



the avengers

starring

PATRICK MACNEE
as John Steed

and

DIANA RIGG
as Emma Peel

in

"A TOUCH OF BRIMSTONE"

by

BRIAN CLEMENS

In which Steed joins the Hellfire Club --
and Emma becomes a Queen of Sin

Cast also includes:

John Cartney.....PETER WYNGARDE
Lord Darcy.....COLIN JEAVONS
Sara.....CAROL CLEVELAND
Horace.....ROBERT CAWDRON
Roger Winthrop.....MICHAEL LATIMER
Willy Frant.....JEREMY YOUNG
Tubby Bunn.....BILL WALLIS
Kartovski.....STEVE PLYTAS
Pierre.....ART THOMAS
Big Man.....ALF JOINT
Huge Man.....BILL REED

music by LAURIE JOHNSON
directed by JAMES HILL
produced by JULIAN WINTLE

Diana Rigg's Wardrobe designed by JOHN BATES



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"A TOUCH OF BRIMSTONE"

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- short synopsis -

When a group of anarchists start emulating the Hell-Raisers of Regency times, Steed and Emma decide to enrol in the Hellfire Club. They overcome the opposition - and save three foreign Prime Ministers from death - but only after Emma has been elected Queen of Sin and Steed has fought a duel.

- detailed synopsis -

An important diplomat from the Eastern bloc is held up to ridicule before a television audience of millions; a massive oil deal is cancelled when the Sheik is made to look like a monkey. National prestige - not to mention big business - is in danger of ruin by a series of such hoaxes when The Avengers are ordered to take a closer look.

Telling Emma that he has only one suspect - the Honorable John Cleverly Cartney - Steed suggests that she might find out something about him.

From the moment they meet the Hon. John is attracted to Emma. Believing her story about collecting for charity, he immediately donates a thousand guineas, and requests her company at dinner. Their conversation is interrupted by the arrival of Lord Lancelot Darcy. While the two men move away to talk in quiet, almost secretive tones, Emma surreptitiously searches Cartney's bureau. All she can find is a diary which contains the cryptic message: "TODAY - 4.30 - Friendship".

In the meantime Steed has followed another lead, and is searching Darcy's apartment. He finds a number of pairs of scissors - all made of rubber. He makes his escape only after fighting off Horace, Lord Darcy's 'man'.

Steed is puzzled by the rubber scissors - until Emma mentions the entry she read in the diary. Suddenly the pieces fall into position, and The Avengers are tearing across London to the newly-built Hall of Friendship. They arrive too late. Another hoax has been played - with more serious consequences. While performing the opening ceremony the V. I. P. was electrocuted, by a current passed through the ribbon.

Sending Emma to have another 'go' at Cartney, Steed goes in search of Darcy. He finds his man - whose apparent unhappiness is matched only by his inebriation - and immediately sets to work on him. The luckless Lord soon confesses his part in the plot, but insists that he didn't know that murder was intended. Steed believes him, but asks why the joke was played. Darcy tells him that such hoaxes are part of the rules of the Hellfire Club.

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At a meeting of the Hellfire Club - in Cartney's home - Emma sees that it is an exact replica of the infamous eighteenth century organisation. Dressed in Regency costumes, the members drink and letch their fill. In company with her host, Emma is forced to watch as two men fight before the drunken company.

The festivities are interrupted by an agitated Darcy, who has escaped from Steed, to accuse Cartney of duplicity and murder. Cartney calmly orders a meeting of 'Superior' members, and they, with Darcy, withdraw from the revels.

Later, as they stand over the coffin containing Lord Lancelot Darcy's mortal remains, Emma tells Steed that she is sure Darcy's murder was committed by the 'Superior' members. Steed decides that he might find the Hellfire Club to his taste, and makes immediate arrangements to join.

Suspicious of Steed, Cartney changes the induction rules, and the Secret Agent has to face a number of tests.

After passing the tests, Steed pretends to leave. Listening at the door, he hears Cartney tell the others that they have succeeded in embarrassing the Government by their anarchy. Their next coup will, he says, be so outrageous that the whole country will be up in arms. It will, he orders, be put into operation during the next evening's Gala.

The party's really 'swinging' when Steed arrives, and everything looks set for a great old orgy. Seeing members carrying a Sedan Chair, Steed asks Emma to follow it, while he turns his attentions to Sara - Cartney's ex-girl-friend.

Following the Sedan deep into the catacombs beneath the house, Emma sees the men unload boxes of high explosives. Hurrying to find Steed, she meets Cartney who tells her that he has something 'special' in mind for her.

Steed learns from Sara of a number of underground passages under the house. One, she says, leads to the Government-owned Culverstone House. Their conversation is interrupted by Cartney who introduces the 'Queen of Sin'. It is Emma, dressed in a corset and boots, and carrying a live snake!

Dancing with the 'Queen', Steed puts forward the theory that Cartney's men are going to blow-up Culverstone House where three foreign Prime Ministers are staying. His fears become greater when Emma reminds him that the original Hell Raisers were dedicated to overthrowing the Government.

Steed is suddenly in trouble when Horace, the late Darcy's manservant, recognises him. He faces an immediate challenge to a duel from a particularly sadistic member called Frant. Emma slips away from the crowd, followed by Cartney, as Steed and Frant commence their fight to the death.

In the catacombs Emma makes short work of the men who guard the explosives, but, as she turns to leave, she looks down the barrel of an automatic pistol held by her host. She suddenly hurls the rapier she is holding at him.

As she stand over the dead Cartney, Steed rushes in - to the rescue!

In an elegant eighteenth century coach two laughing Avengers ride-off in search of another adventure.