

## Z

**Zagomar.** Zagomar was created by Vittorio Metz and appeared in the film *Macario Contro Zagomar* (1943-1944). Zagomar is a master villain modeled on **Fantômas**. In Paris, the costumed master criminal Zagomar steals a formula from a scientist, only to have his ultimate plans thwarted by Macario, the scientist's assistant.

**Za-la-Mort.** Za-la-Mort was created by Emilio Ghione and appeared in over 90 films and plays from 1915 to 1947, beginning with *Za-la-Mort*. Za-la-Mort is a **Lupin**. He is a kind of Robin Hood, living in the worst slums of Rome and robbing the wealthy to help the poor. Za-la-Mort has a sentimental and even romantic side, but he is capable of cruelty when his enemies deserve it. He dresses elegantly, usually in a tuxedo, but wears a mask of human skin to conceal his true face. He lives with and is the physical double of the beautiful Za-la-Vie, and eventually they adopt Leo, an orphaned child.

**Zalacáin, Martín.** Martín Zalacáin was created by Pío Baroja (**Eugenio Aviraneta, Captain Chimista, Silvestre Paradox**) and appeared in *Zalacáin el Aventurero* (1909). Martín Zalacáin is a spy and smuggler for the Carlists in the Second Carlist War (1846-1849). Zalacáin is a Nietzschean Basque, full of independence and contempt for authority, and he has a variety of adventures, including love affairs and an escape from prison until he is betrayed and killed.

**Zaleshoff, Andreas & Tamara.** Andreas & Tamara Zaleshoff were created by Eric Ambler (**Dr. Czissar**) and appeared in *Uncommon Danger* (1937) and *Cause for Alarm* (1938). Andreas & Tamara Zaleshoff are a brother-and-sister pair of Soviet spies working incognito for the Kiessling und Piper Maschinen G.m.b.H. in Zurich. Their primary concern is dealing with German plots and agents, but they also deal with Soviet traitors and British civilians who unknowingly enter the world of espionage.

**Zalor.** Zalor was created by Ignacio Munoz (**Aztoc**) and Cecil V. Law (**Aztoc**) and appeared in the comic strip "Zalor el Hijo de la Bruja" (*Pepin*, 1936-1937). Zalor is a **Superhuman**. In the present day a Mexican woman named Eva travels to Egypt to see the pyramids. Near her camp is the spot where the man-vampire Zalor resurrects the dead witch Zira, in order to acquire her talisman. Eve accidentally sees the resurrection, so Zalor kidnaps Eva, but she discovers that he is under the control of his mother, a witch, so with the help of the god Presostis Eva frees Zalor, and they fly off into the sunset together.

**Zambo.** Zambo was created by Mohan Dayaram Bhavnani (**Indian Thief**) and appeared in the films *Zambo* (1937) and *Zambo ka Beta* (1939). Zambo is a **Jungle Hero**. A well-meaning Indian scientist traps a gorilla and transforms it into a human being. Zambo then begins acting like **Tarzan**, down to marrying a Jane and having a Korak-like son who stars in *Zambo ka Beta*.

**Zambra, Sebastian.** Sebastian Zambra was created by "Headon Hill," the pseudonym of Francis Grainger (**Radford Shone**) and appeared in twenty-six stories and four novels and short story

collections from 1893 to 1924, beginning with *Clues From A Detective's Camera*. Sebastian Zambra is a **Great Detective**. He is a consulting detective with offices in Charing Cross, and works across southern England on cases. He has no Watson.

**Zandtt, Culpeper.** Culpeper Zandtt was created by Clarence H. New (**Sir Edward Coffin, Sir George Llangolen Trevor**) and appeared in six stories in *The Blue Book Magazine* in 1908, beginning with "The Organization and the Sprague Case" (*The Blue Book Magazine*, May 1908). Culpeper Zandtt is a "writer, cosmopolitan, and war-correspondent" who is recruited by the "International Bureau of Biography" to help solve mysterious and unsolved crimes. It turns out that the Bureau is financed and run by an old friend of Zandtt's, who for many years has filed and cataloged newspaper clippings from every major newspaper in the United States, on the grounds that "every person who has ever done anything out of the ordinary—good or bad—is sure to have been the subject of a newspaper-paragraph at some time in his life." This mass of clippings, stored in an underground complex, allows the Bureau, and Zandtt, access to a huge range of data, which allows them to solve difficult crimes.

**Zane, Bob.** Bob Zane was created by Erle Stanley Gardner (**Black Barr, Major Copley Brane, Terry Clane, Bertha Cool, Ken Corning, Speed Dash, Jax Keen, Barney Killigen, Bob Larkin, Lester Leith, Señor Lobo, The Man in the Silver Mask, Perry Mason, Ed Migraine, Hugo Oakes, Patent Leather Kid, Phantom Crook, Paul Pry (II), Doug Selby, Pete Wennick, White Rings, Gramps Wiggins, Sidney Zoom**) and appeared in twenty stories in *Argosy* from 1930 to 1934, beginning with "Golden Bullets" (*Argosy*, June 7, 1930). Bob Zane is a prospector in the American Southwest who continually stumbles across crimes in the towns and mines and camps of the desert and is forced to solve them.

**Zane, Thornton.** Thornton Zane was created by Morrell Massey and appeared in *Left Hand Left* (1932) and *Through the Lens* (1933). Thornton Zane is an upper class American criminologist and amateur detective. In the words of one friend, Zane is the "Analyst of Mystery and one of the great investigators in the world. He is an honorary member of the detective forces of New York, London, Paris." But Zane is relatively modest about his accomplishments and wouldn't dream of putting himself forward or interfering with the police in their work, although he will pick up evidence at a crime scene which the police have not noticed. Zane is good-humored and appealing.

**Zapt, Dr. Xenophon Xerxes.** Dr. Xenophon Xerxes Zapt was created by J.U. Giesy (**Jason Croft, Semi-Dual, Meade Stilman, Van Wyck**) and appeared in at least four stories in *All-Story Magazine* and *Weird Tales* from 1915 to 1925, beginning with "Indigestible Dog Biscuits" (*All-Story Magazine*, July 3, 1915). Dr. Xenophon Xerxes Zapt is an **Unlucky Inventor** whose creations never go quite right. His "ammunition exploder," designed to stop the war in Europe, sets off the wrong explosives; his antigravity paste gets blown out the window and levitates the wrong people; his invisibility liquid ends up being hosed on Zapt's house and everyone in it; and when he feeds his supergrowth food to a flea, it grows to giant size.

**Zara.** Zara was created by Ande Lamb (**Lothel**) and George H. Plympton (**Jack Holt (II), Lothel, Masked Marvel, Doctor Miller, Phantom Rider, Vanishing Rider, Wild Boy**) and

appeared in the film serial *Jungle Raiders* (1945). Zara is a **Superhuman**. She is the high priestess of a hidden village in the African jungles, and she controls the local volcano as well as the local tribes. Unfortunately, a pair of Americans venture into her demesnes in search of their lost fathers, and they get on Zara's bad side, leading to attempts on their lives. Eventually Zara is killed and the Americans discover the fabled lost treasure of the Arzecs.

**Zarkov, Dr.** Dr. Zarkov was created by Robert Leslie Bellem (**Little Jack Horner, Duke Pizzatello, Tate Shevlin, Dan Turner**) and appeared in seven stories in *Spicy Mystery Stories* from 1936 to 1938, beginning with "Surgeon of Souls" (*Spicy Mystery Stories*, June 1936). Dr. Zarkov is a **Superhuman**. He is the "Surgeon of Souls," a superhuman being (he may not even be human) who has the ability to travel in time and space and to warp reality. He uses these abilities to cure the "cancerous tumors" in the souls of men and to guide them to a righteous course of living.

**Zarnak.** Zarnak was created by "Max Plaisted," the pseudonym of Jack Binder, and appeared in the comic strip "Zarnak" (*Thrilling Wonder Stories*, 1936-1937). In 2936 A.D. the world has been devastated by the world war with the **Yellow Peril** Mongols and the plague which followed the war. Human civilization is reduced to warring city-states. But at some point in the past a group of scientists built a spaceship and left Earth to create a new, peaceful, scientific world. Zarnak, a scientist, leaves Earth to go in search of this new world. He encounters metal-eating slugs on Vulcan and then an evil despot on Mercury.

**Zaur.** Zaur was created by I. Bei-Abai and appeared in the film *Abrek Zaur* (1926). Zaur is a Ukrainian mountaineer who kills a Russian "imperialist" and becomes an *abrek*, a member of the anti-Russian gangs which roamed the Caucasus Mountains at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century preying on passers-by. Unlike the real *abreks* Zaur never steals from the common people, only from imperialists and government officials. Because of this he is a special target of the government's troops and is in constant danger of being captured, but he still always manages to outwit the Russians and their Cossack minions.

**Zed-29.** Zed-29 was created by Michel Leroux and appeared in *Les Aventures Fantastiques de l'Agent Zed-29, L'As des As Canadiens* #1-207 (1945-1953). Zed-29 is a top spy for the Canadian Secret Service. During World War Two he fights the Germans, but as soon as the war ends he begins fighting Communists, both at home in Canada and abroad, in Europe and Asia. Zed-29 appears in stories with titles like "The Hell of Seoul," "A Phantom Spy in Iran," and "Nightmare in Tokyo."

**Zehra, Çekirge.** Çekirge Zehra was created by "Server Bedii," the pseudonym of Peyami Safa (**Kartal İhsan, İmdad, Tilki Leman, Necati, Recai**), and appeared in a dime novel series and at least one novel from 1928 to at least 1935, beginning with *Çekirge Zehra'nin Harikalari Serisi* #1-8. Çekirge Zehra is a middle-aged female Turkish detective, independent and strong-willed. In the novel *Göztepe Soygunu* she pursues **Recai**.

**Zeiros, Satampra.** Satampra Zeiros was created by Clark Ashton Smith (**City of the Singing Flame, Maal Dweb, Malygris, Zothique**) and appeared in "The Tale of Satampra Zeiros"

(*Weird Tales*, Nov. 1931) and “The Powder of Hyperborea” (*Saturn Science Fiction and Fantasy*, Mar. 1958). Satampra Zeiros of Uzuldaroum is a master thief in the land of Hyperborea. He has numerous successes, from the theft of the jewels of Queen Cunambria to the breaking of the adamantine box of Acromi. But he has some failures, as well. An attempt to loot the ruined and accursed city of Commoriom leads to the loss of Zeiros’ left hand and the loss of his boon companion Tirouv Ompallios to an eldritch creature which might be the god Tsathoggua. An attempt to steal the thirty-nine golden girdles of the temple virgins of the moon god Leniqua, ends in Zeiros and his lovely companion thief Vixeela being swindled.

**Zeng Fuchou.** Zeng Fuchou was created by Xiang Kairen (**Gui Wu (I), Huo Yuanjia, Kunlun Monks**) and appeared in the serial “Yu Jue Jin Huan Lu” (*Xinwen Bao*, 1925-1926). Zeng Fuchou is orphaned at a young age when his father is falsely accused by the local magistrate of being a bandit. Zeng’s father is executed and his mother commits suicide, leaving Zeng with nothing but a jade bangle and gold ring to remember them by. Zeng is adopted by a loyal family servant and then by a troupe of wandering martial artists, who teach Zeng swordsmanship and the martial arts. Zeng is adopted by a prefect and changes his name. Eventually he returns to his home village and by claiming to be a martial arts performer gains access to a party held to celebrate the magistrate who ordered Zeng’s father’s death. Zeng kills the magistrate.

**Zenigata Heiji.** Zenigata Heiji was created by Nomura Kodo and appeared in 383 short stories and ten novels and short story collections from 1931 to 1958, beginning with “A Virgin in Gold” (*Ôru Yomimono*, 1931). Zenigata Heiji is a **Great Detective**. Zenigata is active in Japan during the Edo period (1601-1867). Zenigata has certain similarities to Holmes and Hanshichi, but is distinctive in other ways. Zenigata is a *meakashi*, a commoner hired to unofficially assist the police, and a *goyoukiki*, one of the private assistants to the *doshin*, the regular police officers of the Tokugawa shogunate of the Edo period. Zenigata is poor, but he accepts no money from those he helps. He is sometimes called “Shikujiri Heiji,” or “Heiji the Failure,” because he occasionally lets criminals go. This is not due to incompetence on his part but rather to the fact that Zenigata has compassion for some criminals--he hates crime but not the criminals themselves. Zenigata has a great deal of sympathy for the common man and dislikes samurai and men of power, despite his own position in the government. He drinks a little and smokes a lot, he has no taste for fame and is content when others take credit for his accomplishments, and he is particularly skilled at using *zeni*, heavy coins, as throwing weapons. He is Watsoned by Hachigoro, a tall, easy-going man who is not only Zenigata's assistant but also functions as a mouthpiece for the author to tell Zenigata and the reader all about current events in the capitol. Zenigata is also married to Oshizu, who is Zenigata's Mrs. Hudson.

**Zenith the Albino.** Zenith the Albino was created by “Anthony Skene,” the pseudonym of George Norman Phillips (**Sexton Blake, Dixon Hawke**), and appeared in eighty-two **Sexton Blake** and **Nelson Lee** stories and one novel from 1919 to 1941, beginning with “A Duel to the Death” (*Union Jack* #837, Nov. 21 1919). Zenith the Albino is **Sexton Blake**’s arch-enemy. Zenith is a world-weary albino gentleman thief, elegant, sophisticated, and quite lethal. He is variously described as being cast-off Romanian nobility and the last descendant of a famous old English family. Zenith has a first-rate education, is an expert violinist and an Olympic-level fencer, but his background and attainments did not prevent him from turning bad. He is not

wicked by temperament, but is afflicted by ennui and is an adrenaline junkie: “Danger gave him a thrill which he failed to obtain even from opium.” He smokes prodigious amounts of opium, uses his inventions for criminal ends, and in general leaves a trail of broken minds, bodies, and fortunes behind him. Zenith is the model for Michael Moorcock's Elric of Melniboné, and uttered one of the best villainous lines of all time: while speaking to the rude henchman of another villain Zenith said, "I would treat you as you deserve, but the blood would get on my cuffs."

**Zentrale London.** Zentrale London was created by “Georgia Carell,” the pseudonym of Friedel Loeffová, and appeared in a number of stories in *Romány do Kapsy* in 1936. Zentrale London is an English private detective. He is active in the capitals and great cities of Europe.

**Zero the Silent.** Zero the Silent appeared in a number of stories in *Adventure* (UK) in 1931 and 1932, beginning with “A Human Fly” (*Adventure* (UK), Feb. 14, 1931). Zero the Silent is a disgraced policeman turned second-story man. Zero commits crimes while wearing a technologically-advanced skin-tight costume with suckers on its gloves and boots. The suit allows Zero to crawl along walls and ceilings. The suit also has a "throw ball" on an elastic attached to its wrist. Zero bowls googlies at his opponents, with the elastic bringing the ball back to him.

**Zhan Mubai.** Zhan Mubai was created by Hung Zhonghao (**Jiangnan Swordsman, Lady in Red, Red Butterfly**) and appeared in the film *Sandao Jiulong Bei* (1939). Zhan Mubai is a *Nüxia/Wüxia*. Zhan Mubai is asked to recover the Nine Dragon Cup, which has been stolen. But the beautiful swordswoman Song Tianjiao is interested in the cup, and challenges Zhan to a duel, which Zhan wins. Then Song’s brothers pursue Zhan and find out about the Cup, and duels and thefts and recoveries of the Cup follow.

**Zhao Lin.** Zhao Lin was created by “Huanzhulouzhū,” the pseudonym of Li Shoumin (**Chang Mei**), and appeared in *Liu Hu Xia Yin* (1939-1945). Many decades ago, during the time of the Mongol conquest, a number of refugees took shelter in the mountains of Yunnan province. They found a hidden valley, and made it into a near-utopia. However, the men of the hidden valley are forced to periodically venture into the outside world to buy certain basic supplies. Inevitably, during these trips, they witness the cruelties perpetrated on the poor and innocent by the powerful and the corrupt, The men of the valley, seeing these crimes, take action to protect the innocent, using “the ancient secret fighting arts transmitted for centuries.” One such mission is led by Zhao Lin, a direct descendent of one of the founders of the community. He is a strong fighter, and chivalrous, but he becomes entangled in a war between good *Nüxia/Wüxia* and Daoist adepts and Immortals possessed of supernatural powers, and their evil opposites.

**Zhong Kui.** Zhong Kui was created by Wong Toi (**Chinese Ghosts, Chinese Zombie**) and appeared in the film *Zhong Kui Zhuo Gui* (1939). Zhong Kui is an **Occult Detective**. Zhong Kui is an eccentric “ghost catcher” who makes a living by traveling from town to town and catching bothersome or evil ghosts and demons, such as the Coffin Ghost and the **Spirit of the Broom**, both of whom had appeared in previous Hong Kong horror films--*Zhong Kui Zhuo Gui* was Wong Toi’s critique of Hong Kong horror films. Zhong Kui uses his occult knowledge and his magic sword and sack to capture the evil spirits.

**Zig & Puce.** Zig & Puce were created by Alain Saint-Ogan and appeared in the comic strip “Zig et Puce” (1925-1969). Zig & Puce are a pair of teenagers who travel around the world in a variety of vehicles, from submarines to airplanes, and have adventures involving everything from sea serpents to defeating the attempts to **CONQUER THE WORLD!** to trips to Venus to voyages to Earth in the year 2000. Zig & Puce are assisted by a penguin, Alfred.

**Zigomar (I).** Zigomar (I) was created by Léon Sazie (**Martin Numa, Tony Pacot**) and first appeared in a serial in *Le Matin* (1909); he later appeared in the pulps *Zigomar* #1-28 (1913) and *Zigomar contre Zigomar* #1-8 (1924) as well as in another serial, “Un Nouveau Coup de Zigomar” (*Le Petit Parisien*, 1938). Zigomar also appeared in four silent films from 1910 to 1912. Zigomar (I) is a masked crime lord, similar to but anticipating **Fantômas**. Zigomar is a suave but brutal man who ranges across the Continent and into England while carrying out his nefarious schemes. Zigomar is the leader of a band of Romany (Gypsy) thieves. "Zigomar" is, alternatively, "ramogiz" spelled backwards ("ramogiz" being a name in Romany for the Rom) or derived from "tzigane" or "zingari," which are also terms for the Romany. Zigomar's organization is named “Z,” and the group's password is "Z is the life! Z is the death!" accompanied by a hand sign in the shape of a Z. Zigomar's nemesis is Paulin Broquet, a dedicated Parisian police officer who is unflagging in his pursuit of Zigomar. Broquet catches and kills Zigomar several times, or so he thinks, but Zigomar always emerges unharmed. In the film *Zigomar Contre Nick Carter* (1911) Zigomar jousts with **Nick Carter (I)**

**Zigomar (II).** Zigomar (II) appeared in the films *Nihon Jigoma* (1912) and *Nihon Jigoma Kaishinroku* (1912). Zigomar (II) is a Japanese master criminal closely modeled on **Zigomar (I)**.

**Zigomar (III).** Zigomar (III) appeared in the film *Shin Jigoma Daitantei* (1912). Zigomar (III) is a **Costumed Avenger Lupin** modeled on **Zigomar (I)**. He is a former master thief who now fights crime in Japan as a masked detective.

**Zigomar (IV).** Zigomar (IV) was created by Nikola Navojev (**Tarcaneta**) and Branko Vidic and appeared in the comic book *Mikijevo Carstvo* (1939-1941?). Zigomar (IV) is a **Costumed Avenger** modeled on the **Phantom (III)**. Zigomar’s costume is similar to the Phantom’s, and like the Phantom Zigomar carries a ring, bearing an engraved “Z” on its face, which he uses to mark criminals. Zigomar is aided in his war on crime by his short Chinese assistant, Chi Yang.

**Zigomar, Dr.** Dr. Zigomar was created by “Alf Erling,” the pseudonym of Louis Møller (**Leon Pitaval, Protea**), and appeared in *Dr. Zigomar* #1-4 (1936) and *Dr. Zigomar* #1-4 (1936). Dr. Zigomar is a Danish **Great Detective**. Dr. Zigomar appears in stories with titles like “Murder on the Overnight Express,” “Rat Hell,” and “The Payload Prince.”

**Zihni.** Zihni was created by Hüseyin Nadir and appeared in *Cinayet Koleksiyonu. Fakabasmaz Zihni Dizisi* #1-42 (1921-1928). "Fakabasmaz Zihni" (Quickwitted Zihni) is a devious and masterful detective. Zihni was partially based on **Fantômas** and has the Master of Terror’s impenetrable disguises and ruthlessness, but Zihni is ruthless only toward criminals. Zihni is active in Turkey.

**Zilvervos.** Zilvervos was created by Theo van Rijn and appeared in *Zilvervos, Meester der Ketenen* #1-6? (1911?). Zilvervos is a **Wanted Man**. Zilvervos (silver fox) is the leader of a gang of Parisian *apaches*. He was unjustly convicted of murder and is wanted by the police. He is a combination of **Fantômas** and Guy Boothby's Dr. Nikola in both personality and abilities.

**Zimbra.** Zimbra was created by "A. Benjamin," the pseudonym of José Canellas Casals (**Amiel, Armando, Jaime Bazán, Carlos and Marcos Bon, Bronkos, Cesar, Judit, Mario, Nick, Rin-Tin-Tin (I), Sam, Toby, Capitán Velez, Mack Wan**), and Valentin Castanys, and appeared in the comic strip "Zimbra y los Dragones Humanos" (*Pelayos*, 1938). Zimbra is a brilliant scientist who is revived from suspended animation to help the town of Gambria defend itself against the attacking Dragon Men, a race of evil, winged, flying humanoids.

**Zimmertür, Dr.** Dr. Zimmertür was created by "Frank Heller," the pseudonym of Martin Gunnar Serner (**Filip Collin**), and appeared in five novels and short story collections from 1926 to 1931, beginning with *Doktor Z*. Josef Zimmertür is a Swedish psychoanalyst and crime-solver. He is an eccentric Jewish gentleman who learned the methods of detection from Mycroft Holmes himself.

**Zin, Dr.** Dr. Zin was created by S. Djarens and appeared in *Kegelisahan Dr. Zin* (1939). Dr. Zin is an **Evil Surgeon Mad Scientist**. Dr. Zin is a German Jew who performs various nasty experiments on Christian Germans. He eventually must flee Germany and is tracked down in Indonesia.

**Zingomar.** Zingomar was created by Gaston Hervert and appeared in *El Bandido Zingomar* #1-20 (1912?). Zingomar is a vicious thief modeled on **Zigomar (I)**.

**Ziska, Dr.** Dr. Ziska was created by Crane Wilbur (**Bobbie Reynolds**) and Roland West (**Peter Marchmont**) and appeared in the play *The Monster* (1925, as a film 1925). Dr. Ziska is a **Mad Scientist**. He lives in an abandoned insane asylum and sends his ape creature, Caliban, out to kidnap potential subjects for Ziska's experiments.

**Zivan, Khun.** Khun Zivan appeared in *Khun Zivan. El Terrible* #1-16 (1932?). Khun Zivan is a Mongolian **Yellow Peril** who is opposed by an **Occult Detective** modeled on the **Minx**.

**Zobi.** Zobi appeared in the comic strip "África" (*Pepin*, 1941). Zobi is a **Jungle Hero**. Zobi is a white man raised in the jungles of Africa by a friendly tribe of chimpanzees. He grows up to be a Tarzan-esque figure, fighting wild animals, from lions to rhinos to **King Kong (I)**-esque giant gorillas, and tribes of cannibals. Zobi fights on behalf of various good tribes, including the Panther Tribe and the Waziri, and when Zobi meets Lulona, the blind white goddess of the Waziri, he and she fall in love. Unfortunately, an unscrupulous group of English hunters try to capture Nita, the sacred panther of the Panther Tribe, to bring her back to the London Zoo, forcing Zobi to fight the hunters.

**Zoe, Shamrock.** Shamrock Zoe appeared in *Shamrock Zoe. El Tigre del Mar del Terror* #1-6 (1929?). Shamrock Zoe is an Irish pirate.

**Zoë.** Zoë was created by Max Pemberton (**Jeremy Bell, Captain Black, Jack Ward**) and appeared in the serial “Zoë” (*Pearson’s Magazine* (US), July-Dec. 1901). Zoë is the beautiful cousin of Emperor Justinian I in Constantinople in the Sixth Century C.E. When the mood strikes Zoë, which is often, she wanders through the streets of Constantinople, Haroun al-Raschid-style, accompanied by the Captain of the Guard, and helps solve people’s problems for them. She is good-natured and kindly, and in addition to her wealth and power has a kind of compulsion over others that draws their secrets and dreams from them even when they do not wish to speak. She unites lovers, she gives the poorest man in the city the Emerald of Thebes, and she protects the young virgins of the city from the corrupt and corpulent ivory dealer Budzes.

**Zogar.** Zogar was created by Mario Roncoroni (**Filibus**) and appeared in four films in 1915 and 1916, beginning with *Il Delitto Del Lago*. Zogar is a brawny Italian adventurer, known as “Iron Fist,” who tangles with the **Lupin** Kappa.

**Zolok.** Zolok was created by Harry Revier and appeared in the movie serial *The Lost City* (1935). Zolok is a **Mad Scientist** who intends to **CONQUER THE WORLD!** Zolok plans to achieve world domination through the use of his **SCIENCE!** weapons, which include a weather-control machine, a “rejuvenation ray,” a machine which turns men into zombies, a death-ray, and a machine which turns those of African descent into white men, and vice-versa. Zolok will rule from his underground city, the “Lost City” of the film’s title. Zolok’s schemes are eventually foiled by the square-jawed hero Bruce Gordon.

**Zoom, Sidney.** Sidney Zoom was created by Erle Stanley Gardner (**Black Barr, Major Copley Brane, Terry Clane, Bertha Cool, Ken Corning, Speed Dash, Jax Keen, Barney Killigen, Bob Larkin, Lester Leith, Señor Lobo, The Man in the Silver Mask, Perry Mason, Ed Migraine, Hugo Oakes, Patent Leather Kid, Phantom Crook, Paul Pry (II), Doug Selby, Pete Wennick, White Rings, Gramps Wiggins, Bob Zane**) and appeared in seventeen stories in *Detective Fiction Weekly* from 1930 to 1934, beginning with “The Higher Court” (*Detective Fiction Weekly*, Mar. 8, 1930). Sidney Zoom is a consulting detective who “aided misfortune, but detested weakness.” He is Holmesian his aloof, misanthropic attitude, his mastery of disguise, his general brilliance, and his separation from other people; his only friend is his police dog, Rip.

**Zoraja.** Zoraja was created by Artur Somlay and Willi Wolff and appeared in the film serial *Die Abenteurerin von Monte Carlo* (1921). Zoraja is a **Lupin**. She is an Italian female master criminal active in Monte Carlo who duels with the **Femme Fatale** Madame X.

**Zorak.** Zorak appeared in a number of stories in *Wizard* from 1934 to 1936. Zorak is “the Man Who Doomed the World.” He is an air tyrant who intends to **CONQUER THE WORLD!** He plans to do so through the use of his aircraft, which is as big as an ocean liner and is armed with **SCIENCE!** weapons, including missile-like “air torpedoes.” The craft is manned by a **Lost Race** of natives from the Andes mountains who are masters of science, especially in electricity and aviation.

**Zorka, Alex.** Alex Zorka was created by Wyllis Cooper and appeared in the film serial *The Phantom Creeps* (1939). Dr. Alex Zorka is a **Mad Scientist** who plans to **CONQUER THE**

**WORLD!** He gets taken down by plucky newspaperwoman Jean Drew and square-jawed military officer Captain Bob West, but not before giving them a run for their money with his **SCIENCE!** weapons, including his “devisualizer belt” (which makes him invisible), killer robot, suspended animation gas, and mechanical, explosive “death spiders.”

**Zorro.** Zorro was created by Johnston McCulley (**The Avenging Twins, Bat (II), Black Star, Jim Bodney, Crimson Clown, Captain Goodwin, Green Ghost, Richard Hughes, Man in Purple, Mongoose, Peter Noggins, Peanut Pete, Spider (I), Thubway Tham, Thunderbolt (I), Terry Trimble, Whirlwind**) and appeared in eighty-one stories in *All Story Weekly*, *Argosy*, and *West* and two short story collections from 1919 through 1951, beginning with “The Curse of Capistrano” (*All-Story Weekly*, Aug. 9, 1919). In 1939 he appeared in an unauthorized Polish sequel, *Jezdziec w Masce. Zorro #1-40*, written by “Luigi Micuno,” the pseudonym of Ludwik Mickun-Micinski. Zorro is a **Costumed Avenger**. He is Don Diego de la Vega, an aristocrat of Spanish descent in California in the early years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Almost all those who know de la Vega believe he is a foppish coward, but in reality this is only a pose. When necessary he will put on a black mask and become Zorro, “the fox,” to challenge wicked Mexican and American men and to see that right is done and wrong is defeated.

**Zothique.** Zothique was created by Clark Ashton Smith (**City of the Singing Flame, Maal Dweb, Malygris, Satampra Zeiros**) and appeared in twenty-one stories and poems from 1932 to 1953, beginning with “The Empire of the Necromancers” (*Weird Tales*, Sept. 1932). In Smith’s words:

Zothique, vaguely suggested by Theosophic theories about past and future continents, is the last inhabited continent of earth. The continents of our present cycle have sunken, perhaps several times. Some have remained submerged; others have re-risen, partially, and re-arranged themselves. Zothique...comprises Asia Minor, Arabia, Persia, India, parts of northern and eastern Africa, and much of the Indonesian archipelago. A new Australia exists somewhere to the south. To the west, there are only a few known islands, such as Naat, in which the black cannibals survive. To the north, are immense unexplored deserts; to the east, an immense unvoyaged sea. The peoples are mainly of Aryan or Semitic descent; but there is a black kingdom (Icar) in the north-west; and scattered blacks are found throughout the other countries, mainly in palace-harems. In the southern islands survive vestiges of Indonesian or Malayan races. The science and machinery of our present civilization have long been forgotten, together with our present religions. But many gods are worshipped; and sorcery and demonism prevail again as in ancient days. Oars and sails alone are used by mariners. There are no fire-arms—only the bows, arrows, swords, javelins, etc. of antiquity. The chief language spoken...is based on Indo-European roots and is highly inflected, like Sanskrit, Greek and Latin.

**Z-X-5.** Z-X-5 appeared in the comic strip “Z-X-5, Espías en Acción” (*Pepin*, 1937-1939). Z-X-5 is a spy for the European country of Chesterland, a democracy which is threatened by the neighboring military dictatorship of Transovania. Z-X-5 is the top agent of Chesterland’s Intelligence Department, which is located in London and which takes its orders from Scotland Yars. Z-X-5 defeats many enemies, including the Soviet spy Vladivov and the **Femme Fatale**

Princess Alleja of Transovania, who is also known as the top spy “Madame X.” Alleja is a cruel woman, but she becomes Z-X-5's **Loving Enemy**. Z-X-5 is a top pilot and solves many of his problems in air-to-air combat. He is also intrepid and sardonic.

**Zucco, Dr.** Dr. Zucco was created by Stuart Anthony and appeared in the film *The Monster and the Girl* (1941). Dr. Zucco is a **Mad Scientist**. A brave young man, Scot Webster, tries to save his sister Susan after she is captured by a white slavery ring. Unfortunately, Scot is framed for murder and falls into Zucco's hands, and Zucco puts Scot's brain into the body of a gorilla. After this, Scot begins murdering the slavers.

**Zulerich, Herbert.** Herbert Zulerich was created by D.D. Sharp and appeared in “The Eternal Man” (*Science Wonder Stories*, Aug. 1929) and “The Eternal Man Revives” (*Wonder Stories Quarterly*, Summer 1930). Herbert Zulerich is an octogenarian scientist who has discovered a means to grow bacteria to the size of elephants and a formula which grants its subjects immortality at the cost of a death-like paralysis. Zulerich tests this on a rat, and then finds the cure for the paralysis: ordinary soda. But when Zulerich takes the immortality formula he forgets that, once paralyzed, he can't drink the soda, and his paralyzed body is put into a museum, where he is taunted by the rat. In the sequel Zulerich is awakened in the 24<sup>th</sup> century, a mechanistic and tyrannical place in which the will of the ruling council is enforced with robotic “telecops.” Zulerich gives the Council members his immortality formula, thus paralyzing them and ending their rule, but removing them only leads to anarchy, and Zulerich finally destroys himself and the Council.

**Zvesdny.** Zvesdny was created by Valerii Iakovlevich Briusov and appeared in “Respublika Yuzhnavo Kresta” (1905). Five hundred years in the future Antarctica has become wealthy through the sale of natural resources and manufactured goods and has declared its independence. It is now the Republic of the Southern Cross. Its capital is Zvesdny (Star City), a planned city covered in a dome. Unfortunately, a psychological disease sweeps through Zvesdny, forcing victims to do the opposite of what they want. Most of the city's population dies and the city is ruined.

**Zwart, Dorothea.** Dorothea Zwart was created by “Sonia Surink,” the pseudonym of Pieter van Veen (**Arie Arends**), and appeared in four novels from 1940 to 1941, beginning with *De Man Met de Vele Gezichten*. Dorothea Zwart is a woman of the Dutch upper classes and is an amateur detective. Some of the crimes she solves are on the hard-boiled side, including the kidnaping of a young girl.