The Unwelcome

Jim Kastner*

*Iowa State University

Copyright ©1979 by the authors. Sketch is produced by The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress). http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/sketch
The Unwelcome

Jim Kastner

Abstract

It is dark and insects dance the dumb neon fire-ritual to tom-tom chirping crickets. Tonight the natives prance to a frenzy. I fumble to fix my window screen...
say, while Ben Trovato stood at a distance, listening with his arms folded in front of him. "Well, I only saw him actually shoot two of them," she admitted, "but I know he's responsible for all five of them."

Just then, the second policeman came out of the store, followed by the store clerk. The clerk had a small bandage on his forehead and he closed the door and locked it. The two police officers got into the squad car and drove away.

The mob began to disperse when it became evident that the episode was over. Some of the people were annoyed. All of them were disappointed.

The woman, humiliated and alone, returned to the mundaneness of the hardware store. It was already seventeen minutes after closing.

And Ben Trovato turned back towards the alley up the street. He too was alone. But he had a clear conscience, a smile in his eye, and $112 in his pocket.

---

The Unwelcome

*by*

Jim Kastner

*Engl 5*

It is dark and insects dance the dumb neon fire-ritual to tom-tom chirping crickets. Tonight the natives prance to a frenzy. I fumble to fix my window screen.

---

Photograph

*by*

Kitty Cavanaugh

*SOC 3*