

CONTINUITY
CHARLIE CHAN

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RADIO PRODUCTION

MUSIC: OPENER WITH CYMBALS.

ANNOUNCER The Adventures of Charlie Chan.

MUSIC: UP TO FINISH.

ANNOUNCER Based on the character created by Earl Derr Biggers.

SOUND: CRASH OF CYMBAL.

MUSIC: COMMERCIAL THEME.

SOUND: GONG.

MUSIC: NARRATIVE THEME.

ANNOUNCER Morton Rand has kidnapped Nancy from the palace of the Rajah of Kohlpuri and regained possession of "The Eye of Buddha". Then, in a fast little racing plane, he takes off for Bombay with Charlie Chan, Lee, Timothy Eden and Denny, hot on his heels in another plane loaned to them by the Rajah.

SOUND: AIRPLANE MOTOR.

ANNOUNCER Rand knows that, because, of Nancy's presence he dare not attempt to bring his ship in to the airport in Bombay and so he attempts to set it down in a field on the outskirts of the city -

SOUND: PLANE ZOOMING DOWN.

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CHAN Task somewhat similar to seeking one tiny pebble on shore of particularly large ocean! Nevertheless - it must be done!

DENNY Do you suppose the police will be able to help us, Charlie?

CHAN Will undoubtedly request their aid. But even with such cooperation as they may render, there is work ahead for each one of us.

LEE Hey, Pop!

CHAN What is it, Lee Chan?

LEE I've got a hunch!

CHAN Please elucidate.

LEE Huh?

CHAN Meaning, kindly explain - er - hunch, Lee Chan.

LEE Do you mind if I don't Pop? I mean - is it all right with you if I just go out for a little while?

CHAN Great city of Bombay no place for - er - monkey-shines, Lee Chan! You may go - but would suggest you proceed with utmost caution.

LEE (Fading) Okey-doke, Pop. See you later!

SOUND: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.

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EDEN I've never felt so entirely helpless - so completely
baffled - in my life! If there were only something
we could do!

CHAN There is, Mr. Eden!

EDEN Then for heaven's sake let's get started!

CHAN Respectfully request that you remain here in hotel -
as point of contact. Will ask Mr. Denny to accompany
me to headquarters of local police. You will come,
Mr. Denny?

DENNY You bet I will.

CHAN Extremely complex situation, Mr. Eden, shrouded
in low-hanging clouds of gloom. But must ask you
to remember always that invariably clouds blow
away leaving bright blue sky. Come, Mr. Denny!

MUSIC: TRANSITION.

ANNOUNCER When Morton Rand's plane ground looped, Rand and
Nancy were jolted into unconsciousness. Hamed Yeri,
unhurt except for a broken arm, managed to drag them
from the plane before the flames reached them. Rand's
luck held, for just at this moment an ox cart came
creaking along. Its driver stopped to lend a hand.

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SOUND: CART, CONTINUING BACK OF NEXT SEQUENCE.

ANNOUNCER Now the two men are seated up beside the driver, while Nancy, still unconscious, lies on the floor of the cart, concealed by a blanket.

HAMED Oh! We are in most distressing situation, sahib!

RAND Don't be ridiculous, Hamed! We're the luckiest people in the world! If we weren't, we'd be back in that field burned to ashes!

HAMED But our escape has been retarded - and I am afraid of the Rajah's wrath, sahib. He is not a man to be lightly crossed.

RAND You don't suppose that his wrath can reach all the way from Kohlpuri to Bombay, do you?

HAMED (Doubtfully) Possibly not, sahib. Nevertheless, I feel that -

RAND Oh, stop your eternal croaking, Hamed. You're like a nervous old woman!

HAMED As you say, sahib.

RAND This accident is really a blessing in disguise. Now we can have a few days in Bombay. They tell me it's really a fascinating city.

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HAMED Oh no! That would be most unwise, sahib. We must arrange to sail for Egypt immediately.

RAND I don't agree with you. Why, we may even be able to dispose of "The Eye of Buddha" while we're here.

HAMED No, no, sahib - you must not attempt to do so! Perhaps the hatred of the Rajah cannot reach from Kohlpuri to Bombay - but his spies can! If it were known that such a ruby was offered for sale in Bombay, it would bring a veritable hornets' nest about our ears!

RAND For once you may be right Hamed. Perhaps the best thing would be to lie low 'til we can find out how quickly we can get a boat sailing out of Bombay. I'm afraid airplanes are out of the question as long as Miss Adams is with us.

HAMED Boats, too, will be difficult, sahib. There will be many questions concerning the young lady.

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RAND Not on the sort of boats that I'm going to charter; Hamed! Don't forget - we have a million dollars and it's a recognized fact that no one asks a million dollars too many questions! By the way - speaking of the young lady, it might be a good idea to see how she's getting on. Tell the driver to stop, Hamed.

HAMED Yes, sahib. (To driver - a word in some foreign tongue.)

DRIVER (Grunts in assent.)

SOUND: OUT.

HAMED I will go around to the back of the cart and -

RAND No, I'll do it. You've got to take care of that smashed arm of yours.

HAMED As the sahib wishes.

SOUND: RAND ALIGHTING FROM SEAT OF CART.

RAND (Fading slightly) I'm quite sure there's nothing seriously wrong with her; still, it's best to wake her up and - (away up) - Hamed!

HAMED (Alarmed) What is it, sahib? (Then as he takes in the situation) But - but the young memsahib - where is she?

RAND (Grimly) That's exactly what I'd like to know!

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MUSIC: TRANSITION.

ANNOUNCER In a Bombay bazaar there is a narrow lane known as "The Street of Jewels". Here come those who traffic in precious gems - (SOUND - vendors - crowded bazaar) - and here comes, too, Charlie Chan and Denny, in their minds a well-formulated plan. They pause before the booth of one of the merchants. The merchant speaks.

MERCHANT You are seeking jewels, sahibs? I have rubies from Burma, sapphires from Ceylon - emeralds from -

CHAN We are seeking jewels - yes. But we are not interested in such wares as you offer to the tourists who come and go.

MERCHANT But sahib I have jewels fit for the crown of a Rajah - Never before were there jewels of such magnificence! Never before -

CHAN Although parrot uses many words - his chatter fails to impress!

MERCHANT But you must see my stock, Sahibs; you must examine them! You must -

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DENNY Listen, my friend - and get this straight! We don't want anything commonplace! We don't want the sort of stuff that you bazaar merchants have to offer. What we're looking for is the biggest diamond in India - the finest sapphire - the rarest ruby! And we have the money to pay for them!

MERCHANT Sahib, if you will but enter, you may feast your eyes upon such treasures as you have never before beheld!

CHAN I have no great faith in this man, Mr. Denny!

DENNY (Dubiously) Well, as long as we're here we might as well see what he's got.

SOUND: STEPS OF MEN ENTERING THE SHOP.

MERCHANT (After a pause) Was there ever such an emerald as this Sahibs! Gaze into its depths! Note its -

CHAN (To Denny) Did I not say I had no faith in this man?

MERCHANT Your pardon, sahibs?

CHAN The man who wastes my time steals rice from my bowl which can never be replaced!

MERCHANT But - I do not understand!

CHAN My friend has told you what it is we look for. Why do you show us trinkets?

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MERCHANT

Trinkets! You call an emerald such as this - an emerald worth the ransom of an emperor - a trinket?

CHAN

Your voice is as droneing of bee in empty room!
(To Denny) Come, Mr. Denny!

MERCHANT

O worthy Sahibs! If you will but tell me what it is you seek -

CHAN

We have told you not once but many times. My friend extremely wealthy American millionaire of excessive richness. He wishes superlative stones with which to bedeck exquisite young wife, who remains behind in golden palace in great far-away land of America.

MERCHANT

(Much impressed) America! Ai-ee!

CHAN

Comb the bazaars! Search out the hidden places! It may be that you will be enabled to discover one stone which will find favor in his eyes.

MERCHANT

And if I find such a stone - where may I find you?

CHAN

You need not come seeking us - for we will, return!

MUSIC: TRANSITION.

ANNOUNCER

Now Morton Rand and Hamed Yeri have reached Bombay where they have taken rooms at a small native inn. They are determined to find Nancy again - but first Hamed Yeri's broken arm requires immediate attention.

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RAND We can't let that arm go any longer, Hamed - or you'll be crippled for life.

HAMED By Allah! It throbs as if it were possessed of ten thousand devils!

RAND Go to a doctor and have it set - then come back here as quickly as possible.

HAMED But a doctor will mean questions - and, sahib, we cannot answer questions, you and I!

RAND Find a native doctor, Hamed - not an Englishman. Trump up some sort of a story for him - and pay him well - you understand?

HAMED Yes, sahib.

RAND I'll meet you here, later.

HAMED And in the meanwhile -~~where~~ are you going, sahib?

RAND I'm going to find Nancy Adams!

MUSIC: TRANSITION.

OHAN We have planted seeds which may ultimately bear fruit - Mr. Eden, but at present time, like man rowing boat against current, we make strenuous effort merely to remain in same place.

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CHAN Slight correction, please! By remaining in room,
you serve exceedingly -
SOUND: TELEPHONE BELL.

DENNY I'll get it.

EDEN Hurry, Denny; it may be the police:
SOUND: CLICK OF TELEPHONE.

DENNY (Off - into 'phone) Yes?

LEE ('phone effect) Hello, Mr. Denny - this is Lee.
Is my Pop there?

DENNY (Into 'phone - off) Just a moment, Lee. (Raising
voice slightly) It's Lee, Inspector.

CHAN (Fading) Detect note of excessive excitement in
voice of Number One Son! (Into 'phone) Yes, Lee
Chan?

LEE (Over 'phone) Hello, Pop -

CHAN You have something to report, Lee Chan?

LEE ('phone effect) - triumphantly) I'll say I have!
I told you I had a hunch, didn't I, Pop? Well - it
worked -- I've just seen Hamed Yeri!
MUSIC: BIG GONG ON RECORD.

ANNOUNCER So Lee Chan has found Hamed Yeri! Will he, perhaps,
lead the way to Morton Rand? And - most important
of all! Where is Nancy - can Charlie Chan find her
in time?
MUSIC: COMMERCIAL THEME.

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ANNOUNCER Don't fail to hear the next exciting chapter of -

The Adventures of Charlie Chan!

SOUND: GONG.

MUSIC: THEME. NARRATIVE.

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