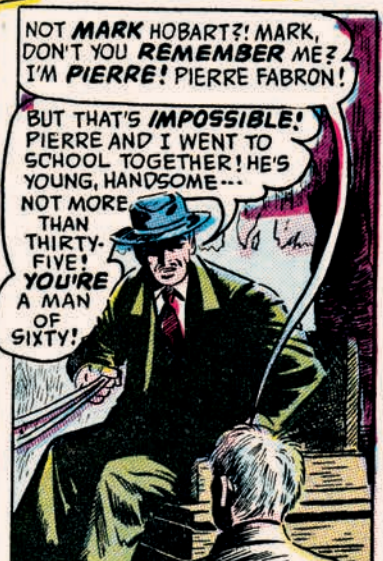




HAVE YOU EVER ENVIED THE HAPPY LOVER HIS SWEETHEART'S EMBRACE? HAVE YOU EVER LONGED FOR THE MOMENT WHEN LOVE'S ENDEARMENTS WILL BE YOURS FOR THE ASKING? BELIEVE US, ALL THIS WAS FAR DIFFERENT FROM THE ECSTASY FATE HAD IN STORE FOR PIERRE FABRON---THE ECSTASY OF HORROR AS FLESHLESS ARMS CARESSSED HIM AND COLD LIPS WHISPERED,

Love ME Forever!





BUT I AM PIERRE FABRON, I TELL YOU! YOU MUST BELIEVE ME! IT IS WHAT HAPPENED TO ME IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS THAT HAS AGED ME LIKE THIS! LISTEN---LET ME TELL YOU HOW IT HAPPENED!

"IT ALL STARTED WHEN I BEGAN TO COURT ROXANNE, A BEAUTIFUL, TANTALIZING HOYDEN WHO HAD HALF THE MEN ON BLACK BAYOU TWISTED AROUND HER LITTLE FINGER!"

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, PIERRE! WHY SHOULD I GIVE MY LOVE TO YOU ---WHEN I CAN HAVE THE WEALTHIEST TRAPPERS AND LUMBERMEN OF THE BAYOU AT MY FEET?
BUT ROXANNE, I LOVE YOU! I WOULD SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE MAKING YOU HAPPY!



YOU AND YOUR LOVE, PIERRE! THEY BOTH BEGIN TO BORE ME!

SO I BORE YOU, EH? WELL, WE'LL SEE! BEFORE I'M THROUGH YOU'LL HAVE LEARNED BETTER, YOU LITTLE DEVIL!

"HER TAUNTING BEAUTY DROVE ME MAD! I WAS AT MY WIT'S END WHEN I VISITED MAMMA VOUDON, THE CONJURE WOMAN..."

A LOVE POTION? I HAVE ONE HERE FOR DOLLAR THAT IS SOMETIMES EFFECTIVE!

THAT WON'T BE GOOD ENOUGH, OLD WOMAN! I WANT A CHARM THAT WILL WORK WITHOUT FAIL... THAT WILL GIVE ME ROXANNE'S LOVE FOREVER!



AH...THEN YOU WILL WANT THIS OTHER POTION! IT COSTS A HUNDRED DOLLARS, BUT IT WILL GIVE YOU HER LOVE... EVEN BEYOND THE GRAVE!

ER...ONE THING MORE, PIERRE! REMEMBER, YOU ARE DEALING WITH THE DARK POWERS! THIS HUNDRED DOLLARS MAY BE ONLY THE BEGINNING OF WHAT YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY BEFORE THIS IS OVER!

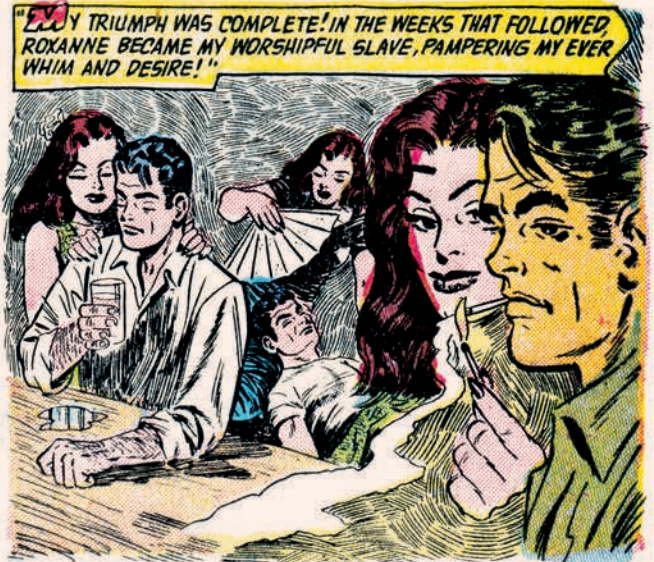
BAH! WHAT DOES IT MATTER TO ME...AS LONG AS I HAVE ROXANNE?

"IT WAS A WEEK LATER, AT A BAYOU WEDDING, THAT I SAW ROXANNE AGAIN! I PUSHED THROUGH THE CIRCLE OF HER ADMIRERS AND..."

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE THIRSTY, ROXANNE! I BROUGHT YOU A GLASS OF WINE!

IT IS AS I TOLD YOU... THE POOR FOOL LIVES BUT TO SERVE ME!





"BUT I HAD BOUGHT HER LOVE TOO CHEAPLY! AS TIME WENT BY, HER SLAVISH DEVOTION BEGAN TO FALL..."

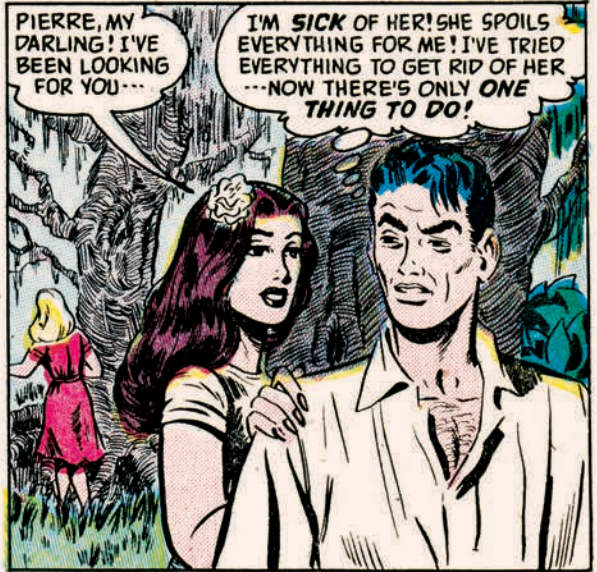


"CALLED BY HER INCESSANT DEVOTION, I SOON TURNED MY ATTENTION TO ADELE SIMONE, ANOTHER SWAMP-LAND BEAUTY! BUT TO MY DESPAIR, ROXANNE WOULD NOT BE CAST ASIDE!"



YOU SAY IT IS OVER BETWEEN YOU AND ROXANNE, BUT HOW CAN I BELIEVE IT? LOOK!

ROXANNE! CONFOUND HER, SHE FOLLOWS ME WHEREVER I GO!



PIERRE, MY DARLING! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU...

I'M SICK OF HER! SHE SPOILS EVERYTHING FOR ME! I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING TO GET RID OF HER... NOW THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO!

"YES, TO MY FEVERED BRAIN THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY LEFT! AND SO, ONE NIGHT, I LURED ROXANNE INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE SWAMP AND..."



PIERRE... NO! EE-EEE!

THERE... IT IS DONE! THE BOTTOMLESS MUD OF THE SWAMP WILL TAKE CARE OF HER BODY! NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO POINT A FINGER AT ME!



"YES, IT WAS OVER AND DONE WITH! ROXANNE WAS OUT OF THE WAY FOREVER! I RETURNED TO THE ARMS OF ADELE SIMONE, BLITHELY UNAWARE OF THE TERROR THAT AWAITED ME! FOR... ONE NIGHT..."



PIERRE! THAT THING COMING TOWARD US... OH-HHH!

IT... CAN'T BE!

"EVEN AS I TURNED TO RUN, COLD, FLESHLESS ARMS WERE EMBRACING ME!"



PIERRE, WHY DO YOU SHRINK AWAY... DON'T YOU KNOW ME? IT IS ROXANNE! YOUR ROXANNE!

NO! GET AWAY FROM ME! I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL YOU...

BUT PIERRE, I AM NOT ANGRY WITH YOU! MY LOVE IS FAR DEEPER THAN THAT! I FORGIVE YOU, MY DARLING!



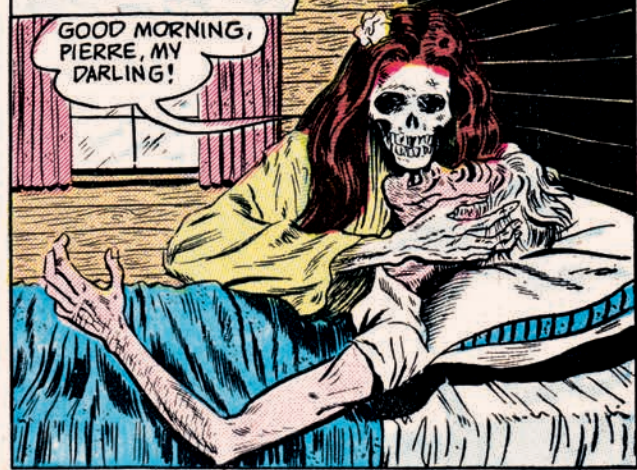
NO! DON'T TOUCH ME!

"**B**ABBLING WITH FEAR, I RAN FOR MY CABIN, BUT SHE FOLLOWED ME THERE! AND IN THE HORRIBLE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, SHE WAS MY CONSTANT COMPANION, WAITING ON ME HAND AND FOOT!"



WHAT IS IT, PIERRE? ARE YOU ILL, MY DARLING?

"**D**AY FOLLOWED ANGUISHED DAY! EACH NIGHT, MY NERVES EXHAUSTED, I FELL INTO A FRETFUL, NIGHTMARE-HAUNTED SLEEP... ONLY TO AWAKEN TO THE COLD, CLOYING TOUCH OF HER FLESHLESS HAND!"



GOOD MORNING, PIERRE, MY DARLING!

"**I**N A FEW AWFUL WEEKS, I AGED TWENTY YEARS IN DESPAIR, I TURNED TO MAMMA VOUDON... BUT..."



HAVE PITY ON ME, MAMMA VOUDON! HELP ME!

IT IS TOO LATE, PIERRE! I WARNED YOU THAT THE POTION YOU BOUGHT WOULD GIVE YOU HER LOVE EVEN BEYOND THE GRAVE! NO ONE CAN HELP YOU NOW!

"**A**S PIERRE FABRON FINISHED HIS NIGHTMARISH STORY..."



AND SO NOW I AM ON MY WAY TO BAYOU CITY! PERHAPS THE DOCTORS CAN HELP ME! PERHAPS THIS IS ALL SOME HORRIBLE DREAM... SOME TWIST OF THE MIND THAT CAN BE CURED!

PIERRE, I'M SURE I CAN DO SOMETHING! I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU MYSELF!

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A CASE OF HYSTERIA, DR. HOBERT!



HE'LL SLEEP NOW, NURSE... I'VE GIVEN HIM A SEDATIVE!

DOCTOR... DO YOU THINK IT'S SAFE TO LEAVE HIM ALONE IN THERE? AFTER ALL, HE DID CONFESS TO A MURDER!



PROBABLY ALL HIS IMAGINATION, NURSE! THE POOR MAN'S RAVINGS ARE DOUBTLESS BROUGHT ON BY A GUILT COMPLEX OF SOME KIND!

IT'S THOSE STUPID SWAMPLAND SUPERSTITIONS! LOVE POTIONS, SPECTRES, CONJURORS!... IT'S ALL INCREDIBLE NONSENSE!

