



MARGUERITE BENNETT · ARIELA KRISTANTINA

# **3**  
MATURE  
READERS

# INSEXTS



BRYAN VALENZA · A LARGER WORLD



The Rye Workhouse  
London, 1894



THIS WAY, DR. FELDMAN. RATHER AN HONOR TO BE VISITED BY SUCH A RENOWNED EGYPTOLOGIST.

I KNOW JUST THE LAD TO ASSIST IN YOUR, AH...



...RESEARCH.

AYE, RESEARCH, YES.

I FEEL OBLIGATED TO WARN YOU, DOCTOR, THAT THE BOY HAS BUT A FRAIL GRASP OF OUR TONGUE, FOR ALL THAT ENGLAND HAS TAKEN HIM TO HER BREAST.



GET UP! YOU, BOY! ON YOUR FEET!

B-BABA?



COME WITH ME, LAD.

WE ARE GOING TO BE GREAT FRIENDS...



...AND WHEN WE ARE DONE, YOU SHALL HAVE A SWEETIE.



CLOSE YOUR EYES, LITTLE ONE...





...THERE IS NOTHING SWEETER THAN THIS.

WHRRRNHN

AIIIEEEE--



SKRRKT  
LOU  
LOCH



OH, THERE'S A GOOD BOY, HAKIM.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON ME AND YOU SHALL HAVE A SWEETIE.

I PROMISE, THEY ARE MUCH BETTER...



"...WHEN YOUR MOTHER HAS MADE THEM."

The Bertram Household  
London

HAKIM!

MAMA!  
BABA!





"...WHAT THINGS INDEED."

YOU KNOW, MARIAH... I KEEP THINKING OF THAT DREADFUL WORKHOUSE WHERE HAKIM WAS TAKEN.

AND I DO WORRY OF THE EFFECT OF THESE FREQUENT TRANSFORMATIONS.

WE HAVE BEEN CHANGING SO RAPIDLY THESE PAST FEW MONTHS, AND NOT ALWAYS IN WAYS WE INTEND.

WELL, I CANNOT EXACTLY GO TO SWEET WILLIAM AND ASK FOR A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, DARLING--

NO. THOUGH TAKING HIM INTO OUR CONFIDENCE IS NOT A TERRIBLE IDEA, EITHER.

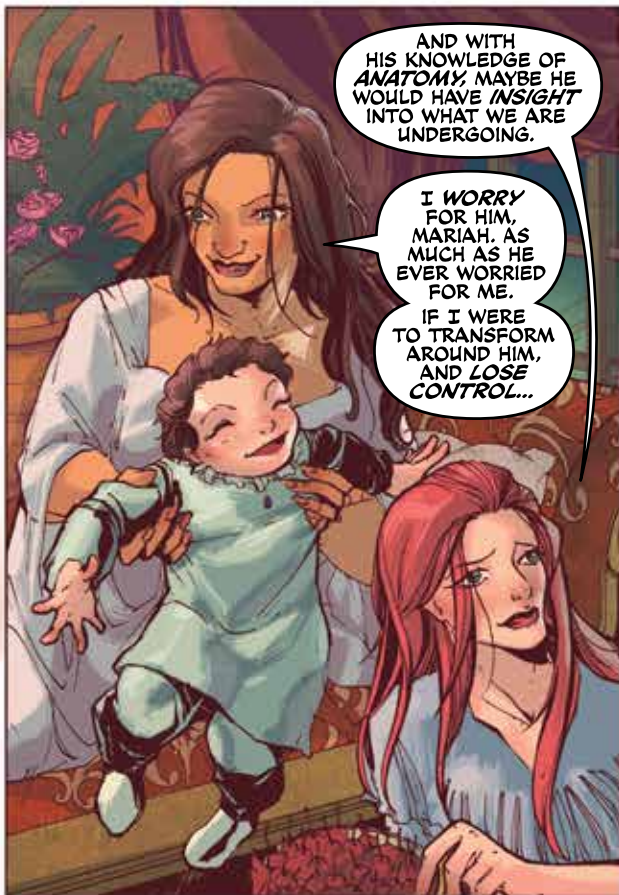
I DO BELIEVE HIS INFLUENCE WAS ALL THAT PREVENTED OUR LIVES FROM BEING ABSOLUTELY UNENDURABLE.

DR. TAYLOR WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR YOU-- INCLUDING, I BELIEVE, KEEP OUR SECRETS.

THAT YOU CANNOT SAVE EVERY SOUL IN LONDON DOES NOT MEAN THE GOOD YOU MANAGE IS WORTHLESS, MY LADY.

"...I CAN SMELL THE CHAMBERMAID TRYSTING WITH THE GROOM IN THE STABLES..."





AND WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE OF ANATOMY, MAYBE HE WOULD HAVE *INSIGHT* INTO WHAT WE ARE UNDERGOING.

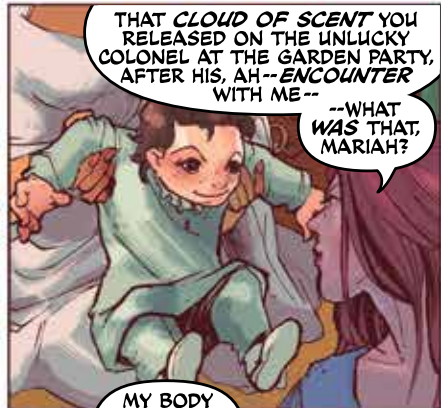
I WORRY FOR HIM, MARIAH. AS MUCH AS HE EVER WORRIED FOR ME.

IF I WERE TO TRANSFORM AROUND HIM, AND LOSE CONTROL...



WELL, THE *SPONTANEOUS ARMS* REMAIN RATHER A CONCERN.

THEY ARE EVIDENCE AGAINST US, AND *DRY AS HUSKS*, SO DO MIND WHERE YOU SHED THEM, MY DOVE.



THAT *CLOUD OF SCENT* YOU RELEASED ON THE UNLUCKY COLONEL AT THE GARDEN PARTY, AFTER HIS, AH--*ENCOUNTER* WITH ME--

--WHAT WAS THAT, MARIAH?

MY BODY DOESN'T TRANSFORM IN THE SAME WAY AS YOURS.

"...I CAN SMELL THE FRUIT AND HONEY THAT RANYA AND THE SCULLERY MAIDS HAVE BROUGHT IN FOR OUR BREAKFAST..."

MY SENSES ARE *SHARP*, THOUGH...



"...JUST AS I COULD SMELL THE SCENT OF YOUR *PANIC*, THAT NIGHT IN THE HEDGE MAZE..."

"...JUST AS I COULD SENSE *HAKIM*, THROUGH THE FOG AND GLOOM OF LONDON..."

...I COULD FOLLOW YOUR TRAIL.

I KNEW *EXACTLY* WHERE YOU WERE.



WE ARE BECOME *NEW CREATURES*, MY LOVE.

GHASTLY PENNY DREADFULS SPEAK OF VAMPIRES AND WEREWOLVES, GHOULS AND GOBLINS--

--YET THERE ARE *NO MONSTERS* LIKE US.





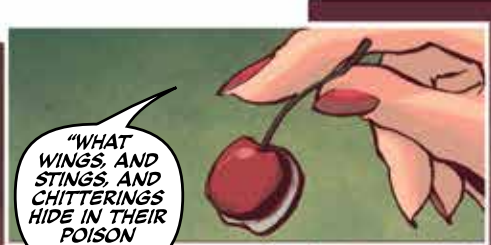
HAVE YOU EVER READ GOBLIN MARKET?

"WE MUST NOT LOOK AT GOBLIN MEN. WE MUST NOT BUY THEIR FRUITS. WHO KNOWS UPON WHAT SOIL THEY FED THEIR HUNGRY THIRSTY ROOTS?"



MMM. WILL THEY WRITE CAUTIONARY TALES OF US IN A HUNDRED YEARS?

"WE MUST NOT LOOK AT LADIES FAIR WHO CATCH US IN THEIR WILES!"



"WHAT WINGS, AND STINGS, AND CHITTERINGS HIDE IN THEIR POISON SMILES!"



!

LADY!



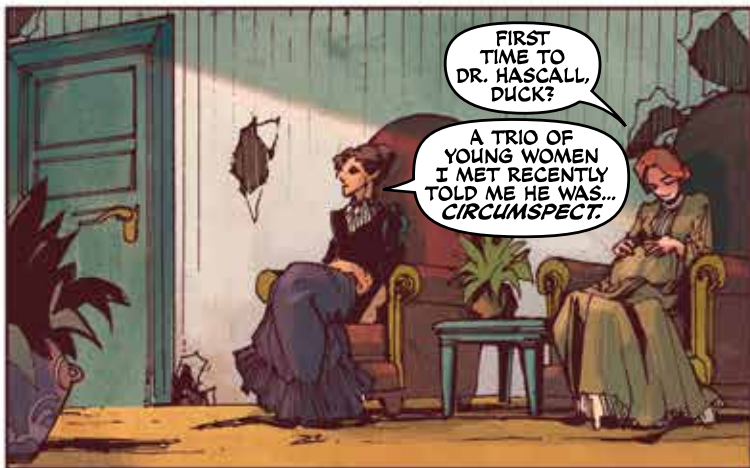
I WILL FIND A DOCTOR.

I PROMISE, MARIAH. DISCREET. DISPOSABLE.

I WILL FIND A DOCTOR.



White Chapel



FIRST TIME TO DR. HASCALL, DUCK?

A TRIO OF YOUNG WOMEN I MET RECENTLY TOLD ME HE WAS... *CIRCUMSPECT.*



HE TELLS ME I'M NEAR *DUE.*

DON'T QUITE KNOW *HOW*, BUT MAYBE THERE ARE *MIRACLES* AFTER ALL.

BEEN HURTIN' SINCE THIS-- *AHE*-- MORNING.



*ACH!* IT--IT'S RIGHT SORE, HEH-- P-PLEASE--

DOES THIS MEAN--?



NOT TO... NOT TO WORRY, DORA...

...WE ONLY DELIVER FAT...HEALTHY *BABIES* HERE...



?

YOU! YOU CAN GO INTO DR. HASCALL'S OFFICE, HE'LL SEE YOU IN JUST A MOMENT--



