GIANT FOOT HAD CRUSHED IT!!



AS A CROWD GATHERS TO VIEW THE STRANGE SIGHT, THE PROFESSOR HURRIES HOME FROM THE SCENE....



HE LAUGHS TO HIMSELF AS HE RUNS UP THE STEPS OF HIS BOARDING HOUSE....

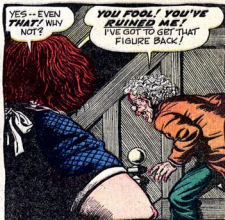


BUT HIS LAUGHTER TURNS INTO A GASP WHEN HE SEES THE DOOR TO HIS ROOM STANDING WIDE OPEN!



TWO CAN PLAY AT THE SAME GAME, PROFESSOR! YOU LIED TO ME FOR MONTHS ABOUT PAYING YOUR RENT, SO I LIED TO YOU ABOUT WAITING UNTIL NEXT WEEK BEFORE SELLING ALL YOUR STUFF TO THE JUNKMAN!

YOU EVEN SOLD THAT LITTLE IRON STATUE OF ME?



YES--EVEN THAT? WHY NOT?

YOU FOOL! YOU'VE RUINED ME! I'VE GOT TO GET THAT FIGURE BACK!

THE PROFESSOR RACES DOWN THE STREET WILDLY....



AND THAT'S THE LAST THE LANDLADY SEES OR HEARS OF HIM....



AS A MATTER OF FACT, THAT'S THE LAST ANY-ONE HEARS OF THE STRANGE PROFESSOR....



--THERE'S JUST NO TELLING WHAT THAT JUNKMAN DID WITH THE SENSITIVE, LIFELIKE LITTLE FIGURE!



FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER



THE END