

## THE DARK TOWER

# THE DRAWING OF THE THREE

STEPHEN KING

**O**DETTA HOLMES IS A COMPLICATED WOMAN. AT TIMES, SHE SEEMS LIKE A POLITE, MILD-MANNERED, COLLEGE STUDENT LIVING IN **NEW YORK CITY**. AT OTHER TIMES, HER PERSONALITY TURNS ANGRY AND DARK AND SHE DISAPPEARS FOR DAYS AT A TIME. **O**DETTA'S BOYFRIEND, **BEN**, IS GETTING FED UP WITH HER DISAPPEARING ACT. AND HER FAMILY IS STARTING TO WORRY.

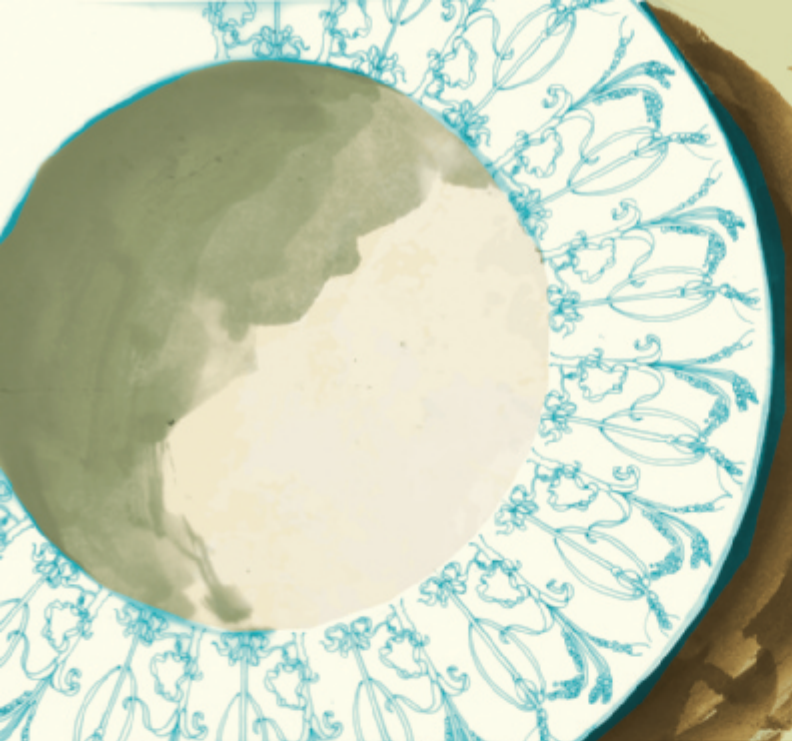
**WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH ODETTA? IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND IT, WE HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING.**

**O**DETTA WAS BORN IN **MISSISSIPPI** IN **1938** TO **DAN** AND **SARAH WALKER HOLMES**. THE **HOLMES** FAMILY WAS VERY WELL TO DO, WITH **DOCTOR DAN HOLMES** RUNNING A SUCCESSFUL DENTAL PRACTICE. **O**DETTA LED A HAPPY CHILDHOOD—THAT IS, UNTIL THE EVENTS OF **MARCH OF 1944**.

**O**N A TRIP TO HER **AUNT BLUE**'S WEDDING, THE **HOLMES** FAMILY WAS ATTACKED BY A **WHITE SUPREMACIST GANG** LED BY A MYSTERIOUS MAN CALLED **WALTER**. **WALTER** TRIED TO KIDNAP THE YOUNG **O**DETTA AND SPOKE OF RIDDING THE **KA** OF HER—A WORD SHE HAD NEVER HEARD BEFORE. **L**UCKILY, **O**DETTA AND THE **HOLMES** FAMILY WERE SAVED BY THE **LEAGUE OF THE GILEADITES**, LED BY **BERT ALBUENO**. BUT **WALTER** CALLED HIM BY A DIFFERENT NAME: **CUTHBERT ALLGOOD**.

**WHY IS ODETTA SO SPECIAL? WHO WERE THESE MYSTERIOUS MEN? AND WHY DO THEY WANT HER DEAD?**

DARK TOWER: THE DRAWING OF THE THREE - LADY OF SHADOWS No. 2, December 2015. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. BULK MAIL POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. ©2015 Stephen King. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Stephen King. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Marvel and its logos are TM & © 2015 Marvel Characters, Inc. \$3.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R12703292) in the direct market; Canadian Agreement #4066337. Printed in the USA. Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. \$26.99; Canada \$42.99; Foreign \$42.99. POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO DARK TOWER: THE DRAWING OF THE THREE - LADY OF SHADOWS, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTIONS P.O. BOX 727 NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040. TELEPHONE # (888) 511-5480. FAX # (347) 537-2649. subscriptions@marvel.com. ALAN FINE, President, Marvel Entertainment; DAN BUCKLEY, President, TV, Publishing and Brand Management; JOE QUESADA, Chief Creative Officer; TOM BREVOORT, SVP of Publishing; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Operations & Procurement, Publishing; C.B. CEBULSKI, VP of International Development & Brand Management; DAVID GABRIEL, SVP of Print, Sales & Marketing; JIM O'KEEFE, VP of Operations & Logistics; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; SUSAN CRESPI, Editorial Operations Manager; ALEX MORALES, Publishing Operations Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Jonathan Rheingold, VP of Custom Solutions & Ad Sales, at jrheingold@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 888-511-5480. Manufactured between 09/11/2015 and 09/22/2015 by QUAD/GRAPHICS WASECA, WASECA, MN, USA.



The plate. I remember the plate. The "forspecial" plate because it was for somebody special on their special day.

God, Odetta hates that forspecial plate. She stares at it with cold fury. She doesn't understand that it's a gift from my parents to Aunt Blue and her brand-new husband...

All right, that's not quite true. She knows it's a gift.



She just cannot grasp why such a magnificent gift is being given to someone else.



She has never been given a pretty tea party plate of such magnificence. Why does Aunt Blue deserve it when Odetta has been bypassed?

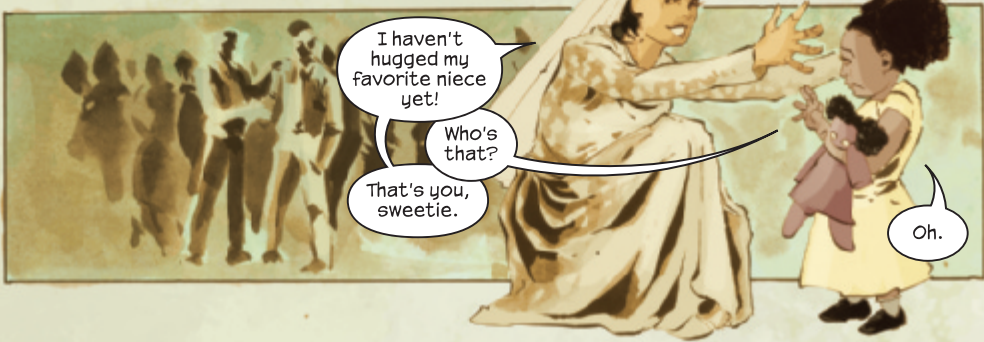


Thanks for the lovely plate, Odetta.

My ma and dad gave it to you, Uncle Jack.

Well, it's from all of you.

No, it's not.



I haven't hugged my favorite niece yet!

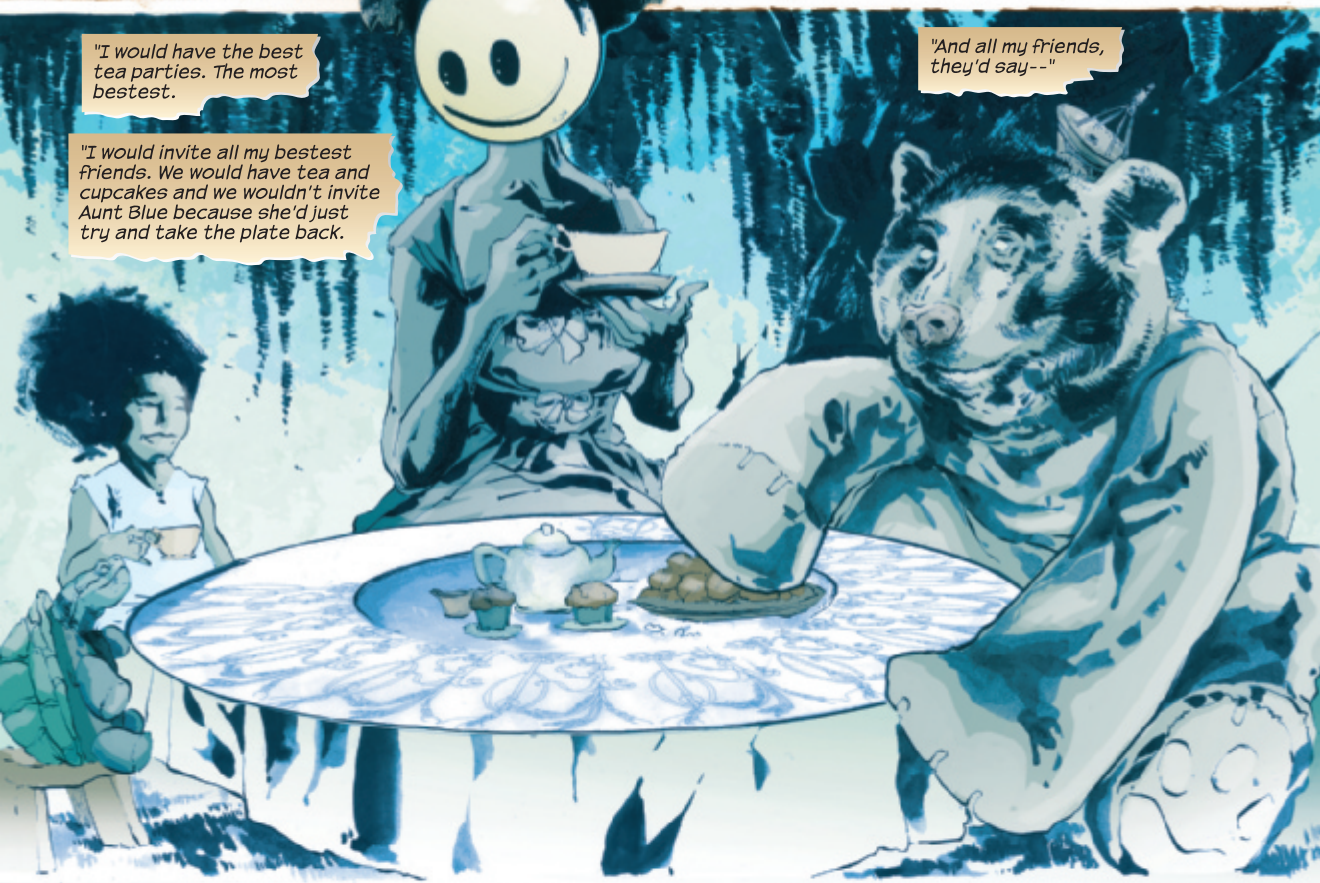
Who's that?

That's you, sweetie.

Oh.



"Why does she get the special plate?" wonders Odetta. "I'm special. I should have it."



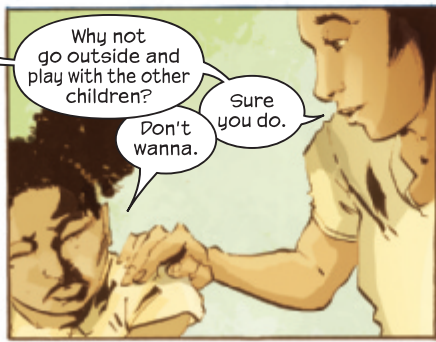
"I would have the best tea parties. The most bestest."

"I would invite all my bestest friends. We would have tea and cupcakes and we wouldn't invite Aunt Blue because she'd just try and take the plate back."

"And all my friends, they'd say--"



Odetta.



Why not go outside and play with the other children?

Don't wanna.

Sure you do.



"I should have that plate."

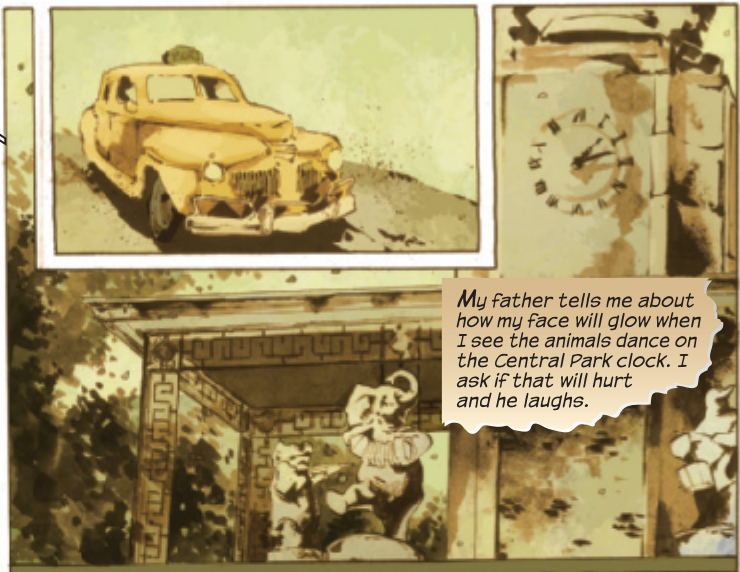


*It is the next day as we prepare to take a train to New York City. My mind remains with the plate.*

Sure we can't give you a lift?

With all that luggage of ours you're carrying? You're lucky if you fit, Mr. Howard! Besides, we already called a cab.

Okay, then! Meet you at the station!



*My father tells me about how my face will glow when I see the animals dance on the Central Park clock. I ask if that will hurt and he laughs.*



*Moments later we're all laughing as the cabbie pulls up...*



*And then sees that his fare is colored. And he drives off like his head is on fire and his ass is catching.*



Daddy, was that our cab?  
Shouldn't we be in it?