

## TOWER OF TERROR WEBSITE EXPLAINER

Thanks for downloading this document. It is a work in progress by a number of fans for the new Tokyo DisneySea attraction “Tower of Terror” opening September 2006. Oriental Land Company and Walt Disney Company created an official website for the attraction at <http://www.tot1899.com>.

This site features graphics and information on the background story for the attraction. However, most of it is in Japanese as this site is intended for a Japanese audience. Our group has decided to provide a “loose” translation of the text available on the site. By “loose” we mean an inexact English version that explains the story and other information. It does not necessarily take into account the mood, nuance or special terms that have been produced for the attraction. Please remember that fact while reading this document.

So, with that in mind. We hope that this document is able to help the many fans and site visitors who cannot understand Japanese. We'll make them available until OLC/Disney decide to release an official English-language version of the site. At which point, these documents would become obsolete. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

### REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

The website has four main sections: (1) Opening scenes with the desk in the room and Shiriki Utundu appearing, (2) New York Globe and Telegraph articles, (3) Reporter's Notebook, and (4) Relationship Chart. The last three sections can be reached from the “Main Menu” scene.

The “Main Menu” features a desktop with various objects like a pen and memo pad, newspaper, coins, photographs, and a brown notebook. **This document provides an explainer for REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK with can be accessed by clicking on the brown notebook.**

*[NOTE: All writer's comments are in square brackets and italics.]*

Enjoy the reading!

## MANFRED STRONG'S REPORTER NOTEBOOK

### TAB 1: (Hotel photo page.)

WHAT IS THE HOTEL HIGHTOWER?

### TAB 1: (Right-side page.)

January 23rd, 1892, opened in New York City, New York.  
The owner is New York multi-millionaire Harrison Hightower III.  
Designed by Oscar Klenofsky.  
(Actually, Hightower III directed everything.)

This hotel is the embodiment of hightower's symbols of "beauty, power, elegance, excellence."  
(I doubt these are true.)

The hotel is quite impressive.  
14 stories.

This architecture is a blend of different designs that Hightower III saw as he traveled worldwide.

The hotel gives pleasure to travelers and gentlemen from around the world, such as the Pearl Room, guest rooms, spa and garden.

### TAB 1: (Left-side page.)

December 31st, 1899 at midnight, Hightower III disappeared as his scream was heard from the elevator. At the same time, the hotel's power went out. Until the cause of the accident was found, the New York City Fire Department decided to close down the hotel.

*[Double underlined.]* The mystery is still unsolved. Is this due to the curse?

*[Double underlined.]* The citizens of New York now call it the "Tower of Terror (terror hotel)".

*[Circled.]* This hotel is possessed by a terrible curse!

**TAB 1: (Hotel sketch page.)**

*[Penciled sketch of Hotel Hightower.]*

**TAB 2: (Hightower photo page.)**

## PROFILE OF HIGHTOWER III

**TAB 2: (Right-side page.)**

Born in New York in 1835.

Personality: Very intelligent but violent, arrogant, audacious, selfish. Completely secretive. At age 10, while schooling in England, he gave Cornelius Endicott III a hard time. Many years of conflict began from this time.

He became the wealthiest man in New York, traveled the world and collected cultural treasures.

In 1892, the Hotel Hightower opened and he displayed much of his collection here. The real purpose of the hotel was to boast about his prideful accomplishments. (For the grand opening, Endicott III was the only person not invited to the party...naturally.)

**TAB 2: (Left-side page.)**

1899: During an expedition to the Congo River, he **got**... plundered the idol, Shiriki Utundu idol, from a Mutundu Tribe.

*[Underlined.]* Dec 31, 1899: The hotel's elevator plunged. Inside the elevator, only Shiriki Utundu was found, but Hightower III had mysteriously vanished.

After his disappearance, his businesses tumbled and were absorbed by his rival, Endicott III.

*[Circled.]* Where did he disappear to? To begin with, is he actually dead?

**TAB 2: (Right-side page.)**

*[Pencil sketches of Hightower III and Shiriki Utundu.]*

**TAB 3: (Shiriki Utundu photo page.)**

WHAT IS SHIRIKI UTUNDU?

*[Written and circled.]* Shiriki Utundu

**TAB 3: (Right-side page.)**

1899: Congo River Expedition

Hightower III found the idol inside of a Mutundu Tribe altar. Was it created by a tribal witch doctor?

*[Underlined.]* Shiriki Utundu (means “believe the misfortune.”)

*[Written.]* To he who attacks a fearful curse is placed.

At first, Hightower III tried to "purchase" the idol but was turned down.

*[Double underlined.]* Consequently, he took it by force!

Hightower III originally planned to display it inside his top floor penthouse.

*[Double underlined.]* Since he went missing, Shiriki Utundu has been spotted in many different places inside the hotel.

*[Written.]* What does this phenomenon mean?

**TAB 4: (Elevator interior photo page.)**

WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT?

*[Photo of interior of elevator.]*

**TAB 4: (Right-side page.)**

December 31st, 1899:

8:00am Hightower III took a photograph of Shiriki Utundu.

Noon: Hightower III held a press conference.

*[Underlined.]* He showed the idol to the group of reporters, and made fun of the story of the curse.

I *[the reporter]* asked him so many questions that I was kicked out of the room.

--> Did I hit on something?

1:00pm: Lunchtime. Hightower III goes to the "Pharaoh Explorer's Club". He makes conversation with friends while smoking a cigar.

4:00pm: I dress up as a waiter and sneak into the hotel.

**TAB 4: (Left-side page.)**

7:00pm: The party to commemorate the return from the Congo Expedition starts.

8:00pm: Dinnertime.

Hightower III reports on his expedition experience in the Congo.

10:00pm: Hightower III dances with a young lady. (Afterwards, she is barred from the room by her mother.)

11:45pm: Hightower III *[underlined.]* uses the elevator to return Shiriki Utundu to his penthouse.

Midnight: The power goes out in the hotel!!

A green light envelopes the elevator. Hightower III screams!

The elevator plunges down to the 1st floor.