

# The Phantom Hand



ST. ALBANS, ENGLAND.  
FEBRUARY 1953.



THE  
THING NEVER  
ACTUALLY HURT  
ANYONE, DID IT,  
HARRY?

TREVOR BRUTENHOLM,  
DIRECTOR OF THE  
BUREAU FOR PARANORMAL  
RESEARCH AND DEFENSE.



THERE'S A STORY  
THAT A MAID WAS  
FRIGHTENED TO  
DEATH BY THE  
THING, BUT THERE'S  
NO EVIDENCE TO  
SUGGEST THAT  
ACTUALLY  
HAPPENED.

HELLBOY.

HARRY H. MIDDLETON,  
PRIVATE OCCULT INVESTIGATOR.



LADY HAMILTON  
CLAIMED THAT WHEN  
SHE VISITED, THE HAND  
CLIMBED INTO BED WITH  
HER AND TRIED TO  
STRANGLE HER--BUT  
YOU REMEMBER WHAT  
SHE WAS LIKE.

I  
DO.



\*F. T. BENSON (1882-1947), AUTHOR OF *OUR HAUNTED HOUSES OF ENGLAND, IRELAND, AND WALES* (1896)



MY RESEARCH INTO THE CASE, I'VE NEVER COME ACROSS ANYONE NAMED SIMMS, WARLOCK OR OTHERWISE...



BUT THERE IS CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT IN 1748 SEVERAL CHILDREN HEREBOUTS WERE REPORTED MISSING, INCLUDING PETER GURNEY, YOUNGEST SON OF LORD ALBERT GURNEY...



"AND THAT IT WAS LORD ALBERT WHO TRACKED DOWN THE CHILDREN AND FOUND THEM MURDERED."



DEVIL!



HE MADE ME DO IT.



SWOK



THAT YEAR A LUNATIC, MINUS A HAND, WAS SENT TO LONDON AND PRESUMABLY HANGED, OR LOCKED AWAY IN AN ASYLUM.

LORD ALBERT LIVED HERE TILL HIS DEATH IN 1782. IF HE SAW THE HAND HE NEVER TOLD ANYONE ABOUT IT. THE FIRST RECORD WE HAVE OF IT IS FROM 1812, A MISS HARRIET WOOD--A NIECE, I THINK, OF LORD ALBERT. SHE SAW IT IN THE HALL, SCRAMBLING ABOUT LIKE A GREAT WHITE SPIDER.



SIGHTINGS OF THE THING BEGAN TO INCREASE AFTER THAT, WHEN SIR EDWIN GIBBONS TOOK OVER THE HOUSE. THEN HE PASSED IT ON TO HIS SON DANIEL AND...

...



HELLBOY...

WHAT? I WASN'T--

SHHH.



OH.



