

FOUR YEARS AGO,
ROBYN LOCKSLEY
SAVED MY LIFE.

I WAS CAPTURED BY GUY OF
GISBOURNE, WHO WAS USING MY
MAGIC FOR A PLAN AS WICKED AS
IT WAS ILL-CONCEIVED. I THOUGHT
I WOULD DIE HIS PRISONER, BUT
THEN SHE CAME AND CUT ME
LOOSE.

BEFORE I KNEW HER, TRULY
KNEW HER, SHE WAS LARGER
THAN LIFE. A HERO. SOMEONE
TO LOVE, BUT NOT SOMEONE
TO KNOW.

NOW, I KNOW ROBYN BETTER
THAN ANYONE EVER HAS... AND
ALL I WANT TO DO IS BE HER
HERO. I WANT TO GO OUT THERE
AND TELL HER EVERYTHING
WILL BE OKAY.

I WISH I COULD
CUT HER LOOSE.

WHEN I FIRST MET AVELLA,
SHE, TOO, WAS LARGER THAN
LIFE. SHE CAME AT ME, GLOWING
LIKE A DEMON... AND THEN SHE
KIDNAPPED ME, FOR GISBOURNE.
EVEN AS HE USED MY MAGIC FOR
HIS OWN ENDS, IT WAS THE
MEMORY OF AVELLA THAT LURKED
LIKE A MONSTER UNDER MY
BED.

HOW IS
SHE?

WHEN AVELLA CAME BACK TO
ME, SHE NEVER APOLOGIZED.
INSTEAD, SHE TOOK MY HAND
AND TAUGHT ME ALL SHE
KNOWS. THAT WAS HER WAY.

IT'S TAKING
A LOT OUT OF
BOTH OF US.
BUT SHE'LL BE
FINE.

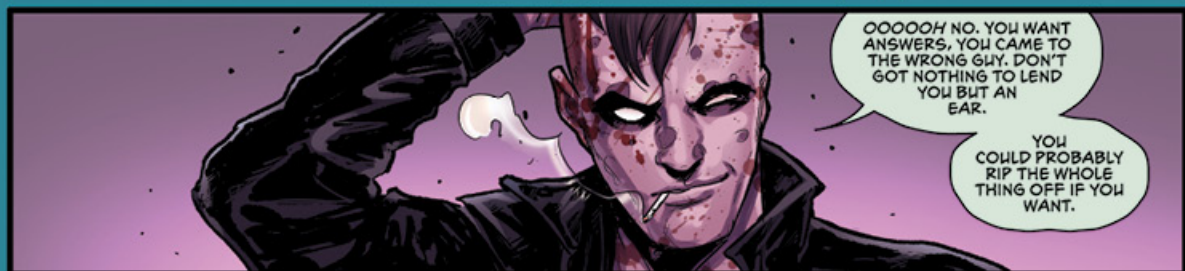
I OWE AVELLA NOTHING. BUT
I WISH IT COULD BE MY HAND
LEADING HER OUT OF THE
WOODS.

SAM'S FAMILIAR LOOKS
AT ME, FEELING MY LOSS. MY
OWN FAMILIAR BECAME PART OF
WHO I AM... A TETHER TO THE
WORLD OF MAGIC WHEN MY OWN
POWER WAS SEVERED. FOR A
TIME, IT SAVED ME.

I COULDN'T
SAVE ANY
OF THEM.
I--

ALL THIS
MOPING IS
DEPRESSING
ME, ALL RIGHT?

HOW 'BOUT YOU
PUT ON YOUR COAT,
COME OUTSIDE, AND
WATCH ME SMOKE
MY LUNGS
BLACK?





"BESIDES... ATHENA MAY BE A GOD, BUT SHE'S ALSO A SLOPPY DRUNK. SHE TOLD ME EVERYTHING."

ROBYN! ROBYN, HADES IS BACK AND--

STOP.



I TOLD YOU I WAS OUT, AND I MEAN IT.

YOU HEARD WHAT THEY SAID ABOUT ME. I SHOULDN'T BE ANYWHERE NEAR YOU. I--



SPLASH



...WHY DID YOU JUST DO THAT?



I'M SORRY! WELL, NO, I'M NOT, BECAUSE I BROUGHT THAT PINK LEMONADE OUT HERE SOLELY BECAUSE I KNEW I'D HAVE TO DO THAT.

I DON'T EVEN LIKE PINK LEMONADE. IT'S KIND OF A LIE, ISN'T IT? IT'S NOT STRAWBERRY, IT'S JUST LEMONADE PRETENDING TO BE SOMETHING ELSE.

MARIAN.

SORRY! I... I JUST KNEW YOU WOULDN'T LET ME TALK, BUT WHAT I HAVE TO SAY IS IMPORTANT.



YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND, AND MY HERO. AND I CAN'T LET YOU THROW EVERYTHING YOU'VE FOUGHT FOR AWAY BECAUSE OF SOMETHING THAT NEVER HAPPENED.

IT DID HAPPEN, THOUGH. IT--

IN A DIFFERENT REALITY! A DIFFERENT WORLD. AND, WHILE I LOVE YOU DEARLY, ROBYN, YOUR GRASP OF EVEN THE MOST BASIC MAGICS IS ELEMENTARY AT BEST.



PROPHECIES DO NOT HAVE A SINGLE WAY OF WORKING THEMSELVES OUT. THERE'S ANOTHER WAY, ROBYN.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?