



## Todd Gault's Serial Experience

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### Villain of the Month for August 2003 Beatrice Roberts

Beatrice Roberts is one of many actresses who made a big impression on serial goers of the late thirties but never really had a good role outside of the weekly chapter plays. The early part of her career had her star in such low budget films as *Love Takes Flight* (1937), *Bill Cracks Down* (1937), and *The Devil's Party* (1938).

Her big serial was playing the evil Queen Azura in Universal's *Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars* (1938). Her character was helping Ming terrorize the Earth while also waging a war on the Clay People of her own planet. After this serial Roberts had only one more starring role in the B Western *Pioneers of the West* (1940).



The rest of Roberts career was appearing in small roles in A and B pictures. Among her film credits are the horror films *Frankenstein Meets the Wolf Man* (1942) and *The Phantom of the Opera* (1943) remake. She popped up in the mysteries *Mystery of Marie Roget* (1942), *Dead Man's Eyes* (1944), and the noir classic *The Killers* (1946). Other films credits include *The Egg and I* (1947), *Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid* (1948), and Deana Durbin's final romantic comedy *For the Love of Mary* (1948).

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