

Read The News-Times Funnies Filled with Fun, Thrills, and Adventure!

SCORCHY SMITH

Close Call

THE DRAMA OF DEATH AND DELIVERY OF THE MISSING RUBY FINDS SCORCHY FACING REPENTANT OPAL AND TRAITOROUS SVEND IN THE CRYPT BELOW THE GREAT SHRINE ROOM...

PASS ME THAT OMNIBLAST, PVM!

OPAL! BREAK AWAY FROM HIM OR YOU'LL DIE WITH HIM!

YOUR BEST CHANCE OF SURVIVING IS TO STAY WITH ME, OPAL DEAR... THIS GUN IS CLOSER THAN HIS!

M-MERCY EARTHMAN! DON'T SHOOT!

YOUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO GET OUT OF RANGE, OPAL... NOW!

SOUNDS LIKE THAT EARTHMAN IS THREATENING OPAL, THE GUARDIAN OF THE SHRINE!

I TOLD YOU NOT TO FIRE! SMITH WAS TO BE TAKEN ALIVE!

BUT I WAS EVEN TOO LATE TO STOP HIM SHOOTING OPAL!

!?! BY GREAT OGAR!!

SCORCHY SMITH

Ruby Returns

SMITH WAS AIMING OVER OPAL'S HEAD!

THE IMPACT OF YOUR SHOT AT HIM CAUSED HIM TO FIRE!

BUT LOOK!!

THE GIANT RUBY! THE GREAT TALISMAN OF OGAR IS RETURNED!

SMITH'S OMNIBLAST SHOT UNCOVERED AND DISLODGED IT... TO FALL AND CRUSH TWO TRAITORS!

AND JUST WAIT TILL ALL ASTAR HEARS THAT THEIR OWN GUARDS SHOT SWATH, OUR LEADER!

THAT NEW COLUMN WAS BUILT TO SUPPORT THE GREAT SHRINE ROOM ABOVE!

AND ALL THE TIME OGAR'S RUBY WAS HIDDEN IN THE TOP OF IT!

HE'S BREATHING!!

I AIMED AT HIS WEAPON! HE'S JUST STUNNED!

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT, BOYS!

COME ALONG EARTHMAN! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

JUST A MOMENT, MEN! THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY!

DICKIE DARE

Two Of A Kind

DAN AND JAN, WHOM DICKIE THINKS OF AS KINFOLK, HAVE FLOWN EAST TO PAY HIM A CHRISTMAS VISIT...

AND NOW WE PROUDLY PRESENT, RICHARD FLYNN!

DAN... YOU DIDN'T NAME HIM FOR ME?

WE SURE DID! AND SINCE HE SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME IN HOT WATER...

...WE NATURALLY CALL HIM... BET I KNOW... HI, DICKIE!

KID, YOU CERTAINLY CAN PLAY TUNES ON THOSE DRUM STICKS!

DICKIE, DID YOU EVER WANT TO PLAY ON A REAL INSTRUMENT?

WHY YES, I'VE OFTEN ENVIED THE GUYS IN OUR SCHOOL BAND... WHY DO YOU ASK?

YOU'LL UNDERSTAND - RIGHT AFTER COFFEE...

GOSH, DAN, WHAT A PRESENT - A REAL, LIVE MOVIE CAMERA!

HERE'S A PACKAGE FROM JAN!

IT LOOKS EXCITING. I DO HOPE YOU'LL LIKE IT!

WHY, JAN - IT'S A... A FLUTE... OH, GOSH... ME... A SAILOR... BLOWING A KID'S WHISTLE!

DICKIE DARE

That's No Gag

A FLUTE... WHY, JAN... GOSH - THANKS!

IT'S REAL SILVER - IT BELONGED TO MY FATHER

IT'LL COME IN HANDY SOME DAY - YOU SEE, A GIRL LOVES THE SOUND OF A FLUTE!

SHE DOES?

NOW I KNOW WHY THIS THING GAGS ME!

WHAT A LIFT YOU THREE HAVE GIVEN ME!

AN AIR LIFT, HUH?

IT'S ONE WE'RE PLANNING TO KEEP UP! WHAT'S A FEW THOUSAND MILES TO VISIT SOMEONE TO WHOM YOU BELONG?

A GUY CAN GET ALONG BY HIMSELF IF HE KNOWS THE FOLKS HE LOVES CARE FOR HIM, TOO!

I'LL HAD A MALTED WHILE DIGESTING DAN'S FAREWELL ADVICE

CHECK THOSE ADVENTURES AND GET ON WITH YOUR SCHOOL WORK! HE'S RIGHT! OKAY, IT'S A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

FROM NOW ON I KEEP LOOKING STRAIGHT AHEAD

SOMETIMES A MAN CAN BUTT INTO HIS MOST ABSORBING ADVENTURE THAT WAY!

OAKY DOAKS

A Fair Decision

IMOGENE IS IN A DITHER BECAUSE THERE ISN'T ROOM FOR BOTH HER AND OAKY'S HORSE IN PROFESSOR GESSOR'S ROCKET SHIP...

BUT, PROFESSOR, THIS ISN'T FAIR!

WHAT ISN'T?

I PLANNED TO MARRY SIR OAKY, THEN GO WITH HIM TO UNCERTAINTIA LET'S FOR OUR HONEYMOON! LET SIR OAKY DECIDE THIS MATTER!

SIR OAKY, DO YOU WANT TO TAKE IMOGENE, OR YOUR HORSE, ON THIS TRIP?

MY HORSE OF COURSE!

BUT, PROFESSOR, HOW WILL NELLIE AND I LAND WHEN WE GET TO KING CORNY'S CASTLE?

YOU'LL HAVE TO JUMP, SIR OAKY!

HEY! IF WE JUMP WE MIGHT BE KILLED!

NOT IF YOU WEAR THESE PARACHUTES! THEY'LL OPEN WHEN YOU JUMP!

NOW I'M GLAD I'M NOT GOING!

CAN YOUR HORSE CLIMB A LADDER?

SURE SHE CAN!

AND A MINUTE LATER...

WE'RE READY WHENEVER YOU ARE, PROFESSOR!

I'LL BE READY AS SOON AS I FIND A MATCH!

SO LONG, IMOGENE!

SO LONG, OAKY, IT WAS NICE MEETING YOU!

DAD RAT IT! I'VE GOT TO INVENT A MATCH THAT'LL LIGHT!

AHA! IT FINALLY WORKED!

GANGWAY!

OAKY DOAKS

Delayed Action

PROFESSOR! YOUR ROCKET SHIP ISN'T MOVING!

IT ISN'T??

I GUESS THE FUSE WAS DEFECTIVE.

MAYBE SIR OAKY WILL HAVE TO STAY HERE NOW!

I'LL GET ANOTHER FUSE.

WAIT--LOOK!

WHOOSH!

G-GOSH ALL HEMLOCK! I DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE GOING THIS HIGH!

WOOPS! WE'VE LEVELLED OFF, NELLIE!

NOW WE'RE GOING DOWN!

...AND WE'RE COMING TO KING CORNY'S CASTLE!

SO LONG, IMOGENE!

SO LONG, OAKY, IT WAS NICE MEETING YOU!

DAD RAT IT! I'VE GOT TO INVENT A MATCH THAT'LL LIGHT!

AHA! IT FINALLY WORKED!

GANGWAY!

NELLIE, WE'VE GOTTA JUMP BEFORE WE CRASH!

YOU JUMP FIRST!

JUMP, I SAID!

I HOPE OUR PARACHUTES WILL OPEN!