

MAUD: Albert, what are you saying?

ALBERT: It's quite alright, Maud. Just sit down.

MAUD: I will not, you remember what the psychiatrist said.

ACADEMIC: Well that does it .I'm leaving. *(She goes to the door. The other two follow her)*

COLLECTOR: And so am I.

INTERVIEWER: Me too.

(The Academic pauses at the door)

ACADEMIC: By the way, you should keep the door locked.

ALBERT: Why?

ACADEMIC: Haven't you heard?

MAUD: Heard what?

COLLECTOR: It's been in all the papers.

INTERVIEWER: And on the TV.

ALBERT: What has?

ACADEMIC: You should keep your door locked because--

(The door is flung open. The PRISONER bursts into the room. He pulls out a gun and gestures them all into a corner)

PRISONER: Because you never know what sort of undesirable people may come in.

INTERVIEWER: It's him.

PRISONER: Yes, that's right. I'm the escapee everyone's looking for.

MAUD: Did you come in answer to the advertisement?

ALBERT: Are you allergic to cats?

PRISONER: Yes and no.

ALBERT: Ah! good. I'm Albert and this is Maud.

(Albert approaches him but is motioned back by the gun)

PRISONER: Look, I need food, money and--

ALBERT: Later. We were just in the middle of a discussion on "The Influence of pre-Conquest South American poetry on the modern novel".

PRISONER: *(replacing his gun and sitting in the swivel chair)* Really! I've just been reading an article about that by a Professor Schnitzel of Gottengein.

ACADEMIC: *(Sits next to him)* That theory was discredited by Meyers of California in the May edition of "Modern Anthropology".

PRISONER: Ah! You haven't seen the June edition.