



the avengers

starring

PATRICK MACNEE
as John Steed

and

DIANA RIGG
as Emma Peel

in

"THE MURDER MARKET"

by

TONY WILLIAMSON

In which Steed seeks a wife --
and Emma gets buried....

Cast also includes:

Mr. Lovejoy..... PATRICK CARGILL
Dinsford..... PETER BAYLISS
Barbara Wakefield..... SUZANNE LLOYD
Mrs. Stone..... NAOMI CHANCE
Robert Stone..... JOHN WOODVINE
Jonathan Stone..... EDWARD UNDERDOWN
Receptionist..... BARBARA ROSCOE
Beale..... JOHN FORGHAM

directed by PETER GRAHAM SCOTT
produced by JULIAN WINTLE



the avengers

Episode entitled:
"THE MURDER MARKET"
Synopsis

"THE MURDER MARKET"

by

TONY WILLIAMSON

In which Steed seeks a wife - -
and Emma gets buried....

- short synopsis -

A series of baffling murders brings Steed and Emma to the pretty-pretty portals of a chic marriage bureau. They sign on as clients - to find that danger walks arm-in-arm with their suggested wedding partners.

- detailed synopsis -

An outbreak of baffling murders commands the attention of THE AVENGERS. Emma Peel visits Jessica Stone, widow of the latest victim, while another trail leads John Steed, posing as a potential husband, to the Togetherness marriage bureau.

Both lines of investigation prove fruitful: Emma lights on a number one suspect, Robert Stone, the widow's brother-in-law; and, in the sickly sweet atmosphere of Togetherness, Steed fears he has hit on the next possible murder victim when he overhears a fellow client called Henshaw in a sinister encounter with the management.

Emma follows up an emergency call from Steed and goes to Henshaw's flat, where she bumps into a woman called Barbara Wakefield making a rapid departure. Emma is too late; Henshaw is floating dead in his bath.

The first partner Togetherness suggest for Steed turns out to be the mysterious Barbara Wakefield. Steed drops hints to her that only an infuriating cousin stands in the way of his acquiring a massive inheritance.

Togetherness match-makers Lovejoy and Dinsford suggest that Barbara would accept Steed if he could acquire this money, and Steed plays along, saying that only fear of discovery has kept him from murder in the past.

contd.....

The bait is taken and the match-makers reveal that their bureau runs a murder racket on the side. If Steed will do a murder for them, they will pull string to get rid of his cousin.

While Steed has been gaining this foothold, Emma's investigation of Robert Stone has led her to the bureau, where the Togetherness toughs recognise her as an enemy. The proposition Togetherness now put up to Steed is that he should murder Emma Peel.

Emma plays dead for Steed's benefit and is shown to the schemers laid out in her coffin. Pleased with Steed's apparent efficiency, they offer him more 'commissions', but he insists on first meeting the organisation boss.

A tip-off gives Togetherness doubts about Steed. To test him, they make him watch while Emma's coffin is buried. He vindicates himself by looking on unflinchingly.

Having passed the test, Steed now meets the boss - Jessica Stone. The widow has used the bureau against her own husband when he had proved too interested in its female clients.

Meanwhile, Emma, having escaped burial alive, discovers that Robert Stone is, in fact, innocent of the crimes and only interested in trapping his brother's killer.

Barbara Wakefield and Jessica Stone with her Togetherness toughs corner Emma and Robert for a showdown, but, almost before the gang have time to realise that Steed really did dupe them, he is on the scene and setting about them violently.

While Steed and Robert manhandle the killers, Emma tackles the two women. The all-out combat rips Togetherness apart from end to end, and THE AVENGERS firmly close the books of the murderous marriage bureau for good.