

THE DARK TOWER

THE DRAWING OF THE THREE

STEPHEN KING

ROLAND DESCHAIN IS A COWBOY FROM MID-WORLD ON A QUEST TO REACH THE DARK TOWER. BUT HE HAS TO MOVE QUICKLY, BECAUSE HE HAS POISON RUNNING THROUGH HIS VEINS. HE IS GATHERING HIS KA-TET TO HELP HIM ON HIS JOURNEY. ONE OF THESE MEMBERS IS EDDIE DEAN, A KID FROM NEW YORK WHO HAPPENS TO BE ONE OF A SELECT FEW THAT EXIST ON MANY PLANES OF REALITY. HE IS ALSO A RECOVERING HEROIN ADDICT.

NOW EDDIE AND ROLAND ARE RECRUITING A SECOND PERSON TO JOIN THEM: THE LADY OF SHADOWS, A WOMAN CONFINED TO A WHEELCHAIR AFTER BEING HIT BY AN ONCOMING TRAIN THAT SEVERED HER LEGS.

AFTER BEING HIT ON THE HEAD WITH A BRICK AS A YOUNG GIRL, THE LADY OF SHADOWS' PERSONALITY SPLIT INTO TWO HALVES: ODETTA HOLMES AND DETTA WALKER. ODETTA HOLMES IS A POLITE, EARNEST WOMAN WHO IS ACTIVE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT. DETTA WALKER IS FULL OF RAGE AND PRONE TO ACTS OF VIOLENCE.

UP UNTIL THIS POINT, ODETTA AND DETTA HAVE EACH TAKEN TURNS POSSESSING THEIR SHARED BODY—WHILE THE OTHER ONE LIES DORMANT AND UNAWARE. BUT AS EDDIE PUSHED THE SCREAMING, ANGRY DETTA ACROSS THE DESERT, THERE WAS A BREAKTHROUGH! ODETTA COULD HEAR WHAT WAS GOING ON. FOR A MOMENT, THE TWO WERE BOTH AWAKE AT ONCE! AS IF A WAR WAS TAKING PLACE INSIDE OF HER BODY, THERE WAS A STRUGGLE AND THEN ODETTA EMERGED.

BUT BEFORE THEY COULD ADDRESS WHAT HAD HAPPENED, THE POISONED ROLAND COLLAPSED INTO THE SAND!

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There is such fear in Eddie's face. I don't know which concerns him more: that Roland has collapsed and may die and Eddie would lose his friend...

...or that if Roland dies, Eddie will be eternally trapped in this wasteland.



Feed...
Odetta...

What?!
Roland, she's
not my top
priority right
now!

Make her
so. I'm too
weak...can't
continue...

Find the
third magic door...
build her shelter and
leave her...and come
back for me with
her chair...



Take
the gun...one
bullet might be
dry enough to
fire...

Who do
I shoot
with it?

If
she returns...
Detta.



I won't
kill her, if that's
what you're
thinking!

You may have
to wing her. You
understand?

And don't
tell her Odetta
exists...and for
the love of my
ancestors...

Don't
let her get
the gun.





Is...is he going to be okay?

Roland? Yeah, he'll outlive us all.

Let's get some food into you.



Those lobster things again? It makes me sick; I can't keep it down.



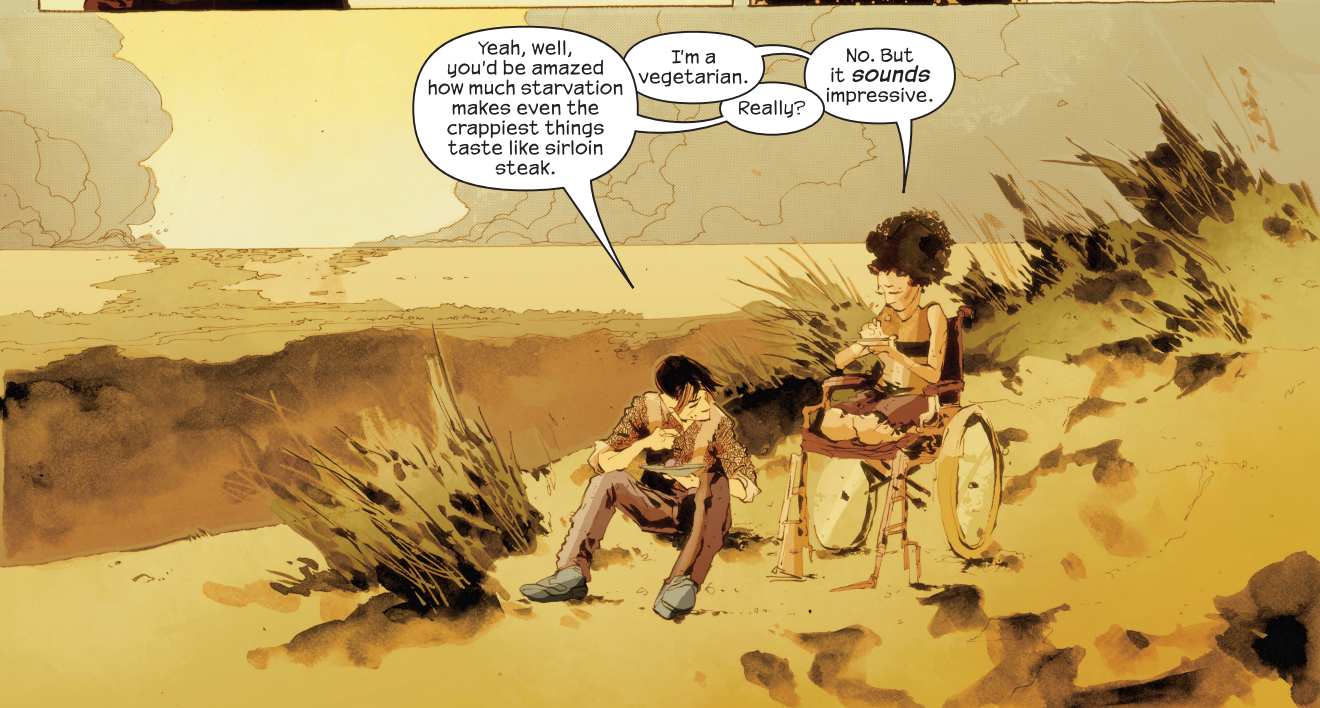
Well, try again, because it's all I've got to offer you.



Hmm...

"Hmm" what?

It tastes... it tastes so good! It's going to stay down! I know it! I feel it!



Yeah, well, you'd be amazed how much starvation makes even the crappiest things taste like sirloin steak.

I'm a vegetarian.

Really?

No. But it *sounds* impressive.

