

EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY BY H.E. SMITH

A JEALOUS GHOST

Let me call your attention to the attacks. They have always followed your interviews with the O'Grady. That, I believe, is indisputable. They have all been of one character in the nature of a blow or blows delivered by a strong man, and on several occasions when there was no person present. One other fact. The marks upon your neck and face are exactly those that would be made by the knuckles of a closed fist. To this must be added the evidence of your senses, which are altogether unimpaired, as to the contact, the propulsion and the momentum of the blow, which evidence corresponds with the physical record, although there is a square indentation and abrasion on your cheek which is as yet unexplained. So much for the physical facts. It appears from the statement of Mrs. O'Grady that her former husband was a pugilist. That, I believe, you know. It also appears that he was passionately jealous of her, and when he died warned her to live single on he would punish her and her future husband severely.*

All this she has acknowledged. We now come to the third fact, which is that on two occasions previous to this woman has had admirers, and both of them suffered an infliction somewhat similar to yours. I have obtained the necessary information in regard to both."

"If all this be true," said Mr. Surden, "the remedy is simple enough; cut the O'Grady."

"Impossible!" exclaimed the psychologist. "I trust that you will see the importance – the vast and startling importance – of this manifestation too clearly to entertain such an idea for a moment. We have here, sir, at last a tangible, and doubtless to some extent a controllable manifestation of super mundane dynamics which, if skillfully availed of, must forever set at rest the many vexed questions that agitate the minds of men and go very far toward establishing the immortality of the soul.

Mr. Surden's reply was characteristic of a man whose mind had never been directed into these channels. He said somewhat flippantly: "Immortality of the soul be blown.

**Register of Deeds
Judy Lambert
(continued)**