

The Green Hornet

by Fran Striker

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The Mysterious Mr. Jones.

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Britt, Case, Kato, Axford, Gunnigan.
 Darian Steel.....smooth, suave. 45.
 Seelyheavy. Tough but not gangster.
 Derekcold, sinister. Foreign.
 Hanson.....small part. Foreigner.
 Bardow.....small part. Foreigner.
 Franklin.....factory worker. 35.
 Alice.....his wife.
 Cop.....bit. (DBLED)
 Man.....bit. (dbld(

*Might be best needs lots
 of post cards*

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Number: _____

The Mysterious Mr. Jones

Date: _____

(USUAL OPENING)

Annor; A strike was in progress at the Empire Company. The disagreement was not a serious one. It was simply a matter of wage adjustments requested by a reputable union in good standing, and refused by fair-minded factory owners. Picketing was peaceful and both sides knew that after a period of strategic moves an agreement would be reached, but neither employers nor employees had reckoned on the activities of the mysterious Mr. Jones. It was Mr. Jones who pulled the strings and the strike exploded into a riot.

(TWO SHOTS)

AD LIB: (RIOT, MEN SHOUTING, YELLING, FIGHTING)

(SLUGGING, POLICE WHISTLES & SIRENS)

Seely; (YELLING) I'll teach you!

Franklin; (SCREAMS) Wait, wait! Don't kill me! Police! Police!
Help!

Cop; (COMING IN FAST) Break it up! Break it up there!

Seely; (SNARLS) Copper, eh! (EFFORT) Well I'll show ---

Cop; No you don't! (EFFORT)

(BLOW)

Franklin; Thanks! Thanks, officer. He was going to kill me with that knife.

Cop; Who is he?

Franklin; His name is Seely. Take him in! He was going to kill me!

Cop; I didn't see that. I slugged him for takin' a pass at me. If you want to prefer charges against him, you'll have to come along.

Franklin; You bet I'll prefer charges against him!

(SOUND FADING BACK)

Axford; Hello, hello, Gertie! This is Axford callin' from the Empire Company! I got a scoop fer the Daily Sentinel! There's a regular riot out here! Gimme the desk in a hurry — No! Wait a minute! Let me talk to Britt Reid personally. This is one fer him tuh handle!

MUSIC: BURST

Britt; Good work, Axford. You stay right there on the job. I've already sent word for Lowry and Clicker Binney to join you. Now hang on, and I'll have you switched to the rewrite desk.

(CLICKS)

(CUE) Switch this call to the rewrite desk and then buzz Gunnigan and tell him I want to see him right away.

(PHONE HOOK) (DOOR OPENS)

Case; (BACK) Mr. Reid-

Britt; Come in, Miss Case.

(DOOR CLOSES)

- Case; (COMING IN) Lowry and Clicker Binney are on their way out to the Empire Company.
- Britt; You told them to meet Axford?
- Case; Yes. What in the world happened out there?
- Britt; The lid blew off the strike. The police have had to use tear gas. Several men had guns; three have been shot — one killed.
- Case; I don't understand it. The Empire Company has had strikes before, but they've been peaceful.
- Britt; You'd understand, Miss Case, if you had talked to Tom Wright.
- Case; He's your friend in the government bureau —
- Britt; Yes. He's just learned of an organization made up of professional trouble makers. It's directed by a foreign power. Its purpose is to do everything possible to create unrest; stir up dissention; promote ill will between employer and employee; hamper recovery; hinder progress.
- Case; Oh golly, Mr. Reid! What's the purpose of all these things?
- Britt; The purpose? The purpose is to hurt the United States.
- Case; You think this organization promoted the riot at the Empire Company?
- Britt; I'd bet on it.
- Case; But how could they?
- Britt; They have it worked out to a fine science. Tom told me about an affair in Omaha —

Case; What was that?

Britt; A few of these agitators got into a union at a factory. First they ~~subverted~~ ^{TORE DOWN} the morale of the men; then they did things to antagonize the company. Then they did things to the men for which the company was blamed and in the end there was ill will on both sides. I think we have the same situation right here.

(DOOR OPENS)

Gunnigan; (BACK) Hi, Reid. You wanted to see me?

Britt; Yes, Gunnigan.

(DOOR CLOSES)

(CUE) The Sentinal is going to take a very definite point of view on that Empire trouble --

Gunnigan; Yeah? What side are we on?

Britt; Neither side. We're not going to print anything to discredit either the Union or the Empire company.

Gunnigan; But, boss, the riot started on the picket line --

Britt; That's what we're supposed to think, but Gunnigan, we're not buying any such ideas. That riot was started by professional agitators.

Gunnigan; Hey, that checks!

Britt; What?

Gunnigan; I got a flash a few minutes ago. The police have arrested a man named Seely. One of the pickets is bringing charges against him. He's being held for assault and battery with intent to kill.

Case; To kill a picket?

Gunnigan; Yeah. A guy by the name of Rodney Franklin. He says Seely pulled a knife on him.

Britt; Who is Seely?

Gunnigan; That's the thing. No one knows. No one's heard of him. He's neither with the Empire Company nor the Union. Maybe he's one of those professional agitators you mentioned.

Britt; And he's to go on trial?

Gunnigan; He is. Unless Franklin changes his mind and withdraws his charges.

Britt; If Seely goes on trial, he might be made to tell a few things. Maybe his trial will prove to be the break Tom Wright is waiting for.

MUSIC: BURST

Franklin; It's all over, Alice! The strike is settled!

Alice; Oh, Rod, I'm so glad! Did the Empire Company meet your terms?

Franklin; Well, after what happened yesterday, our secretary met with the company officials. They made a quick compromise so there wouldn't be any more people hurt on the picket line. And look — I'm in tonight's Sentinel —

(RUSTLE PAPER)

Alice; Really?

Franklin; See for yourself. (LAUGHS) A reporter called on me at the plant to see if I was going thru with my charges against Seely.

Alice; What did you tell him?

Franklin; (LAUGHS) Read it. I told him plenty.

Alice; (READING) "Rodney Franklin today expressed himself in no uncertain terms when asked by a Sentinel reporter (FADING OUT) whether, with the strike settled amicably, he planned to proceed --

MUSIC: SLIGHT RISE AND FALL -- OPTIONAL

Derek; (FADING IN) "Franklin stated that he was acting on the advice of both the Company and Union officials in refusing to withdraw charges against Seely. (FADE TO

Annrc; Two men listened intently in the rear room of a foreign restaurant while a lean-faced individual read from the Daily Sentinel.

BACKGROUND) Franklin said that he considered it his duty to press charges in the hope of determining Seely's motive. Unable to furnish bail, Seeley ---

(RUSTLE PAPER)

The rest does not matter...

Hanson; Seely is a fool. Why did he let himself get captured?

Bardow; All along I have said we would be better without Seely.

Derek; Bardow, you must not talk so --

Bardow; But it makes me mad to think that Seely rates higher in the organization than we. You, Derek, you should be in his position.

Derek; Perhaps some day ...

Hanson; Derek, you called us here because you had a letter from Mr. Jones.

Derek; That is right, Hanson. A letter with orders.

Bardow; Who is Mr. Jones?

Derek; You ask questions, Bardow. You know I cannot answer them. I do not know who is Mr. Jones anymore than you.

Bardow; Seely knows him.

Derek; Seely rates high in our organization.

Hanson; What are the orders of Mr. Jones?

Derek; Seely must not be convicted. If he is convicted, he will tell all he knows about our organization.

Hanson; This fellow Franklin seems to have a strong case.

Derek; A case that would collapse if Franklin failed to appear in court.

Bardow; What are we to do about it, Derek?

Derek; We are to see that Franklin does not appear in court.

Hanson; By talking to him?

Bardow; We threaten him, eh?

Derek; Threats, bah! What good are threats? We threaten or we try to bribe and perhaps we find ourselves in jail with Seely. No, Mr. Jones has given us different orders. Rodney Franklin is to have a fire --

Hanson; A fire?

Derek; He is to be trapped -- burned to death when his own home goes up in flames from an over-heated furnace!

MUSIC: BURST

Franklin; Hey, Alice, don't tell me you're going to start ironing at eleven o'clock at night!

Alice; Oh! Rodney - (SLIGHT LAUGH) You startled me. I thought you were in the other room reading the paper. () I've got to iron a shirt so you'll have a clean one to go to court in the morning.

Franklin; I'll plug in the iron for you.

Alice; I wish you'd buy yourself some shirts, Rod. Almost everyone has a frayed collar.

Franklin; I'll watch for a sale---

Alice; Golly, I was sure glad to hear that the Empire Company hadn't double crossed all you fellows and brought in hoodlums to attack your picket line.

Franklin; They wouldn't do a stunt like that.

Alice; The Meridian hinted that that was the case.

Franklin; The Meridian! Alice, I've told you not to read that red, rabble-rousing newspaper!

Alice; But Rod ---

Franklin; I don't know how they get away with some of the stuff they publish. They sure take advantage of the right of free speech!

(DOOR CHIMES)

Alice; Rod --- the door -

Franklin; Who the dickens is coming at this hour?

Alice; Want me to go?

Franklin; I'll go. It might be another newspaper man looking for an interview.

Alice; (BACK) Be careful what you say.

(DOOR OPENS)

Franklin; Yes?

Derek; I'll step inside if you don't mind. I have something important to take up with you.

Franklin; Who are you? What is it?

Derek; (EFFORT) Just this!

Franklin; (SHARP CRY, CUT OFF ABRUPTLY WITH:)

(BLOW)

Derek; That got him! Come on in, boys.

Alice; (BACK) Rod! What's the matter?

Hanson; (COMING IN) Someone else in this house-

Derek; It is the wife. Be ready for her. Close the door, Bardow

(DOOR CLOSES)

Alice; (APPROACHING) Rod, is something wrong? What's the matter? Why did you cry out? (STARTLED GASP) Oh!

Derek; Take care of her!

Hanson; (EFFORT) Right!

Alice; (START TO SCREAM, CUT OFF WITH:)

(BLOW)

Derek; Catch her. Put her on the floor near the door.

Bardow; Derek, are you sure the sand bags will leave no marks of violence?

Derek; Marks will not show. Now you two go to the cellar. Start the fire as instructed while I fix it here so it looks as if these two were unable to unlock the door--!

MUSIC: BURST, FADE UNDER

(FIRE SIRENS) (CROWD NOISE)

AD LIB: Look!) That place is burning like tinder!) Anyone inside? Who lives there? (ETC.)

Axford; (PUSHING IN) Hey, did someone say Red Franklin lives there? Sufferin' snakes! He's the guy from the Empire Company that was tuh testify against Seely!

AD LIB: (STIR)

Axford; Holy Crow, I got tuh get tuh a telephone! I got tuh call me paper!

MUSIC: BURST AND UNDER:

NEWSBOY: Sentinal, extra, paper! Witness dies in flames!
Fire of mysterious origin traps Franklin and wife!
Sentinal, extra, paper!

MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

Anncr; Britt Reid and several others of the Daily Sentinal were in court for Seely's preliminary hearing. The policeman who had made the arrest had seen a scuffle but could not swear that he had seen an attempted murder. The case against Seely was dismissed.

Case; What did you think of it, Mr. Reid?

Britt; It's just about what I expected, Miss Case.

- Case; Oh, it's a shame to think of Seely walking out of this building a free man. (SIGHS)
- Britt; I told Axford I'd meet him here in the corridor. Do you see him anywhere?
- Case; No. Not yet. Mr. Reid, this will be a blow to your federal friend.
- Britt; It may. On the other hand, it might be a break for him.
- Case; How's that? I thought he was counting on things Seely might tell if he were brought to trial.
- Britt; He was. But with Seely at large, Tom will probably have him watched and learn who his companions are.
- Case; Oh-oh! Look who's coming.
- Britt; Darien Steel.
- Case; Have you been reading his newspaper?
- Britt; The Meridian? That's the rottenest publication in town.
- Case; He took the position that the Empire Company was responsible for the trouble on the picket line.
- Britt; In most countries, the Meridian would be suppressed. Did you see how Steel covered last night's fire?
- Case; I saw.
- Steel; (COMING IN) Well, if it isn't Britt Reid.
- Britt; Hello Steel.
- Steel; And Miss Case!

Case; (COLDLY) How do you do.

Steel; Seely's a lucky man, eh?

Britt; Lucky?

Steel; Lucky that Franklin died last night. Otherwise, Seely might not be walking out of here a free man.

Britt; Your Meridian said Franklin's house burned down because of an overheated furnace.

Steel; I believe that was the opinion of an inspector.

Britt; Steel, do you really believe that?

Steel; Why not?

Britt; Franklin's death was too convenient for Seely. Moreover, I can't believe that Franklin and his wife would be trapped by the fire in a house like that.

Steel; What's your theory, Reid?

Britt; It looks to me like murder — covered up by arson.

Steel; You think Seely has friends who would go that far to keep him out of jail? (LAUGHS) I can't go along with that, Reid. But then, you have a right to your opinion. (FADING) I'll see you again. Good day.

Britt; 'Bye.

Case; (MUTTERS) Steel. His name rhymes with Heel! Oh how I despise that man! () Mr. Reid, I'll bet you're right! — And I wish — (PAUSE)

Britt; Go ahead, Miss Case. Express your wise.

Case; (SLIGHT LAUGH) It's no use wishing I were the Green Hornet—

Britt; If you were the Hornet, what would you do?

Case; I -- I don't know, Mr. Reid, but I'd do something to prove that there's been a double murder to get Seely out of jail! I wonder if the Green Hornet is aware of this situation.

Britt; Perhaps he is, Miss Case. Perhaps he is.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annrc; We'll continue our story in just a moment...

(COMMERCIAL)

Annrc; The days following the fire that had taken the lives of Rodney Franklin and his wife were restless days for Britt Reid. Each morning when he came to the office and greeted Lenore Case, he fancied a vague reproach in his secretary's manner. Her words when Seely was released for lack of evidence rang in his ears...

Case; (FILTER) If I were the Green Hornet, I'd do something to prove that there's been a double murder to get Seely out of jail!

Annrc; ... The young publisher wondered if Miss Case knew that he was the Green Hornet. Had her statement been a casual one? Or had she pointed it for Britt Reid's benefit? It was a week after the fire when Michael Axford came into the office in late afternoon --

(TYPING, STOP AS: DOOR OPENS & SLAMS)

Axford; By golly, Casey, it's mad I am!

Case; You needn't take it out on the door! What's the big peeve?

- Axford; It's the final verdict on the Franklin fire!
- Case; Oh - that.
- Axford; Yes that! Experts went over the house - what was left of it, an' found nothin' tuh indicate foul play! Over-heated furnace they call it!
- Case; Over-heated furnace! Hah!
- Axford; Yeah! Just like that termite publisher o' the Meridian claimed a week ago!
- Case; Mr. Reid thinks differently.
- Axford; Sure he does! So does Police Commissioner Higgins an' everyone else that's got logical reasonin' an' a deductive mind -- includin' me!
- Case; But nothing can be proved.
- Axford; Yuh can't make me believe that a fire in a house like Franklin's could spread so fast that there wasn't time tuh open a door!
- Case; (DUBIOUSLY) The couple might have been overcome by smoke--
- Axford; Not that fast! By golly, Casey, I'm tellin' yez they was murdered so's Franklin couldn't testify against Seely!
- Case; Michael, isn't there some way to prove it?
- Axford; I wish there was, but I been beatin' me brains out fer the past week tryin' tuh think of an angle without gettin' nowhere! () Is Reid in?
- Case; Yes, but he's talking to police Commissioner Higgins.
- Axford; Oh! Then I hadn't better be disturbin' him.

(BUZZER)

Case; Just a minute. He's calling on the inter-com.

(CLICK)

Yes, Mr. Reid?

Britt; (FILTER) Miss Case, will you please call my apartment and tell Kato I'll be home for dinner half an hour earlier than usual?

Case; Yes sir.

(CLICK)

Axford; So he's havin' dinner earlier than usual. Hum-m. He must have a date or somethin' fer tonight.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annor; Britt Reid finished his dinner in a hurry, then called Kato to his bedroom. The faithful Filipino valet was his trusted ally when he assumed the role of the Green Hornet..

Britt; Kato, at last I've learned a few things about Seely.

Kato; Is good!

Britt; It isn't much. I have only a few cards, but I'm going to play them to the limit.

Kato; Mr. Britt, you not see message there on dresser.

Britt; A message? Oh, sure enough!

Kato; Telegram come today from California.

(RUSTLE PAPER)

Britt; From Dad -- () Listen to this. He says: "Have followed Seely arrest and dismissal -- also death of witness and wife. What's the matter, son? Are you slipping?" () Right to the point, eh, Kato?

Kato; Yes sir.

Britt; Dad's wondering why the Hornet hasn't made a move. So is Lenore Case. Well, Kato, we're going to move tonight! I hope we can justify the confidence Dad and Lenore have in the Green Hornet! Come along --

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Anncr; Stepping thru a secret panel in the rear of a closet in the bedroom, Britt Reid and Kato went along a narrow passageway 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)

Anncr; 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

(CAR RUNNING)

Anncr; Britt Reid drove with Kato at his side, guiding the Black Beauty thru the dark side streets --

Britt; Seely has been followed by detectives ever since he walked out of the courtroom last week.

Kato; (SURPRISED) He has?

Britt; Yes. Commissioner Higgins gave me the report on him. He's been meeting three men everyday in a small foreign restaurant. I think those three are members of the organization.

Kato; You know names?

Britt; One of them is named Derek. Higgins checked his background. He's been involved in several labor disputes ..

Kato; We call on him?

Britt; No, Kato. We're going to Seely's home.

Kato; But Mr. Britt, if police watch Seely, they see us and Black Beauty.

Britt; The detectives aren't following Seely any longer, Kato. Commissioner Higgins withdrew the shadows at my request.

Kato; What we do with Seely?

Britt; We're going to try to make him name the leader of his organization. We're going to try to get the wedge Tom Wright needs to blow that thing wide open.

Kato; Is good.

Britt; Kato, you remember the little hotel we visited last summer in that fishing colony at Wildwood?

Kato; Oh yes, Mr. Britt. That summer colony. It all closed up now.

Britt; We're going there, Kato. We're going to take Seely to that hotel!

MUSIC: SHARP BURST, FADE UNDER:

(DOOR BELL START FULL AND FADE BACK)

Anncr; Though Seely's home was dark, the Green Hornet rang the door bell until he was sure the house was empty.

(JINGLE OF KEYS: UNLOCK DOOR)

Then he drew special keys from his pocket and tried them until he found one that turned the lock--

Britt; I'll wait inside until he comes. You, Kato, wait down the street in the Black Beauty. When you see our man come home, bring the car up and wait in front of the house.

MUSIC: BURST, CHANGE TO TENSION B.G.

(CLOCK TICKING)

Anncr; His hat pulled low; his top coat buttoned high, and a mask concealing his face, the Green Hornet waited patiently in darkness while the hours ticked by in Seely's home..

(CLOCK STRIKES ONCE, TICKING FADES OUT)

(UNLOCKING DOOR, DOOR OPENS & CLOSES)

On the stroke of half past eleven, he heard the door unlock, heard it open and close, and an instant later, the click of a switch controlling the lights--

Seely; (YAWNS, MUTTERS) Glad to get home. I --

Britt; Turn slowly.

Seely; (STARTLED GASP) What the -- Masked! () The Green Hornet!

MUSIC: SHARP BURST & CUT

Wha-what do you want here? How did you get in?

Britt; Stand still! I'm going to make sure you have no weapons!

(SLAPPING CLOTHES)

Seely; What's the meaning of this intrusion?

Britt; Save your questions. Turn around, Seely, and open the door. I'll turn the light out.

(DOOR OPENS, LIGHT SWITCH)

Seely; See here, if you think you can get away with anything like this —

(DOOR CLOSES)

Britt; There's a car at the curb. Get in.

(STEPS DOWN STAIRS, THEN ON SIDEWALK, FADE
IN CAR IDLING AS:)

Seely; Now look here, fella, let's talk this over. I don't know what you're after, but I'm sure we can make a deal of some kind.

Britt; Keep moving.

Seely; If you'll tell me what you want now, it may save a lot of time.

(CAR DOOR OPENS)

Britt; Get in there— (EFFORT)

(AD LIB GETTING INTO CAR)

Seely; (SHOVED) Y—you needn't shove me!

Britt; All set! () Let's go!

(CAR DOOR SLAMS)(CAR START FAST)

(MUSIC BURST)

Annex; Except for a few year-round homes, the buildings in the summer colony called Wildwood, were boarded up for the winter. But Britt Reid knew the community and the small hotel. He opened a rear door of the closed hotel and ordered Seely into the lounge while Kato found a way to open the garage and put the black beauty out of sight. Working by flashlight, Britt tied Seely to a chair, then built a fire in the fireplace.

(CRACKLING FIRE)

Britt; With the windows boarded up, we needn't worry about anyone seeing the firelight - if anyone happened to be around.

Seely; Wha- what are you g-going to do?

Britt; Seely, I want information. I propose to get it. Your pals can't get you away from me as easily as they got you out of court.

Seely; Wh- why - wha- what do you mean?

Britt; Don't stall! I know about Derek. I want the name of the man on top ... the one who gives you orders! Also the names of the men who set fire to Franklin's house! I want the full and complete story of your racket! How much you're paid and by whom!

Seely; Pl-please, untie me. These ropes cut my arms -

Britt; You'll be free when you tell me all I have asked for.

Seely; Why do you want the information?

Britt; You're in no position to ask questions!

- Seely; I - I can tell you nothing!
- Britt; Afraid, eh? Afraid of what will happen to you if you squeal! Well, let me tell you something, Seely. Before I picked you up I made arrangements for tomorrow's edition of the Daily Sentinel to report that you've told all you know about your gang of agitators!
- Seely; I don't believe you!
- Britt; Whether you squeal or not makes no difference. Derek and the others will think you've talked, and they'll deal with you accordingly. Your only hope is to tell me everything and trust me to save your neck.
- Seely; I'll tell you nothing! I think you're bluffing and I'll call your bluff!
- Britt; Suit yourself. You'll learn differently when your gang shows up to rub you out. Meanwhile, you're going to sleep.
- Seely; Sleep? () Wait! Don't shoot me! Put that gun away!
- Britt; It's just gas, Seely. It will be daylight when you open your eyes.
- Seely; (CRY OUT, THEN AD LIB COUGHS AND GASPS)
- MUSIC: SHARP BURST
- Annrc; The next morning when Derek went into his favorite restaurant, he found Hanson and Bardow awaiting him and with them a stranger whose weather-beaten face told of an outdoor existence.
- Hanson; Derek! Derek! This man brought a message!

Derek; What is so exciting about it?

Bardow; Here, read it!

Derek; (READING) I have been captured by the Green Hornet. I am being held prisoner in Wildwood Hotel. Come and get me. Signed Seely. () You brought this?

(RUSTLE PAPER)

Man; Yes. You see, mister, I live in Wildwood all the year 'round and spend my winter fishing thru the ice. This morning as I passed the hotel, I saw that one of the shutters was open an' a man's inside tapping on the window. I can't see much of him because it's dark inside, but he opens the window just enough to shove an envelope out. Inside is the note to you and ~~in~~ a twenty dollar bill. On the envelope he says you'll give me another twenty when you get the note.

Derek; You will be paid. Come, boys. We must get our guns and the car at once! We'll find out why the Green Hornet captured Seely!

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annrc; The morning was well advanced when Seely awakened to find himself untied. One of the shutters had been opened and the window in the hotel lounge looked out on the road leading to the city! Then Seely saw the Green Hornet standing beside him.

SEELY
Britt; You've had quite a nap, Seely.

Seely; Wha - what time is it?

Britt; The morning papers have been on the street for some time. Your pals will be arriving any minute.

Seely; Papers -- my pals --

Britt; Did you forget what I told you last night? You're in a bad spot. I'll have to leave you. I don't care to be around during a murder.

Seely; Now look. Look here --

Britt; I've untied your hands so you can do something to defend yourself. Sorry I can't trust you with a weapon. You might be able to get away from here before they come.

Seely; I still think you're bluffing. How would my friends know where I am.

Britt; Look out the window.

Seely; (GASP)

Britt; That car just stopped --

Seely; (MURMURS) Hanson -- Bardow -- Derek --() You weren't bluffing! You did send word that I had squealed!

Britt; I've got to be going.

Seely; Wait! Wait! Take me with you!

Britt; You rejected your chance to get on my side!

Seely; But listen --

Britt; If you'd given me the information I wanted, I'd have taken care of your pals.

Seely; (DESPERATELY) You can save me! Take me away from here!

Britt; Sorry --

Seely; They'll kill me! They won't believe anything I tell them!

Britt; If they were in jail, they wouldn't be able to get you.

Seely; (HALF SOBBING) I don't want to die!

Britt; I'll give you one more chance to talk. Who killed Franklin and his wife?

Seely; Those three. Derek - Bardow and Hanson!

Britt; Who gave them orders?

Seely; Don't ask that -

Britt; Answer me! Who's the man on top?

Seely; The publisher of the Meridian - Darian Steel.

Britt; Can you prove it?

Seely; I - I could - if I could get into his home. He has records and files there. He's in constant touch with a foreign power. That's where the money comes from.

Britt; That's all I want to know! Good-bye, Seely!

Seely; (BACK) Wait! Wait!

(DOOR OPENS - WIND HOWLING)

(BACK) You promised to take me!

Britt; I promised that your pals wouldn't hurt you!

(DOOR SLAMS) (RUNNING STEPS)

Derek; (BACK) (YELLS) There he is!

Bardow; (BACK) It's the Hornet!

Hanson; (BACK) Stop! Stop or we'll shoot!

(AD LIB SHOTS & CAR AS:)

Annex; Kato had been waiting at the wheel of the Black Beauty with the garage doors open. The heavy machine shot forward to meet Britt Reid as Derek and the others opened fire at the masked man.

(CAR DOOR SLAMS)

Britt; All right, Kato! Let 'er go! We have the information we came to get!

(CAR UP FULL, INTO:)

MUSIC: BURST

Derek; Kill you? What are you talking about, Seely? We did not come here to kill you. We came to get the Hornet because of the note you sent us.

Seely; Note — I sent no note.

Derek; What? You did not send this?

Seely; Derek, Derek, tell me one thing. Was there anything about me in the morning paper?

Derek; No. Why should there be?

Seely; (WAILS) Oh, what have I done! What have I done! He tricked me! He made me tell him —

Derek; If you did not send this note, who did?

Seely; The Green Hornet!

MUSIC: BURST, FADE UNDER:

Britt; You'll have to act fast, Higgins. Get a warrant and get after Darian Steel. And if you find anything that will interest the Federal Government, call Tom Wright!

MUSIC: BURST TO FINISH

(TYPING) (DOOR OPENS & CLOSES) (STOP TYPING)

Case; Oh, Mr. Reid. You're late.

Britt; Yes, Miss Case. I had a few things to do this morning.

Axford; Reid, sufferin' snakes, it's glad I am yer here! Holy Crow, there's news bustin' out all over the place! It all come when the cops got an anonymous (FUMBLE IT)

Case; Michael means "angnymous."

Axford; Yeah -- a tip.

Britt; A tip about what, Axford?

Axford; Darian Steel. They got the goods on him when they searched his apartment. He was in cahoots wit' a pack o' foreigners tuh make trouble!

Case; Seely worked for him, Mr. Reid. So did all the others who stirred up the trouble at the Empire factory.

Axford; The cops have got Steel an' he's named the ones that killed Franklin an' his wife!

(DOOR BURSTS OPEN)

Gunnigan; Hey, Axford, I just got a call -- Oh, hello, boss.

Britt; Yes, Gunnigan. Go ahead --

Gunnigan; The highway patrol has picked up Seely and three other members of the Steel outfit. They're falling all over themselves, and blaming the Green Hornet for their capture.

Axford; The Green Hornet! Sufferin' snakes!

Britt; Stay on that story, Gunnigan, and play it for all it's worth.

Gunnigan; Come on, Axford! I've got an assignment for you!

Axford; (FADING) See yez later, Reid.

(DOOR SLAMS)

Case; (LAUGHS) I'm glad you got back, Mr. Reid. () Where did you say you'd spent the morning?

Britt; I didn't say.

Case; If the Green Hornet is responsible for what happened, he must have had a busy morning.

Britt; Yes, Miss Case, he must have had.

Case; I was sure he'd do something about Seely. Weren't you?

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

NEWSBOY: Sentinal, extra, paper! Federal agents move in on Meridian Publisher! Hand of enemy agents seen in Empire dispute! Green Hornet named in downfall of conspirators! Sentinal, extra, paper!

THEME