

# ***The Dark***

Sam - a policeman

Doc - a physician

Hag - a crazy woman

Man - an inside-out man

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**SFX:**                    **SIREN UP AND DOWN, VEHICLE ENGINE APPROACHES**

DOC                    (INTERIOR) Hey, where are you turning?

SAM                    Dispatch said Pine street, didn't it?

DOC                    Oh yes, yes. So why the siren? The only traffic out here is on horseback.

SAM                    You can say that again, Doc. Heh, heh. It's from nuthin to nowhere.

**SFX:**                    **SIREN UP AND FADES TO BACKGROUND, *THEN OUT***

NARRATOR:            Meet Sam O'Reilly and James Bowser. Doctor James Bowser. Officer O'Reilly has been called by dispatch. He's to investigate goings on at the Shaddington house, out on the edge of town. Dispatch said to pick up Doctor Bowser, which he did. What possibly could happen to a police officer and a physician ??

DOC                    Okay.

**SFX:**                    **CAR DOOR OPENS.**

DOC:                    Let's go.

**SFX:**                    **FEET ON GRAVEL.**

SAM: Right with you , Doc.

**SFX:** **SFX ON WOODEN STEPS, THEN PORCH**

SAM: Said somebody was hurt?

DOC: That's what the hospital switchboard said.

SAM: What a dump. Don't seem to be a bell.

DOC: Oh, there must be. There's a light in there. Try the door.

**SFX:** **DOOR SOUNDS, DOOR CREAK**

SAM: Humph. It's open.

DOC: Well, let's go. Humph.

SAM: Well, alright.

**SFX:** **STEPS**

DOC: (ECHO) Hello in there ... Helloooo ,... Hello ... (UNDER BREATH) If this is another false alarm ... (FULL VOICE) Is anybody here? I'm a doctor. . .

**HAG:** **CACKLE, CACKLE, CACKLE ... [CONTINUES TO LAUGH THROUGHOUT, MODULATED]**

DOC: Hey, look. In the corner.

HAG: HEE, HEE, HEE

**SFX:** **FOOTSTEPS**

SAM: This I gotta see ...

DOC: Lady, I'm a doctor from Southside Hospital. What's going on ...

**HAG:** **(High pitched) HEEE , HEEE, HEEE, Hoo, Hoo.**

SAM: She is screwy alright, aint she?

DOC: Frightened.

**SFX:** **FOOTSTEPS, DOOR NOB RATTLE**

SAM: Oh, Doc, where you goin' ?

DOC: Can't get this open. **(HEAVY RATTLE)** Whoever's hurt must be in there. (STRAINING) Blasted door ... Come on. Let's break it down.

SAM: But the woman ...

DOC: Forget the woman. Come on, put your shoulder to it.

**SFX:** **COMMOTION, LOUD CRASH OF DOOR OPENING GASPS**

DOC: It's dark.

SAM: Yes. I can't see a thing.

DOC: Go on back into the other room and get that kerosene lamp.

**SFX:** **FOOTSTEPS, HAG CONTINUES**

SAM: Here, Doc. The lamp.

DOC: Okay. **(LAMP RATTLE)** Hold it high.

SAM: Okay. (GASP) Oh, mother in heaven. Oh, on the floor ... Ugh. What is it?

DOC: It's ... a man.

SAM: Oh, no. It ... can't be.

DOC: Yes. Yes, I tell you. It's a man. A man. And he's been turned inside out.

HAG: Haaa, haaa, ... haaa..

SAM: Inside out?

DOC: Yes, and see for yourself. It's a man. But the skin is the inside.

And the raw flesh is the outside. Organs hanging ...

SAM Hoo... Yeah.,..

DOC It's a miracle. A man turned inside out. Like you turn a glove inside out.

MAN Gasp, gasp

SAM It's alive! It's alive !!

DOC Yes. I see.

SAM Doc, it's trying to get up

MAN GASPS LOUDER

DOC Ah, no...

SAM Trying to get up, I tell you. Trying to move.

DOC Sam, get that light.

SAM: Ah, I can't watch.

DOC Trying to get up

SAM Oh, I can't watch. Oh, trying to get up on its knees ,... Oh, kill it. Do something.

DOC Oh, you hysterical old woman. Now you stand there and shut up.

MAN Moans hysterically

SAM Listen to him ... listen to him ! Oh, let's get out of here Doc, please!

DOC Don't be a fool. We've got to find out what ... and why. Look, there's another door. The answer might be in there.

SAM Doc, don't

DOC. The lantern. Bring it.

**SFX:**

**Footsteps**

DOC

Hold it high.

SAM

Gee, Doc, why don't we just go ? Doc, what the ...

DOC

Don't move. There's no floor in there.

SAM

I ... I don't ... see nuthin ... nuthin but dark. Look. The dark sorta spills over on the edges.

DOC:

Look,. I tell yuh. It's a deep n dark .... dark. Something moving in there.

SAM

Doc, close the door.

DOC

No. No way.

SAM.

Then I'll close it.

**SFX:**

**DOOR SLAMS**

DOC

Oh, you fool. Open that. I've got to see what ...

**HAG**

**Cackle, cackle...**

DOC

She's coming in here.

SAM.

Oh, come on Doc. Let's get outa here.

DOC

No, Sam. I'm going to find out what this is all about. All my life things have been what they have been. I'm going to know all about this.

HAG

CAKLES LOUD

SAM

Come on Doc. Let's go. Please

DOC

Woman, if you know anything, tell me. What was it that we saw back of the door where the floor should have been? Do you know?

SAM

She ... She's going to the door.

**SFX:**                    **DOOR LATCH RATTLES**

SAM:                    She's going to open it.

DOC                    Yes.

SAM                    Oh, Doc. Won't you listen to me. Let's get out of here.

DOC                    No. No, wait. She's just standing there, looking into the dark.

SAM.                    Yeah.

**HAG**                    **Cackles**

SAM.                    Doc, what's that coming up out of the hole in the floor?

DOC                    The Dark

SAM                    It's like ... like ... black smoke.

**SFX**                    **Hisssss**

DOC                    Listen to it ...

**HAG**                    **Cackles**

DOC                    It's reaching up ... To her

SAM                    Yes...

DOC                    What is it? Smoke .... Black ... What ...

SAM                    Crawling up around her

**HAG**                    **CONTINUES CACKLING UP AND UNDER**

DOC                    It's covering her ...

**SFX**                    **KER-SCHLURP**

SAM                    No !

DOC                    Inside out ! It turned her ... inside .. Olut !!

Inside – out !!

**SFX**                    **BODY FALLS**

DOC                    Sam, Sam get up. Sam, open your eyes, The shadows are crawling across the floor toward us. Come on, Sam. Come on.

**SFX:**                    **Thump, Groans**

DOC                    Sam, come on. You're too heavy, I can't lift you. Sam. I can't leave you ... you saw what they did to her ... Look at her ... inside out. A woman inside out. Oh, Sam !

**SFX**                    **Thump, dragging across floor**

DOC                    I'll drag you out of here.... Oh, you're so heavy. They're coming faster and faster ... like long black fingers. Yeahk, my legs !!! Let go of me! Sam! I can't help you, they're holding me back ! The black ! It's covering you !! SAM !

**SFX**                    **KER-SCHLURP**

DOC                    (WHIMPERING) Sam ...No, no ... you thing, whatever you are ... get off me! Stop covering me! I've gotta get out of here. I've gotta tell em all about you. I've gotta tell everyone there's something like you loose in the world! Hafta warn everybody! (STRAINS)

DOC                    Get off me !! Cold. Slimy. How can shadows be slimy? So cold! Covering me over ! My head ! My face (indistinguishable) My face ... My mouth ... (GURBLE, GURBLE)

**SFX**                    **KER-SCHLURP**

**SFX:**                    **DRIP**

**END**