

GOLD
KEY®

BORIS KARLOFF

BORIS



25¢

90053-512

KARLOFF

TALES OF MYSTERY

MAIL-ORDER MONSTER!



© BY THE ESTATE OF BORIS KARLOFF

BORIS KARLOFF
Tales of Mystery

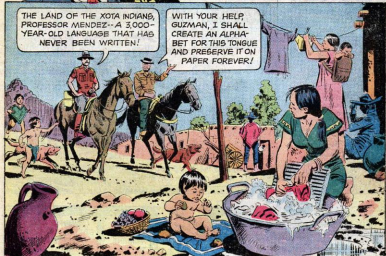
DON'T PUT IT ON PAPER



THERE ARE OVER 100 INDIAN LANGUAGES IN MEXICO, MANY OF WHICH HAVE NEVER BEEN WRITTEN! TWO LANGUAGE SCIENTISTS SET OUT TO PRESERVE ONE SUCH ANCIENT TONGUE! BUT WHAT IF THEY **WROTE** THE **UNSPEAKABLE**? DELICIOUS MAYHEM, THAT'S WHAT!

THE LAND OF THE XOTA INDIANS, PROFESSOR MENDEZ--A 3,000-YEAR-OLD LANGUAGE THAT HAS NEVER BEEN WRITTEN!

WITH YOUR HELP, GUZMAN, I SHALL CREATE AN ALPHABET FOR THIS TONGUE AND PRESERVE IT ON PAPER FOREVER!



THE UNIVERSITY COLLEAGUES QUICKLY FIND AN ABLE ASSISTANT IN JUAN TXATIKI...

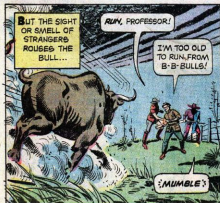
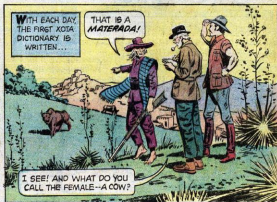
THAT IS CALLED--
TAKASI!

YOU NOTICE, PROFESSOR, THERE IS A SLIGHT "P" SOUND BEFORE THE "T"!



YES! WE'LL NEED A NEW LETTER FOR IT! WE'LL WRITE IT AS A "P" WITH A CROSS-BAR--LIKE THIS!







THEN, AS THEY
CLIMB A WIRE
FENCE...

AIEEE!

OTKA--
"MUMBLE"



THAT SETTLES IT! EVERY
TIME SOMETHING'S GONE
WRONG, YOU MUMBLED
A WORD OR TWO! NOW
YOU **ALMOST** SPOKE IT!

IT'S NOTHING, SEÑOR
GUZMAN! JUST OUR
TRADITIONAL NAME
FOR THE DEVIL! WHEN
THERE IS TROUBLE...



...WE SAY
"THE DEVIL
DID IT!" BUT
WE **NEVER**
SPEAK HIS
NAME! A
FOOLISH--
BELIEF--THAT
TO SPEAK IT
IS TO...

...BRING
THE DEVIL
TO LIFE? A
COMMON
SUPER-
STITION!
BUT WHAT
IS YOUR
NAME FOR
THE DEVIL?

IN REPLY, JUAN WHISPERS IN-
TO THE OLD PROFESSOR'S EAR...



OTKAZABA!

OTKA--



NO! STOP!
DO NOT
SPEAK IT!

BHH? OH, YES-- HA HA HA!
WE SHALL HONOR YOUR
TRADITION!

I'LL MERELY
WRITE IT DOWN!





SUDDENLY, THE PROFESSOR, FROZEN TO THE SPOT AT FIRST, MOVES INTO ACTION...

IF THERE WAS SOME DARK MAGIC IN THAT WORD THAT BROUGHT HIM TO LIFE, THEN...



...THEN THIS SHOULD FINISH IT! THE MAGIC -- REVERSED!

RIP!
RIP!



AND, WITH THAT VERY ACT...

AAYYAAACHAA!



AS THE PIECES FLY, THEY GROW INCREDIBLY SMALLER UNTIL THERE IS A STRANGE "SANDSTORM"...

EE

WEEEOOOEEEEE



AND A MOMENT LATER...

SAND! NOTHING LEFT BUT SAND!

YES! WE WILL TAKE A BIT OF IT--TO REMIND US THAT THERE IS **ONE** WORD THAT WILL **NOT** GO INTO THE XOTA DICTIONARY!?

COULD HE MEAN OTKAZA -- OOPS! I ALMOST SAID IT, DIDN'T I?

