

Beast of Fang Rock – Deleted Scenes

By Andy Frankham-Allen

Original Prologue

What follows is the very first thing I wrote for Beast of Fang Rock. These scenes led into Lethbridge-Stewart waking up in his flat and heading off to work, as per the published prologue. The original idea was to see the tail end of an investigation, one that ended up being something of a wild goose chase. It was later decided to turn this mini-adventure into a give-away short story in its own right, and so was born The Cult of the Grinning Man written by Tom Dexter. Tom did a great job of building on my initial idea, and turning it into a fully-fledged mini-adventure.

So, I hope you enjoy this look at how that adventure originally ended...

The Grinning Man ran!

They always ran, in Alistair Lethbridge-Stewart's experience, especially when you shouted out to them 'don't move!'. A gun pointed at them didn't seem to make any difference; order them to do one thing, and they did the opposite. It seemed aliens weren't so much different to humans as all that.

Arranging the trap had been child's play, especially with Daren Woodward so excited about having military support. As far as Lethbridge-Stewart could work out the man felt legitimised by his presence, as if Lethbridge-Stewart was proof that the British government really did believe him and his tales of aliens. Lethbridge-Stewart hadn't told him otherwise, after all at the moment he didn't *officially* represent anybody, even though he was acting under orders from Major General Hamilton. Plausible deniability. Still, no reason Mr Woodward needed to know about that. All he needed to know was that Lethbridge-Stewart was there in Llandudno, North Wales, because he believed Mr Woodward's story about the Grinning Man. He was, as Woodward put it, 'under cover', like a regular John Drake in his three-piece suit.

The meeting had been arranged late at night, under the cover of darkness, near what was known locally as the Free Trade Loaf, a stone structure on the west side of the Great Orme that resembled, so the locals claimed, a cottage loaf. Lethbridge-Stewart had especially asked Mr Woodward to arrange the meeting there purely for historical irony, since it was once the place where trade bargains were struck long before such things as shops and markets were thought of.

And now Mr Woodward ran behind Lethbridge-Stewart, but his imagination was more active than his body. Soon he was lagging behind, puffing and panting, his torch casting a light ahead. Lethbridge-Stewart, however, had to rely on the light from the moon as he continued to shorten the distance between him and the Grinning Man. He called out again, but the Grinning Man continued. Foolish. Lethbridge-Stewart cocked his revolver and fired.

The Grinning Man toppled forward, staggering to keep himself upright, but he soon hit the grass, tumbling for a short distance before coming to an undignified stop.

Lethbridge-Stewart smile ruefully. He had aimed for the creature's back, but instead the bullet had found its home in the back of its knee. It was enough to maim the alien, and stop its escape. Lethbridge-Stewart briefly looked at his .38 calibre Enfield revolver as he came upon the Grinning Man. Perhaps the firing mechanism was faulty – he was a better shot than that!

'Carefully turn to face me,' he said, his revolver pointed firmly at the alien.

It turned and looked up at him. In the moonlight the features were clear, and just as Mr Woodward described them. A gaunt face, beady eyes too far apart to

be normal, no ears, and a mouth that was fixed in a strange grin. In short, definitely alien.

'I am Colonel Lethbridge-Stewart, 1st Battalion Scots Guards, and I speak on behalf of the British military. What is your business here?'

Behind him he could hear the panting form of Mr Woodward drawing closer. As the man, and thus his torch, neared, the level of light increased. And so did Lethbridge-Stewart's realisation. With the more powerful light from the torch, the alien's features became clearer.

It was clever, no doubt about that, and quite convincing in low light, but Lethbridge-Stewart could see the truth. Beneath the alien mask a very human face looked up at him, eyes wide in fear at the revolver that was cocked and ready to fire. Lethbridge-Stewart let out a sigh of irritation, and looked back at Mr Woodward.

'I think we need to talk,' he said, and placed his revolver safely back in the underarm holster located between his waistcoat and blazer.

Over ninety minutes later Lethbridge-Stewart was in his car heading back to London, disgusted with himself for not doing his due diligence and fact-checking. He had sat down with both Mr Woodward and Evan Lloyd at the local hospital where he had taken Mr Lloyd to get his bullet wound seen to, and Mr Lloyd explained that it was all a practical joke – he had no idea Woodward would take it so far as to actually get help from a soldier.

It turned out that Mr Woodward was one of those conspiracy nuts, obsessed with the events reported in New Jersey and West Virginia three years ago, in which several people claimed to have been visited by the Grinning Man. Lethbridge-Stewart imagined that if he had bothered to check up, he would have discovered that it was all bunkum before contacting Mr Woodward. He was well-known for his crazy talk, and Mr Lloyd decided to play on it and maybe get a bit of press attention. Something a little different from the tourist attention Llandudno received due to its popular festivals. Harmless enough, on the surface, and a joke that had rather backfired on Lloyd. Painfully so.

Harold Chorley Deleted Scenes

Things change. A lot when you're developing a series. For a short spell we were going to have everybody's most irritating journalist, Harry Chorley, make a cameo in Beast of Fang Rock, to set the scene for his guest spot in the following novel, Mutually Assured Domination. But, as I said, things change. And Harold Chorley became Steve Worman, who in the published book was there at the grand re-opening of the lighthouse at Fang Rock.

Below are two scenes removed from the novel, one showing how and why Chorley was given that assignment, and the second shows what happened after the military got involved. The scenes featuring Steve Worman in the published book didn't need much change to remove Chorley, just the alteration of a little background information.

Of course, as you'll see, Steve Worman is in the following scenes too. Only a very different Steve Worman to the now official version.

So, please enjoy this alternative look at what might have been.

His professional life might as well have been put on hold. Ever since all that business with the Underground and that Colonel Lethbridge-Stewart had been wrapped up, Harold Chorley had become *persona non grata* in the world of television journalism. And he knew exactly why. The army big-wigs had slapped him with an Official Secrets Act ban, threatened him with prison should he report anything he had seen in London. And despite the way he had helped

Major General Hamilton recently, no 'good word' had been thrown his way. As a result he was lucky to get a by-line in the small rags.

He had been called to see the editor of one such rag, Stephen Worman. As he walked through the small newspaper office towards the private office of Worman, Chorley resented the fact that he had been forced to scrape for even the smallest bit of copy, and was very nearly at the limit of his wounded pride. He'd been an up and coming television reporter only a few months ago, on track for his own talk show on BBC2, which meant he was guaranteed to be seen in colour, since BBC 2 was the only British station to be transmitted solely in colour. A feat BBC 1 and ITV had still yet to fully achieve.

If people thought Chorley would be humbled by the last few months, then they didn't know him very well. He *would* get his talk show. All he needed was something with which to wow the BBC once again.

He doubted, however, that any meeting with Stephen Worman would help him achieve that goal.

Worman indicated that Chorley should close the door behind him. Once done Chorley took a seat opposite Worman. For a moment the older man regarded Chorley, puffing away on his pipe, and chewing the tip of it. He leaned forward.

'I've never liked you, Harry,' Worman began. 'You've always thought yourself too big for my paper.'

Chorley shrugged, but held back his response. He *was* too big for this paper. Instead he reached into his pocket and pulled out a pack of Embassy. He lit one and allowed Worman to continue.

'That being said, I've been approached by the producer of *The Passing Parade*.'

'Never heard of it, old man. Some royalist programme?'

'Current affairs. New show on BBC 3. Only been running a few weeks. Anyway, they contacted me to ask my permission to use you, of all people, to front a mini-documentary they wish to show at the end of the month.'

This got Chorley's full attention. He leaned forward in his chair, eager to hear more.

'I had a right mind to refuse them, after all you work for me and not the BBC, but the way I see it is that if I play this right, it could be very good for me and my paper. Only downside I can see, is that it'll be good for you, too.' Worman shrugged and tapped the tobacco out of his pipe, before he refilled it.

'What kind of documentary is it?'

Worman raised an eyebrow. 'Does it matter? I think you're missing the point here, Harry. I'm doing you a favour, and in return I expect you to do one for me.'

'Fine.' Whatever it was that Worman wanted, Chorley couldn't imagine it'd matter much next to his return to fame. He'd give Worman whatever the old fool wanted. After a fashion. 'What's the documentary?'

'Ever heard of Fang Rock?'

Chorley had not, and said so.

'Home to the most haunted lighthouse in the British Isles, apparently, and it's being fully-manned for the first time in a good ten years or so.' Worman smiled around his pipe. It was more like a snarl, and Chorley knew he wasn't going to like the next comment. 'And the BBC want to use it to promote one of their most-favoured shows. Well, favoured by the kids at least.'

Chorley couldn't help but groan. He hated kids' TV. 'What show?'

'*Doctor Omega*,' Worman said, and actually laughed without dropping his pipe.

Chorley wasn't impressed. If there was one thing he hated more than kids' television, it was science fiction!

'Out of the question, Harry,' Stephen Worman said, slamming his palm on to his desk for effect.

Chorley wasn't to be beaten. 'Are you feeling okay, old man? I thought you worked for the press. This is not the first time I've been stonewalled by the military – something is going on, and it's our duty to discover what!'

'Yes, *you* have been stonewalled. You already had quite a reputation before the first time.' Worman stood up and walked over to the window, looking out at Fleet Street. 'I'm running a newspaper, Harry, one of many struggling against the giants in London. This is business, not personal. I can't take the risk of Whitehall breathing down my neck.'

Chorley leaned back in his seat. 'Don't you see what's happening, Steve. Our freedom is being repressed because the British military have a dirty secret they don't want the public to know about.'

Worman looked back at him. 'We're just a small paper.'

'You could be a big paper if you run this story,' Chorley pointed out. 'Finally up there with those giants.'

Worman shook his head. 'Out of the question. Look, if you wish to run with this, I can't stop you. But it won't be on this paper. Your choice, Harry. You continue to work for me, or you're on your own.'

Chorley stood up. Bad enough to be stonewalled by the military, but to be so by a man he considered a friend. Wasn't personal, eh? The hell it wasn't! 'Have it your way, Steve. I've got my own contacts, and I will bleedin' well find out what's going on. And sell it to one of those giants you're so scared of.'

Worman gave Chorley a pitying look. 'Be careful, Harry, you're beginning to sound obsessed. You'll end up losing your objectivity, and then who'll print your copy?'

Chorley had stopped listening. He knew he was on to something. And it was big! Official Secrets Act, D-Notices... He *would* discover the truth or his name wasn't Harold Barrington Chorley.

The following are my original notes, written before I even started work on the prologue about the Grinning Man. An interesting insight into my initial thoughts and objectives for the story. But don't read if you haven't read the final novel. Much changed in the writing, but there be many spoilers ahead!

Original Notes

Servant of Two Masters – Anne's cousin served in Korea at the same time as Lethbridge-Stewart. During Lethbridge-Stewart's telling of his Korea experiences he remembers seeing a young woman talking to Goff, but it's only now that he realises it was Anne. Didn't look just look like her, it was her!

Goff timeline

- Archibald Goff (ancestors from Brittany) born 1781; 42 in 1823, *Beast of Fang Rock*. Begets;
- Radulf Goff in 1802. Begets;
- John Goff in 1836. Begets;
- Matthew Goff in 1868. Begets;
- Margaret Goff in 1894. Marries Edward Travers in 1928. Begets;
- Anne Travers in 1938.

Travers' timeline

- Jacob Travers begets
- Ben Travers in 1871
- and Lyndon Travers in 1874
- Lyndon Travers begets Edward Travers

Ben's surname is Travers in the novelisation, and original outline, of *Horror*; be stupid to ignore the connection. Edward Travers would be about six or so in 1902 (assuming he was born in the late 1890s), so Ben Travers could be his uncle? Ben would have been born in 1871, making him 31 in *Horror* (same age as Ralph Watson).

Reveal that the Travers and Goffs first met in 1823, with Archibald and Jacob on Fang Rock. Remained in contact on and off since, until Edward marries Margaret in 1928 and the families become one through marriage. Most of this history is unknown to Anne, especially the link to Fang Rock and the lighthouse keeper tradition that ran through the Travers family until the 1930s with the death of her grandfather, Lyndon Travers, at which point her father became entrenched in the scientific eccentricities of the Goff family.

MUST have Anne mention to Lethbridge-Stewart a little something of the vault, and the things that exist there. The government are very aware of past alien encounters. Thus, Lethbridge-Stewart puts this to Hamilton who decides it is time Lethbridge-Stewart talked to Gilmore – which can happen 'off screen', which is what leads Lethbridge-Stewart to have Bishop look up the Operational Corp.

New characters

- Archibald Goff – Anne's maternal great-great-great grandfather, expert in the paranormal.
- Charlie Crane – junior lighthouse keeper at Fang Rock in 1823. One of the two who dies.
- Jacob Travers – senior lighthouse keeper, and grandfather of future lighthouse keeper, Ben Travers (and thus, great-great uncle of Edward Travers, and great-great-great uncle of Anne). The survivor, and the one 'driven mad' by events, ala the legend. Comes to replace one of the keepers, who is due for his shore leave.
- Fred Haggard – Expert in the paranormal, with a research grant in Cambridge, old friend of Anne's. Subtle link to the PROBE series, when he mentions his daughter Patsy (Patricia Haggard from that series).

Story:

Background –1969, the Rutan Scout comes near Earth. On Earth Anne is playing with a talisman she had acquired (part of a Rutan time machine), which accidentally affects the Rutan ship and activates its time warp system. A temporal shift occurs and the pod is catapulted back in time to 1902 *and* 1823. The unorthodox nature of the time travel splits the pod in two, duplicate it and its occupant, and so two versions of the same Rutan arrives in two different times. The Rutan in 1902 manages to send out a temporal distress call (as per *Horror of Fang Rock*) and in 1969 the mothership picks it up and follows it into Earth's orbit, but Anne activates the time machine left to her by Archibald once more, which cause a massive temporal storm, intersecting with the temporal energies from the mothership, which is catapulted back to 1902. (The temporal storm is the origin of the overlapping time lines, and thus the ghosts—echoes of

1902.) In 1823 the Rutan is hurt, and attempts to copy Jacob Travers. However, Jacob has latent werewolf DNA and instead of copying him, Jacob and the Rutan merge, which activates the repressed DNA. Unbeknown to Jacob, he becomes the Beast of Fang Rock, which is really the Rutan attempting to free itself. With each attempt the werewolf DNA becomes more dominant, to the point where madness takes over the Rutan. Ultimately history takes its course, and two lighthouse keepers are killed with Jacob being driven mad. Anne finds herself in 1823, a few months later, when Jacob is brought back to the island by Archibald Goff who wishes to solve the mystery of Fang Rock. Lethbridge-Stewart ends up trapped inside the mind of the Doctor in 1902 and witnesses the events of *Horror of Fang Rock*. The destruction of the Rutan mother ship returns Anne and Lethbridge-Stewart back to 1969, and Anne realises that what they became involved in was a self-fulfilling paradox. Which, frankly, Lethbridge-Stewart can't get his head around. At the end of the book Lethbridge-Stewart warns Hamilton about the potential danger this war between the Rutan and the Sontarans could bring to Earth – this is enough to further convince Hamilton, who has in mind two men who can help them.

Prologue – Two minutes to midnight, May 23rd; a Spring Bank Holiday weekend-long student party is in full swing on the recently re-opened isle of Fang Rock, the supposedly 'most haunted island in Britain', which has been closed off to the public since 1932 after twenty years of continual hauntings. Its history is well known, with ghost sightings and murders going back almost 150 years. The most notorious being the mystery deaths in 1902. A reporter is on hand, begrudgingly covering the first night as punishment by his editor. Sebastian Rudge is in the lamp room, doing some stupid stunt of other, when he hears the ghost voices – two male voices (Palmerdale trying to buy Vince from *Horror*). Rudge goes to shout down once the voices go quiet, but he is startled by the ghostly body of Vince Hawkins and nearly topples over the railing. A bright light appears in the sky, and it appears to be a shooting star. It is being filmed, and Owain Vine is there. On the camera the image is clear... It is some kind of UFO!

Part One: Ch. 1-4 – Friday May 2nd, Anne is visiting her family's lawyers, after a mysterious summoning. He gives to her a letter which has been waiting since 1823 for her; written by her great-great-great grandfather, Archibald Goff. She knows very little about him, except that he was considered something of an extremely odd man, and considering the eccentricities of her maternal ancestors that is saying something. After a recent meeting with her cousin, she cannot believe this is a coincidence, and intrigued. The letter leads her to something hidden, which turns out to be some antiquated but advanced equipment built by Archibald. There is a piece missing, and she guesses it is the talisman given to her by her cousin a few weeks earlier. It just needs a new power source. She returns to the vault and gets to work on it, using the various alien tech stored there.

Chapter 3: May 25th, Lethbridge-Stewart has been contacted by Owain, and has Bishop investigate Fang Rock. Lethbridge-Stewart takes the footage, putting an official ban on the documentary that BBC3 hopes to show. What Bishop uncovers interests Lethbridge-Stewart, especially the stories about the dead bodies discovered in 1902 (one of them a Ben Travers – Lethbridge-Stewart doubts the coincidence of the surname, and Bishop's research shows him to be the great uncle of Anne) and flashing lights in the sky, reported by people on the mainland, not dissimilar to the account from two days earlier. It is the clearest case of alien involvement he has come across since Bledoe, and Hamilton agrees it should be investigated.

Anne contacts Bishop, since she is aware of Lethbridge-Stewart's current mandate and knows his trip to the Himalayas was delayed. Anne meets with Lethbridge-Stewart and explains about the life of Archibald Goff and his own fascination with the island in 1823. Anne is curious about the timing – only two days ago she was trying to activate the talisman, which ties in with the time of the incident on Fang Rock. Like Lethbridge-Stewart, she doesn't believe in coincidence and feels like she's being manipulated. Even more so when Lethbridge-Stewart reveals about her connection to the island on her father's side of the family – something she did not know about. Her father wasn't close to his family, instead he embraced the Goffs in all ways. Her curiosity won't let her do anything but follow the trail.

Chapter 4: Cut to 1823 and Archibald Goff's visit to Fang Rock. He's a paranormal investigator, and something of an adventurer (classic steampunk), and has heard enough about Fang Rock to make him curious. Lights in the sky, a shooting star, reports of a beast on the rocks. He is joined on his expedition by his usual entourage. Jacob Travers, a lighthouse keeper who has just arrived for his four-week tour, isn't too happy about them coming, but he's over-ruled by senior keeper Richard Terence who has heard the howls of the Beast of Fang Rock, and is quite happy to entertain Archibald. Besides, he's off for his four-week shore leave so it's not something he has to worry about. Late the first night the sounds of the Beast are heard.

Lethbridge-Stewart and Anne lead a small team, as well as colleague of Anne's from Cambridge, who has an interest in the paranormal. Lethbridge-Stewart isn't too keen on the civilian involvement, but Anne insists Fred Haggard's help will be invaluable. Owain meets them there (and recognises Anne – so have a scene where he hears her voice), and Lethbridge-Stewart promptly secures the island, ending the party. They settle in at Fang Rock, making the most of the cramped lighthouse's rooms.

Part Two: Ch. 5-8 – 1823 and 1969 start to intersect. Not actual time travel; like the two events start overlapping. Ends with Anne finding herself in 1823, after a brief detour in the 1950s and 1902. Owain and Jim are dragged to 1902 for a short while, and witnesses the moments in the lighthouse leading up to Ben's death.

Part Three: Ch. 9-12 – 1969 intersects with 1902 (using scenes from *Horror of Fang Rock*). Learns about the arrival of the mothership.

Part Four: Ch. 13-16 – All three time periods start to co-exist, drawn together by the Rutan Host in some way. Mothership arrives over Fang Rock, so Lethbridge-Stewart has to face-off against a couple of Rutan on Fang Rock, while Anne and Archibald deals with Jacob. Time periods snap together, and for a short while 1923, 1902 and 1969 co-exist before it all breaks up and Archibald and co return to 1923, complete with damaged osmic projector. Mothership ends up in 1902 and is destroyed by the Doctor – in 1969 they see an after-image of it.