

The Green Hornet  
by Fran Striker

"The Leopard's Spots"

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Reid, Kato, Lowry, Case, Axford  
Kester ..... Smooth crook  
Barney Gray ..... his mouthpiece  
Bates ..... Kester's stooge - crook  
Skip Collins ..... Young jockey - straight  
Jeannie Collins .... His sister  
Voice ..... (Bit) (Page 15)  
Radio announcer .... (DOUBLE VOICE)  
Newsboys (1)  
" (2)  
" (3)

*2-2-34  
WGA  
WGA re jockey in dark*

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(USUAL OPENING)

(CROWD B.G.)

Radio; Now they're coming into the stretch! Dead Beat in the lead! Jimcrack coming up strong and Tadpole running third. (FADE UNDER) It's been Dead Beat

Annrc; As the radio announcer all the way in spite of gave a running description the odds. White Cloud is of an exciting horse race, making a bid and running two men who listened were half a length behind. War particularly interested. Cloud isn't in the money! One was a heavily built So far it's been Dead Beat man named Kester. all the way, but a race is never over until the final decision of the judges.  
(OUT OF BACKGROUND)

It is one of (BREAK) Hold on! Look at War Cloud! War Cloud is coming up on the outside with a great burst of speed! He's even with -- no! He's passing Tadpole! And he's even with Jimcrack!

Kester! Come on, War Cloud! Listen to this, Gray --

Radio; It's neck and neck! War Cloud and Dead Beat! Now War Cloud's pushing ahead! It's War Cloud in the lead! a neck - half a length - oh brother! How that horse is traveling! Now it's War Cloud, Dead Beat and Jimcrack, and the race is over! War Cloud wins!

(RACE TRACK CROWD CUT WITH:

(SWITCH)

Kester; (LAUGHS) Well, Gray! That's it! How'd you like it?

Gray; You called it all right, Kester! But you'd better lie low. It won't help your appeal if you play the horses.

Kester; Don't worry, Gray. I'll win the appeal.

Gray; I wish I was as sure of it.

Kester; I'll fix things, Gray. There's going to be a crackdown on the boys who take bets on horse races.

Gray; And when it comes you'll be right where the axe will fall. There's a limit to what an attorney can do to keep you out of jail --

Kester; Gray, when you can't handle my business, I'll get a lawyer who can!

Gray; But after all --

Kester; As for the crackdown, don't worry about it. I'm going to be the baby who starts it!

Gray; What?

Kester; Exactly!

Gray; Now hold on, Kester! Don't forget you're out on bail right now! Don't do anything to call attention to yourself.

Kester; (LAUGHS) Relax, Gray! I'm going to call plenty of attention to myself. I'm going to clean up horse racing and smash the betting parlors!

Gray; Now look --

Kester; That's what I'm going to do! I'll be the crusader -- the fair-haired boy! And I'll make a million while I'm doing it! Gray, I have a way to beat the rap and the races at the same time!

MUSIC: BURST

Anner; Michael Axford sat in the office of Britt Reid's secretary in the Daily Sentinel Building. The big fellow wore an expression of woe as he read the influential newspaper --

Axford; Two bucks I had ridin' on Dead Beat. I thought sure he'd win! (SIGHS) Casey, it goes tuh show yuh, yuh can't beat the races!

Case; Michael, you're so right.

Axford; You never know what a horse'll do!

Case; You and horses have something in common.

Axford; I bet the lads in the city room lose plenty on Dead Beat. Lowry was sure he'd win. An' so was Gunnigan.

Case; Michael, please forget the gee-gees and let me get to work. I've a lot of mail to go thru.

Axford; I don't see why Britt Reid can't read his own mail. By golly, I --

(DOOR OPENS)

Lowry; (BACK) Hi, Casey! 'Lo, Axford!

(DOOR CLOSES)

Axford; Hello, Lowry.

Lowry; Is the Boss in?

Case; Mr. Reid's in his office -- and busy.

Axford; Yeah, Lowry. He's busy.

Lowry; All right. Just send in word that I've got a story on Fixer Kester.

Axford; Kester! That bloated, overstuffed toad! By golly, I was sure glad when he went tuh the hoosegow!

Lowry; Hoosegow my eye! He's been out on bail for the past two days.

Axford; What?

Lowry; Where've you been, Axford?

Axford; Y'mean tuh say that after all the trouble the law had makin' a case, Kester's not in the pokey?

Lowry; He's not. A man with his money and political influence and a lawyer like Barney Gray doesn't spend much time in jail.

Axford; But how'd he get out?

Lowry; He's out pending a decision on an appeal. ( ) Look, Casey I want to talk to Reid. Tell him, will you?

Case; Very well, but he didn't want to be disturbed.

(DOOR OPENS)

Oh, here he is.

Britt; (BACK) I thought I heard voices out here.

Lowry; Hey, Boss, wait 'til you hear about Fixer Kester!

- Britt; What about him, Lowry?
- Axford; He's out on bail!
- Lowry; He didn't ask you!
- Britt; I heard about it. He's appealing his case isn't he?
- Lowry; Yeah.
- Axford; Reid, if there's any justice at all, Kester should be put away for the rest of his life! Durin' the last administration that crook got away wit' everything but murder!
- Lowry; He may have gotten away with murder, too.
- Britt; I know.
- Case; Isn't he the one who served as go-between for those racketeers in the trucking industry?
- Britt; Yes, Miss Case. He was the go-between for a good many crooks in this city.
- Lowry; He had an inside track to the City Hall.
- Axford; But no more. We cleaned out the City Hall at the last election.
- Britt; Kester won't get to first base with his appeal.
- Lowry; Don't be too sure of that, Boss. He's plenty smart -- and so's that lawyer of his.
- Britt; After the publicity he's had, Lowry and the things we've brought out about him, he can't win!
- Lowry; I wouldn't bet on that.

(DOOR OPENS)

Axford; Sufferin' snakes! Look who's here!

Kester; (BACK) How do you do. May I come in?

(DOOR CLOSES)

Lowry; Fixer Kester himself?

Kester; Hello, Lowry.

Axford; What are you doin' here, Kester?

Kester; I came to see your boss, Axford.

Britt; Well, Kester, the last time I saw you, you were  
in court.

Kester; Reid, I'd like to see you privately. I think I can  
convince you that we're on the same side of the fence.

Axford; That's a laugh!

Lowry; Excuse me, boss. This place has gotten crowded! (FADING)

(DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES)

Britt; Kester, if you have anything to say to me, you can  
say it right here and my secretary will take notes.  
What's this about being on the same side of the fence?

Kester; I admit I've been wrapped up in a lot of shady deals ---

Britt; That's what the jury thought.

Kester; Most of the rackets have been broken up ---

Axford; And you along wit' them!

Kester; I want to redeem myself. Oh I know what you're thinking, Reid, but you're wrong. I'm sincere. The Daily Sentinel is a crusading newspaper, that's why I came here. I've become a crusader.

Britt; Yeah?

Kester; It's true, Reid. There's one racket that's flourishing in this city and I'm the man who can smash it.

Britt; What's that?

Kester; Gambling on the horses! There are bookmakers all over the city. They use back rooms in candy stores -- they work from private homes and apartments -- they're even making book in soda fountains near the high schools --

Britt; And what are you going to do about it?

Kester; Reid, I'm going to use the time I'm out on bail to smash the bookie joints.

Britt; Indeed?

Axford; I don't believe it!

Britt; Do you think you can win enough good will to gain your freedom when your appeal is heard?

Kester; Reid, I'm sincere. I know who the bookmakers are and how they operate. I'm going to help smash the gambling ring in this city. I'll need backing.

Britt; Financial ?

Kester; No. The backing of your newspaper.



...it      How generous and public spirited you are, Kester.  
 Quite a reversal, isn't it?

ord;      And how!

ester;      I can't blame you for being suspicious —

Britt;      What'll you get out of it, Kester?

Kester;      I don't want anything out of it.

Britt;      Have you gone to the district attorney?

Kester;      No. But I intend to. I came here first. I —

Britt;      Kester, if he believes you, you can count on the  
 backing of the Daily Sentinel.

Axford;      By golly Kester, if you're on the level, you can  
 count on help from me too!!

Kester;      Thanks.

Britt;      I'll be in my office the rest of the day, Kester.  
 I'll be hoping to hear from the District Attorney —

Kester;      Very well, Reid. I'm sure you will.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE, FADE UNDER

Britt;      Miss Case, Kester sold the D A.

Case;      He did? Then he's serious about his reform?

Britt;      We'll have to wait and see.

MUSIC: BURST AND UNDER

NEWSBOY:      Sentinel, Extry, Paper! Bookie parlors to go!  
 Former racketeer leads clean-up on gambling! Kester  
 to aid D A in war on horse betting! (FADE OUT)

## MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

Kester; (LAUGHS) There, Gray, that's the story! How do you like it?

Gray; Well, Kester, at least you've made the headlines in a different way.

Kester; Former racketeer. Get that? (LAUGHS) Former racketeer!

Gray; You're playing with fire.

Kester; Like fun I am. I'm playing it safe! I know the boys that run the bookie parlors and I'll help the D A get the goods on them. As fast as the present places are closed, I'll open new places with my own boys in charge. I'll own every place in town where a bet's taken on a horse.

Gray; Then what?

Kester; I'll fix some of the biggest races and on those we'll clean up.

Gray; Hold on, Kester! You can't fix horse races.

Kester; You saw me win on War Cloud!

Gray; Yes, but it just happened that you could get to the jockeys who rode the only other horses that had a chance, but those boys are likely to be without mounts from now on.

Kester; I have plans. Don't worry.

Gray; Even if you can fix a couple of races --

Kester; When we know the favorite can't win, we simply pocket the cash that's bet on him -- bucket shot tactics, you see.

Gray; I don't like it.

Kester; You will when you see my clean up in the Island Handicap next week.

Gray; The Island Handicap! Manitoba's a sure winner in that.

Kester; Uh-huh. Only Manitoba won't win.

Gray; Now hold on, Kester. Skip Collins will probably be up on Manitoba and he's the squarest jock that ever wore silks. You can't bribe Collins!

Kester; You'll see. And in the meantime, I'm going to help the D A crusade against book makers!

MUSIC: BURST AND UNDER

NEWSBOY: Sentinel Paper! Extry Paper! Special Agents raid Book Makers on Tenth Avenue! Head all about the Bookie Crusade!

NEWSBOY 2: (CROSS FADE) Kester continues war on bookies! Threats made against former racketeer! Head all about it! Sentinel Extra Paper!

NEWSBOY 3: (CROSS FADE) Clarion extra! Kester leads gambling War! Read about the Bookie Raids --

MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

Britt; Confound it, Lowry -- Axford -- what's the matter with you two? Why can't you find out what Kester's up to?

Lowry; I tell you, boss, he's keeping his word! He's closing up the bookies!

Axford; And he's winnin' a lot o' good will!

Britt; Before we know it he's going to beat the rap! I tell you he's up to something!

Lowry; I don't know, boss. He's certainly a changed man.

Britt; Bah! He's putting on an act and it's nothing but a smoke screen!

Axford; Aw I don't know about that, Reid. He's even gone so far as tuh square himself with Skip Collins.

Britt; Who?

Lowry; A young jockey. The kid that's up on Manitoba in the Island Handicap on Saturday. A year or so ago, Kester tried to bribe the kid --

Britt; Oh.

Lowry; He's apologized. Shook hands with Collins. Even lined up a new job for Skip's sister.

Britt; That was big of Kester!

Lowry; Well, Jeannie needed a break and a better job. She's supported Skip ever since their parents were killed four years ago.

Britt; Who's going to win the Handicap?

Lowry; Manitoba with Collins up is the heavy favorite.

Britt; I want both of you to watch Kester closer than ever! I won't believe that a leopard can change his spots or a polecat his stripes! Moreover, I don't think Kester would go as far as this to influence the decision on his appeal. I tell you that man's a crook and that crook is up to something!

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Anner; Britt Reid would have had even more reason to doubt Kester if he had witnessed the scene in a small home in the suburbs. It was the home of Skip Collins, the jockey who was slated to ride the favorite on Saturday. When Skip came home, he saw a lean-faced man waiting on the front porch ....

(STEPS UP STAIRS)

Skip; Well, what do you want, mister?

Bates; Business, laddie. Business. Very personal - and private. () See? Let's go inside the house.

Skip; (GASP) A gun -

Bates; Yeah. Now we go in, eh?

Skip; Come on.

(STEPS CROSS PORCH)

(OPEN DOOR)

Bates; Good sense, Skip. You're showing good sense.

(DOOR CLOSES)

Skip; Well? Now what?

Bates; Your sister will be late getting home. Quite late - see?

Skip; What d'you mean?

Bates; I represent a lot of men, see? A lot of men who would lose puh-lenty dough should you kick Manitoba home a winner on Saturday.

Skip; Y-you better get out of here!

Bates; Sure. Sure thing. But first I got to tell you to be sure and ride Manitoba in a box. Get the gee-gee trapped so's it'll look real natural when you don't come home in front.

Skip; You mean -- I'm to lose the Handicap!

Bates; You catch on.

Skip; (VIOLENT) Why you --

Bates; Ah -- ah --- watch it, boy! Just let me finish, then I'll breeze. Like I said -- some gents would be sore if Manitoba won. They'd lose plenty. They might take it out on your sister.

Skip; Y--you mean ---

Bates; Right now she's where she won't be hurt. After the race, she'll come home safe and sound -- if Manitoba don't win!

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annecr; We'll continue our story in just a moment ---

(COMMERCIAL)

Annecr; It was after dinner in Britt Reid's luxurious apartment. Michael Axford, as usual, left to spend the evening with his friends at Police Headquarters. It was then that Britt spoke to Kato, his faithful valet, and the only person who knew that the young publisher was the Green Hornet!

Britt; Kato, neither Axford nor Lowry have been able to learn anything about Kester, but bets are being placed in spite of all the places that have been shut down.

Kato; Yes sir. What does that mean?

Britt; Manitoba's a top heavy worite and yet there's apparen  
money to cover all the be 'hat are being place'

Kato; You think maybe race to be fixed.

Britt; I don't know. But I'll tell you one thing we can do.

Kato; What is that?

Britt; We can make sure that both the horse and the jockey  
are doubly guarded!

Kato; How you do that, Mr. Britt?

Britt; We'll make a move as the Green Hornet! Come on, Kato.  
Get the mask and gun! We'll go out to the race track!

MUSIC: BURST, FADE UNDER

Annch; Stepping thru a secret panel in the rear of a closet  
in the bedroom, Britt Reid and Kato went along a  
narrow passage way built within the walls of the apartment  
itself. This passage led to an adjoining building,  
which fronted on a dark side street. Though supposedly  
abandoned, this building served as the hiding place for  
the sleek, super-powered Black Beauty, streamlined car  
of the Green Hornet!

(STEPS INTO CAR, CAR STARTING, BACK)

Britt Reid pressed a button. The great car roared into  
life. A section of the wall in front raised  
automatically, then closed as the gleaming Black Beauty  
sped into the darkness.

MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

(HOOFB CLUMPING)

Annex; Manitoba, the top heavy favorite was never left alone.  
The man who slept in the stable with the high-strung horse, was roused by the animal's uneasiness.

Voice; What's the matter, Baby? Steady there - I -- (GASP)  
Hey! What the --

Britt; (SHARPLY) There's a guard on duty!

Voice; (YELL) That mask! (SCREAM) The Green Hornet!

Britt; (ANGRY) Confound you! (EFFORT) Take that!

(BLOW)

Voice; (ADLIB YELLS) Help! Help! The Hornet! The Green  
Hornet's here! (FADE BACK, ADLIBBING)

(RUNNING STEPS SUSTAIN AS:)

(FADE IN CAR IDLING)

Britt; (RUNNING, MUTTERS) Yelling his head off!

(CROWD IN B.G.)

Kato; Hurry -

Britt; (GETS INTO CAR) Go on! Drive!

(CAR DOOR SLAMS)

(CAR STARTS FAST, SUSTAINS AS:)

(CHUCKLES) That fellow certainly raised a howl, eh,  
Kato?

Kato; Yes, Mr. Britt.

Britt; Now that the Hornet has made a move against Manitoba,  
there'll be no chances taken.



25 16

Kato; Go back to city now?

Britt; Yes. Now we'll visit the jockey who's to ride Manitoba. Our visit will guarantee a bodyguard for him between now and the time of the race!

(CAR UP AND INTO)

MUSIC: SHORT BREAK

(STREET NOISES, CAR STOPS, BELLS)

I'll get out here, Kato. Take the car around the block. After I've apparently been frightened away by Skip Collins, I'll meet you at the corner.

Kato; Yes, Mr. Britt.

(CAR DOOR, CAR START AND WADE AS:)

(STEPS ON WALK AND STAIRS)

(STEPS CROSS PORCH, DOOR BELL)

Britt; (MUTTERS) I hope young Collins is at home. (PAUSE)  
Light in the house .. ( ) lead him into an argument,  
then make believe the gas gun fails when I try to  
shoot him - that'll do it. He'll howl to the police --

(DOOR OPENS)

Britt; Well, Collins - hello.

Skip; Oh - it's you, eh?

Britt; (SURPRISE) What's that?

Skip; You fluffed the job at the track, didn't you?

Britt; You don't seem surprised at this mask.

Skip; (BITTERLY) Why should I be? I heard the radio announcement.

Britt; Th--the radio?

Skip; Sure. You made a fool move. Didn't you know Manitoba had a guard?

Britt; I'll step inside. Get in there.

(DOOR CLOSES)

Skip; I half expected you'd be coming to see me. You guys don't take any chances, do you?

Britt; Guys? Who do you think's working with me?

Skip; As if YOU didn't know! I was sort of taken off my feet when I learned from the radio that the Hornet was mixed up in the Handicap --

Britt; What're the angles, Collins? Are -- are you following orders on that race?

Skip; (BITTERLY) What else can I do? I'll follow orders, but get this straight! After the Handicap, I'm thru, see? No more races for me! I'm throwing my whole career. B-but Jeannie's worth it. I --

Britt; Jeannie? Your sister?

Skip; (HALF SOB) Y--yeah.

Britt; (GETTING IT) I see! Where is your sister?

Skip; How -- how do I know?

Britt; Collins, sit down.

Skip; B-but I --

**Britt;** Sit down! You're going to listen to me, and you're going to get the surprise of your life! I'm here to make sure you ride that race to win!

**Skip;** You what?

**Britt;** I said to win! Someone is going to take it on the chin when Manitoba comes home in front!

**Skip;** Yeah - and it'll be my sister!

**Britt;** I want to know everything! Who told you to throw the race? Who told you about your sister? When did you last see her? What threats have been made? Where does Kester fit into the picture?

**Skip;** Kester! That dirty double crossin' skunk! He made out to be a friend! He got my sister a new job! Then a guy named Bates comes here --

**Britt;** Bates! Describe him!

**Skip;** Wait. How do I know you're telling me the truth? How do I --

**Britt;** Tell me everything, Collins! I've been trying to figure Kester's game! I think I've got it at last! Now talk! I want facts!

MUSIC: BURST, FADE UNDER

(STREET NOISES, RUNNING STEPS, COME IN AND STOP)

**Britt;** Move over, Kato! I'll drive!

**Kato;** You long time with Collins.

**Britt;** (GETTING INTO CAR) Kato! I hit the jackpot!

(CAR DOOR SLAMS)

Kato; You hit -

Britt; We're calling on Kester!

(CAR START FAST)

MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

(DOOR BELL)

Gray; Kester, I don't like that radio flash we had on the Green Hornet. Why'd he go to the track tonight?

Kester; How do I know? I -- (BREAK OFF AS:)

(DOOR OPENS, BACK)

Gray, did you hear a door open?

Gray; Yes. What of it? Maybe a servant coming in --

Kester; Not the front door. I -

Britt; (COMING IN FAST) Kester, I want you!

Gray; (STARTLED) Masked!

Kester; The Hornet!

Britt; I don't need you, Gray!

Gray; Wait -

Britt; Just Kester!

Gray; (YELLS) Don't shoot!

Britt; Why not?

Gray; (AD LIB FRANTIC CRY, THEN COUGHS)

(FALLING BODY)

Kester; Good Lord! You - you shot --

Britt; Just gas, Kester! But for you, there's something else!

Kester; Now see here! What do -

Britt; No, YOU see here! Where is Jean Collins?

Kester; Wha - what?

Britt; (EFFORT) Don't stall!

(BLOW)

Kester; (GASPING) Y-you h-hit m-me --- you --

Britt; Where's the girl?

Kester; I - I don't know wha - what you're talking ab-about!  
I - I

Britt; Liar! (EFFORT)

(BLOW)

Kester; (GASPS) You -

Britt; Kester, you'd better know where she is! I'm here to get that information - and you'll give it to me - or else!

Kester; No! No - I - wait - listen --- let me talk ---

Britt; There's only one kind of talk you savvy! You can get around the law with smart lawyers, lying witnesses and appeals! But you can't get around (EFFORT) this --

(BLOW)

Kester; (MOANS)

Britt; Want some more?

Kester; I - I

Britt; Where is the girl?

Kester; I - I'll talk, but - I - I

Britt; Where?

Kester; Sh-she's in Lindhaven.

Britt; Lindhaven? What's she doing there?

Kester; I -- I learned of a plot -- a plot to capture her -- so her brother could be made to throw the race. I -- I sent her there. I told her to lie low until after the race -- to stay in hiding --

Britt; Thanks, Kester, and as for those punches you got -- you can thank Bates for those!

Kester; (GASP) Bates! Why that double-crossing --

Britt; So he is your man! That's what I wanted to know!

Kester; Huh?

Britt; You sent him to call on Collins. You're playing the Handicap for Manitoba to lose!

Kester; No no!

Britt; With that to go on, we'll look around and see what we can find in this office of yours.

Kester; B-bu-but --

Britt; Won't need you anymore ---

Kester; (SCREAMS) No no! Don't!

Britt; Take it!

Kester; (AD LIBS GASPING)

Britt; You and Gray can sleep it off!

(FALLING BODY)

(MUTTERS) If Kester was counting on Manitoba to lose, he has records somewhere and I'm going to find them!

MUSIC: INTERLUDE, FADE UNDER

(STREET NOISES)

Britt; Now, Kato, we've got to travel!

Kato; What happen, Mr. Britt?

(GETTING INTO CAR)

Britt; Kester is betting against Manitoba and his stooges are scattered all over the city where the other bookies used to be. Look here, I found his records ---

(RUSTLE PAPERS)

Kato; What we do with them, Mr. Britt?

Britt; We're going to take them to a girl who's hiding in a hotel in Lindhaven!

(CAR DOOR SLAMS)

Get going!

(CAR STARTS)

MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

(RAP ON DOOR)

Jean; Who is it?

(MUFFLED)  
Britt; /Please open the door quickly! I've come from Kester!

Jean; Just a minute --

(OPENING DOOR)

Britt; Please Jean -- don't be alarmed --

Jean; Masked! (GASPS) Th- you're the Green Hornet! Who --  
Wh-what -- h-how ...

(DOOR CLOSES)

Britt; I had to knock the hotel clerk out to find out what  
room you had.

Jean; B-b-but --

Britt; I've got to get out of here before he comes to -- we've  
both got to get out --

Jean; You said you -- you came from Kester --

Britt; Jean, believe what I tell you.... Kester's a crook!

Jean; No no!

Britt; He posed as a friend, won your confidence by getting you  
a job -- then told you to hide here. Your brother  
thinks you've been abducted -- he thinks he's got to  
lose tomorrow's handicap to save your life --

Jean; I've heard about you! You're the Green Hornet! I don't  
believe a word you tell me!



Britt; You've got to believe me! Here —

(RUSTLE PAPERS)

— Examine these papers. Kester's men are scattered all over the city. They're taking bets on Manitoba. If Manitoba wins those men will be backed to the wall!

Jean; But you —

Britt; I'm counting on your brother to kick Manitoba home in front! He's got to know that you're all right! Take these records — go to the police — they'll let your brother know you're safe and protect you until the race is over.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Radio; It's the Island Handicap! The last race of the day and the heavy favorite is Manitoba!

(CLICK)

Case; Mr. Reid! You turned the radio off!

Britt; Just for a moment, Miss Case. I've been wondering about Axford and Lowry! I thought they were coming in to listen to the race.

Case; Michael's still at Police Headquarters —

Britt; Been there all day. Hasn't he called in? Hasn't he reported at all?

Case; No sir.

(DOOR OPENS)

Lowry; Hey boss, Gunnigan's fit to be tied. Have you heard from Axford?

Britt; No.

Lowry; He called the city desk about an hour ago and said he had the story of the year and it dealt with Kester.

Case; Fixer Kester?

Lowry; Yeah. Axford promised to call back but nobody's heard from him.

Britt; Isn't he at headquarters?

Lowry; No. Can't reach him anywhere. Hey, isn't it about time for the race to start?

Britt; Yes. I'll turn the radio on.

(CLICK)

Case; Michael will be sorry to miss it.

Lowry; Maybe the big goop went out to the race track.

Britt; Is Gunnigan holding the front page?

Lowry; Sure. Kester's news.

(RADIO FADES IN CROWD NOISES AS:)

Lowry; What's up?

Case; Hush!

Radio; The kid's got himself in a box! He's trapped at the far turn! At the half it's Far Cry, Mudboat, Dunlevy and the rest are bunched -- Manitoba can't get out --

Lowry; (GROANS) And my dough's on Manitoba!

Britt; I thought sure Axford would be in from headquarters with news by this time!

Radio; Collins sees an opening! He's making a bid! Yes, he's pushing thru! He's out!

Lowry; He's out of the Box! You hear that!

Radio; What a heart that Manitoba has! There he goes! He's breaking out! Now running fourth - he's going after Dunlevy --- Manitoba has a chance to get into the money --- Now they're at the three-quarter! It's Far Cry! Mudboat - with Dunlevy and Manitoba neck and neck for third!

Lowry; Come on Manitoba!

Radio; Manitoba's got the inside at the turn! Manitoba's passed Dunlevy! Here he comes! Oh, what a rider! What a horse! What a jockey! I wish you could see the way that Manitoba is stepping out! He's overtaken Mudboat --- there he goes --- Manitoba second! They're in the stretch! It's Far Cry - Manitoba --- Mudboat ---

Lowry; (AD LIBBING)

Radio; Now Manitoba's up to Far Cry --- they're neck and neck --- might be a photo finish --- but no --- no --- Manitoba's got the strength! There he goes! A nose ahead! A neck! A half a length! It's Manitoba! Manitoba wins!

(SHOUTS ON RADIO)

(CLICK, CUT RADIO)

Lowry; (AD LIB ENTHUSIASTICALLY) What a horse! What a rider! What a race! Oh boy!!!

(DOOR BURSTS OPEN)

Axford; Hey, Reid ---

Lowry; Axford!

Case; Where have you been?

Britt; Gunnigan's looking for you!

Lowry; He's holding the front page! What's the idea of calling  
in —

Britt; Steady, Lowry.

(DOOR CLOSES)

Axford; Sufferin' snake s, have I got a story!

Britt; Miss Case, tell Gunnigan Axford's here.

Case; Yes sir. (AD LIB PHONE CALL IN B.G. AS:)

Axford; Reid, I was at the cops headquarters an' who d'you  
think was there?

Britt; Who?

Axford; Jeannie Collins! The sister o' Skipper the jockey! She  
was there wit' a whole bunch o' papers an' notes an'  
information showin' that Kester had guys all over the  
city takin' the place o' the bookies he an' the D A  
closed up!

Lowry; Yeah!

Axford; The cops got busy — wit' a lot o' warrants! They've got  
men watchin' all those places tuh crack down when the  
Island Handicap is over an' it's time tuh pay off the  
bets!

Lowry; Oh boy!

Britt; What about the girl?

- Axford; Accordin' tuh what she says, she was sent out o' town an' her brother made tuh think she'd be killed if he didn't lose the race!
- Britt; Did she let her brother know she was safe?
- Axford; No! She said Skip wouldn't pull a race to save her life or anything else! By golly, turn on that radio, Casey! I got tuh hear how that Island Handicap comes off! It's about time fer it tuh start --
- Case; About time for it to start!
- Lowry; It's over!
- Axford; Over?
- Britt; It's over and Manitoba won.
- Axford; Yuh mean the kid come thru! Collins rode honest just as his sister said he would?
- Britt; Yes.
- Axford; Oh golly! (LAUGHS) By this time I bet they's fireworks poppin' in all them bookie places.
- Britt; You'd better get into the city room. Gunnigan's holding page one for your story.
- Axford; An' what a story I got for him! Oh golly! What a story! Reid, I didn't tell yez the best part of it.
- Britt; What's that?
- Axford; Who d'you think told Jeannie Collins that Kester was a crook? You'd never guess so I'll tell yuh! It was the Green Hornet!

MUSIC: BURST

**Britt;** Axford was mistaken, Kato. He said the Green Hornet was the best part of his story.

**Kato;** He is mistaken?

**Britt;** Yes. In my mind the best part of his story was the fact that Collins rode an honest race before he learned that his sister was safe!

**MUSIC:** BURST AND UNDER

**NEWSBOY:** Sentinel Paper, Extra Paper! Read all about the Kester Expose! Fixer Kester Falls Again! Green Hornet Involved Read all about it! Green Hornet still at large! Sentinel Extra, Paper!

**THEME**