



OH, MISTRESS, PLEASE LET ME APOLOGIZE AGAIN, IT'S JUST THAT... WITH YOUR, YOUR UNUSUAL CLOTHING, I THOUGHT--



I KNOW WHAT YOU THOUGHT.

STUPID FIGLY! I AM SUCH A FOOL!

FORGET IT.

I THOUGHT YOU CAME TO WORK HERE, IN THE PALACE OF FLESHLY DESIRES!

I SAID FORGET IT.

Gribaldi and Rat are safe in the nearest tavern.

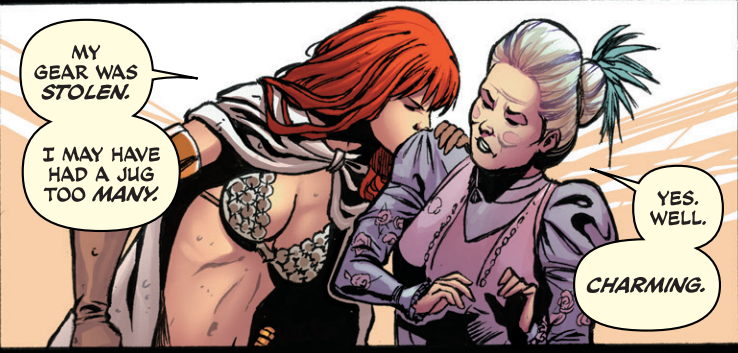
This job isn't fit for EITHER of them, though they dearly wanted to come.



AHHH-CHOOO!

OH, DEAR MISTRESS... YOU'RE CATCHING ILL.

ER. MAY I ASK WHY YOU DO WEAR THIS... ENSEMBLE... IN THE RAIN?



MY GEAR WAS STOLEN.

I MAY HAVE HAD A JUG TOO MANY.

YES. WELL.

CHARMING.

Three days ride in abominable weather to get here.

Three minutes to wait to pummel my HOST.



AND EVEN MORE EMBARRASSING THAT I NEARLY HAD THE GUARDS THROW YOU OUT, MISTRESS!

IT'S JUST THAT ONLY WOMEN OF THE RAREST BEAUTY--

YOU AREN'T MAKING THIS ANY BETTER, CRONE.



I SEEK THE BEST OF YOUR TRADE. AND YOU'LL BE PAID.

AH. WELL.

LET ME ASSIST YOU, THEN, FIERCE MISTRESS.



MAY I PRESENT,  
THE *FINEST*  
SELECTION OF  
COURTESANS IN  
THE WORLD!

OH.

OH.

I came to this castle wet,  
cold, hungry and lonely.

VERY lonely. I can't  
RECALL the last  
time I saw Heaven.



And after the curtain is pulled back...

...I suppose I could worry about the dry warmth and food LATER.

I have...I have HEARD of such places.

But never have I ever thought to...

Tarim's blood, I don't know where to look FIRST.



OH, CHOOSE ME, FAIR MISTRESS.

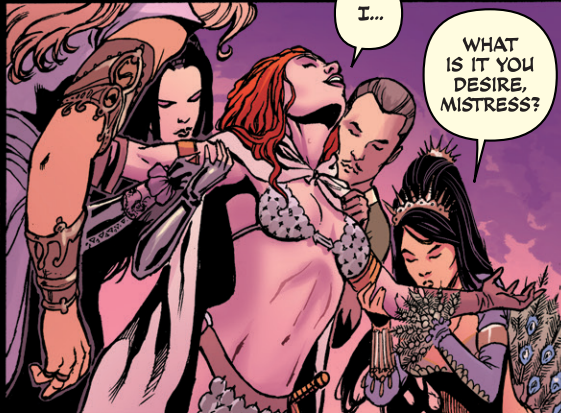
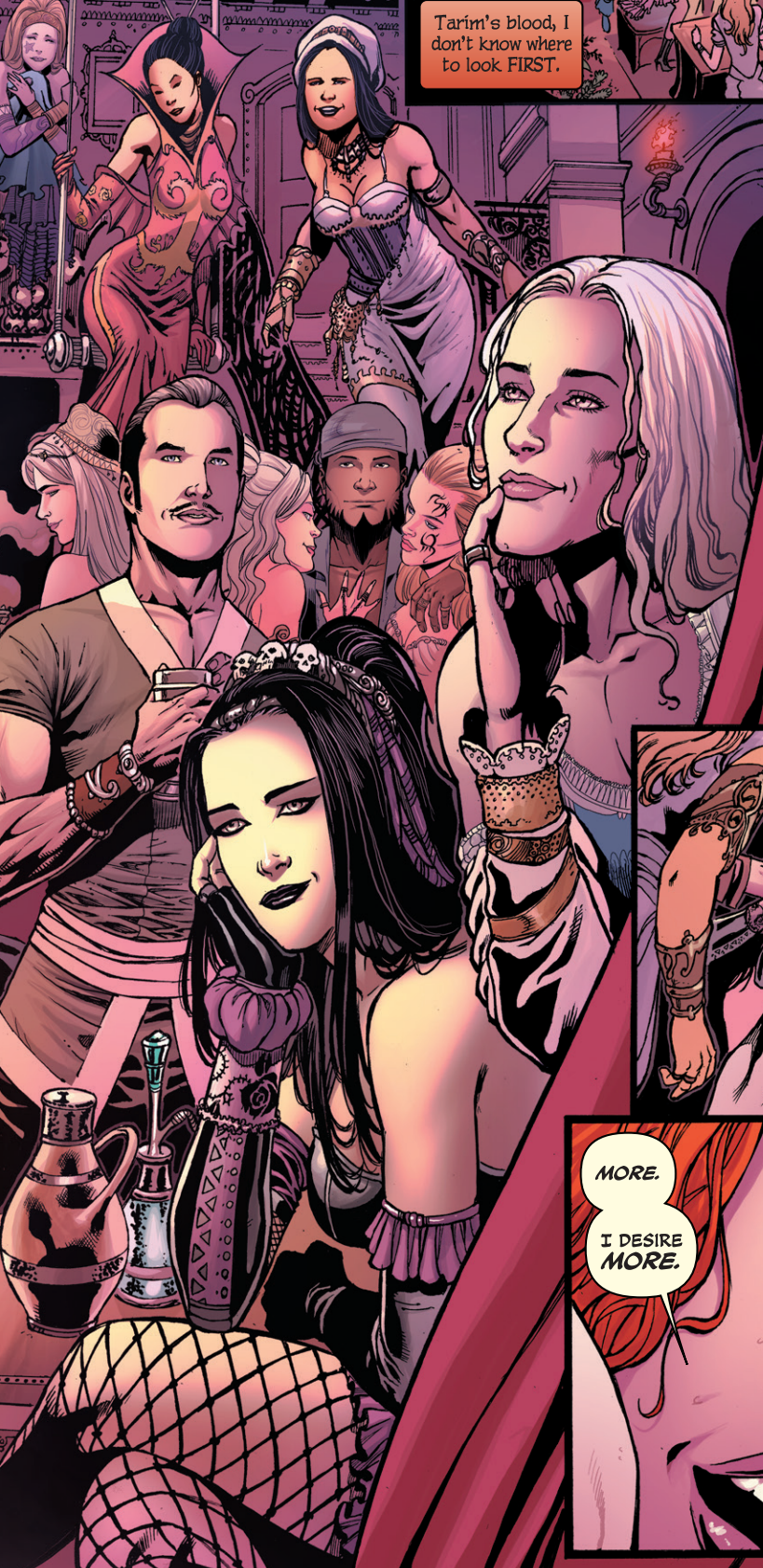
NO, NO, ME, BOLD ONE!

LET TALA EASE YOUR WORRY, MISTRESS.

A STRONG WOMAN NEEDS A STRONG MAN, MISTRESS.

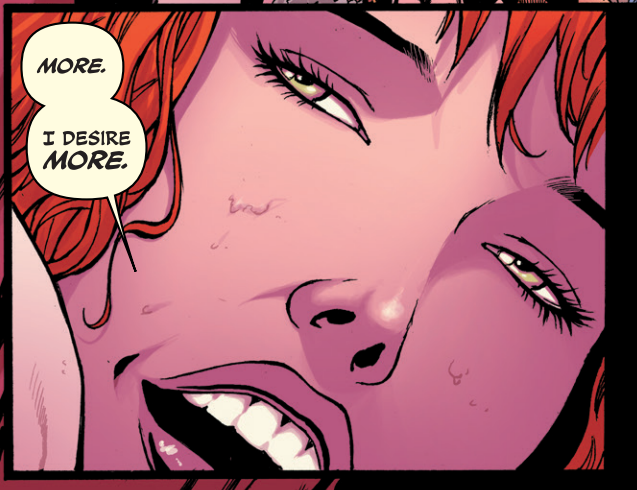
TELL US WHAT YOU WANT, MISTRESS. WE LIVE TO PLEASE YOU.

...BRING YOU ONLY JOY YOU HAVE NEVER KNOWN...



I...

WHAT IS IT YOU DESIRE, MISTRESS?



MORE.  
I DESIRE MORE.

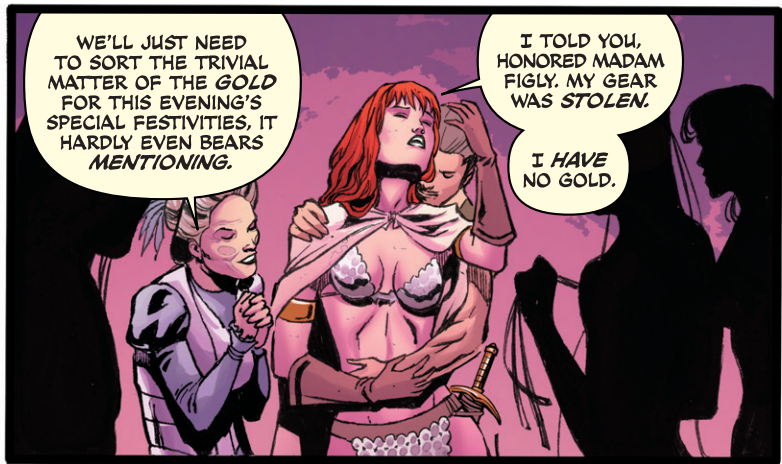




OF COURSE, MISTRESS, OF COURSE.

AND WE WILL PREPARE A *SUMPTUOUS* MEAL FIRST, AND...

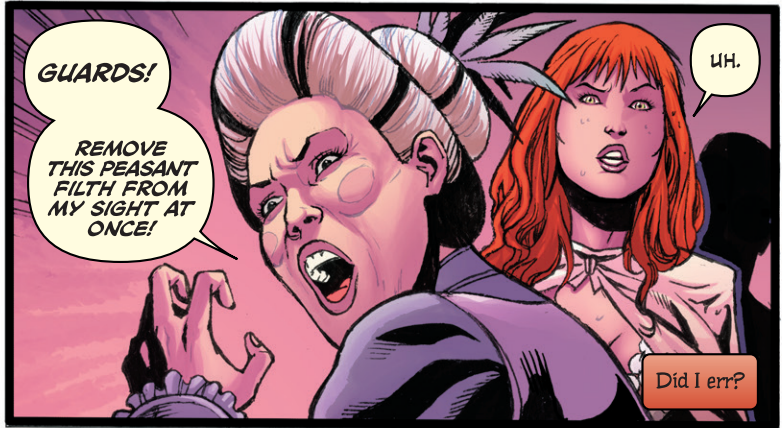
...A MOST *FRAGRANT* BATH, NO DISRESPECT INTENDED.



WE'LL JUST NEED TO SORT THE TRIVIAL MATTER OF THE *GOLD* FOR THIS EVENING'S SPECIAL FESTIVITIES, IT HARDLY EVEN BEARS MENTIONING.

I TOLD YOU, HONORED MADAM FIGLY, MY GEAR WAS *STOLEN*.

I HAVE NO GOLD.



**GUARDS!**

REMOVE THIS PEASANT FILTH FROM MY SIGHT AT ONCE!

UH.

Did I err?!



Damn. I was thinking with the wrong PART.

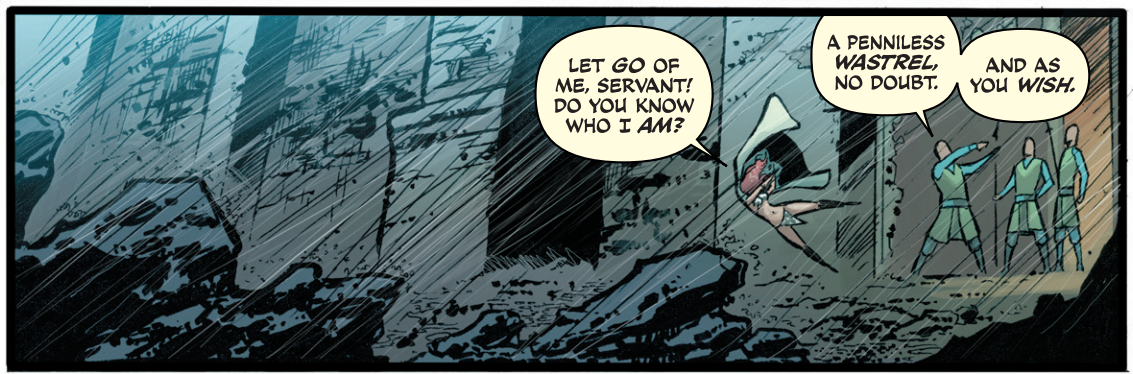


I CAME FOR ANEVA! I DEMAND TO SEE HER IN THE NAME OF A KING!

ANEVA?

YOU WILL NEVER SEE THE PRINCESS OF PASSION, FILTHY MONGREL!

GOODBYE!

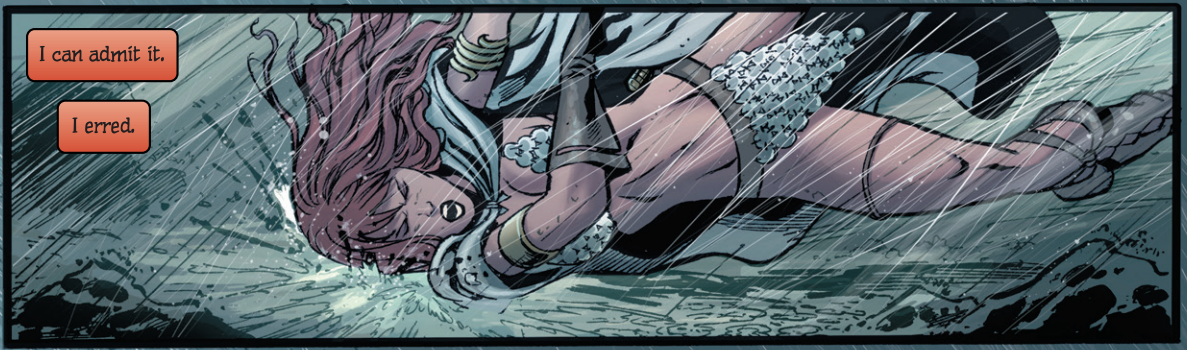


LET GO OF ME, SERVANT! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

A PENNILESS WASTREL, NO DOUBT.

AND AS YOU WISH.





I can admit it.

I erred.

CURSE ME FOR A FOOL.  
A BIT OF ABSTINENCE AND I BECAME A LOVESICK CHILD.

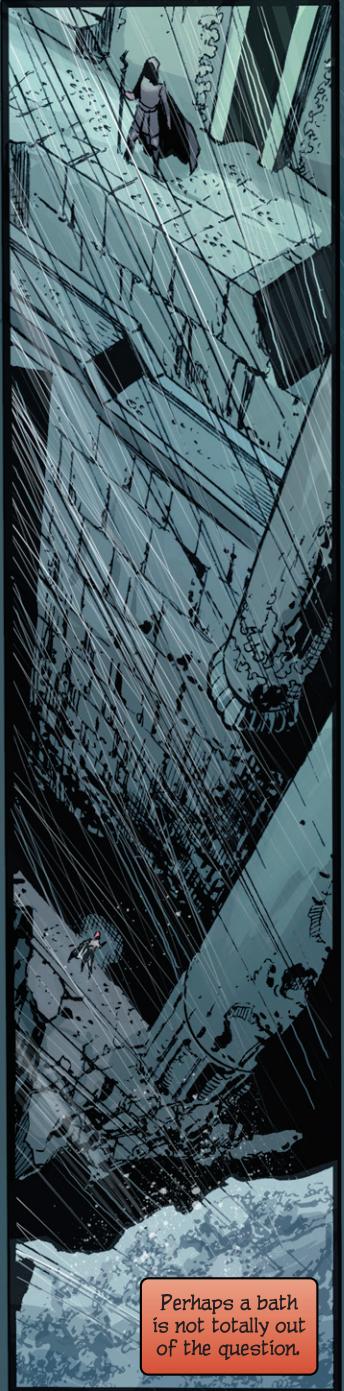
It is said that the candles and incense of the Palace could bring a CORPSE to a place of ardor.



Sonja is slave to NOTHING, including her own LOINS.

Just the same...

...they certainly were pretty to LOOK at.



Perhaps a bath is not totally out of the question.