



MY BROTHER AND I WERE BORN IN LOUISIANA IN 1812.

WE WERE BORN ON OUR FATHER'S PLANTATION...



...AND OUR BIRTH WAS NOT WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.



WE WERE BORN HEALTHY. BUT WE WERE ALSO BORN DIFFERENT.

MASTER DARGUE, THEY'RE... THEY'RE NOT CRYING. THEY'RE NOT RIGHT, SIR.

WHAT THEY ARE...



...IS BEAUTIFUL.

IN LATER YEARS, I WOULD COME TO BELIEVE THAT WE WERE EXACTLY AS OUR FATHER WANTED. AS HE MADE US.

OUR MOTHER DID NOT SURVIVE.

SOME WOULD SAY IT WAS THE SIGHT OF US THAT KILLED HER.

IN TIME, I WOULD COME TO REALIZE THAT MY BROTHER AND I WERE LUCKY TO HAVE LIVED THROUGH THAT FIRST NIGHT.

AS CHILDREN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SMALL GRAVES NEXT TO OUR MOTHER'S WAS BEYOND US.

THERE WERE MANY THINGS WE DID NOT UNDERSTAND THEN.

WHY THEY STARED AT US.

WHY THEY FEARED US.

WHY THEY HATED US.



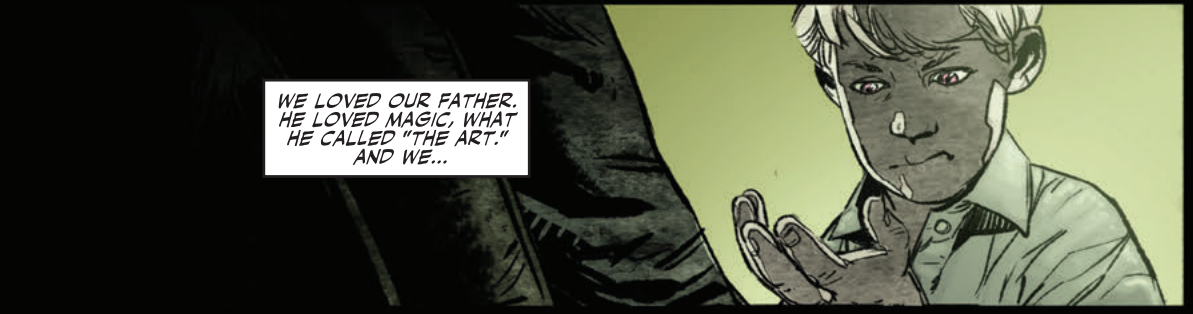
OUR FATHER OWNED A LARGE PLANTATION, BUT THAT WAS MERELY A VOCATION.

HIS AVOCATION...



...WAS MAGIC.

WE LOVED OUR FATHER. HE LOVED MAGIC, WHAT HE CALLED "THE ART." AND WE...



I CAN'T DO IT. WHY CAN'T I DO IT, PAPA?

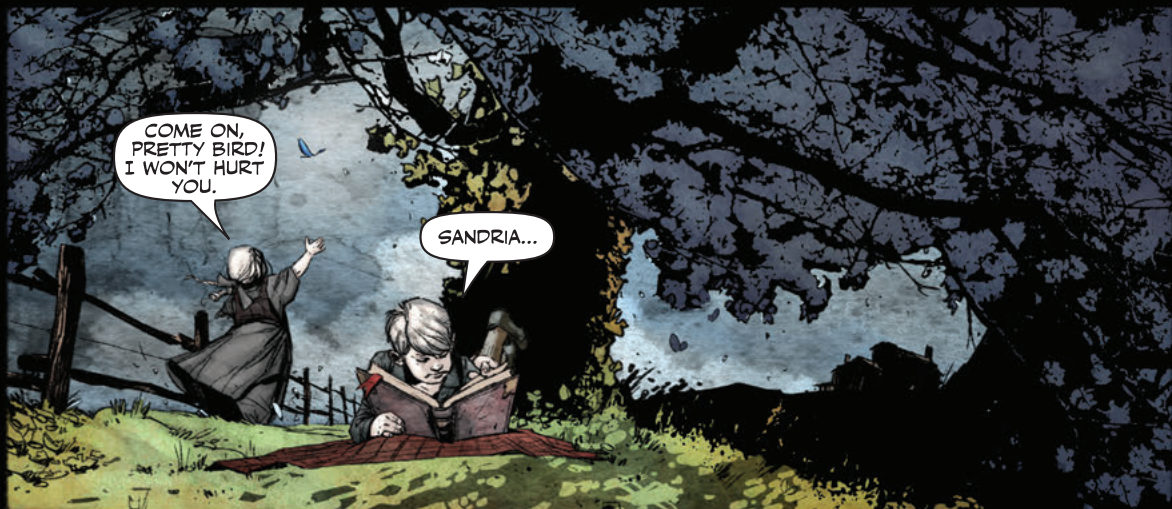
WE WERE EAGER TO PLEASE.



YOU WILL. SOON. YOU ARE SPECIAL, AND THERE WILL BE NOTHING YOU CANNOT DO.



SO WE BEGAN TO LEARN.



COME ON,
PRETTY BIRD!
I WON'T HURT
YOU.

SANDRIA...



SANDRIA,
LOOK.

HUSH,
YOU'LL SCARE
HER.

SANDRIAAAAA.

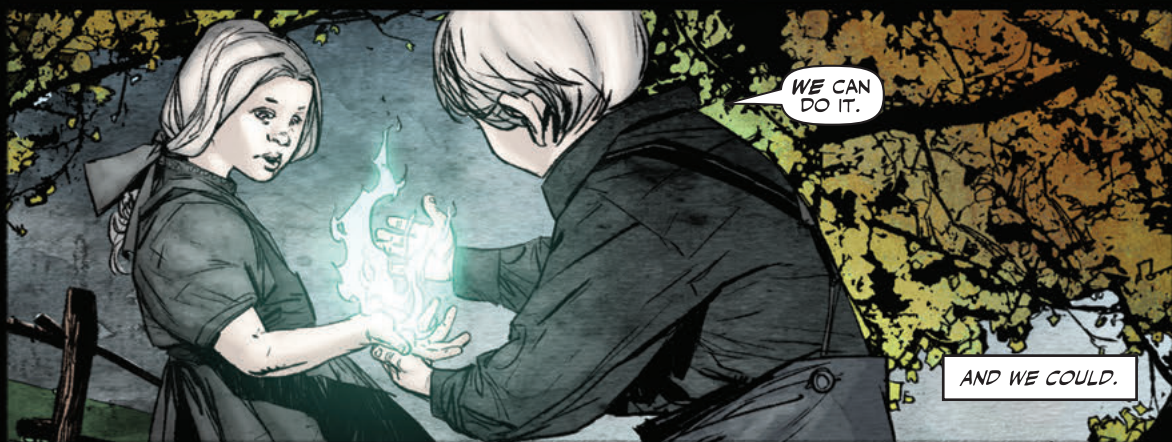


WHAT?

WATCH.



I CAN DO IT.



WE CAN
DO IT.

AND WE COULD.

WE COULD DO MUCH MORE THAN THAT, MY BROTHER AND I, TOGETHER. AS OUR FATHER WOULD SOON SHOW US.

IS THIS RIGHT?

YOU TELL ME. AND DON'T THINK. KNOW.

IT'S RIGHT.

GOOD. SANDRIA, HELP YOUR BROTHER.

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, JUST--

I KNOW, I KNOW WHAT TO DO, NICKY. YOU'RE NOT SO...



WONDERFUL. THIS IS SOMETHING IT TOOK ME MUCH OF MY LIFE TO LEARN. AND WHY OUR PLANTATION HAS THRIVED.

SO WE DID WELL?

OF COURSE WE DID.

YOU NEED TO REMEMBER THIS.

LIFE COMES FROM LIFE. THAT'S A RULE THAT CAN'T BE BROKEN. FOR THIS PLANT TO LIVE, THE LIFE NEEDS TO COME FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE.

SOMEWHERE ELSE?

HE MEANS US. IT CAME FROM US.

AND WITH THAT, OUR LESSON TRULY BEGAN.