

Crossovers Volume Two: 1940-The Future

1940

January. Denny Colt's first case, *The Origin of The Spirit*, as told by Will Eisner, in which criminologist Colt, presumed dead, defeats Dr. Cobra and sets up his headquarters in Wildwood Cemetery, just north of Central City.

January

CAPTAIN GRAVITY: ONE TRUE HERO

Captain Gravity's rival, Captain Marvelous, makes the headlines in the *Daily Star* newspaper. Marvelous is eventually revealed as a Nazi dupe, but redeems himself in the end.

One-shot issue of Captain Gravity by Stephen Vrtatos and Keith Martin, Penny-Farthing Press, 1999. The reference to Clark Kent's newspaper links the African-American pulp-like hero, Captain Gravity, to the CU.

CAPTAIN GRAVITY AND THE POWER OF THE VRIL

Joshua Jones' (aka Captain Gravity) friend Chase DuBois is working for American and British agents who are interested in preventing Hitler from acquiring items of occult significance. One of the British agents is Ian Fleming. The *vril* power also figures in the Nazi plot.

Miniseries by Joshua Dysart, Sal Velluto, Bob Almond, and Mike Garcia, Penny-Farthing Press, 2004-2005. The prologue takes place in December 1939, before the events of Captain Gravity: One True Hero. After World War II, Fleming became the biographer of his friend, British agent James Bond. The vril is from The Coming Race by Edward Bulwer-Lytton, providing a more solid link for Captain Gravity in the CU. The reference to January 1941 in the second issue must be an error, as the first issue establishes January 1940 as the date.

Winter. First recorded exploit of adventurer Jim Anthony. ("Dealer in Death" by "John Grange" [pseudonym for Victor Rousseau Emanuel, Robert Leslie Bellem, W.T. Ballard, and possibly others], *Super-Detective*, October 1940.)

Winter. Jethro Dumont goes into action as The Green Lama by "Richard Foster" (Kendall F. Crossen), *Double Detective*, April 1940.

Winter. Batman and Robin decide to break The Joker out of prison so they can take him to a famous brain specialist who will cure his criminal tendencies. Though he is not named, the specialist must be Doc Savage, the only physician to have perfected such a technique. Unfortunately criminals beat Batman to the punch and free The Joker first. (*Batman* #2, Summer 1940.)



Winter. Doc Harker's first case, *Crime Nest*, as related by Edwin Truett, *Detective Dime Novels*, April 1940.

Winter. The first tale of Don Diavolo (The Scarlet Wizard), *Ghost of the Undead* by "Stuart Towne" (Clayton Rawson), *Red Star Mystery*, June 1940.

Winter

THE LAUGHING TORNADO GETS A SPLIT LIP

Tiger Standish is talking to a friend of his, Philip Wain, and they refer to Romney Marsh, near Dymchurch, calling it a former stronghold of the Kentish smugglers.

A short story by Sydney Horler in the collection *Tiger Standish Does His Stuff*. *The Romney Marsh and the Kentish smugglers* references point to the stories of Dr. Syn. Since the Syn stories take place in the CU, so do the Tiger Standish tales.

CHAMBERS OF HORROR

At a Port Nocturne amusement park sideshow, four teenagers enter a sinister chamber of horrors, where they are shown the alleged skeleton of Count Dracula, the mortal remains of the Invisible Man

(presumably the original, and not visible, naturally), and the remains of an ancient Egyptian sorcerer named "Shaz-." Reporter Laurel Lye also appears.

A Femme Noir web comic by Christopher Mills and Joe Staton on the Femme Noir website. It's unclear if these are the real remains of Dracula, Griffin, and Shazam. Nevertheless, the Femme Noir stories take place in the CU, as shown by a later crossover. Shazam may have actually been a real person in the CU, but there is no evidence that he bestowed special powers on Billy Batson.

Spring. The Crimson Mask's first case, Enter the Crimson Mask, as told by "Frank Johnson" (Norman A. Daniels), Detective Novels Magazine, August 1940.

Spring. Birth of Frederick "Freddy" Charles Krueger, "the bastard son of 100 maniacs."

Spring. Events of The Stranger by Albert Camus.

Spring. Rex Parker adopts the identity of The Masked Detective in Alias the Masked Detective by "C.K.M. Scanlon" (Norman A. Daniels), The Masked Detective v1, #1, Fall 1940.

Spring

INTO THE GREAT UNKNOWN

Two space jockeys from a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away, make a blind hyperspace jump to escape a battle with Imperial fighters. Han Solo and his companion Chewbacca end up crashing their ship, the *Millennium Falcon*, in the forests of North America in the year 1814. Han and Chewie are attacked by Natives Americans living in the area, ultimately resulting in Han's death. 126 years later, Dr. Indiana Jones and his ward, Short Round, are investigating local sightings of "Sasquatch," and they discover the wreck of the *Falcon* and Solo's remains. Indy feels that everything is somehow familiar and decides to call off the search. As they depart, they are observed by Chewbacca, perched in a tree.

A short comic story by Haden Blackman and Sean Murphy, Star Wars Tales #19, Dark Horse Comics, March 2004. Han also tells Chewie that he always thought Chewie would die first, saving Han or his kids as part of that "damn life-debt." This is clearly an alternate continuity for Star Wars, but there is a possible explanation. Perhaps, in their blind hyperspace jump, Han and Chewie went through a wormhole to reach the Milky Way galaxy and a time relatively close to our present. While they went through the wormhole, they were somehow duplicated. Han-1 and Chewie-1 made it back out of the wormhole and continued their adventures in the Star Wars galaxy, while Han-2 and Chewie-2 ended up on Earth. Indy makes a reference to his discoveries at Atlantis. This was in May 1939. (Indiana Jones and the Fate of Atlantis #1-4, Dark Horse Comics.) There is an empty slot in the timeline of Indy's adventures in the year 1940. Since Short Round is depicted as a teenager, the year 1940 fits. This means that Han and Chewie crashed in 1814.

THE DREADFUL RABBITS

Judge Pursuivant receives a letter from Jules de Grandin's associate, Dr. Trowbridge, giving him background information on the menace he is facing.

Pursuivant's exploits were recorded by writer Manly Wade Wellman. This story appeared in Weird Tales, July 1940. Since de Grandin is part of the Crossover Universe, so is Judge Pursuivant.

THE HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN

Fiendish Dr. Gustav Niemann of Visaria escapes from an asylum and takes his revenge upon those who imprisoned him by reviving Lawrence Talbot (The Wolf Man), the Frankenstein Monster, and Count Dracula (aka Baron Latos).

Feature film, Universal Pictures. The Dracula seen here (Baron Latos) is not "Dracula-prime," nor is he the same Dracula "soul-clone" as that featured in Universal's 1931 film starring Bela Lugosi; Baron Latos is one of Dracula's many other soul-clones.

THE STAR PRINCE

Doctor Francis Ardan makes an emergency landing in the Western Sahara and encounters the "Little Prince."

Story by Jean-Marc Lofficier (accompanying art by Fernando Calvi) in Tales of the Shadowmen Volume 2: Gentlemen of the Night, Jean-Marc and Randy Lofficier, eds., Black Coat Press, 2006;

reprinted in French in *Les Compagnons de l'Ombre* (Tome 1), Jean-Marc and Randy Lofficier, eds., *Rivière Blanche*, 2008; and in the Lofficier's collection *Pacifica*, *Black Coat Press*, 2010. *The Little Prince* is a 1943 novel by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry about a young prince from outer space.



June

THE WAVE OF DEATH

An American magician, Eddie Fowler, performs in Chinese makeup under the name Chin Foo Kwang. Fowler is only surpassed as a magician by “Merlini, although Merlini will deny this.”

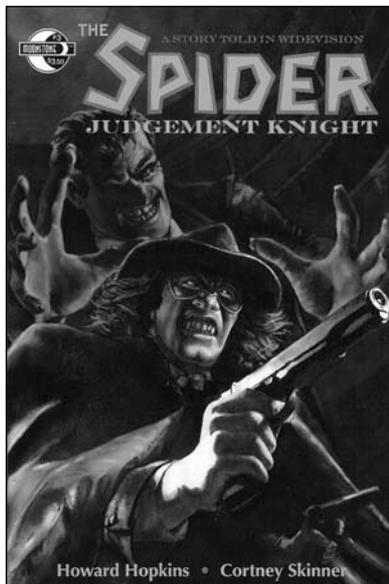
The fourth Green Lama pulp novel by Richard Foster, High Adventure #84, September 2005; originally published in Double Detective, July 1940. Merlini refers to Clayton Rawson's fictional magician detective, the Great Merlini, strengthening the Green Lama's presence in the CU.

Summer

TOM MIX AND THE MYSTERY OF THE BODILESS HORSEMAN

Tom Mix battles a threat to drive him off his ranch, the TM-Bar in Dobie, Texas. Tom notes that their friend the Masked Man gave Tom and his horse Tony a silver bullet as first prize in a rodeo. Tom's friend Wash says that “Tom's got a private detective friend in San Francisco and he sometimes acts like a crook to fool the enemy too.”

Short story by Jim Harmon in It's That Time Again: The New Stories of Old-Time Radio, Ben Ohmart, ed., BearManor Media, 2002. Tom Mix was a cowboy whose adventures ran on radio from 1933-1950. The Masked Man must be the Lone Ranger; Tom must have received the silver bullet from the Ranger when he was much younger. Tom's detective friend is doubtlessly Sam Spade. These references place the radio Tom Mix in the CU (not the real Tom Mix who starred in hundreds of silent cowboy films).



THE STRANGE CASE OF THE SPIDER AND MR. HYDE

The Spider battles his old rival James Utterson, who has discovered Henry Jekyll's formula among his grandfather's papers and has become the latest Mr. Hyde.

Short story by Howard Hopkins, illustrated by Cortney Skinner, in The Spider: Judgment Knight #3, Moonstone Comics, 2009. The original Utterson was a character in Robert Louis Stevenson's The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. The date of this story is conjectural, but Wentworth (The Spider) and Nita Van Sloan have been a couple for many years, indicating a placement later in the Spider series.

Autumn. The events of “Meet Captain America”: Dr. Reinstein successfully tests his research on volunteer Private Steve Rogers. (The first issue of Timely Comics' [later Marvel Comics] *Captain America*, published in March 1941, included here because of references in *The Case of the Shrieking Skeletons* and *Sting of the Green Hornet*. A reprint of this story can be found in *The Great Comic Book Heroes*, edited by Jules Feiffer, Bonanza Books, 1970, or in Marvel's *Captain America: The Classic Years*, 1998.)

Autumn. The events of the film Man Made Monster.

Autumn

THE SOUND OF MURDER

A New York detective, Alphabet Hicks, solves a mystery, which includes a reference to Rusterman's, the restaurant owned and run by Nero Wolfe's associate, Marko Vukcic.

A mystery written by Rex Stout. The Wolfe connection brings detective Hicks in the Crossover Universe.

ARSEN LUPEN ISTANBUL'DA

Arsène Lupin visits Istanbul where he has a friendly skirmish with Recai, a Turkish detective who has modeled himself on Lupin.

This story by Peyami Safa brings Recai into the Crossover Universe. According to Jess Nevins, Recai appeared in several dozen novels from 1926 through the mid 1980s, and was big in Turkey. Nevins also adds, "Safa created crossovers between all of his series characters, so that Recai meets female detective Cekirge Zehra in Goztepe Soygunu, and he meets Holmesian consulting detective Kartal Ihsan in Kartal Pencesinde and Kagithane Faciasi."

December

JACK ARMSTRONG AND THE HOARD OF MONTEZUMA

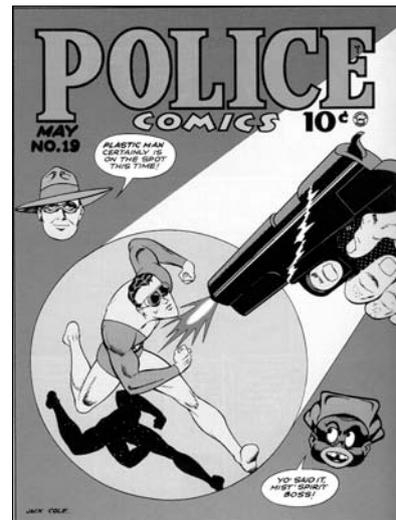
Jack Armstrong, the "All-American Boy," goes on an expedition to recover Montezuma's treasure. The Secret Squadron is mentioned, as is Frank Buck. Nick Carter helps Jack's group to recover a stolen treasure map, after which they team with Tom Mix on the expedition. It is mentioned that Sherlock Holmes is retired, but Mix states that his mentor in detective methods is "Mr. Mycroft." Jack's friend Billy wonders if the "insect" that is after them could be Spider or Hornet? Some believe they are on the side of law and order, but he doubts it. In the end, the insect turns out to be the Scorpion, an enemy of a Naval Intelligence officer named Winslow.

Short story by Jim Harmon in It's That Time Again 3: Even More New Stories of Old-Time Radio, Jim Harmon, ed., BearManor Media, 2006. The Jack Armstrong, The All-American Boy radio show ran 1933-1951. The Secret Squadron is Captain Midnight's organization. Frank Buck was a real person, author of the book Bring 'Em Back Alive. Detective Nick Carter should require no explanation. "Mr. Mycroft" is undoubtedly Sherlock Holmes. Billy is probably referring to The Spider (Richard Wentworth) and The Green Hornet. The Scorpion is an Axis agent and archenemy of Don Winslow of the Navy.

1941

Winter. "The greedy grasp of tyranny is upon Europe, and ramparts of evil challenge the free-born peoples of the world to dispute Nazi cruelty if they dare! And there are those who dare, who never refused a dare yet! Messengers of destruction to all evil and injustice—The Blackhawks!" (Quality Comics' *Military Comics* #1, August 1941).

Winter. Gangster Eel O'Brian is injured by a falling vat of "acid" during a chemical-plant robbery. The outlaw is rescued by a kindly monk and nursed back to health at Rest Haven Monastery. The Eel changes his ways, and, discovering that the acid, which has gotten into his bloodstream, has left him with strange stretching powers, he decides to use these powers to fight crime as Plastic Man. (Quality Comics' *Police Comics* #1, August 1941). Of course, Plastic Man's adventures were highly embellished for the comics; see also Matthew Baugh's "Super-Powers in the Wold Newton Universe—Explained!" on *The Wold Newton Universe* website.





Winter. Sandra Knight bounces into action in a barely-there costume as the Phantom Lady (Quality Comics' *Police Comics* #1, August 1941).

Winter
A FATHER WITHOUT CREDIT

After Charlie Chan instructs his son, Lee Chan, on some finer points on the psychology of detection, Lee responds, "Gosh Pop! That explains why great detectives like Sherlock Holmes, Arsène Lupin, and Philo Vance could tell so much about a man just by looking at him!" Chan thinks to himself, "Hmm! It is truly said, a prophet is without honor in his own country, and a father is without credit in his own home!"

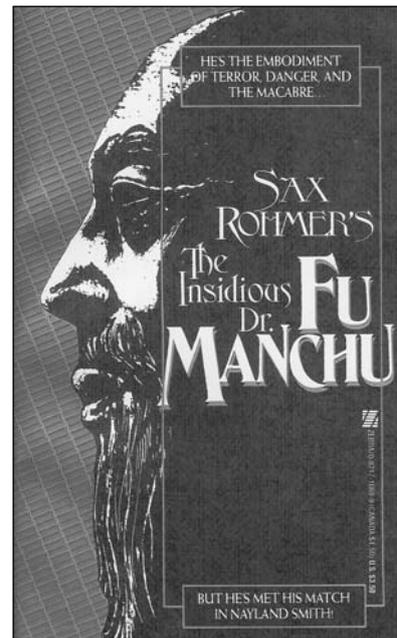
Charlie Chan Sunday comic strip from March 16, 1941 by Alfred Andriola. The strip ran untitled. It confirms that Chan coexists in the same universe with Holmes, Lupin, and Vance. For information on Charlie Chan's genealogy, see Dennis E. Power's "Asian Detectives in the Wold Newton Family" in Myths for the

Modern Age: Philip José Farmer's Wold Newton Universe, Win Scott Eckert, ed., MonkeyBrain Books, 2005.

SHADOWS OVER KUNLUN

Lance Star and his Sky Rangers are called to San Francisco, and tie up their planes at the Hidalgo Trading Co. warehouse there; the owner in New York is a friend of Lance. In Frisco, they receive secret orders from a government man named Lee, who smokes Red Apple cigarettes. While there, they are attacked at the Belmont Arms Hotel by three Si-Fan dacoits. After meeting with Lee, they set off for Tibet in search of the disgraced Great War ace known as "Le Faucon Rouge," who supposedly bears a great secret of interest called "the Midnight Sun." Le Faucon Rouge's real name is Rand. Arriving in Tibet, the Rangers discover a hidden city which appears only once every ten years. The city, Kunlun, is now controlled by Doctor Natas, who has deposed the current ruler Lord Too'an. Natas also seeks Le Faucon Rouge, and the Midnight Sun. Natas' daughter, Madame Inga, helps Lance and his crew defeat Doctor Natas, who escapes. Lance refers to a bookworm archaeology professor who defeated a resurgence of the Thuggee a few years back. Lord Too'an reveals himself as the erstwhile Captain Rand, aka Le Faucon Rouge, but decides to stay in Kunlun, as does Le Faucon's old friend, the faithful African warrior Akis. Lance, his Sky Rangers, and Madame Inga depart Kunlun without the secret of the Midnight Sun.

Short story by Win Scott Eckert in Lance Star—Sky Ranger, Ron Fortier, editor, Wild Cat Books, 2006; reprinted by Cornerstone Books, 2008. Lance Star is an aviation hero who allegedly appeared in Canadian pulps. (The Canadian pulps backstory is mythological; Lance Star is actually an original character created for this anthology.) This crossover brings him into the Crossover Universe. The Hidalgo Trading Co. is from the Doc Savage pulp novels, written primarily by Lester Dent. Lance's friend is Doc Savage. The Belmont Arms Hotel in San Francisco is from the film Shock, starring Vincent Price and directed by Alfred L. Werker, 1946. Lee is James Lee Wong, the Chinese government agent and sleuth who appeared in stories by Hugh Wiley. The character was sometimes referred to only as "James Lee," and the crossover also places him in the CU. Red Apple cigarettes have been seen in Pulp Fiction, Kill Bill Volumes 1 & 2, and various other films. Doctor Natas is from Guy d'Armen's Doc Ardan: City of Gold and Lepers, and was identified as Sax Rohmer's Doctor Fu Manchu by Jean-Marc Lofficier. Doctor Fu Manchu commands the Si-Fan. His other aliases are: Shan Ming Fu (established in



Dennis E. Power's essay "The Devil Doctor: The Early History of Fu Manchu" on his website *The Wold Newton Universe: A Secret History*), and *Hanoi Shan* (from H. Ashton Wolfe's *Warped in the Making*, as established by Philip José Farmer in *Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life*). *The Midnight Sun* is from the *Fu Manchu* novel *The Fires of Fu Manchu* by Cay Van Ash. *Madame Inga* is *Fu Manchu/Natas'* daughter, *Fah Lo Suee*. In Sax Rohmer's novels she frequently used the alias "Madame Ingomar." The bookworm archaeology professor is *Indiana Jones*, and the events surrounding the *Thuggee* were depicted in *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*. *Le Faucon Rouge* is *Barry Rand*, *The Red Falcon*, now known as *Lord Too'an*. *Akis* is the Falcon's aide, the giant African *Sika*. After the Great War, *Rand* and *Sika* ended up in the hidden city of *Kunlun*, or rather *K'un-L'un*, and decided to stay. *K'un-L'un* is the hidden city from the pages of *Marvel Comics'* *Iron Fist*. *Iron Fist's* real name is *Daniel Rand*. *Danny Rand's* father is *Wendell Rand*, an inhabitant of *K'un-L'un* who left the hidden city in 1951 and married a woman from the outside world. He returned ten years later with his wife and nine-year-old son, only to be murdered just before reaching *K'un-L'un*. *Danny* spent ten years in the city, and left in 1971 at the age of nineteen, becoming the hero called *Iron Fist*. *Wendell's* father was named *Lord Tuan* (*Too'an* in "Shadows Over Kunlun"). Thus, *Barry Rand* (*The Red Falcon*) is the grandfather of *Danny Rand* (*Iron Fist*).

CROSSOVER

In *Port Nocturne*, the skeletal cloaked vigilante *Brother Grim* saves the heroine *Femme Noir* from some mobsters.

A *Femme Noir/Brother Grim web comic* by *Christopher Mills*, *Dario Carrasco*, *Jim Keplinger*, and *Sebastian Lamirand*.

THE TRAIL OF CARMINE BONOXIDE/WHITE ZOMBIE

In a semi-sequel to the events of the film *White Zombie*, gangster *Carmine Bonoxide* kidnaps socialite *Madeline Short* and takes her to *Haiti*. Her fiancé, *Neil Parker*, enlists the *Prowler's* help. Along the way, they meet *Ed Gein*. After discovering that *Murder Legendre* is involved in the plot, they finally arrive in *Haiti*. There, they are greeted by *Reverend Van Helsing*, who tells them that he has been sent to help by the magician *Chandu*. *Van Helsing* also tells them that *Chandu* and *Legendre* are twin brothers, good and evil sides of the same coin. The *Prowler* and *Parker* finally defeat *Legendre* and rescue *Madeline*.

A story in #3 of the miniseries *Revenge of the Prowler* by *Michael H. Price* and *Graham Nolan*, *Eclipse Comics*, 1988. The story is continued in the one-shot *The Prowler in White Zombie* by *Michael H. Price*, *Gerald Forton*, and *Graham Nolan*, *Eclipse Comics*, 1988. *Short* and *Parker* went through similar events in the film *White Zombie* (*Halperin Productions*, 1932). *Ed Gein* was a real-life serial murderer. *Chandu* is from the films *Chandu the Magician* (1932), and *The Return of Chandu* (1934). In the first film, *Chandu* (aka *Frank Chandler*) was played by *Edmund Lowe*. In the second film, *Chandu* was played by *Bela Lugosi*, who also played *Murder Legendre* in *White Zombie*. *Chandu the Magician* also had a long-running radio series. *Van Helsing* is related to the well-known vampire-hunters.

THE HALF-HAUNTED

Judge *Keith Hilary Pursuivant* is consulted by *Jules de Grandin* and *Dr. Trowbridge*.

Short story by *Manly Wade Wellman*, writing as *Gans T. Field*, *Weird Tales*, September 1941.

TOPPER RETURNS

Cosmo Topper hires *Jack Benny's* butler *Rochester*, but *Rochester* complains that he's going back to *Mister Benny*.

Feature film, 1941. *Jack Benny* was the best friend of *George Burns*, whose wife *Gracie Allen* once solved a murder case with *Philo Vance* in 1938.

March

THE BROKEN VASE

While in *New York*, private detective *Tecumseh Fox* has dinner at *Rusterman's*.

A novel by Rex Stout. *Rusterman's* is also frequented by Stout's detective, Nero Wolfe, thus confirming *Fox in the Crossover Universe*.

April. Marla Drake, an American cousin of British agent John Drake, dons the skintight black leopard costume of an African witch-doctor and springs into action as the spicy heroine, The Black Fury, later known as Miss Fury, in weekly tales told by Tarpé Mills.

Spring. David Nelson, Jr., takes to the skies as Airboy (*Air Fighters Comics* #2, Hillman Periodicals). Versions of many of the non-superhero characters associated with Airboy, and the non-superhero Hillman characters whose continuing tales were told in the pages of Eclipse Comics in the 1980s, can be assumed to exist in the CU. These include Airboy II, Valkyrie, the Black Angel, the Black Angel II, Prowler, Strike, Sgt. Strike, the Heap, Rackman, the Flying Dutchman, Iron Ace, La Lupina, and Skywolf.

Spring. After briefly escaping from prison the previous year, Brigid O'Shaunessy gives birth to Sam Spade, Jr., in the California State Women's Prison (see Brad Mengel's "The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of: The History of the Maltese Falcon" on *The Wold Newton Universe* website).

Spring. The events of the film *The Mad Monster*.

Spring 1941-1945. Group 13 is active, as referenced in several novels by J.T. Edson. It consists of Beryl Snowhill, Amelia Penelope Diana Benkinsop, Alison Dawn "Tex" Counter & Major Roger Gunn (Bunduki's parents), and John Armand Drummond-Clayton & Hazel Rutherford (Dawn Drummond-Clayton's parents). John Armand Drummond-Clayton is the son of John "Korak" Drummond-Clayton and the nephew of Captain Hugh "Bulldog" Drummond (see Philip José Farmer's *Tarzan Alive*).



Spring

LADY ARCANE: THE MISTRESS OF MAGIC

Arlene Kane, a gorgeous stage magician, is the daughter of famous archeologist Gilbert Kane: "He's in the jungles of Hidalgo with Clark Savage. Savage thinks there's some kind of lost city down there." Lady Arcane was a protégé of Frank Chandler, aka Chandu. The story takes place in Port Nocturne. Also appearing are Laurel Lye, a reporter who may also be *Femme Noir*; Rod Riley, the only honest cop in Port Nocturne; and editor Joe Capshaw.

A story by Ron Fortier in *Hounds of Hell*, Wild Cat Books, 2005. *Hidalgo* is the location of several Doc Savage pulp novels. The name "Gilbert Kane" is a tribute to the Silver Age comic book artist Gil Kane. *Port Nocturne*, created by Christopher Mills, is the setting of the *Femme Noir* website, bringing in *Femme Noir* and *Brother Grim*. Laurel Lye, Rod Riley, and Joe Capshaw are all supporting members of the *Femme Noir* stories.

BLONDES IN CHAINS

Ellen Patrick (The Domino Lady) teams up with The Black Bat (D.A. Tony Quinn) in New York City.

Short story by C.J. Henderson in *Domino Lady: Sex as a Weapon*, edited by Lori Gentile, Moonstone Books, 2009.

THE ESSENCE OF THE POISON

The Shomi-Upper Ozark Railroad is prominently featured.

Story by Philip José Farmer in *Farmerphile: The Magazine of Philip José Farmer #4*, April 2006, edited by Christopher Paul Carey and Paul Spiteri, and published by Michael Croteau; reprinted in *Up From the Bottomless Pit and Other Stories*, Christopher Paul Carey, ed., Subterranean Press, 2007. Tim Howler from "After King Kong Fell" and "The Face that Launched a Thousand Eggs" attended the University of Shomi.

May

THE ADVENTURE OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS IMPOSTOR

Holmes theorizes that the Rudolf Hess who landed in Scotland is an impostor. He also makes this remark: “Scotland Yard with men like Wilson and French and Alleyn is not what it was in the days of Lestrade.”

Short story by Anthony Boucher in Ellery Queen’s 1944 anthology The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes. This reference reinforces G.D.H. and M.I. Cole’s Superintendent Henry Wilson in the CU, and brings in Freeman Willis Crofts’ Inspector French and Ngaio Marsh’s Roderick Alleyn.

June

THE MAYAN MUTATIONS

When a man comes to Doc Savage’s headquarters seeking help with his adulterous wife, Ham recommends, “Go look up Sam Spade or some other seedy gumshoe, Herkimer. The world isn’t threatened by your wife’s infidelities—and Doc only accepts world-threatening cases.” Ham then refers to Monk as a “bolgani.” Later on, Monk bets that a tree city “puts Tarzan’s joint to shame.”

Marvel Comics’ Doc Savage magazine #7, January 1977, by Doug Moench, Val Mayerik, and Tony DeZuniga. “Bolgani” is the Mangani word for “gorilla.” Monk’s reference could either be to the real Lord Greystoke or the cinematic Tarzans.