

October 2024



"It's your New York!"

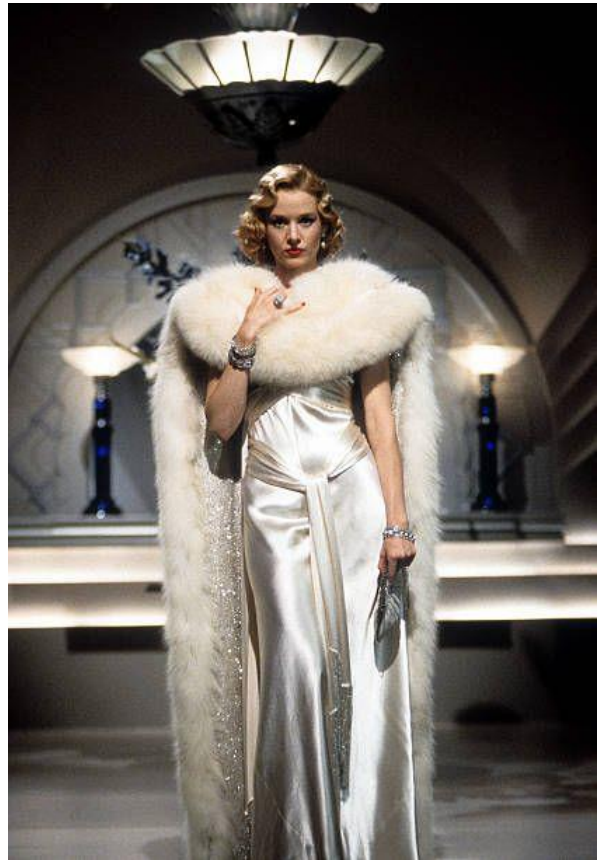
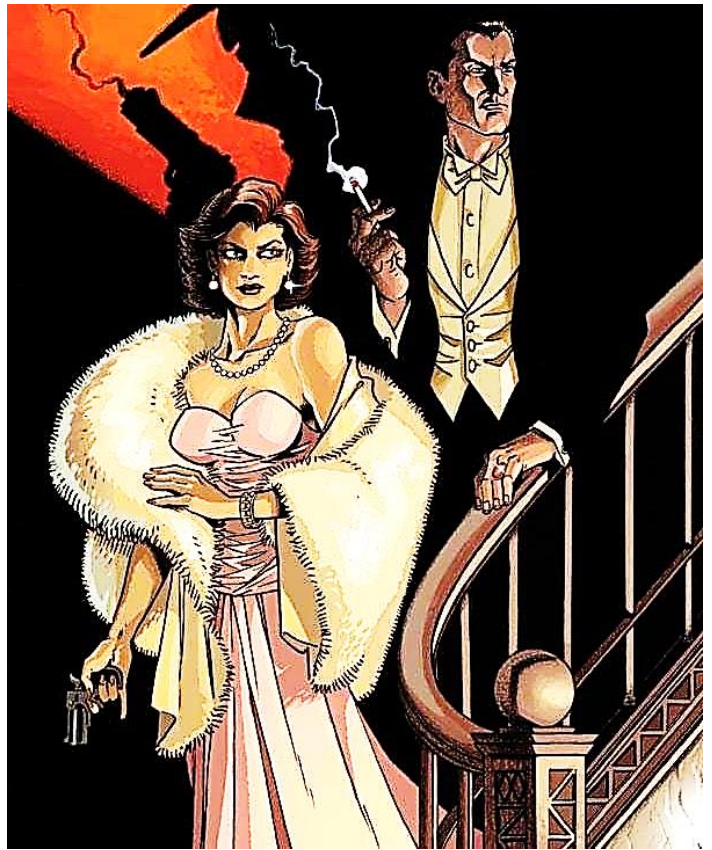
The Rondout Reader

From Eddyville, New York



MARGO, MY LOVE

by Kevin Ahearn



DAILY BUGLE

NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER



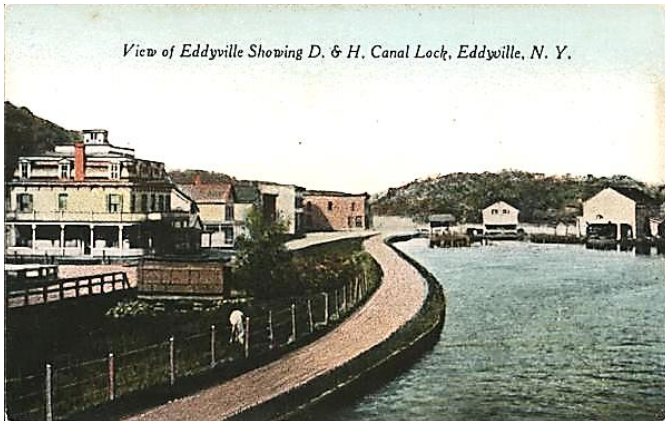
WHEN WILL THE SHADOW STRIKE?

By JJ JAMESON

Part 6 2015

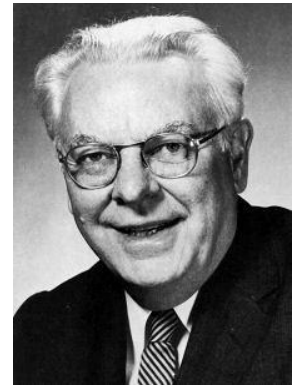


'Listen to the Rondout, forever singing its favorite song, through drought and flood, the timbre of immortality!'



"I can't help but imagine Eddyville in its D&H Canal heyday rather than the disjointed village it has become!"

"But after what's happened to me, who am I to say?"



"I am alone in this 21st Century! Once a superstar of radio, literature and Hollywood, I've become an obscure footnote, a Halloween afterthought!"

BE THRILLED BY

The Shadow
BROADCAST

OVER YOUR OWN STATION



Starting Sunday, September 24, 1939, "The Shadow" stories will be broadcast regularly over the Mutual Broadcasting System stations listed on opposite page.

The leading rôle, that of THE SHADOW himself, has become one of the most publicized in the history of radio programming.

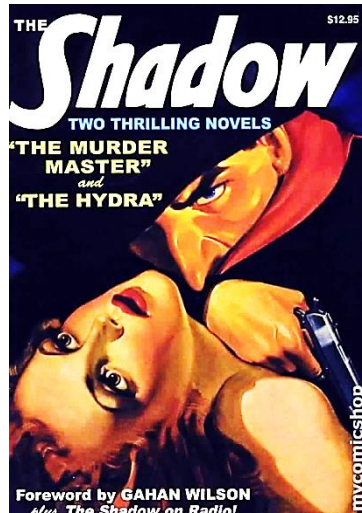
William Johnstone, Orson Welles' successor, is THE SHADOW. He appeared in the Theater Guild shows with Helen Hayes and he has had many radio successes.

Agnes Morehead, who plays Margot Lane, has made numerous radio appearances with Helen Hayes and Ben Bernie and has even been one of Phil Baker's stooges.

THE **Shadow** \$12.95

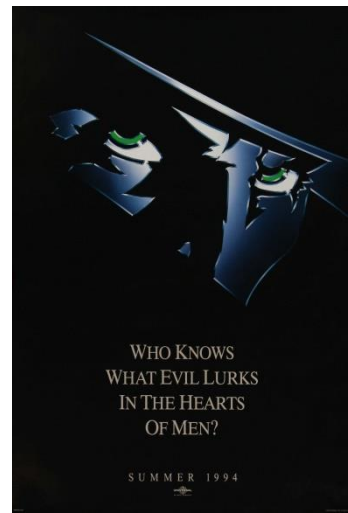
TWO THRILLING NOVELS

"THE MURDER MASTER" and "THE HYDRA"



Foreword by GAHAN WILSON
from "The Shadow on Radio"

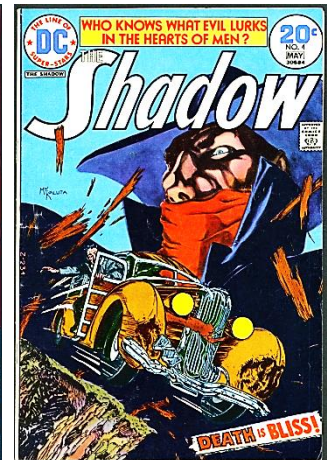
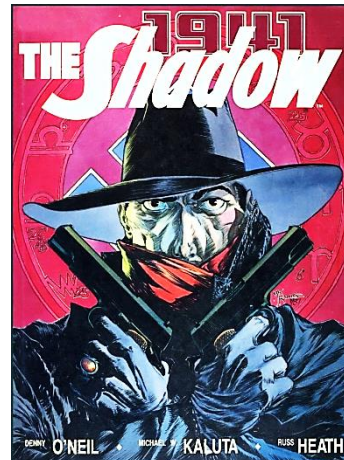
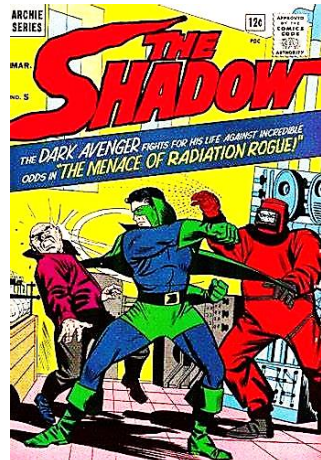
mycomicshop



WHO KNOWS WHAT EVIL LURKS IN THE HEARTS OF MEN?

SUMMER 1994

"I, alone again, in the Dynamite and Archie comic universes and a charter member of the MCU and the DCU!"





"Comic books kept me alive for many years, but I no longer trust them!"



'One gutless hack, in exchange for a few shekels, killed off the love of my life to juice up his boring story!

'I've killed for so much less! Better to find Margo alive and dispel forever this mindless trash!'

IN THE BIG CITY...



"Welcome to the Daily Bugle, Doctor. Peter Parker explained?"

"The 'Master of Darkness'! What does he want?"



*“Doctor, been in this business half my life and faced up to all kinds of dangerous and deadly villains, but **The SHADOW** has got me bonkers!*

“He’s like a living shost! Came into this office and threatened me! I want this ‘Master of Darkness’ captured and locked up!”



*“Mister Jameson, you do not fully understand the power of **The SHADOW** who became a magical hero before either of us was alive!*

“This ‘living apparition’ is neither of woman born nor testtube created! He also did not have a “first appearnace”, but premiered as a voice on the radio!”





*“Be forewarned, editor-in-chief! There are bodies rotting in graves ‘round the world of those who underestimated **The SHADOW!**”*

“He is pure spirit! No spell or potion will render him helpless! Taking advice from a classic witch...”



“Things like this must be done...delicately!”

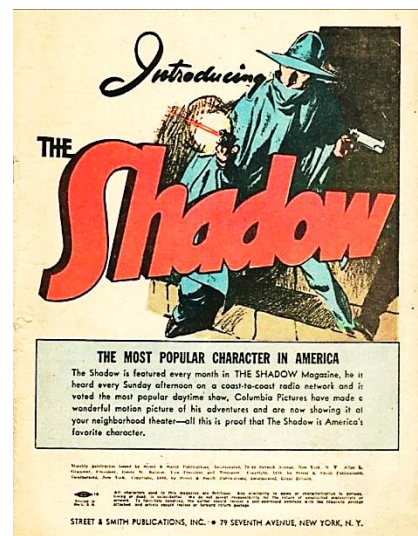
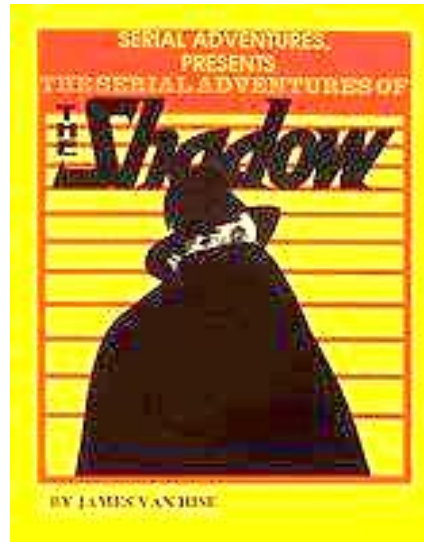
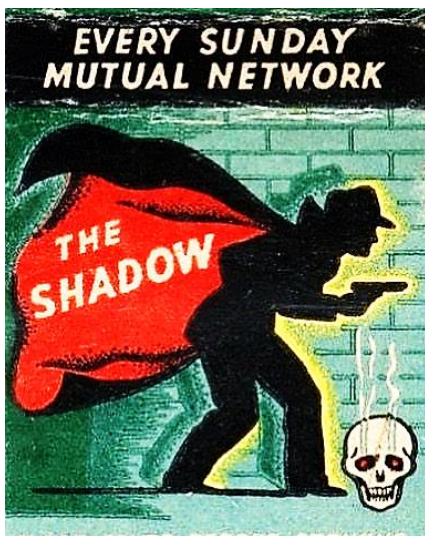
@ PP 1 PLAZA...





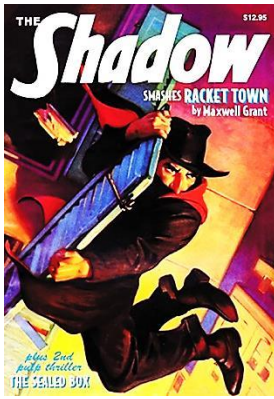
"I'm a family man, but at this desk, family, I am the Police Commissioner of New York City!"

"Last Sunday dinner, I saw and heard what you did, But until we have irrefutable forensic evidence, The SHADOW does not exist!"



"But, Commissioner, this 'Master of Darkness' has given us dozens of arrests! And we're supposed to cover up The SHADOW?"

"Cover up what? We all come out and say we saw The SHADOW and if we cannot prove it, we'll be laughed out into the street!"



“You have to like him. He’s got a James Earl Jones voice, a spooky fashion style, and he’s killed more bad guys than John Wick and Marshal Dillion put together!”

*“Yeah, **The SHADOW**’s the man! But only if you back .45 caliber justice! Now that the “Master of Darkness” has no guns, he’s a voice in the dark and nothing more!”*



*“Look, I really don’t know what to make of this... But until **NYPD** can prove otherwise, **The SHADOW** does not exist! And that’s an order!”*

People

MAGAZINE

INVESTIGATES



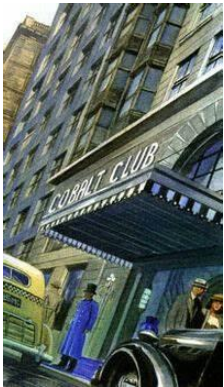
Real or Unreal?

DO YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS?

A TRAIN RIDE SOUTH FROM EDDYVILLE. ON THE RONDOUT



'I will find my Margo if I have to turn the whole city upside down!'



'Our favorite "watering hole"! Where we first met. Smokin' and drinkin' like crazy. Either Margo wised up and got healthy or she's long gone!'



'Where's the love of his life? The Shadow doesn't know! But The Shadow does know how to find out!'

WHILE IN THE HEART OF TOWN...



“Let the countdown begin! This is gonna be like the D-Day invasion! We’ll charge into the American consciousness and before the country wakes up, we’ll be running it!”



“I’ve got operators from coast to coast. ready to go! Our feeble competition won’t know what hit them!”

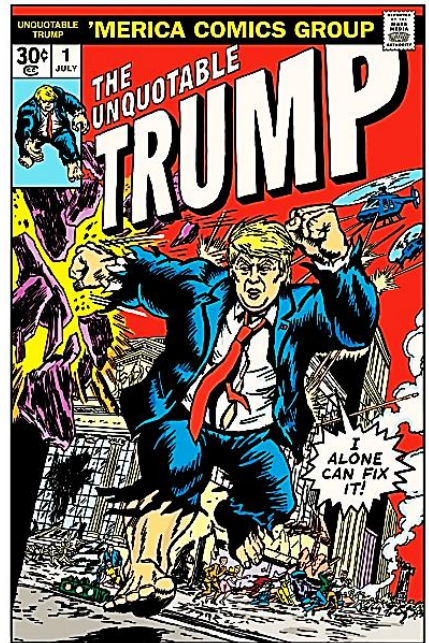
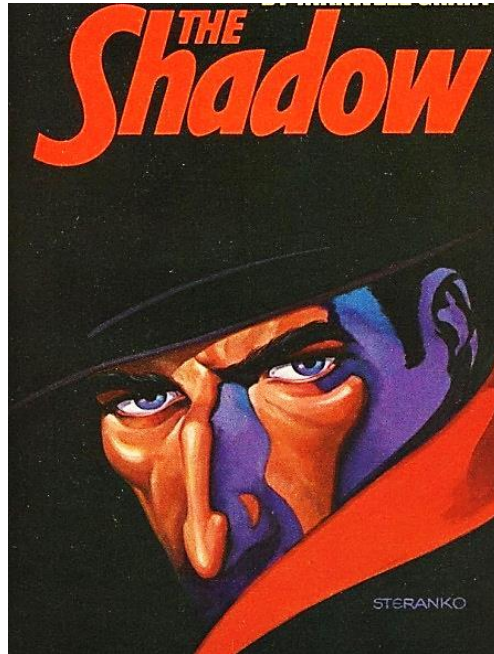
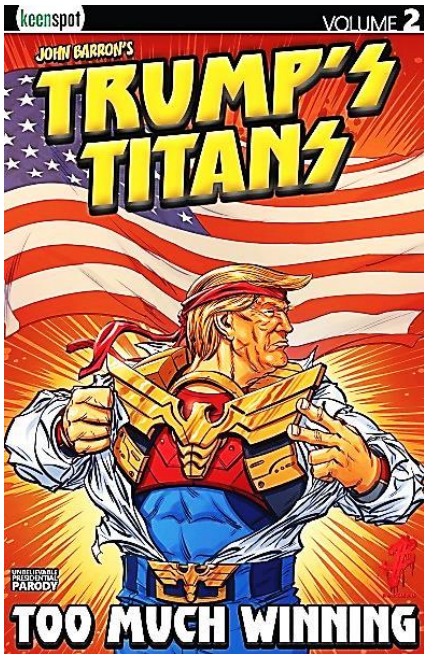
“The Party is weak and desperate! You offer the RNC strength and leadership! They’ll line up like lemmings!”



“But wait! Not until we neutralize The SHADOW – right, ‘America’s Mayor’?”



“Do not make fun of “The Master of Darkness! He will make us all very sorry!”



“First, we’ve got to infiltrate and then dominate the media! Our message must overtake and leave behind, the Liberal Dogma that’s hobbling America!”



“Alternative facts will be our strategy! We will weaponize all aspects of the media and demonize all competition! Winning is our only goal!”



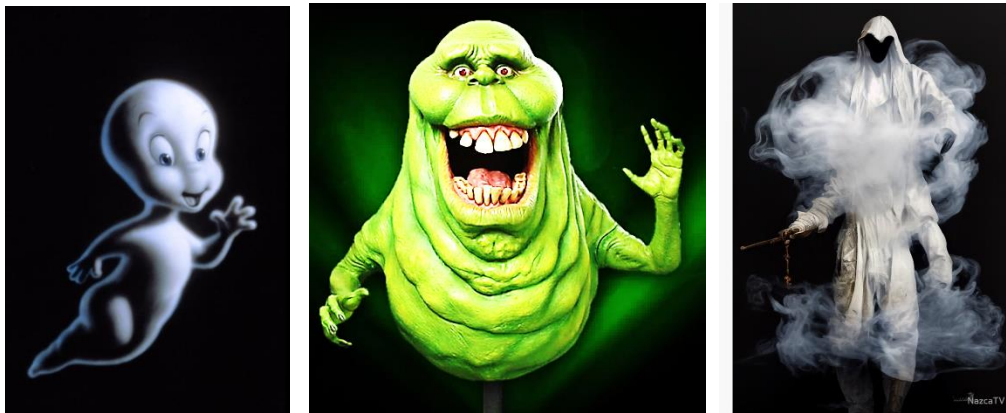
*“To be The Power, we must take The Power!
 But not by promising old, dated dreams..
 New and fresh, full of home-grown boldness! Dems
 and The SHADOW are the past, we shall be The Future!”*

“Make America great again!”

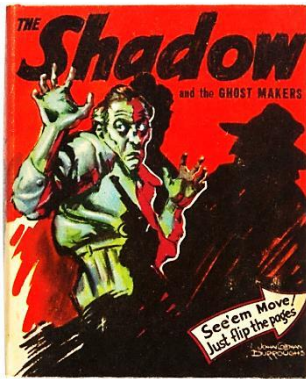
IN DR. STRANGE’S SANCTUM SANCTORUM...



*“Ghosts! Fictional apparitions! Dealt with
 a haunted bunch of them!”*



“But The SHADOW is a unique phenomena!”



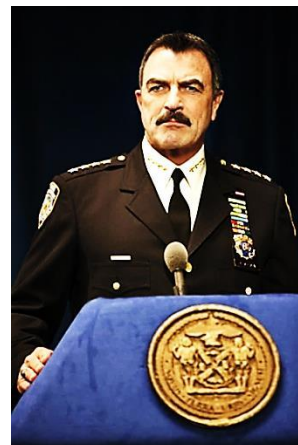
"To pursue this literary phantom is an exercise in futility unless I can connect with his creator..."



"Walter Brown Gibson!

From Eddyville, on the Rondout!"

@ PP 1 PLAZA...



"I want to announce and honor those NYPD officers who broke this drug ring!"

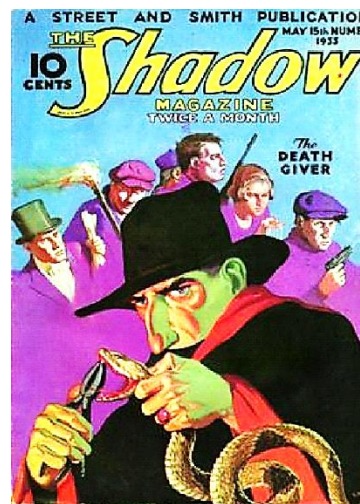


"NYPD acted on an anonymous tip and closed in. Eleven arrests, no casualties!"

"A tip, Commissiober? From The SHADOW?"

"Nice try, mild-mannered reporter! Until there is irrefutable evidence, The SHADOW does not exist!"

"We're working on it!"



"If you're going to ask about The SHADOW... No irrefutable evidence, The SHADOW doesn't exist!"

"I understand, Detective. If the 'Master of Darkness' were real and helping New York, you're not giving him up."

"Your 'Spidey Sense' tell you that?"

DOCTOR STRANGE



NATIONAL ENQUIRER



Mike Mayhew

CAN HE BUST THE SHADOW?



"Margo, Margo! I've looked everywhere and you're nowhere to be found! But there is just one last resource, the final appeal!

'Just a quick train ride away...

"And the show is just about to begin!"



* Designed by TownMapsUSA.com

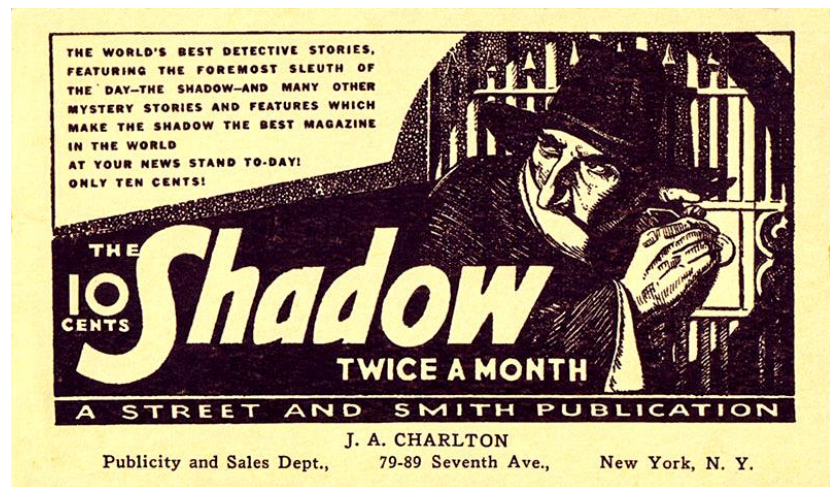




*“Hello, and welcome to another episode of **Comic Book Men**, the only show this century to dare shine a light on Comictim’s Greatest Mystery... Who was, who is **THE SHADOW?**”*



“Pulp radio superstar of the magazine racks and Hollywood for nearly a generation, his true identity as yet, unexposed!”





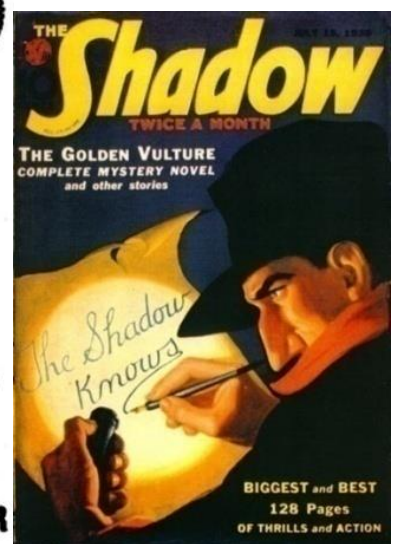
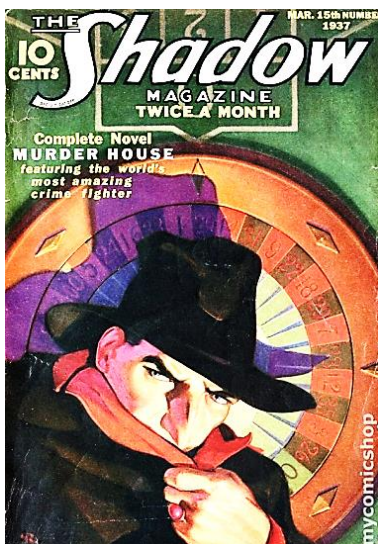
“‘Master of Darkness’ and ‘The First Superhero’ a.k.a. **THE SHADOW!**”



“Just what the Great Depression needed! For a dime, a complete adventure you and your friends and family could read over and over!”



“First heard, then read! His ‘origin’ has a dozen versions, but **who is he?**”





*“The **SHADOW** isn’t just before our time, he’s before comic books’ time!”*

“The first superhero or anti-hero, depending on your take! Guns ablazing!”

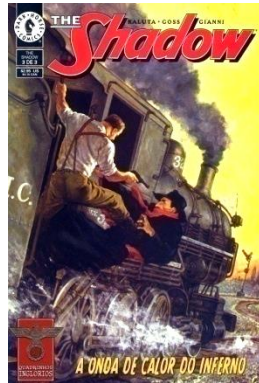
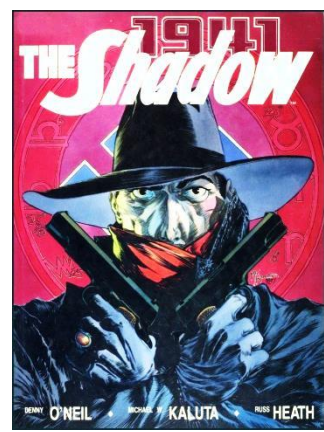
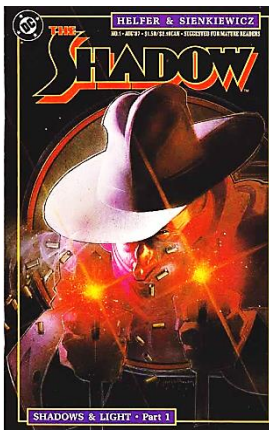


*“From first magazine to the last
The most popular fictional
character in America!”*

*“Beyond **The Shadow** of a doubt!
A Columbia serial, five films plus
two TV pilots!”*

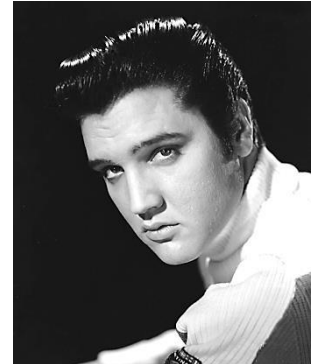


*“But he couldn’t last. After the war, it was a
new world, but the same old **SHADOW!**”*



“Everybody published him until he stopped making money!”

“Non-profit’ is the Kryptonite of the industry! The SHADOW went red!”



“Not any more! His comeback, real or not, is in real life! For years, conspiracy theories kept Hitler and Elvis alive!

“Ah, but The SHADOW is unique! We’ve got witnesses or ‘listeners’ whining from jail!

“A voice in the dark’ – The SHADOW is back!”



*“The **SHADOW** is real? Sounds like a conspiracy theory or a publicity stunt!*

*“The ‘first superhero’ cannot possibly be alive! I don’t care about the **NYPD** rumor! The **SHADOW** is dead, long dead, dead, **DEAD!**”*





"Wait! Did you just hear something?"

"Can't be! Our 24/7 security system is flawless!"



"Hello, gentlemen! As you were saying..."

"Huh?" "Whoops!" "Whaaaaa?" "No!" "Yes!"

"Surprised? You shouldn't be! Superman, Batman and Spider-man are now more alive than they ever were!"



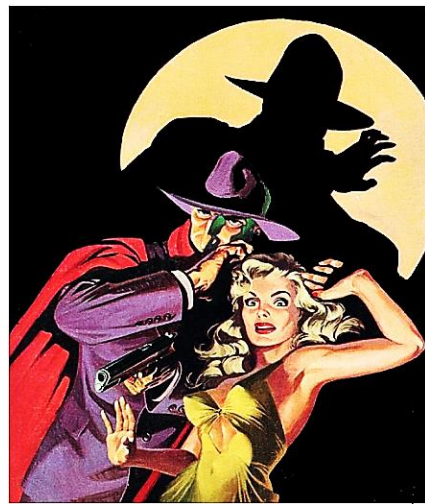
by Ty-Done22



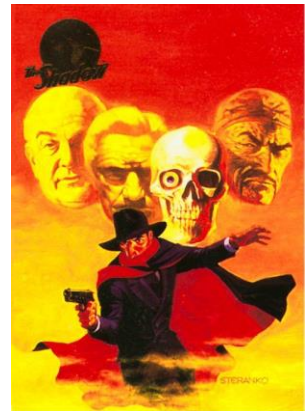
"And I was created before any of them!"



“Spill it, **SHADOW!** What brings you here?”



“Margo Lane, *the love of my very long life!*
**You COMIC BOOK MEN are the Heroes of Hopeless
Comictim Causes...Help me find her, PLEASE!**”



“Heroes of Hopeless Causes’...Thank you, **SHADOW!**
But ‘Master of Darkness’, since rumors of your return began
to swirl, demand, and the price of your comics hit the roof! We
don’t have a single issue left in stock. **SOLD OUT!**”



"And my dolls as well, I suppose!"



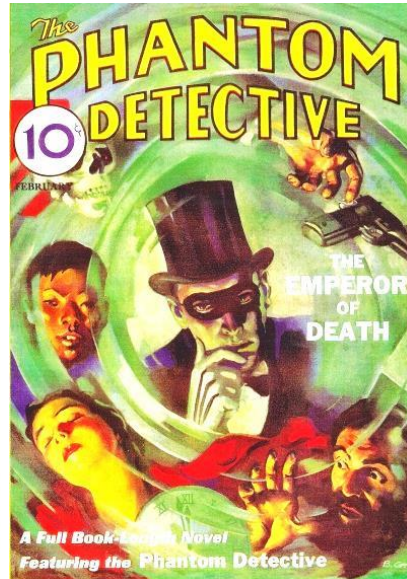
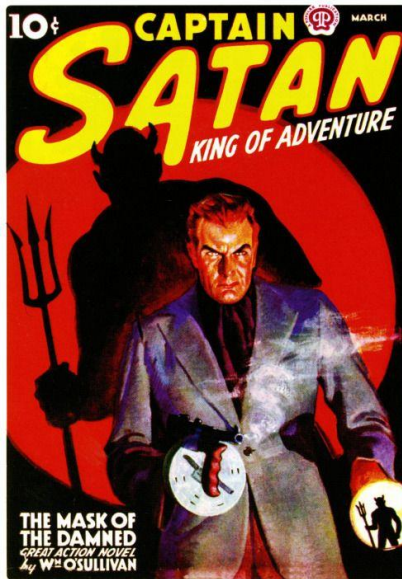
"SHADOW, your merch is the hottest thing since Hula Hoops!
The whole inventory was scooped up just hours after you...

"Anyway, since the SHADOW 'knows', where can I get some more SHADOW dolls and games?"





'The almighty dollar! It's not the Constitution that runs America! The bottom line killed all the Pulp era heroes. I was the last to go!'



"Then came comic books and television! We never stood a chance!"

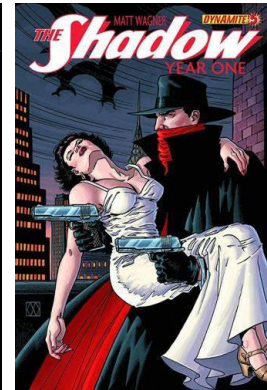


*"But you survived, **SHADOW!** Thanks to comic books! Your TV pilots both sucked and quickly died."*

"Your Columbia serial was barely watchable, but not your movies! One shot in color was a misfire!"

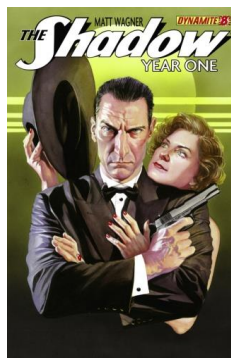


*“And now you want your girlfriend back!
Didn’t you hear, the comics killed her!”*



*“Comic books have no credibility! You
heroes know that better than I. DC killed
SUPERMAN and he came back when the
money was right!*

“Where is Margo Lane?”



*“But first, who are you, **SHADOW**?
WWI pilot ace Kent Allard or
Lamont Cranston, millionaire playboy?”*

*“You’ve been playing your
‘secret identity game’ for almost
a century. Who are you?”*

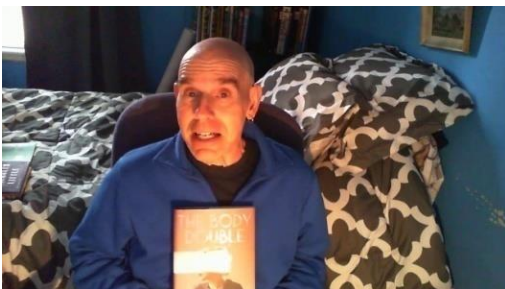


*"I've been both Allard and Cranston,
but I am neither! And I thought you
'Heroes' understood. You know nothing!"*

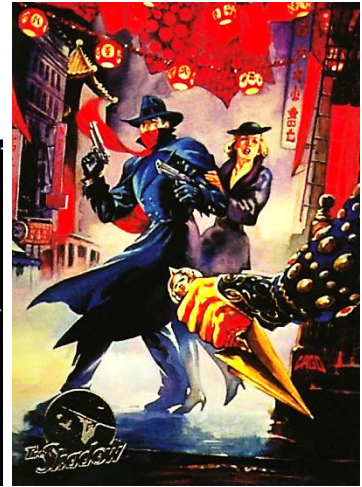


*"The greatest detectives in the Pop Culture Universe
have yet to discover **THE SHADOW**'s secret!"*

*"As for those YouTube podcasters telling my history...
Don't make **THE SHADOW** laugh!"*



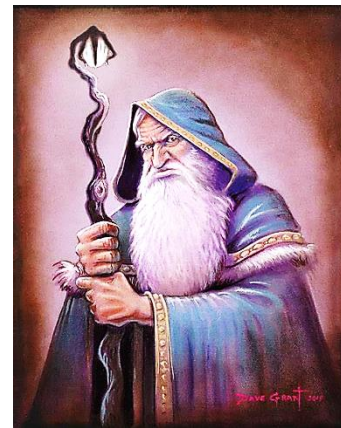
"So you want to know the truth, do you?"



"You comic book men know so little about classic creations – the incredible magic of the process!"



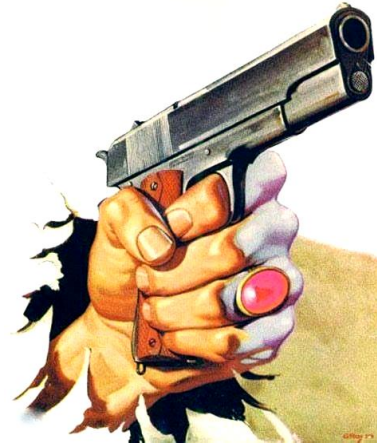
"Immortal characters dreamed up by partnerships of genius! But not The SHADOW! The 'Master of Darkness' was conjured solely by a master magician!"



*"I am the ultimate illusion, an immortal presence!
Radio, magazines, comic books and movies!
I've done it all and I'm not done yet!"*



*“No, no, **SHADOW!** You can exist all you want forever, but you’re not ever coming back! There’s no market for a gun-toting vigilante whose only S.O.P. is capital punishment!”*



*“Sorry, **SHADOW,** but too many school shootings!”*

“Soldiers and police carry guns, and a few private eyes and secret agents, but not some vengeful force in black!”

“Your time has long passed!”

“The market’s grown up!”

“Your magic’s played out.”

“Please bow out gracefully!”



“Comic Book Men? You’re a bunch of little boys playing arrogant punks!

*“I am, and always will be, **The SHADOW** You will never understand what I mean. You won’t even try!*

“Good-Bye!”



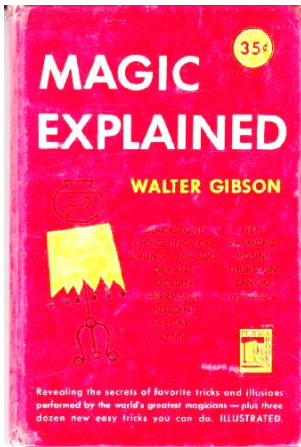
“Wait, SHADOW! You can come back! Without you, the Pulp Universe will vanish forever! But please, leave your guns at home!



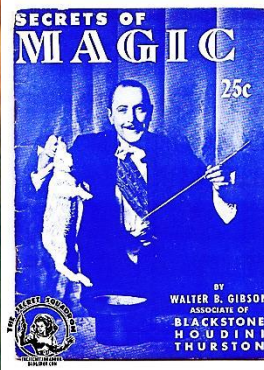
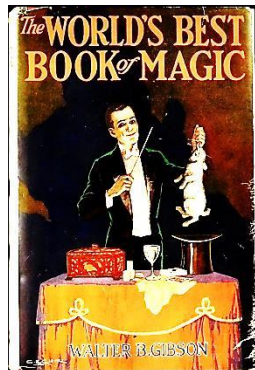
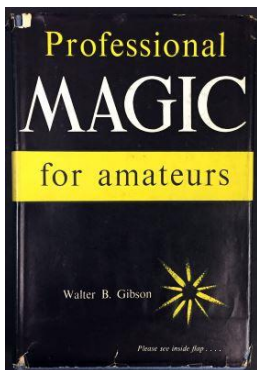
“In Eddyville, New York, you know, on the Rondout!”



"I caught a 'dog' north and counted the bridges over the Rondout!"



"The 'Magic House'! Walter's true love was magic! I was just a money-making hobby that paid for his forays into the dark arts!"

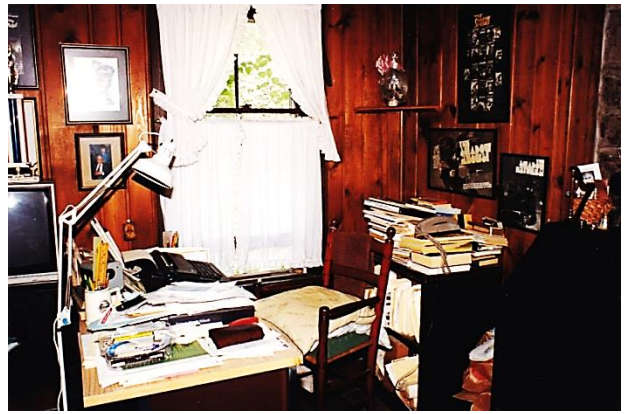


*"Walter and his magic created me!
The greatest trick by a master who remains almost unknown to this day.*

"There is no justice in magic!"



*"Strange, I sense a presence beyond my own!
Who dares trespass the **SHADOW**'s home?"*



*"I do, **SHADOW**! How appropriate that we
finally meet, surrounded by magic!"*

(To be continued)