

The Black Cat

“The Black Cat” is a dramatization of Edgar Allen Poe’s short story of the same name. In the Show Peter Lorre’s character is named Charles. Charles has always been an animal lover, as is his wife and they share their home with many pets, including a black cat named Pluto. Then things change for the worse. He begins drinking heavily and goes out every night.

The Horla

“The Horla” is a dramatization of a story written by Guy de Maupassant. Peter Lorre stars as a happy and contented man who is either losing his mind. The actress Peggy Webber also adds her vocal talents to this episode, playing the housemaid Marie. The original story has no such character, but she works very well in this version and Webber’s performances came across as a lot more believable than Lorre’s.

The Lodger

This episode is based on the novel the Lodger, first published in 1912, and written by Marie Belloc Lowndes, who took her inspiration for the story from the Jack the Ripper murders. Peter Lorre his name in the story Sleuth is a strange one and no mistake.

The Marvellous Barastro

“The Marvellous Barastro” was written by Ben Hecht and the story opens to find the Marvellous Barastro walking into a lawyer’s office and announcing that he will shortly be in need of his services because he plans to commit a murder that very night.

The Mask of Medusa

In this episode, written by Nelson Bond, Peter Lorre plays an exhibit in a waxwork museum owned by the self-proclaimed artist and connoisseur of crime, Aristide Zweig. Lorre’s character is just one of forty-seven murders. In away Zweig is a criminal himself. He does not represent the law. The exhibits find a way to get back at Zweig in the end, but there is an interesting twist in this tale and if nobody live happily ever after that is okay because none of them deserve to anyway.

The Queen of Spades

In this episode, based on Aleksandre Pushkin, Lorre plays Herman, an engineer in Russian army. Herman is a gambler at heart, but he is far too careful to risk his money on the turn of a card. Instead Herman just watches while other played. Hermann becomes desperate to learn the Countess’ secret and manipulates her young companion playing on her affections, to gain entry into their home.