**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 CACKLES 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 !!

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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. Yeahh, 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**