

**BOOM!**  
STUDIOS

DELILAH S. DAWSON · MATIAS BASLA

#1 OF 5

# SPARROWHAWK™



*Menchow*

# SPARROWHAWK™

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SPECIAL THANKS TO ERIC HARBURN



NORTHUMBERLAND,  
ENGLAND, 1851.



IT SEEMS A STRANGE CUSTOM,  
BURYING PEOPLE IN  
BOXES IN THE  
DARK EARTH.

AS IF THEY  
NEVER  
EXISTED.



CAROLINE?




ARTEMISIA! YOU  
FRIGHTENED  
ME!



I DIDN'T  
MEAN TO. HEAVEN  
KNOWS YOU CAN  
HEAR OLD TRAVELER  
WHEEZING WITH EVERY  
LUMBERING  
STEP.

I CAN'T  
BELIEVE YOU CAN  
STILL RIDE... I MEAN...  
IT WAS THE DUKE'S  
FINE STALLIONS THAT  
OVERTURNED THE  
CARRIAGE. AND NOW  
ELIZABETH--OUR  
SISTER--IS...

I ABHOR  
HORSES. AND  
DUKES.



YOU NEEDN'T  
FEAR THIS SWEET  
OLD BEAST. I BET HE  
MISSES HER, TOO,  
FOR ALL THAT SHE  
IGNORED HIM.



I KNOW YOU  
DIDN'T LIKE  
HER. SHE WAS  
CRUEL TO  
YOU.

BUT SHE  
WAS KIND TO  
ME, AND I LOVED  
HER. WE DANCED  
AND PAINTED  
TEACUPS AND SANG  
TOGETHER, AND  
SHE HELPED  
ME WITH MY  
PIANO--

I REMEMBER.  
I SAT IN THE TREE  
OUTSIDE AND WATCHED  
THROUGH THE WINDOW.  
YOUR MOTHER SAID  
I HAD NO NEED OF  
SUCH SKILLS.



OH! I FORGOT.  
MOTHER WISHES TO  
SEE YOU. HONESTLY,  
I'M SO DUNDER-  
HEADED THESE  
DAYS.

DEATH WILL  
DO THAT TO  
YOU.



ELIZABETH  
MALLORY GREY  
1831 — 1851



SHE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT, YOU SHOULD HURRY.

THAT'S ODD, SHE NEVER WANTS TO SEE ME.

SHE ONCE SAID I WAS THE WORST THING IN HER LIFE. THAT WHEN PAPA RETURNED FROM THE COLONY WITH ME IN MY BASKET, SHE ALMOST KICKED HIM OUT, DESPITE THE GOLD HE'D WON.



I'M SURE SHE DIDN'T MEAN IT.

I'M SURE SHE DID, BUT AT LEAST I HAVE YOU. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S EVER TREATED ME LIKE FAMILY.

BE CAREFUL OUT HERE. PAPA ALWAYS SAYS THESE WOODS ARE STILL DANGEROUS, YOU SHOULD CARRY A KNIFE, LIKE I DO.

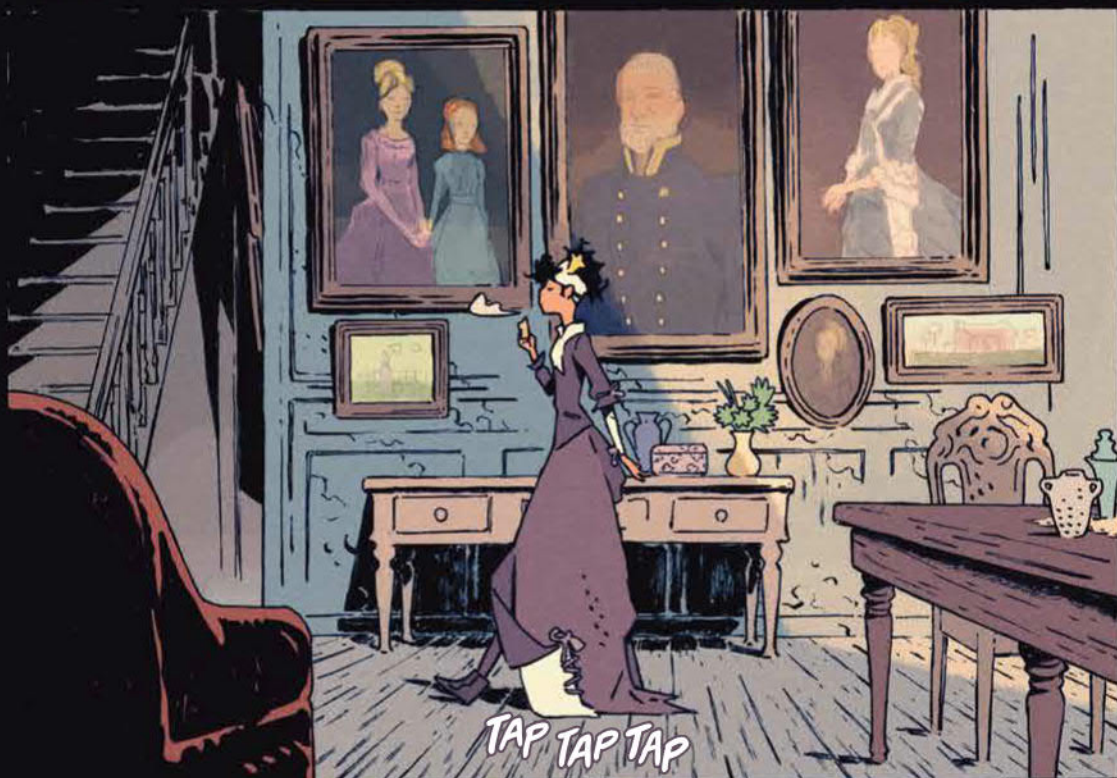
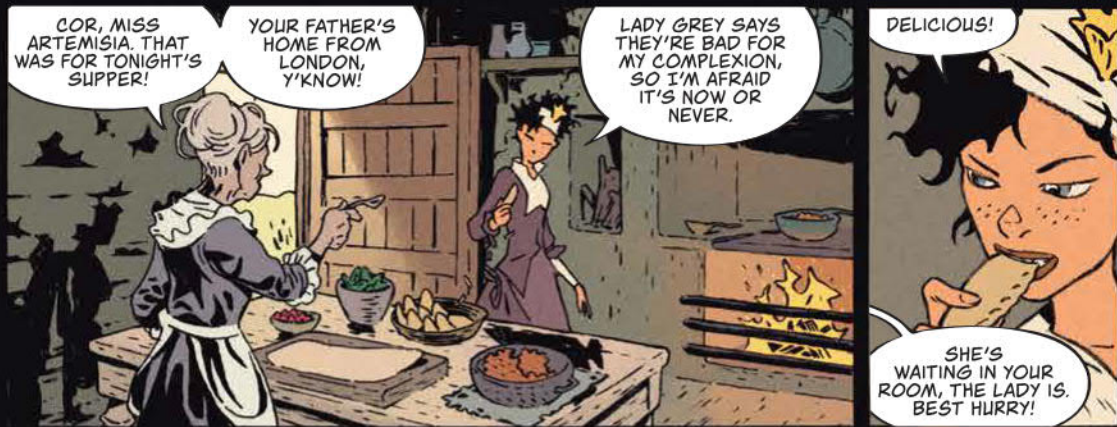
YOU BE CAREFUL, TOO. NOTHING FEELS SAFE ANYMORE.

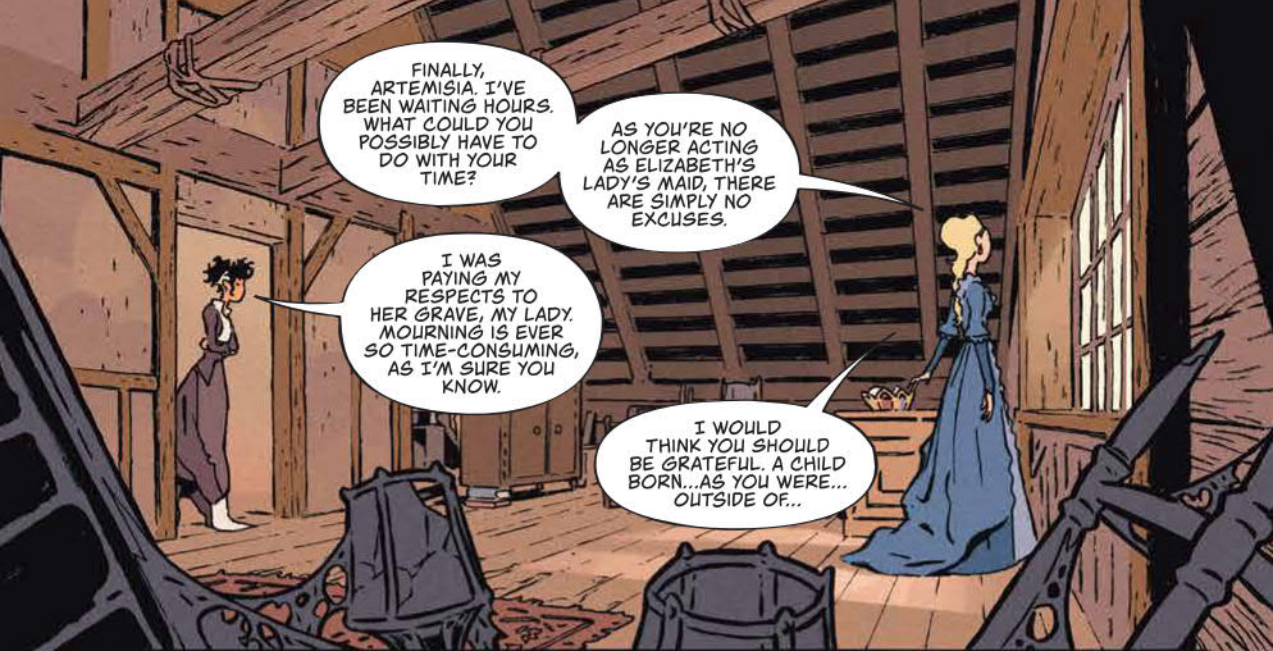


ONE DAY, DIABLO. ONE DAY, I'LL RIDE A REAL HORSE.

NO OFFENSE, TRAVELER, BUT YOU'RE OLDER THAN ME BY A LONG-SHOT.







FINALLY, ARTEMISIA, I'VE BEEN WAITING HOURS. WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY HAVE TO DO WITH YOUR TIME?

AS YOU'RE NO LONGER ACTING AS ELIZABETH'S LADY'S MAID, THERE ARE SIMPLY NO EXCUSES.

I WAS PAYING MY RESPECTS TO HER GRAVE, MY LADY. MOURNING IS EVER SO TIME-CONSUMING, AS I'M SURE YOU KNOW.

I WOULD THINK YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL. A CHILD BORN...AS YOU WERE... OUTSIDE OF...



≡SNIFF≡

...WE ALLOW YOU TO LIVE HERE, TO DINE WITH THE FAMILY. WE CLOTHE YOU AND--

YES, PAPA HAS BEEN MOST GENEROUS.



WELL, I'M GLAD THAT THERE'S ONE TOPIC ON WHICH WE AGREE.

THE CAPTAIN HAS BEEN MOST GENEROUS, AND HE DOES SO DOTE UPON YOU.

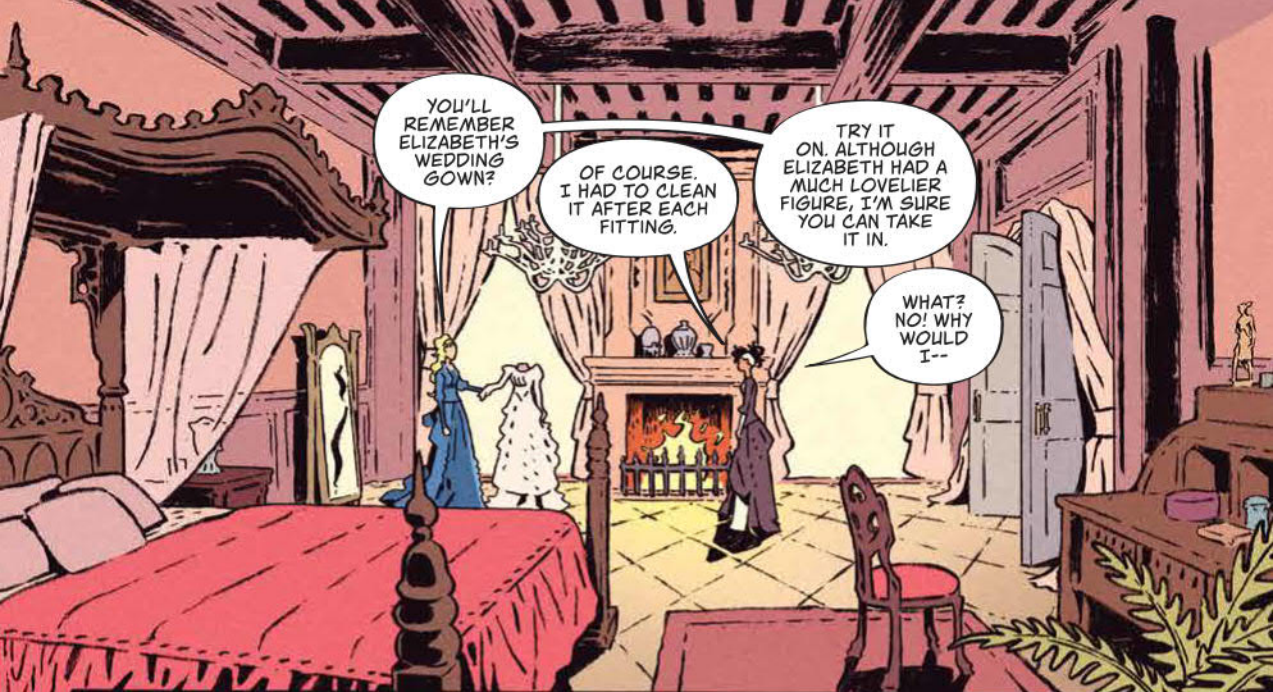


AND NOW, I AM HAPPY TO SAY, YOU CAN RETURN THE FAVOR. COME WITH ME.



BUT THIS IS...WAS... ELIZABETH'S ROOM.

PRECISELY.



YOU'LL REMEMBER ELIZABETH'S WEDDING GOWN?

OF COURSE. I HAD TO CLEAN IT AFTER EACH FITTING.

TRY IT ON. ALTHOUGH ELIZABETH HAD A MUCH LOVELIER FIGURE, I'M SURE YOU CAN TAKE IT IN.

WHAT? NO! WHY WOULD I--

STOP BEING SILLY, CHILD. ELIZABETH'S MATCH WITH THE DUKE WOULD'VE SAVED US.

SAVED YOUR FATHER'S REPUTATION AND THIS MANOR.

BUT SHE DIED IN THAT CURRICLE OF HIS, AND THAT MEANS WE MUST COUNT ON YOU.

COUNT ON ME?

TO MARRY AND MARRY WELL.

NO.

YES. YOU ALWAYS THROW IT IN MY FACE THAT HE'S YOUR FATHER, TOO, AND THAT MEANS HIS DEBTS ARE YOURS.

I DON'T BET ON PONIES OR GO TO GAMING HELLS. I DON'T VISIT--

**SILENCE!**

BESIDES, WHO WOULD WANT TO MARRY ME? I'M THE WRONG COLOR. YOU'VE TOLD ME SO OFTEN ENOUGH.

YOU'RE YOUNG AND PRETTY AND UNTOUCHED. OR WOULD YOU RATHER CAROLINE MARRY? MR. FISHER IS A BARONET, AND HE SAID SHE WAS CHARMING...

BUT HE'S SEVENTY!

THEN IT REALLY IS UP TO YOU, ISN'T IT? TRY IT ON. PRACTICE SMILING, FOR ONCE.

YOU'LL BE PRESENTED AT THE GRAND BALL AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE, AND YOU WILL BRING HOME A TITLED HUSBAND.

OR I'LL SELL CAROLINE OFF TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.