

ERIE  
6

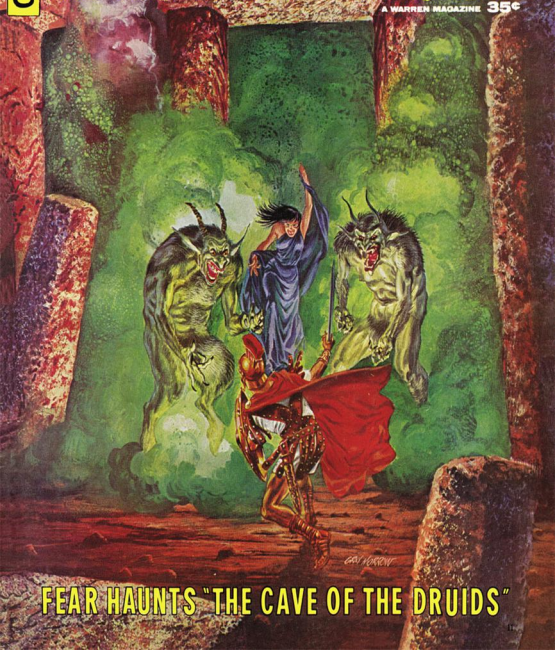
NEW TERROR IN THE CREEPY TRADITION!

# ERIE

PDC

NOV.  
NO. 6

A WARREN MAGAZINE 35¢



FEAR HAUNTS "THE CAVE OF THE DRUIDS"



GRAB YOUR PITH HELMET, HORROR HABITUÉS, AND WE'LL JOIN THE MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN OUT IN THE NOONDAY SUN FOR THIS **RABID RAMBLING** OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S ARMY IN INDIA AND HOW THEY FACE...

# The CURSE of KALI!

NO ANSWER TO  
OUR SIGNALS, SIR...  
ENTIRE VILLAGE APPEARS  
DESERTED!

BLAST! FIRST  
THE TELEGRAPH OUT,  
NOW THIS! LEAVE HALF  
THE PARTY UP HERE  
AS RESERVE...WE'LL  
RIDE IN, CAPTAIN!



THE AFTERNOON SUN PULSED BRIGHTLY AND THE WESTERN WIND CREATED DUST DEVILS TO ACCOMPANY THE COLUMN AS IT MOVED INTO THE VILLAGE, HERALDED BY THE BEAT OF VULTURE WINGS...



NOT A SOUL! NOTHING BUT THOSE RUDDY BIRDS! AND NO SIGN OF LIEUTENANT SMYTHE OR HIS GARRISON...

WE'LL SOON KNOW FOR CERTAIN, SIR... THAT'S THEIR BARRACKS!



MERCIFUL GOD! BEST SEE THIS FOR YOURSELF, SIR!



FLIES HOVERED IN THE FETID ATMOSPHERE OF THE DARKENED ROOM LIKE A VIBRATING, BUZZING FOG... BOTH MEN WINCED...

T-THE BODIES... CHALK WHITE! I'VE NEVER-- SMYTHE HAD NINE MEN WITH HIM, I COUNT ONLY EIGHT...

THE LIEUTENANT AND HIS SERGEANT... STILL MISSING!



A CRY ECHOED THROUGH THE VILLAGE. THE TWO OFFICERS RUSHED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SOUND...

IT'S SARGINT CAIRN! 'E WON'T BUDGE... WON'T LET NOBODY IN THERE!

NOT TILL AV HAD MY SAY, S-ORR! HEAR OUT MY STORY BEFORE YOU RUSH INSIDE!..



EASY, MAN... WE'LL LISTEN! TAKE YOUR TIME, TELL US EVERYTHING!..

THERE'S THINGS HAPPENED HERE, SORR, AIN'T SO EASILY BELIEVED, BUT THEY'RE NOT THE LESS TRUE FOR IT... MIGHT BE I WISH THEY WERE LIES!



"SEVENTEEN YEARS, AV SARVED THE QUANE AND MANY UV HER OFFICERS TOO...THERE'S FEW UV 'EM ID' PLACE ABOVE LIEUTENANT NIGEL SMYTHE, FEW INDEED..."



"TWAS DEATH SET UPON US, HORRIBLE DEATH WITH MANY A VISIT YET TO COME!"



"HE WAS GOOD, WAS LIEUTENANT SMYTHE, BUT DON'T BE FORGETTIN' HE WAS YOUNG, AN' TOO LONG LONELY..."



"A WEE GLIMPSE OF DARK EYES PASSIN' ON THE STREET AN' IT WAS STARTED, AN' NOT EVEN ME WITH MY EARLY MUGGIN'S KNEW WHERE IT'UD END..."



"DOES ANYTHING MAKE LOVE BLOOM STRONGER THAN BY TELLIN' IT'NO? AND IF I HAD DOUBTS ABOUT THE WISDOM UV SUCH A MATCH, THEY WAVED ON THE FIRST NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON..."



"MAKE NO MISTAKE, THE GIRL LOVED THE LIEUTENANT, YET SHE'D BEEN TRAINED FOR A PURPOSE AN FER THAT PURPOSE SHE SUBMITTED..."

HEAR THY CHILDREN, MOTHER KALI! PRIESTESS OF DARKNESS, DRINKER OF BLOOD, ACCEPT THIS SACRIFICE... QUENCH YOUR THIRST ON THE BLOOD OF THIS OFFERING...



"BUT SHE HAD TOLD LIEUTENANT SMYTHE AND FOR HIM TO KNOW WAS ENOUGH TO SAVE HER!"

"THE LIEUTENANT HAD NEVER LED HIS MEN INTO A LOSING BATTLE, AND THERE IN THE TEMPLE WAS NO DIFFERENT...AND YET IT WAS"



YOU ROB KALI OF HER BLOOD, YET STILL SHALL SHE THIRST AND STILL WILL IT BE QUENCHED! WE DIE, BUT MOTHER KALI LIVES, AND BLOOD SHALL BE HERS! YOU'LL CURSE THIS NIGHT YOU'VE STOLEN THE GIRL!



"THE LAD'S LAUGHTER RANG IN THAT OLD TEMPLE, BUT I'D BEEN IN INDIA TOO LONG FER TO JOIN HIM."

"...AND THE MORE I THOUGHT ON THE OLD GURU'S WORDS, THE LESS I TOOK TO THAT WHICH WAS HAPPENING AROUND ME..."

B-BUT LAST NIGHT WE DESTROYED EVERY THING IN THE AREA...YOUR VILLAGE IS SAFE, WHY LEAVE?

THUGS DIE, BUT KALI LIVES AND SO DO HER CURSES... MY PEOPLE AND I WILL LEAVE. ABANDON THIS PLACE!



I CANNOT GO, NIGEL SAHIB... MY LOVE IS FOR YOU, MY PLACE IS WITH YOU... I MUST STAY!

AND SO YOU SHALL, DARLING, SO YOU SHALL!





"I TRIED REASON, BUT THERE WAS NONE..."

SORR, THE GIRL WAS ONE UV 'EM... SHE MAY HAVE BROKEN AWAY BUT SUMPTHIN' LIKE THE GURU'S CURSE... WELL IT WORKS ON ONE WHO'S BELIEVED... GETS TO 'EM, IT DOES!

SERGEANT, THE GIRL STAYS AND THAT'S THAT! SET UP QUARTERS FOR HER!



"IT AIN'T IN ME TO HATE THE MAN... HE WAS IN LOVE, HE COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN, THERE WUZ NOTHIN' FER ME TO DO, BUT POST THE GUARD AND WAIT THE LONG NIGHT..."

"THE OLD PRIEST HAD PROMISED THE TAKING UV BLOOD AND THAT NIGHT IT HAD FLOWED..."

"WITH THE KILLINGS, THE BLINDNESS TOOK OVER COMPLETELY..."



ALL FOUR GUARDS LIKE THIS, SORR! HALF OUR MEN!

ASH-WHITE! AS THOUGH EVERY DROP OF BLOOD WAS DRAINED FROM HIS BODY! AND THOSE WOUNDS...



THE THUGS ARE DEAD, SORR, AN' THE VILLAGERS GONE! BUT SOMEHOW, SOMETHIN'S CARRYIN' OUT THAT CURSE!

THAT'S ENOUGH, CAIRN! YOU'RE FRIGHTENING THE GIRL!

"THAT NIGHT 'TWAS ME WHO PATROLLED THEM LONELY STREETS, 'TWAS ME WHO STALKED, WEBLEY IN HAND, FER THAT BLOODTHIRSTIN' THING..."



"AND 'TWAS ME WHO'D LEFT FOUR MEN TO SLEEP WHILE DOOM SUCKLED AT THEIR THROATS..."



I CAME AT THE END OF MY SHIFT TO WAKE THE NEXT MAN TO GO ON... YOU GOT TO ACT, SORR, DO SOMETHIN'... BEFORE I DO!

"DON'T JUDGE HIM AS HARSHLY AS I DID. HE LOVED THE GIRL, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE HAPPENED. HE DIDN'T WAVER NONE IN THAT..."

LIEUTENANT, DON'T YOU SEE? UNTIL YOU CARRIED THAT GIRL OFF FROM THE TEMPLE, NONE OF THIS HAPPENED! THE CURSE!...

I SEE SUPERSTITIOUS DRIVEL, AND I SEE I CAN'T TRUST YOU ANY LONGER...

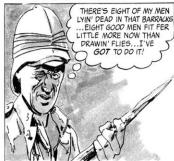


THEN DO WITHOUT ME! WITH WIRES STILL DOWN, SOMEONE SHOULD TRY TO REACH HEAD-QUARTERS AND GET THE RELIEF COLUMN HERE EARLY...I VOLUNTEER, SORR!



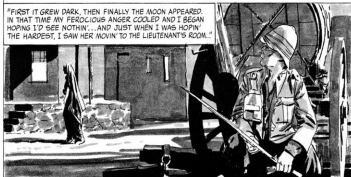
"OF COURSE I NEVER GOT SO FAR...THOUGHTS KEPT FILLIN' MY MIND. I THOUGHT OF A GENT FROM HUNGARY I'D ONCE MET...AN' THE THINGS THEY DO THERE TO WARD OFF EVIL CREATURES OF THE NIGHT..."

"MAYBE FOR SOMETHIN' LIKE THE LIKES OF THIS THING, IT WASN'T NECESSARY...YET AS I WAITED FOR THE GUN TO SINK, IT SEEMED IT WOULDN'T HURT TO BE CERTAIN..."



THERE'S EIGHT OF MY MEN LYIN' DEAD IN THAT BARRACKS...EIGHT GOOD MEN FIT FER LITTLE MORE NOW THAN DRAWIN' FLIES...I'VE GOT TO DO IT!

"FIRST IT GREW DARK, THEN FINALLY THE MOON APPEARED. IN THAT TIME MY FEROCIOUS ANGER COOLED AND I BEGAN HOPING I'D SEE NOTHIN'...AND JUST WHEN I WAS HOPIN' THE HARDEST, I SAW HER MOVIN' TO THE LIEUTENANT'S ROOM..."



"I'VE HEARD IT SAID THAT IN THE HEAT OV BATTLE, MEN GO MAD. AN' BEEN IN MANY A CAMPAIGN AN' WOULD STILL DENY IT, BUT NOT AFTER I BURST INTO THE BLACKNESS OF THAT ROOM!"



"WHAT I SAW WAS HORRIBLE... BUT NOT HORRIBLE ENOUGH TO STOP ME AS I THRUST THE STAKE HOME!"



"YOU'VE HEARD IT NOW, SORRS... 'TIZ ALL THE PREPARIN' I CAN DO. BEST NOW TO SEE FER YOURSELVES..."



"GOOD LORD!"

"B-BUT, CAIRN..."

"REMEMBER, I SAID THE GIRL LOVED HIM... THAT'S WHY SHE CAME TO HIS ROOM! I LIKE TO THINK THAT DEEP DOWN, HE REALLY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WUZ GOIN' ON..."



"...THAT HE NEVER KNEW THE GURU'S CURSE WAS ON HIM, THAT HE NEVER KNEW AT NIGHT HE WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A BLOOD-DRINKING MONSTER!"



"SMYTHE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN A FULL-FLEDGED VAMPIRE, BUT HE CERTAINLY WAS DEVELOPING A TASTE FOR HIS WORK, UNTIL HE FOUND OUT HOW MUCH WAS AT STAKE. SINCE THE POINT'S BEEN DRIVEN HOME, YOU MIGHT AS WELL GO ON TO MY NEXT FRIGHT FEAST..."

