

# ABBOTT AND COSTELLO

COMICS

NOT NOW, HONEY...  
ABBOTT'S WATCHING!



# CONCERNING COSTELLO

By BUD ABBOTT

**W**HEN YOU write about Costello any resemblance to any person, living or dead, is *not* coincidental. It's preposterous! Even as a boy Costello was noted for having a very level head. It's still the flattest thing you ever saw! You've heard, of course, that he worked his way up from the bottom. But why did he go back down again? One thing I'll have to grant him is that he can really take a joke. He *always* takes my best jokes, the thief!

Did you know that he was voted one of the world's ten best dressed men in 1923? The only trouble is that he's been wearing the same suit ever since. No, wait! That's not quite right. He did buy a new suit the other day. And it fits like a glove! Indeed, I think it would make a swell catcher's mitt.

Costello has a fine physique. I'm really not fooling about his build. You should see him in a bathing suit! That magnificent torso makes the lifeguards look sick! Not only does it make the lifeguards look sick... *everybody* turns green! He's fortunate, too. He never gets sunburned. The sun doesn't stay out that long. Costello doesn't go swimming any longer, though. Not since the day the little boy begged his mother to buy him that nice beach ball... the one that talked.

Incidentally, Costello's building himself a new home. However, he's having a little trouble getting materials ever since they doubled the guard at the lumber yard.

I suppose you all know that Costello is very sentimental. That's not the reason he kept the first dollar he ever made, though. He was just afraid to try and pass it. He has the reputation of being a very lavish tipper, and I must say that it is deserved. Why I remember distinctly the time that Costello tipped a guy fifteen cents for saving his life. Yowsuh, he doesn't care what he does with his money, just so he doesn't spend it.



**LOU COSTELLO**

Is Costello a coward? I wouldn't go so far as to say that. But he certainly doesn't have any surplus courage. He thinks he's a great ladies' man. I'll admit he *does* have a lot of phone numbers. But you've got a new telephone directory, too, haven't you? Last year he tried to join a Lonely Hearts Club. He sent in his photo, but it was returned with a note of rejection. None of the Lonely Hearts were *that* lonely!

I do not mean to imply by any of this that Costello is dumber than an ox. However, he isn't any smarter. He's the only man I've ever heard grind gears when he thinks. Listen to this: he was out one night with a beautiful girl. She looked into his eyes and whispered, "Tell me all about yourself." "What do you think I am, a squealer?" snarled Costello. Then there was the occasion I asked him to come with me to a fire sale. He refused to go. Couldn't see the sense of buying a fire in the summer.

I'm sorry. I guess I shouldn't have insulted Costello. Poor little guy, he takes it to heart so. I remember the last time I was mean to him. It was pitiful. You should have seen his face. Boy, did he need a shave!

*(Continued on Inside Back Cover)*



# ABBOTT and COSTELLO

in "SO NEAR AND YET SAFARI!"

A Jungle Saga by  
JOHN GRAHAM  
Illustrated by  
LILLY RENEE and  
ERIC PETERS



AT LAST, PEACE AND  
QUIET! WASN'T IT WORTH  
THE TROUBLE AND  
EXPENSE TO FINALLY GET  
AWAY FROM THE CROWDS?

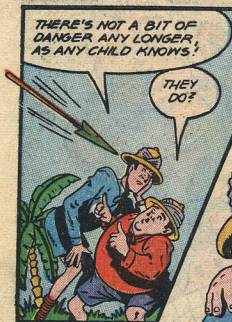
Y-Y-Y-YES!

BUT DID WE WANT TO  
GET THIS FAR AWAY?  
IT'S ANFUL SCARY!

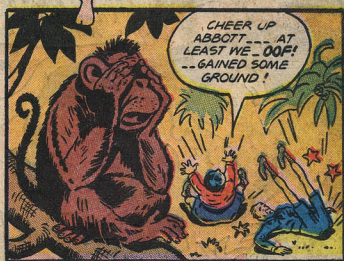
As...

NONSENSE! WHY  
THE JUNGLE TODAY  
IS SAFER THAN A  
SAVINGS BOND!









STILL, TAWANA WILL  
SPARE YOU THIS  
TIME... BUT I  
WARN YOU  
DEPART OR DIE!



SHE'S GONE! AND  
WE'D BETTER GO  
TOO!



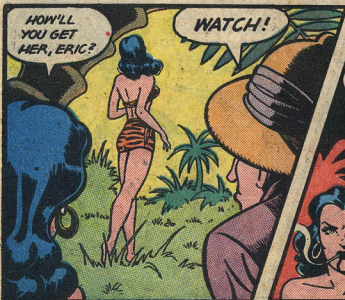
PHOOEY!  
I'M NOT  
AFRAID  
OF A  
GIRL!

ESPECIALLY WHEN  
SHE'S NOT HERE,  
SEE? WITH THIS  
DISGUISE EVEN THE  
APES COULDN'T TELL  
US FROM THE  
BELGIAN CONGO!



NICE DISGUISE LULU. IF  
I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER  
I'D REALLY THINK YOU  
WERE TAWANA!

AND HERE'S REAL  
LUCK --- TAWANA  
HERSELF!



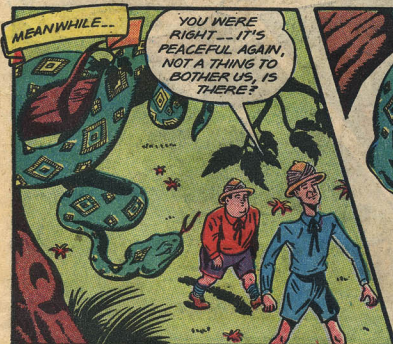
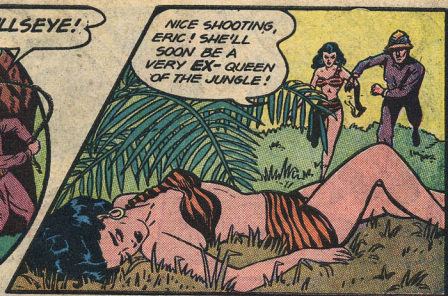
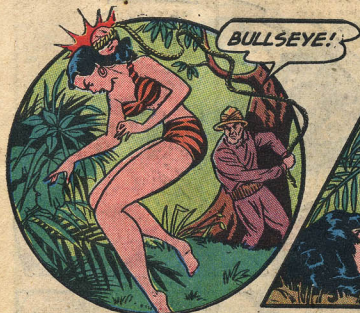
HOW'LL  
YOU GET  
HER, ERIC?

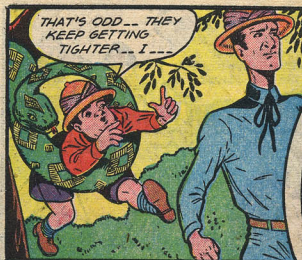
WATCH!



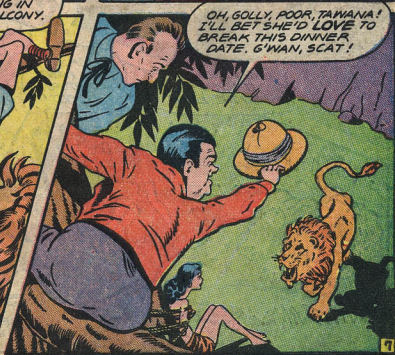
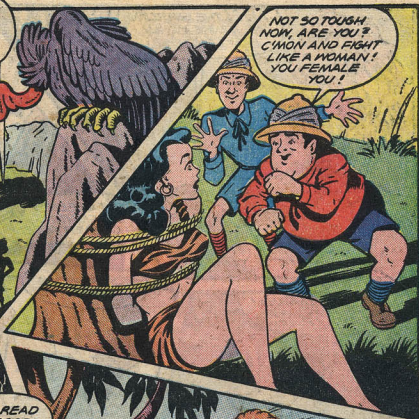
I'M GONNA  
"ROCK" THAT  
BABY TO SLEEP  
--- PERMANENTLY!

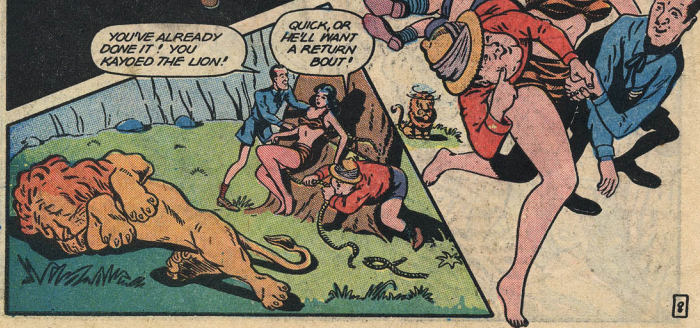
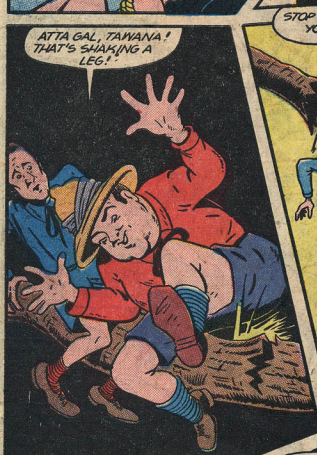
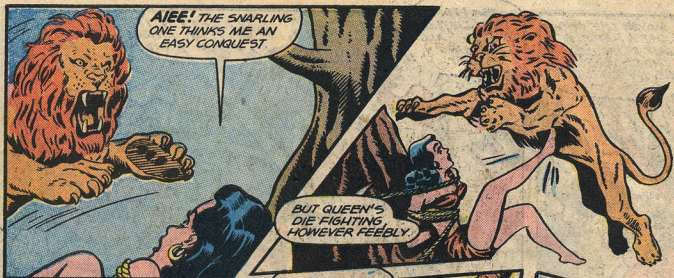














WE WANNA GO HOME! JUST POINT OUT THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE U.S.A!

FOLLOW ME!

ABBOTT! LET'S WAIT FOR THE NEXT CROSS-TOWN SAFARI! I'M SCARED OF HIGH PLACES.

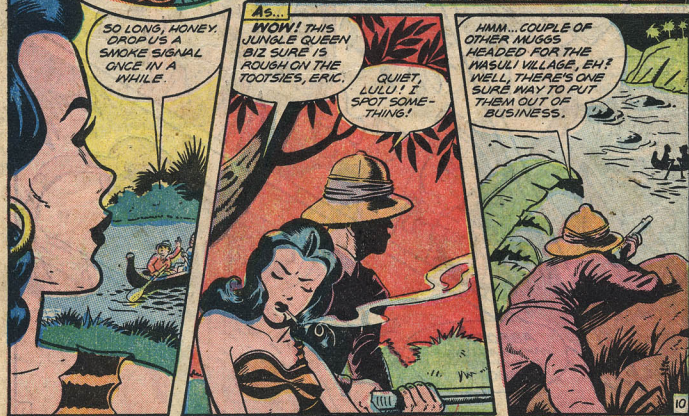
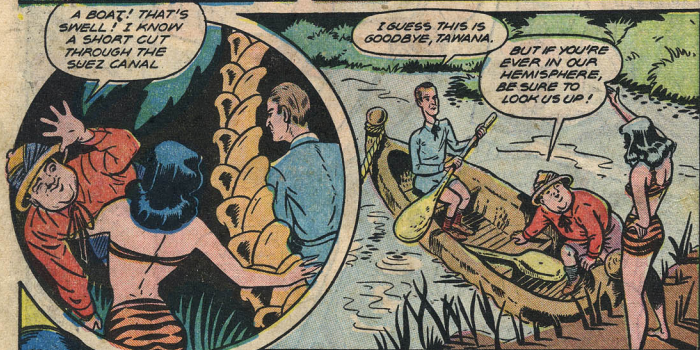
OH, COME ON. THERE'S NOTHING TO IT!

I - ER - BEG YOUR PARDON. I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE USING YOUR TAIL.

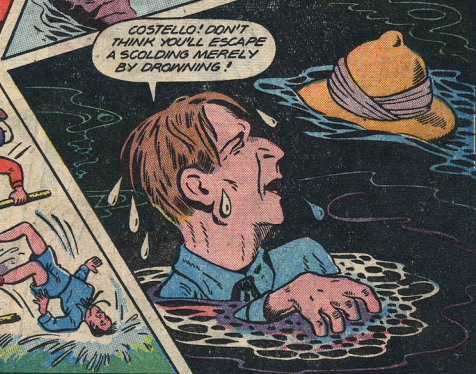
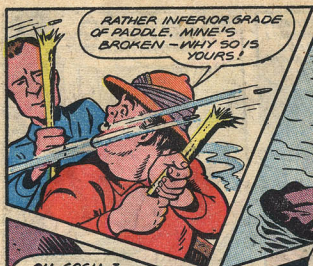
STILL IT SURE IS A CHEAP WAY TO TRAVEL! CHANGE HERE FOR INDO-CHINA AND ALL LOCAL STOPS!

BUT THERE'S (PUFF!) SO MUCH OF ME!

ABBOTT! HE'S MAKING A MONKEY OUT OF ME - ABBOTT!







HAH! THEY'RE GONERS, LULU, WHICH GIVES US A MONOPOLY ON THE LOCAL CRIME WAVE.

NOTHING BETWEEN US AND THE WASULI JEWELS NOW BUT A FEW MILES AND A LITTLE CHATTER.

BUT...

OUCH! THAT'S ONE TIME WE WENT OVER WITH A BANG!

W-W-WHAT A PLACE! ISN'T THERE ANYTHING HERE TO EAT B-BUT US?

BOY, SOME DROP! DID YOU SHRIEK SOMETHING, ABBOTT?

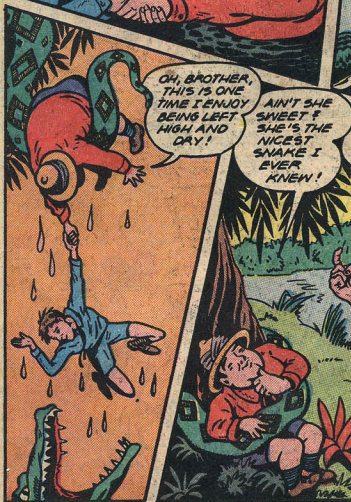
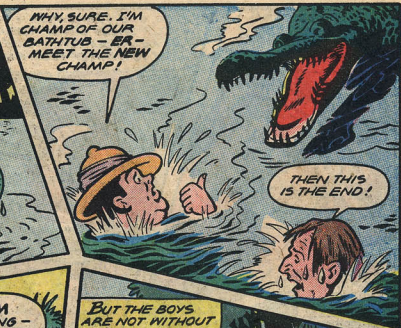
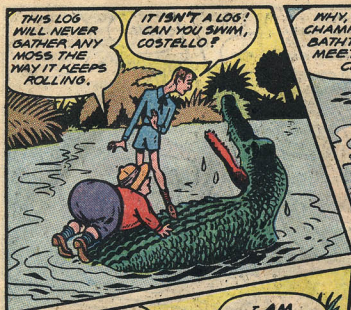
SEARCH ME.

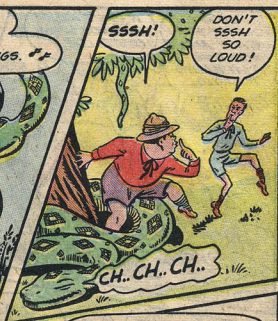
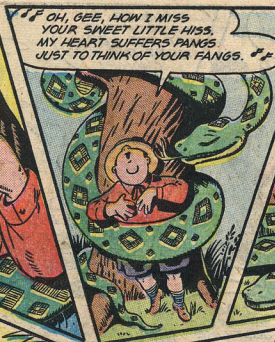
BUT THIS GUY'S GONNA HAVE HIS TOOTH-FICK BEFORE LUNCH!

NICE WORK!

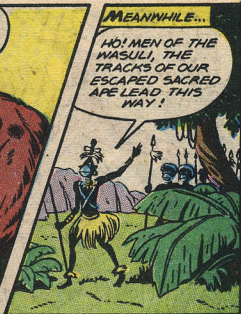
OH, ANY HERO COULD HAVE DONE THE SAME THING. LET'S RELAX ON THIS LOG, EH?

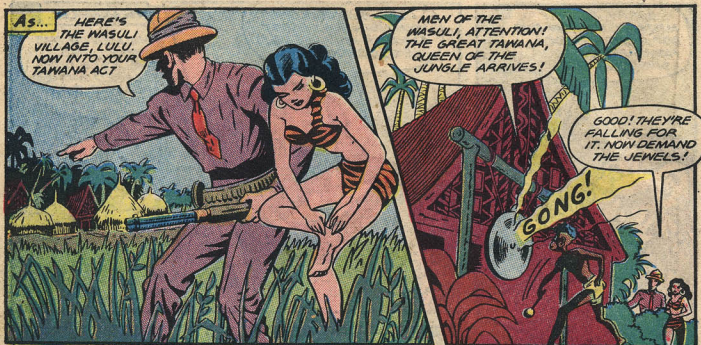
















IT IS ODD.  
THE SO FAT ONE  
IS FAMILIAR. I  
HAVE SEEN  
THAT STOMACH  
SOMEPLACE  
BEFORE!



HOLD! I  
HAVE IT!  
LAY DOWN  
YOUR ARMS!



BEHOLD, MEN OF  
THE WASULI - THE  
FAT ONE IS CAST IN  
THE IMAGE OF  
OUR TOTEM GOD!



HEY, HOW ABOUT  
THIS? IT LOOKS  
JUST LIKE ME!  
SAME EYES -  
SAME CHINS!

THE  
WASULI  
REJOICE  
THIS  
DAY!



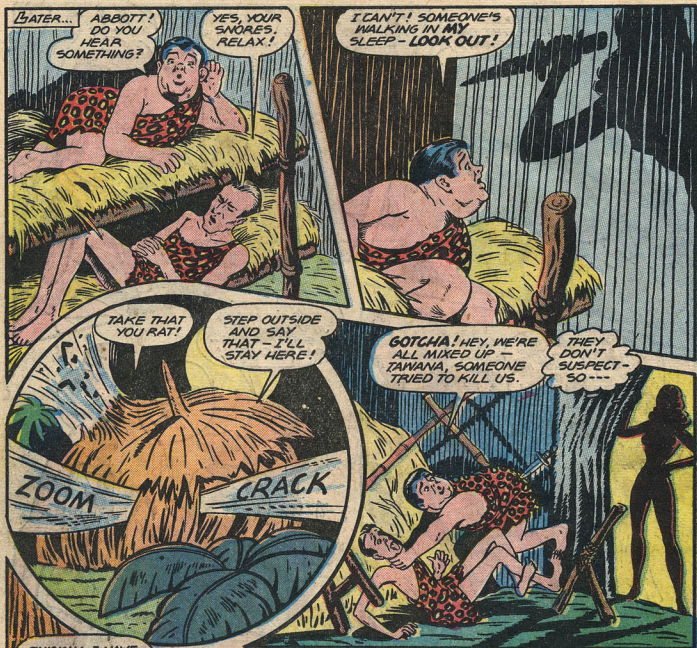
DRAIT IT! THE  
CHUMPS ADORE  
HIM! I'D BETTER  
MAKE FRIENDS  
FAST!



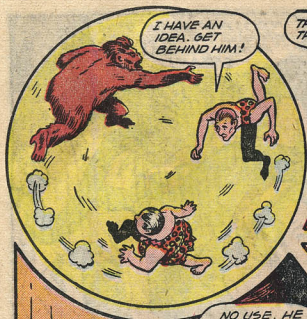
FORGIVE YOU? WHY,  
OF COURSE, TAWANA.  
I NEVER CARRY A  
GRUDGE THEY'RE  
MUCH TOO  
HEAVY.



GOOD GAL! NOW  
TONIGHT WHEN  
THEY'RE  
SNOOZING ...







I HAVE AN  
IDEA. GET  
BEHIND HIM!



THEY WENT  
THAT WAY!

NO, THIS WAY.  
JUST STEPPED  
OUT TO THE  
SOUTH POLE!



NO USE. HE  
REMEMBERS.  
HE'S THE TYPE  
THAT NEVER  
FORGETS A TORSO!



BUT...

ATTA SNAKE!  
THAT'S BRINGING  
UP THE TAIL  
END!

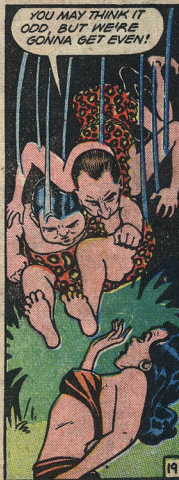


SOME  
PAL. WHAT  
WOULD WE  
HAVE DONE  
WITHOUT  
HER?

STOPPED  
BREATH-  
ING



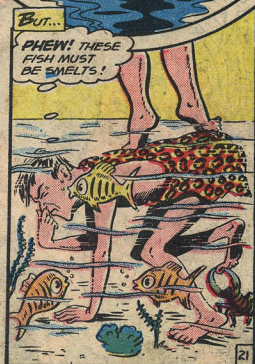
MADE IT! AND THERE'S  
THAT TAWANA! EVEN  
WITHOUT A SCORECARD,  
I KNOW SHE'S NOT ON  
OUR SIDE! LET'S GO!



YOU MAY THINK IT  
ODD, BUT WE'RE  
GONNA GET EVEN!

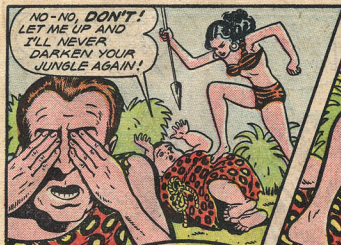














WE'LL BE LEAVING SHORTLY, BUT WE'LL GO HOME BY THE HIGHEST CLASS TRAMP STEAMER.

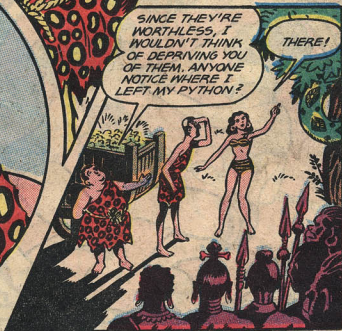


OH, GEE, WHY DOES SOMEONE ALWAYS TORPEDO MY DREAM BOAT?



THEN, I'LL BUY ERMINE UNDERWEAR! I'LL —

SORRY, COSTELLO, BUT YOU MUST KNOW SOMETIME —



SINCE THEY'RE WORTHLESS, I WOULDN'T THINK OF DEPRIVING YOU OF THEM. ANYONE NOTICE WHERE I LEFT MY PYTHON?

THERE!



HUMPH! WELL I HOPE YOU'LL BE VERY HAPPY, YOU SNAKES!



YOU MUST GO NOW, MY FRIENDS?

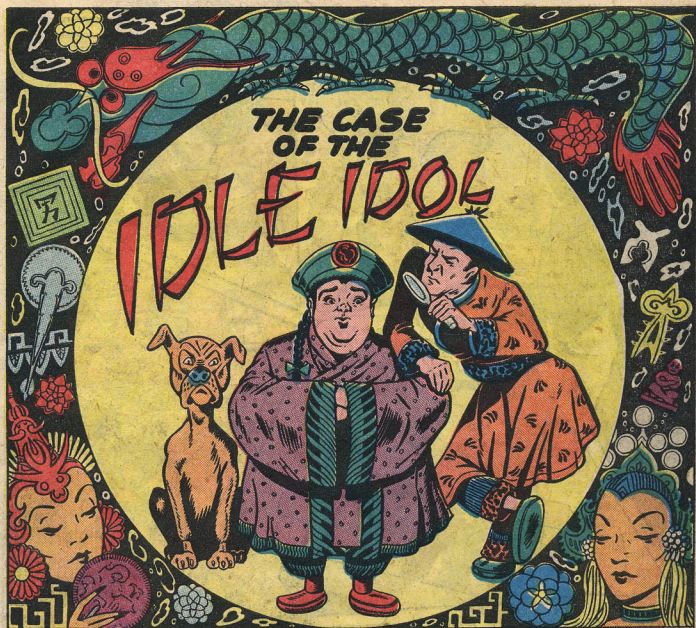
YUP, WE'LL HAVE TO WALK BACK, BUT WE'RE FULL OF TREKS. BYE, HONEY.



WHEN! I'M GLAD TO START HOME. THE JUNGLE'S TOO MUCH. I'M NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER YOU KNOW.

WE ALMOST DIDN'T GET ANY OLDER, EITHER!







WHY-WHY, HE'S CARRYING ARMS!

YEAH, GOT A KNIFE IN ONE OF 'EM, TOO - LET'S SCRAM!

WAIT, PAL, LET'S TALK THIS OVER. HAVE A CHAIR!

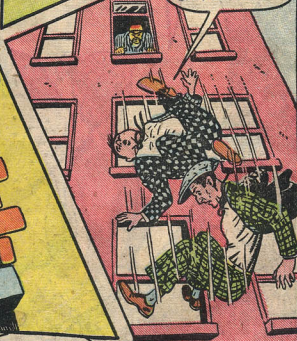
HAVE TWO CHAIRS! HAVE A SOFA - HEY THAT WINDOW'S OPEN!

COSTELLO, GET THAT CRAZY CHINAMAN OUT OF HERE! CALL HIM A RICKSHAW!

OKAY, HE'S A RICKSHAW!



SOME NERVE! GIVING US THE AIR OUT OF OUR OWN OFFICE!



OOF! HIS PALS NETTED US! BUT THERE'S A COP! HE'LL SAVE US! OFFICER! OFFICER!

AND HE'S GOT A FRIEND FOR ME - GOODY!

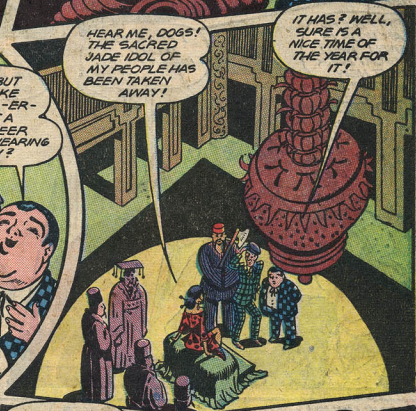
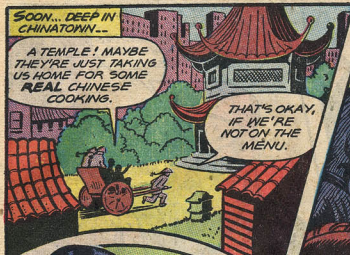
SHOOTING ANOTHER MOVIE, I GUESS. REALISTIC ISN'T IT?



THOSE DUMB COPS THINK THESE COOLIES ARE ACTORS!

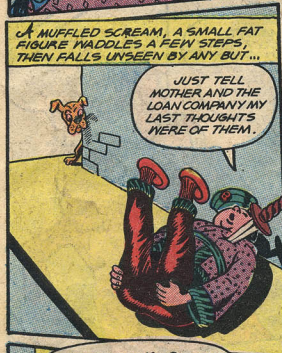
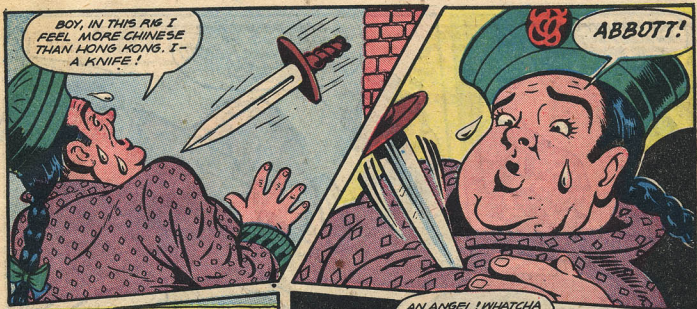
THEY ARE - BAD ACTORS!





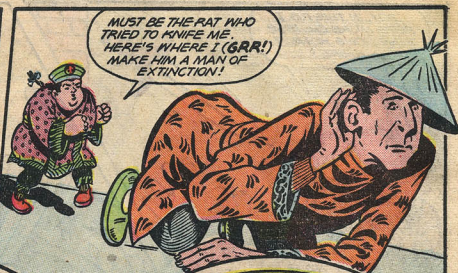




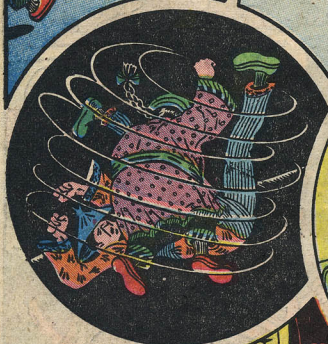




AH, HA! ANY GUY UP  
AN ALLEY MUST BE  
UP TO SOMETHING!



MUST BE THE RAT WHO  
TRIED TO KNIFE ME.  
HERE'S WHERE I (GRR!)  
MAKE HIM A MAN OF  
EXTINCTION!



ABBOTT, I  
DIDN'T KNOW  
IT WAS YOU!  
WHY, I'D GIVE  
YOU THE  
KIMONO OFF  
MY BACK!

YES, WITH-  
OUT WASH-  
ING IT, YOU  
IDIOT!



DO NOT  
QUARREL,  
FRIENDS.  
COME JOIN  
ME IN  
SOME TEA!

TEA? WHY,  
HONEY, I'D  
EVEN JOIN  
YOU IN  
SOME  
ARSENIC!



FOOD'S A GOOD  
IDEA. I HAVEN'T  
EATEN SINCE  
LAST TIME.  
THROUGH HERE,  
EH?

AH, SHE  
LURES  
THEM -  
ATTACK!



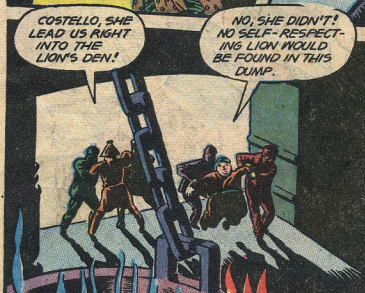
HEY - GET YOUR  
HANDS OFF ME,  
OR I'LL HIT YOU A  
BELT IN THE  
CHOPSTICKS WHAT'S  
THE IDEA?





THE IDEA? I HAVE HERE THE IDOL YOU SEEK. I TRICKED YOU FOR I'M NOBODY'S FOOL!

UNEMPLOYED, EH?



COSTELLO, SHE LEAD US RIGHT INTO THE LION'S DEN!

NO, SHE DIDN'T! NO SELF-RESPECTING LION WOULD BE FOUND IN THIS DUMP.



IT COMES CLOSER! IT IS DISPLEASED. FLEE! FLEE!



VERY FUNNY. I TRUST YOUR HUMOR SURVIVES TORTURE. PREPARE THE BURNING OIL!

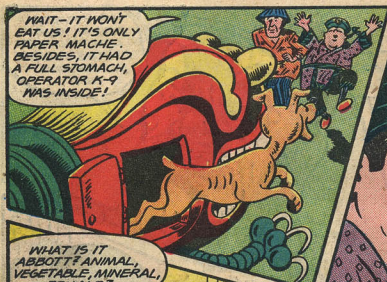
BUT...

MASTER, BEHOLD, THE DRAGON GOD WALKS!



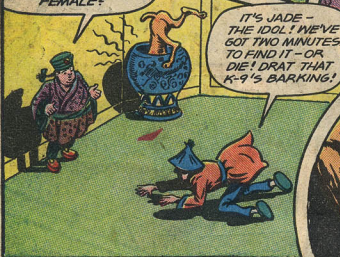
WE'RE TRAPPED! WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?

FOR HIM? A GOOD MOUTH WASH!



WAIT-IT WON'T EAT US! IT'S ONLY PAPER MACHE BESIDES, IT HAD A FULL STOMACH, OPERATOR K-9 WAS INSIDE!

WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE ANIMAL, VEGETABLE, MINERAL, FEMALE?



IT'S JADE - THE IDOL! WE'VE GOT TWO MINUTES TO FIND IT - OR DIE! DRAT THAT K-9'S BARKING!



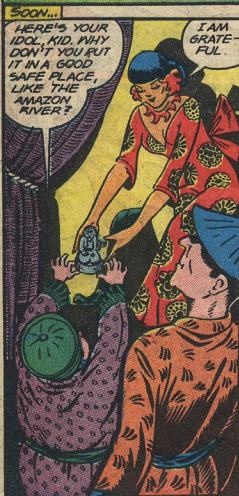
HE'S A PAL - AND TO SHOW HOW GRATEFUL I AM, I'M GONNA TEAR UP THE MORTGAGE ON HIS KENNEL.

HMM... SEEMS LIKE WE'RE FORGETTING SOMETHING THOUGH.

WAIT, ABBOTT! HE BARKED A MOUTHFUL - THE IDOL - K-9 FOUND IT!



WE'RE SAVED!

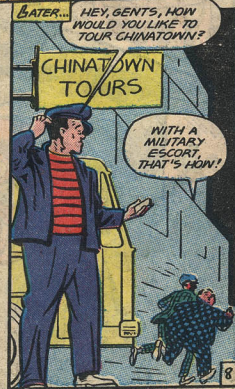


SOON... HERE'S YOUR IDOL, KID. WHY DON'T YOU PUT IT IN A GOOD SAFE PLACE, LIKE THE AMAZON RIVER?

I AM GRATEFUL.



AW, SKIP IT, HONEY. NEXT TIME YOU WANT US, GIVE A BUZZ - WE'RE DISCONNECTING THE PHONE!



LATER...

HEY, GENTS, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO TOUR CHINATOWN?

CHINATOWN TOURS

WITH A MILITARY ESCORT, THAT'S HOW!





**BUD ABBOTT**

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## ABOUT ABBOTT

By **LOU COSTELLO**

A lot of people think Abbott is a jerk. I'm one of them. I've known him for years and years...without time off for good behavior. He's the closest friend I have. In fact, I don't know anyone so stingy! I'm just joking. Actually Abbott would give you the shirt off his back. Provided, of course, you were the laundry man.

Does this begin to sound as though I don't like Abbott? It *does*? Good, then I won't have to start over again. Seriously, though, we're great pals. Why compared to us, Damon and Pythias had a mere nodding acquaintance. We've been together so long that I feel better equipped than even Abbott himself to write his life story. Besides, I can spell.

You've got to give Abbott a lot of credit. You really do. Nobody else would lend him a dime. What I mean is look at the big shot he is today. And he came

from a very poor family! Gosh, were they poor! But what else could you expect with a crook like Abbott in the house? Yes, Sir, I'll take my hat off to Abbott, but I refuse to let it out of my sight.

I suppose you'd like to know how Abbott started his career. So would the F. B. I. All I know is that he claims to be a self-made man. Maybe he is, but frankly I think he should try again. He's bound to improve with practice. He's always bragging about starting at the bottom, but what's so hot about that? So does athlete's foot.

Abbott likes to boast that he drives the nicest car in town. Be careful. Don't leave your keys in the ignition. However, the automobile he has now is really a beauty. That's one thing you can't take away from him. But the finance company will the first of the month.

Abbott's always beating his gums about what a great physical specimen he is. I wish I had a body like his! The first thing I'd do would be take a shower. Maybe he has got a lot of muscles. But why doesn't he wear them? Last winter he went to Florida for his health. He couldn't find it. It must have been in some *other* state. I'll never forget the time I went to the gym with him. At closing time the porter tried to tuck Abbott away with the Indian clubs. For years he had me believing that he had played in a big Army-Navy game, all right. But it wasn't football! It was a *poker* game with two sergeants and a sailor!

People wonder why I always let Abbott do the thinking. It's just that I figure he needs the practice. He's got a nice clear mind. He never gets it cluttered up with any ideas. Abbott says *I'm* stupid. Maybe I am. But when I look at him, I know I haven't got a monopoly.

I guess I shouldn't kick. Over the years I've had a lot of fun. But not with Abbott! One Saturday night he asked me out on a double date. It *really* was a double date! I had to pay for him, too! I would have left in a huff, except that a taxi's faster.

Don't get me wrong. Actually I'm very fond of Abbott. Why I have him over to my house every single night. I wish I could remember to close the windows.



**ALL THE GANG WILL ADMIRE YOUR—**

# Schwinn-Built Bicycle

Only a **Schwinn** has All these Winning Features



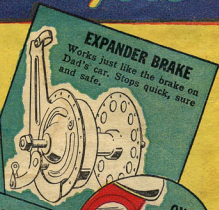
## DROP-OUT REAR FORK

An exclusive Schwinn feature that makes tire changing and repair quick as a wink.



## EXPANDER BRAKE

Works just like the brake on Dad's car. Stops quick, sure and safe.



## KICKSTAND

Built right into the frame. No rattling. No scratching or marring of your shiny finish.



## CYCLE-LOCK

A Yale lock built into the fork. Locks wheel at angle to prevent theft.



## KNEE-ACTION SPRING FORK

Works like automobile shock absorber to make your ride as smooth as a cloud.



Look For This Seal—IT'S YOUR PROOF OF QUALITY



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Smooth and streamlined with a bright, piercing beam for safe riding at night.

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