

RUTHRAUFF & RYAN *Inc.* ADVERTISING

RADIO DIVISION

CLIENT: D. L. & W. COAL COMPANY

BROADCAST: FINAL REVISE #215

DATE: SUN. 2/11/45

PROGRAM: 'blue coal'

NETWORK: WOR

92007

THE SHADOW
"THE FACE OF DEATH"
by
Alfred Bester

1945

CHARACTERS

LAMONT CRANSTON

MARGOT LANE

WESTON

ADAMS

BAKER

MEDUSA

LUCY

NEWSMAN....(DOUBLE FOR BAKER)

BOY IN PARK....(DOUBLE FOR ADAMS)

(STANDARD OPENING)

1 (MUSIC: "SPINNING WHEEL" -- FADE UNDER)
2 SHADOW: Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?
3 The SHADOW knows.
4 (LAUGHS)
5 (MUSIC UP...SEGUE BRIGHT THEME)
6 ANNR: Once again your neighborhood 'blue coal' dealer brings
7 you the thrilling adventures of the SHADOW..the hard
8 and relentless fight of one man against the forces of
9 evil. These dramatizations are designed to demonstrate
10 forcibly to old and young alike that crime does not
11 pay!
12 (MUSIC UP...SEGUE INTO NEUTRAL BACKGROUND)

1 ANNR: The SHADOW, who aids the forces of law and order, is
2 in reality, Lamont Cranston, wealthy young
3 man-about-town. Years ago, in the Orient, Cranston
4 learned a strange and mysterious secret...the
5 hypnotic power to cloud men's minds so they cannot
6 see him. Cranston's friend and companion, the
7 lovely Margot Lane, is the only person who knows to
8 whom the voice of the invisible SHADOW belongs.
9 Today's drama....."The Face of Death".
10 (MUSIC)

1 ANNR: As a violent thunderstorm rages outside, we find
2 Lamont Cranston sitting in front of a blazing fire
3 in the exclusive Savoy Club. With him are Robert
4 Adams a well-known engineer, Gregg Baker, wealthy
5 banker and wonder of wonders....two women. Women
6 are not allowed in the Savoy Club.
7 (CROSS FADE WITH BAKER S SPEECH)
8 BAKER: Mr. Cranston, these charming ladies want to meet you.
9 This is Miss Lucy Knight (CRANSTON AND LUCY "HOW DO")
10 and this is Miss Helen Steel. (CRANSTON AND HELEN
11 "HOW DO") (CHUCKLE) And of course you ladies, know
12 Bob Adams.
13 ADAMS: (SOURLY) Very funny, Baker.
14 LUCY:& (LAUGH AT ADAMS)
HELEN:
15 BAKER: Cranston I know I'm breaking the house rules but the
16 ladies have been dying to see what the club looks like.
17 CRANSTON: Well, Baker, as chairman of the house committee I
18 should reprimand you, but after all we do have to give
19 such beautiful ladies some haven in this kind of
20 weather.
21 HELEN: That's very sweet, Mr. Cranston, but I'm afraid I
22 can't even use the weather as an excuse. I have to
23 leave right this minute. I have an art exhibition to
24 attend.
25 LUCY: I do too, Well, thank you gentlemen, I think you have
26 a charming club.
27 CRANSTON: Thank you.
28 HELEN: (FADING) Coming, Lucy? I have to hurry. Goodbye,
29 everybody.

1 LUCY: (FADING) Goodbye, now. Hope to see you again Mr.
2 Cranston.
3 (THREE MEN CALL GOODBYES)
4 ADAMS: Well, Baker, that was pretty smart wasn't it? You
5 made quite an impression on Lucy. She's asked me to
6 show her the club hundreds of times but...
7 BAKER: Then why didn't you?
8 ADAMS: Because she doesn't belong here! This is a man's
9 club!
10 CRANSTON: (CHUCKLE) Well! Looks like the old triangle. Nobody
11 seems to care much about Helen Steel entering the club.
12 ADAMS: Yes, you're right, Cranston. We're both crazy about
13 Lucy Knight.
14 BAKER: But it won't do us any good. Her life is exploring and
15 traveling. She doesn't want either of us.
16 ADAMS: (HOTLY) What makes you think so! Just because she
17 doesn't go for that soft soap you hand out doesn't
18 mean she....
19 BAKER: Now take it easy, Adams!
20 ADAMS: I won't take it easy! You're a fat babbling fool!
21 Always shooting off your mouth! You're an idiot and
22 I don't like you.
23 BAKER: Now listen, Adams, one more word...
24 CRANSTON: Hold it! Hold it! This has gone far enough!
25 BAKER: Nobody's going to sound off like that to me and get
26 away with it!
27 CRANSTON: That's enough. Suppose you drop into the card room,
28 Baker...See what the crowd's doing...

1 BAKER: The card room...what's the idea...

2 CRANSTON: Go ahead..

3 BAKER: Oh...Oh, sure. Of course, Cranston...

4 (STEPS FADE OFF)

5 BAKER: I'd forgotten you were on the House Committee. (FADING)

6 Got to reprimand a member for insolence, hey..(LAUGHS)

7 (DOOR CLOSES OFF)

8 ADAMS: All right, Cranston. What's the fine?

9 CRANSTON: There isn't going to be any fine, Adams.

10 ADAMS: I've forgotten the house rules on my offense. Am I

11 suspended or what...?

12 CRANSTON: You've got Lucy Knight pretty bad, haven't you Adams?

13 You don't usually blow up that way.

14 ADAMS: No, it isn't Lucy. I'm getting used to Lucy giving me

15 the cold shoulder. Baker's right. She doesn't want

16 either of us.

17 CRANSTON: Money trouble?

18 ADAMS: No. It's....nothing.

19 CRANSTON: Well, you're going to have to take it easier. It

20 isn't good to be...

21 ADAMS: Cranston!

22 CRANSTON: Hmmp?

23 ADAMS: I'm afraid!

24 CRANSTON: Afraid? Of what?

25 ADAMS: I'm afraid of being turned to stone...

1 CRANSTON: Turned to what?

2 ADAMS: Stone!

3 CRANSTON: Now wait a minute! Where did you get...

4 ADAMS: Ever heard of the Medusa?

5 CRANSTON: Medusa? You mean the famous mythological woman...

6 ADAMS: Yes. The tall beautiful demon whose face turned men
7 to stone if they looked at it.

8 CRANSTON: Go on.

9 ADAMS: I received a threatening letter last week. It said that
10 Lucy had desecrated the shrine of Medusa in her
11 archeological work in Asia Minor. It said that Medusa
12 would have to be pacified with an offering. It demanded
13 ten thousand dollars.

14 CRANSTON: That's ridiculous. Surely you don't believe --

15 ADAMS: Listen. Three days ago I arrived home one night and
16 found my English Setter...you remember Bobs...turned to
17 stone.

18 CRANSTON: I don't believe it.

19 ADAMS: There was a note alongside. It said this was a warning.
20 The price was now raised to fifteen thousand dollars...

21 CRANSTON: Adams, don't be a fool. Somebody's trying to rope you
22 in with some kind of a racket.

23 ADAMS: No Cranston. You wouldn't say that if you saw my dog.
24 Lamont, you have to help me.

25 CRANSTON: Well, I'll do what I can. But the first thing I want to
26 do is see that dog.

27 (DOOR OPENS OFF SHARPLY. FOOTSTEPS FADE ON SLOWLY)

28 CRANSTON: Who's that?

29 ADAMS: Cranston! Look!

1 CRANSTON: What in blazes?

2 ADAMS: It's she...The...The Medusa! The white Grecian Robes!
3 The silver mask on her face!

4 (CUT STEPS)

5 MEDUSA: (ON) Robert Adams. You know me?

6 ADAMS: I...I know you.

7 CRANSTON: Now just a minute.

8 MEDUSA: Silence, mortal! My business is with this one, Robert
9 Adams...later perhaps I may have words with you!

10 ADAMS: Wh-what do you want?

11 MEDUSA: Robert Adams. You have been warned before. The
12 immortal Medusa demands a sacrifice! Medusa will have
13 her sacrifice...or she will show you her face!

14 CRANSTON: Nonsense!

15 MEDUSA: You have one hour, Robert Adams! One little hour to pay
16 ..and pay you must or this silver mask will slip aside
17 and you will lock on my face...on the face of death!

18 MUSIC: (QUICK STAB INTO BRIDGE)

19 (SLIGHT WIND B.G. STEPS ON CONCRETE)

20 CRANSTON: The rain's stopped, Adams. Come on, I'll walk you home
21 from the club.

22 ADAMS: What time it it?

23 CRANSTON: Twelve forty-five.

24 ADAMS: Then I've only fifteen minutes left.

25 CRANSTON: Don't be a fool. No one's going to turn you to stone.

26 ADAMS: Why did you let her escape, Cranston? Why'd you let her
27 get out of the club?

1 CRANSTON: Be reasonable, Adams. You fainted dead away after she
2 threatened you, and pitched straight in the fire. If
3 I hadn't grabbed you, you'd have been horribly burned!

4 ADAMS: Oh!

5 CRANSTON: By the time I turned around she was gone.

6 ADAMS: She'll be back. I know it.

7 CRANSTON: Don't be an idiot. Medusa is only a legend... A legend,
8 Adams!

9 ADAMS: I know..A beautiful woman..If you look at her face
10 you'll be turned to stone.

11 CRANSTON: No one believes in myths today; no one's afraid of them.
12 So get a grip on yourself. We'll get to the bottom of
13 this.

14 ADAMS: Y-yes...perhaps.

15 CRANSTON: Here's the park entrance...We go through here don't we?

16 ADAMS: Yes.

17 NEWSMAN: (OFF, FADING ON SLOWLY) Paper! Getcha morning paper!
18 Whaddya read. Paper...

19 ADAMS: I...I suppose I've been a fool. (LAUGHS WEAKLY)

20 CRANSTON: That's better. Laugh at it. You can't let this throw
21 you completely.

22 ADAMS: Of course...(TRIES TO LAUGH AGAIN) It could even be a
23 joke. Something Lucy's dreamed up. She knows all about
24 those old Greek legends..

25 NEWSMAN: Paper..Getcha morning paper...(ON) Morning paper, gents?
26 Whaddya read?

27 CRANSTON: I'll take the Globe. Anything for you, Adams?

28 ADAMS: No thanks...(FADING OFF) Seen 'em all at the club...

1 CRANSTON: Adams, wait for me!

2 ADAMS: I'll walk slowly Cranston. I'll feel better if I keep
3 walking.

4 CRANSTON: (TO NEWSBOY HURRIEDLY) Don't you have change?

5 NEWSMAN: Hey, did he call you Cranston?

6 CRANSTON: Yes, why?

7 NEWSMAN: Ain't you that amacher detective that's all the time
8 hangin' around with the Police Commissioner?

9 CRANSTON: Yes. Hurry please!

10 NEWSMAN: Listen, Mr. Cranston. My brother is havin' an awful
11 time gettin' a hack license. I wonder if you could put
12 in a word with...

13 ADAMS: (SCREAMS WELL OFF MIKE)

14 NEWSMAN: Mr.Cranston!

15 ADAMS: (WELL OFF) Help! Help! (SCREAMS)

16 CRANSTON: Adams!

17 (RUNNING STEPS) (THEY PANT)

18 NEWSMAN: What's goin' on there Mr. Cranston?

19 CRANSTON: I don't know!

20 NEWSMAN: Hey...Mr. Cranston! Take a look! There..There's a dame
21 up there...See?

22 CRANSTON: Where?

23 NEWSMAN: Running through the trees...look at her. She's all
24 dressed in white..

25 CRANSTON: Good Lord! It's that Medusa!

26 NEWSMAN: Who?

27 CRANSTON: Adams! Adams! Are you all right? Adams!

28 NEWSMAN: Th-There's someone layin' on the road, Mr. Cranston...
29 He looks white too...

1 CRANSTON: It's Adams...

2 NEWSMAN: He looks all funny, Mr. Cranston...

3 CRANSTON: Wait...

4 (SLOW STEPS THEN CUT)

5 NEWSMAN: Wh-What's the matter with him?

6 CRANSTON: I can't believe it. It's impossible. He's been turned
7 to solid stone!

8 (MUSIC BRIDGE)

1 WESTON: Cranston, I went along with you last night but enough
2 is enough!

3 MARGOT: What are you talking about, Commissioner.

4 WESTON: Keep out of this, Miss Lane. Cranston knows what I'm
5 talking about.

6 CRANSTON: Now, Commissioner, you're...

7 WESTON: The gag isn't that funny, Cranston.

8 CRANSTON: You think I'm pulling a joke, Commissioner? But you
9 were there yourself, last night.

10 WESTON: Yes, I was there last night. And a dozen of my men were
11 there last night. And we were expecting a murder last
12 night. And we picked up a nice stone statue last night.
13 And...

14 CRANSTON: Now wait a minute! What's got into you?

15 WESTON: Nothing. Only we took your "murdered man" to the morgue
16 this morning and the coroner dulled four new scalpels
17 trying to do a post-mortem. Oh, he loved it...and he
18 loves you, too. He says nothing makes him happier than
19 doing autopsies on stone statues!

20 CRANSTON: Look, Commissioner, I told you exactly what hap...

21 WESTON: Congratulations, Cranston. It was a wonderful gag!

22 CRANSTON: Commissioner, I don't know what this is all about any
23 more than you do. If it's a gag I'm not in on it. I
24 don't think it is. But everything I told you happened
25 just the way I said.

26 WESTON: Yeah.

27 CRANSTON: Have you checked on Adams?

28 ADAMS: Yes and he's missing. Where is he? Sleeping it off in
29 your apartment?

1 CRANSTON: What about that stone dog we found in Adams' apartment?

2 WESTON: Do you want us to cut that open too? The coroner's
3 running short of scalpels.

4 CRANSTON: (WEARY OF IT) Oh, my...

5 MARGOT: Commissioner, I wasn't with Lamont last night, but I
6 don't think he would pull a joke like this.

7 WESTON: You don't! Then you think I should send out an alarm
8 for a woman who turns men to stone, eh?

9 (TELEPHONE RINGS)

10 WESTON: Wait a minute...

11 (PHONE UP)

12 WESTON: Yes?

13 BAKER: (FILTER) Mr. Cranston, please.

14 WESTON: Who's this? How'd you know he was here?

15 BAKER: This is Gregg Baker. They told me at his home he'd be
16 at Commissioner Weston's office...

17 WESTON: For you, Cranston...Gregg Baker.

18 CRANSTON: Thanks...Hello, Baker?

19 BAKER: Cranston! Was that true about Adams...The story in the
20 paper this morning?

21 CRANSTON: Yes.

22 BAKER: Oh no..No! It can't be! It's got to be a joke...

23 CRANSTON: What's the matter?

24 BAKER: Listen...I...I found a warning from The Medusa when I
25 got home last night...I...I was supposed to pay ten
26 thousand dollars by ten o'clock this morning...

27 CRANSTON: Yes?

28 BAKER: Or else she threatened to turn me to stone.

29 CRANSTON: Did you pay?

1 BAKER: No...I laughed...thought it was a joke. And now it...
2 it's ten o'clock and...(YELLS)
3 CRANSTON: Hello! Hello! Baker...
4 BAKER: The Medusa...Coming into the room...Cranston! She --
5 She's taking off her mark! She...(SCREAMS)
6 CRANSTON: Hello! Hello! Baker!
7 (PHONE CLICKS)
8 (PHONE HUNG UP)
9 MARGOT: Lamont! What's happened?
10 CRANSTON: Get your hat, Commissioner...We've got a date to keep
11 in a hurry.
12 WESTON: Huh? What do you mean? Who've we got a date with?
13 CRANSTON: I'm afraid it's with a statue!
14 (MUSIC BRIDGE)
15 (CAR COMES TO STOP. DOOR OPENS)
16 CRANSTON: This is Baker's house. Come on...
17 (STEPS ON PAVEMENT)
18 MARGOT: Lamont...Do you think he...
19 WESTON: Don't say it, Miss Lane. Please! Don't say it!
20 MARGOT: But, Commissioner, you're not afraid of The Medusa,
21 are you?
22 WESTON: Only of the newspapers, Miss Lane. I'm going to take an
23 awful riding on this.
24 CRANSTON: Hello! That's odd! The front door's open.
25 WESTON: We might as well go in. Let's have the bad news now.
26 CRANSTON: All right...Come on!
27 (STEPS FROM STONE TO WOOD)

1 CRANSTON: If I remember right, Baker's phone is in his study.
2 I think it's this way...
3 (SCREAM OFF MIKE)
4 MARGOT: Lamont!
5 WESTON: Hey! That sounded like a woman!
6 CRANSTON: It came from the study...
7 (DOOR OPENS OFF)
8 LUCY: (OFF..WILD) Help...Help...Police!
9 CRANSTON: That's Lucy Knight.
10 WESTON: All right, lady...We're police! What're you blowing
11 your top about?
12 LUCY: (ON) C-come into the study..Quick!
13 CRANSTON: This the study here?
14 LUCY: Yes.
15 (STEPS STOP)
16 (PAUSE)
17 MARGOT: (LOW) Lamont...
18 WESTON: For the love of Pete!
19 CRANSTON: Yes..it's just about what I expected.
20 LUCY: Wh-what's happened to him? What's happened?
21 CRANSTON: I'm afraid Baker's looked at Medusa's face, too.
22 He's been turned to stone!
23 (MUSIC UP TO COVER)
24 (MIDDLE COMMERCIAL)

1 WESTON: All right....All right...Now don't let's have any
2 hysterics, ladies...This case is bad enough without that.
3 MARGOT: Please, Commissioner...Miss Knight is pretty upset as
4 it is.
5 WESTON: Look, Miss Lane...Take her somewhere else for a while..
6 into the kitchen for some coffee or something.
7 MARGOT: All right. Come on Miss Knight...
8 LUCY: (HYSTERICAL) I can't understand it..I can't....First
9 Bob....then Gregg Baker....
10 MARGOT: Come on...You'll feel better...
11 (STEPS...DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES OFF)
12 WESTON: Well...This sure is a mess, hey Cranston?
13 CRANSTON: Pretty good joke, huh?
14 WESTON: Don't rub it in, Cranston.
15 CRANSTON: It's the strangest case I've ever seen, Commissioner.
16 Take a look at this statue....It's Baker in every detail
17 ...face...hands....clothes...everything turned to stone.
18 WESTON: Yeah....Just like Adams.
19 CRANSTON: It's simply unbelievable.
20 WESTON: Listen, Cranston...Exactly what is the Medusa legend?
21 CRANSTON: Well...Medusa was a mythological creature. She was
22 supposedly a beautiful woman. Her hair in some legends
23 was a mass of snakes...poisonous vipers.
24 WESTON: Holy Smoke!
25 CRANSTON: The mere sight of her face was enough to turn any living
26 creature to stone....
27 WESTON: Dogs too, hey? Like Adams' setter.
28 CRANSTON: That's right. Medusa was slain by Perseus, a legendary
29 hero who approached her as she slept, watching her
30 reflection in a steel shield.

1 WESTON: Oh that's great. That's really great. Now I suppose
2 I'll have to have the force equipped with mirrors
3 when they go after this Medusa. Let me have the
4 phone...
5 CRANSTON: Here you are... (PHONE OFF HOOK) / Going to order mirrors?
6 WESTON: Don't be funny....
7 (DIAL TURNED)
8 WESTON: I'm going to order action!
9 CRANSTON: Right! Will you excuse me a minute. I want to talk
10 to Lucy Knight.
11 WESTON: Go ahead....Operator -- give me police headquarters.
12 (FOOTSTEPS ON MIKE)
13 WESTON: (FADING) Hello, Cardona? Send the homicide squad
14 up here. Yeah....Gregg Baker..The address is....
15 (DOOR OPENS ON AND CLOSES, CUTTING WESTON, STEPS
16 CONTINUE, THEN SECOND DOOR OPENS)
17 MARGOT: (ALARMED) Who's that? (RELIEVED) Oh...Lamont...
18 Golly...we're jumpy.
19 CRANSTON: I should think you would be. Feeling any better,
20 Miss Knight?
21 LUCY: Y-Yes....I think so.
22 CRANSTON: Care to answer a couple of questions?
23 LUCY: Y-Yes...All right...

1

2 CRANSTON: You were friends with both Bob Adams and Gregg Baker,
3 weren't you?

4 LUCY: Yes....All three of us went to the same college. As a
5 matter of fact Gregg and I were even engaged once....
6 That was after a Drama Club Production of Romeo and
7 Juliet we played in....We t-took it seriously....

8 CRANSTON: But apparently you got over it?

9 LUCY: Oh yes.....I began to major in archeology and
10 started on field trips....That took most of the
11 schoolgirl romance out of me.

12 CRANSTON: I see.....Incidentally, who finances your expeditions?

13 LUCY: Gregg Baker did.

14 MARGOT: Is that why you came over to see him this morning?

15 LUCY: No-No.....I c-came over to see him about B-Bob and that
16 ridiculous Medusa story in the papers. I thought

17 CRANSTON: Go on.

18 LUCY: I thought it was a joke Bob was playing. B-But when
19 I came in....j-just before you.....I

20 MARGOT: Yes. We all discovered it wasn't any joke.

21 CRANSTON: One last question. Did you touch anything when you
22 were in the study before we arrived? Anything at
23 all?

1 LUCY: N-No. I just came in and saw Gregg and...and screamed....
2 and you answered.
3 CRANSTON: All right. Thanks a lot Miss Knight. Come outside
4 a minute, Margot.
5 MARGOT: Sure, Lamont...Excuse me, Miss Knight...
6 (STEPS. DOOR CLOSSES ON)
7 MARGOT: What's that matter, Lamont?
8 CRANSTON: Look at this, Margot.
9 MARGOT: Why it's a compact. And those initials...
10 CRANSTON: Yes. "L.K." -- Lucky Knight. I found it in Gregg
11 Baker's dead hand.
12 MARGOT: Lamont....
13 CRANSTON: Look, Margot, I think I've got a lead on this case.
14 There's some checking I want to do and then I'm going
15 home. Will you run an errand for me...but fast!
16 MARGOT: Of course. What is it?
17 CRANSTON: Take the car and hustle down to my club at once.
18 They've got a copy of Dun and Bradstreet there. I want
19 you to bring it to my apartment.
20 MARGOT: For heaven's sake....Why?
21 CRANSTON: Our friend the Medusa seems strangely interested in money.
22 for a so-called immortal. I'd like to get a line on
23 her financial rating. Maybe dollars and cents will
24 spell.....murder!

1 (MUSIC BRIDGE)
2 (STEPS ALONG HALL. THEY STOP)
3 (KEY UNLOCKS DOOR. DOOR OPENED. STEPS. DOOR CLOSED)
4 MEDUSA: (OFF) Greetings, Mortal.
5 CRANSTON: Who's that? Who's in my apartment?
6 MEDUSA: Do not move, Mr. Cranston. Do not attempt to turn on
7 the lights.
8 CRANSTON: You're the Medusa.
9 MEDUSA: Yes
10 CRANSTON: What do you want? How'd you get in here?
11 MEDUSA: There are no locks to bar the way of the immortals.
12 I came to speak to you Mr. Cranston.
13 CRANSTON: About what?
14 MEDUSA: About yourself.
15 CRANSTON: I'd rather talk about you.
16 MEDUSA: Listen and tremble, mortal. The gods brook no
17 interference. Many and varied are the ways of the Gods
18 It is not for mortals to understand or try to
19 understand. It is not for mortals to interfere..
20 CRANSTON: I'm listening..
21 MEDUSA: I have a brother god.. His name is Juggernaut...
22 CRANSTON: Yes.
23 MEDUSA: He is a jealous god well known on this earth. Do you
24 know what happens to those who stand in the path of
25 the god Juggernaut?.
26 CRANSTON: What happens?. ..
27 MEDUSA: They are crushed like flies. .like vermin.. They are
28 crushed as I shall crush you, Mr. Cranston...in my own
29 time.
30 CRANSTON: You're not frightening me one little bit.

1 MEDUSA: Yes...Yes...so have many mortals spoken to Medusa in
2 their time...with brave little words. But I come to
3 them....I remove the silver mask that hides my face..
4 I smile on them....with the smile of death....

5 CRANSTON: Smile now, Medusa....

6 MEDUSA: Not yet, Mortal...Not yet...I have sent a message to
7 you. In it you will find the amount of the sacrifice
8 you must make to Medusa. It is a small amount...for
9 the wealth you own...You will pay it gladly....

10 CRANSTON: I will pay nothing....

11 MEDUSA: You will pay...and pay...and pay...lest the fate
12 of Robert Adams and Gregg Baker overtake you. This
13 is your warning, mortal...take heed! And now...
14 Farewell!

15 CRANSTON: Oh no, dear lady...this isn't goodbye yet!

16 (BEGIN AD LIB STRUGGLE)

17 MEDUSA: Fool! Would you see my face?

18 CRANSTON: I can't in the dark, my pretty killer! So don't
19 threaten me...

20 MEDUSA: Take your hands off me, fool. Would you soil the
21 robes of the gods with your clay?

22 CRANSTON: Keep away from that door! Owwww! So the gods can
23 punch, eh?

24 (DOOR OPENS)

25 MARGOT: (SCREAMS)

26 CRANSTON: Ah, now I have you!

27 MARGOT: Lemont, what are you doing?

28 CRANSTON: Margot!

29 (CLICK OF SWITCH)

1 CRANSTON: Margot, I thought I'd caught the Medusa. She was in
2 here.

3 MARGOT: I...I'm sorry...I didn't mean to come blundering in
4 like that, Lamont. I guess I helped her get away.

5 CRANSTON: That's all right. We'll get another chance at her.

6 MARGOT: Lamont. I f-found something at your club that's
7 upset me pretty badly.

8 CRANSTON: What Margot?

9 MARGOT: It....It's awful. Y-You've had a threatening letter
10 from the Medusa. Unless you pay tWenty thousand
11 dollars.....you're going to be the third victim on
12 the list.

13 CRANSTON: I am, huh. Well, maybe the Medusa will find herself
14 the three hundredth victim on THE SHADOW'S List!

15 (MUSIC BRIDGE)

16 MARGOT: Finished with that Dun and Bradstreet?

17 CRANSTON: Just about.

18 MARGOT: What did it tell you?

19 CRANSTON: A couple of interesting things. In the first place,
20 Robert Adams had good rating. But Gregg Baker had
21 a very low rating.

22 MARGOT: What does that prove?

23 CRANSTON: It proves that the Medusa must have known Gregg Baker
24 intimately. Otherwise, how would she know he could
25 afford to pay ten thousand dollars.

26 MARGOT: Of course! If she believed his credit rating she
27 wouldn't have tried to blackmail him.

28 CRANSTON: She's showing good financial sense trying to blackmail
29 Cranston...But bad common sense. Let's see that letter
30 now....

1 MARGOT: Here...

2 CRANSTON: Hmm.. Plain paper. Plain envelope. Printed in
3 ordinary ink. Obviously our goddess tried to disguise
4 her handwriting.

5 MARGOT: Read it!

6 CRANSTON: Hail Mortal! You have been honored by the Gods and
7 permitted to make sacrifice to Medusa. You will bring
8 twenty thousand dollars in cash to the Fountain Plaza
9 in the park by Midnight.

10 MARGOT: That's the giant fountain with all those stone
11 mermaids and tritons.. It's near the mall.

12 CRANSTON: Yes, I know..(READS) Otherwise you will suffer the
13 fate of Adams and Baker by one o'clock. The gods
14 do not jest. See to the sacrifice. .(NORMAL TONE)
15 Pretty melodramatic, eh?

16 MARGOT: Please don't joke about it, Lamont.. What are you
17 going to do?

18 CRANSTON: Isn't it obvious? Keep the date of course.

19 MARGOT: You're going to pay?

1 CRANSTON: Yes...I'm going to pay ... off!

2 MARGOT: Wh-What do you mean?

3 CRANSTON: I'm going as THE SHADOW, Margot. I'd like to see how
4 Medusa will go about turning an invisible man to stone!

5 (MUSIC BRIDGE)

6 (BRING UP WIND TO B.G. FOR SCENE...ALSO SPLASH OF
7 FOUNTAINS OFF)

8 MARGOT: This is it, Lamont....

9 CRANSTON: You know, I don't think I've been on the Mall in
10 years. I'd almost forgotten that giant Neptune in
11 the center of the fountain...Magnificent, eh Margot?

12 MARGOT: Lamont, this is no time for art-appreciation. What
13 are we going to do?

14 CRANSTON: Wait....

15 MARGOT: Just wait?

16 CRANSTON: Just wait.

17 MARGOT: What time is it?

18 CRANSTON: A few minutes to twelve.

19 MARGOT: Th-The Medusa will be here soon.

20 CRANSTON: I hope so. It's a little chilly waiting here.

21 MARGOT: Chilly and spooky! Golly...It's so dark and lonesome..

22 CRANSTON: I can think of more cheerful spots...

23 MARGOT: Lamont....

24 CRANSTON: I don't think we ought to talk, Margot.

25 MARGOT: Why not?

26 CRANSTON: If Medusa hears Lamont Cranston speak and then THE
27 SHADOW appears...She might put two and two together...

28 MARGOT: Oh....All right...I'll be quiet...

29 (PAUSE)

30 MARGOT: (WHISPERS) Lamont!

1 CRANSTON: Shhh.....

2 MARGOT: I think I heard something!

3 CRANSTON: Shhh....Listen....

4 (PAUSE)

5 MARGOT: I...I guess I was hearing things.

6 CRANSTON: Yes. Margot, it's getting close to twelve o'clock. I

7 think the Shadow had better wait from now on.

8 MARGOT: All right Lamont.

9 (PAUSE)

10 MARGOT: Listen...

11 (FOOTSTEPS OFF FADE ON VERY SLOWLY)

12 MARGOT: Footsteps!

13 (PAUSE)

14 MARGOT: Th-They're coming this way.

15 (STEPS COMING ON)

16 BOY: (OFF. YELLS RAUCOUSLY) Hey, Charlie! Wait for me!

17 (FOOTSTEPS RUN AND FADE OFF)

18 MARGOT: Oh...Golly...Golly....A false alarm....

19 SHADOW: Shhh....We've got to be quiet now.

20 MARGOT: Yes....

21 (PAUSE. CLOCK CHIME TWELVE OFF)

22 MARGOT: It...It's twelve o'clock.

23 MEDUSA: (FADING ON) Yes, mortal...The gods are always prompt...

24 Prompt as Fate itself!

25 MARGOT: Medusa!

26 MEDUSA: You have kept the appointment for the sacrifice. It

27 is well. Where is the mortal bearing the sacrifice?

28 MARGOT: Y-You mean Lamont Cranston? He.....He.....

29 SHADOW: (LAUGHS)

30 MEDUSA: Who laughs? Who laughs at the immortals?

1 SHADOW: Another immortal, oh mighty Medusa!

2 MEDUSA: What immortal?

3 SHADOW: Look up, fellow God....Look high. See me standing
4 here...Standing amidst the sparkling waters.

5 MEDUSA: In the fountain? Who? Where?

6 SHADOW: I am Neptune...God of the waters. Standing here...
7 an image of stone...but yet a God!

8 MEDUSA: You lie! Stone cannot speak!

9 SHADOW: Neptune speaks as he will. Guard your tongue, Medusa..
10 Remember, Neptune is the father of Jupiter...the
11 father of all the Gods....

12 MEDUSA: No!

13 SHADOW: You are all answerable to Neptune for your deeds...I
14 am displeased with you, Medusa!

15 MEDUSA: This is impossible!

16 SHADOW: I am descending from this perch amidst the waters.
17 I am coming to you for an accounting, Medusa! It is
18 not wise for a God to turn immortality to the purpose
19 of extortion!

20 MEDUSA: You are not coming down! I see nothing! It is a
21 trick! I will not be fooled!

22 SHADOW: Feel the mighty hands of Neptune, then...Crushing you
23 down...Ripping from your face the false mask that
24 hides nothing but greed!

25 MEDUSA: No! No! Let go...(SCREAMS) Gregg! Gregg! Help me!

26 BAKER: (FADING ON) For God's sake, what is it?

27 SHADOW: Ahhh! So Medusa calls upon mortals for help!

28 BAKER: Get back...Whoever you are! Get back...
29 (GUN SHOTS)

30 MARGOT: Shadow! Watch out!

1 BAKER: Take your hands off me!

2 (GUN SHOTS)

3 SHADOW: No, Gregg Baker -- your gun can't save you.

4 BAKER: Let go of me..Let go...(CHOKES) Yaaaaaahhhh!

5 MEDUSA: What have you done to him? Who are you? What do you
6 want?

7 SHADOW: Your mortal servant lies unconscious on the cold earth,
8 Medusa...Now, may I remove that silver mask....(LAUGHS)

9 MEDUSA: No! No!

10 SHADOW: The mask falls...Turn us to stone, Medusa! Turn your
11 baleful face upon us! You cannot? You are only human
12 after all...A human called Helen Steel! (LAUGHS)

13 (MUSIC BRIDGE)

1 CRANSTON: Yes, Margot, the whole thing was an extremely clever
2 extortion case.

3 MARGOT: I don't mind admitting it had me puzzled.

4 CRANSTON: Well, I had a few rough moments too.

5 MARGOT: I almost fainted when I saw Gregg Baker come to the
6 Medusa's aid. I thought he was dead.

7 CRANSTON: It certainly looked that way for a while.

8 MARGOT: But who was this Helen Steel? You seemed to know her.

9 CRANSTON: Remember, Margot. She was the woman who Baker brought
10 into the club with Lucy when Adams and I were there.
11 When you went for the Dun and Bradstreet I did some
12 checking on Helen Steel. I remembered that when she
13 left the club she said she was going to an art
14 exhibition. Art exhibitions and stone statues seemed
15 to click in my mind.

16 MARGOT: Then Helen Steel made the statues?

17 CRANSTON: Yes, Margot. I learned she was a sculptress. So I
18 was positive then she must be the Medusa.

19 MARGOT: But Lamont, there are still so many things I don't
20 understand. How Adams was murdered for instance.

21 CRANSTON: Well, Margot, when I walked Adams home, Baker was
22 waiting for us with Helen Steel disguised as Medusa
23 behind some bushes. I've checked back since and I find
24 the newsboy was in on it too. He was a cheap gangster
25 hired to stop me from walking all the way through the
26 park with Adams. I guess he would have tried to slug me
27 if his routine about recognizing my name didn't work.

1 MARGOT: Then when Bob Adams got abreast of the place where
2 Baker and Medusa were hiding...

3 CRANSTON: They killed him and pulled his body into the bushes.
4 Commissioner Weston got Baker to confess to where he
5 buried the body later.

6 MARGOT: Then Baker pretended to be turned into stone too.

7 CRANSTON: Yes. After the two "stone" murders Baker and Helen
8 Steel intended to really collect from other victims.
9 But Baker made one mistake that gave him away.

10 MARGOT: What's that?

11 CRANSTON: Baker supposedly died while telephoning. Yet when
12 Commissioner Weston called headquarters the phone was
13 in its cradle. Who hung it up?

14 MARGOT: Couldn't Lucy Knight have done that?

15 CRANSTON: She said she hadn't touched a thing. And that compact
16 in the hand of Baker's statue seemed just a little too
17 pat for Lucy to have done it.

18 MARGOT: They were trying to make Lucy look guilty.

19 CRANSTON: Yes. You know, Margot, it's funny. They brought death
20 to Adams in stone. Now death will be brought to them
21 in stone...stone walls!

22 (MUSIC CURTAIN)