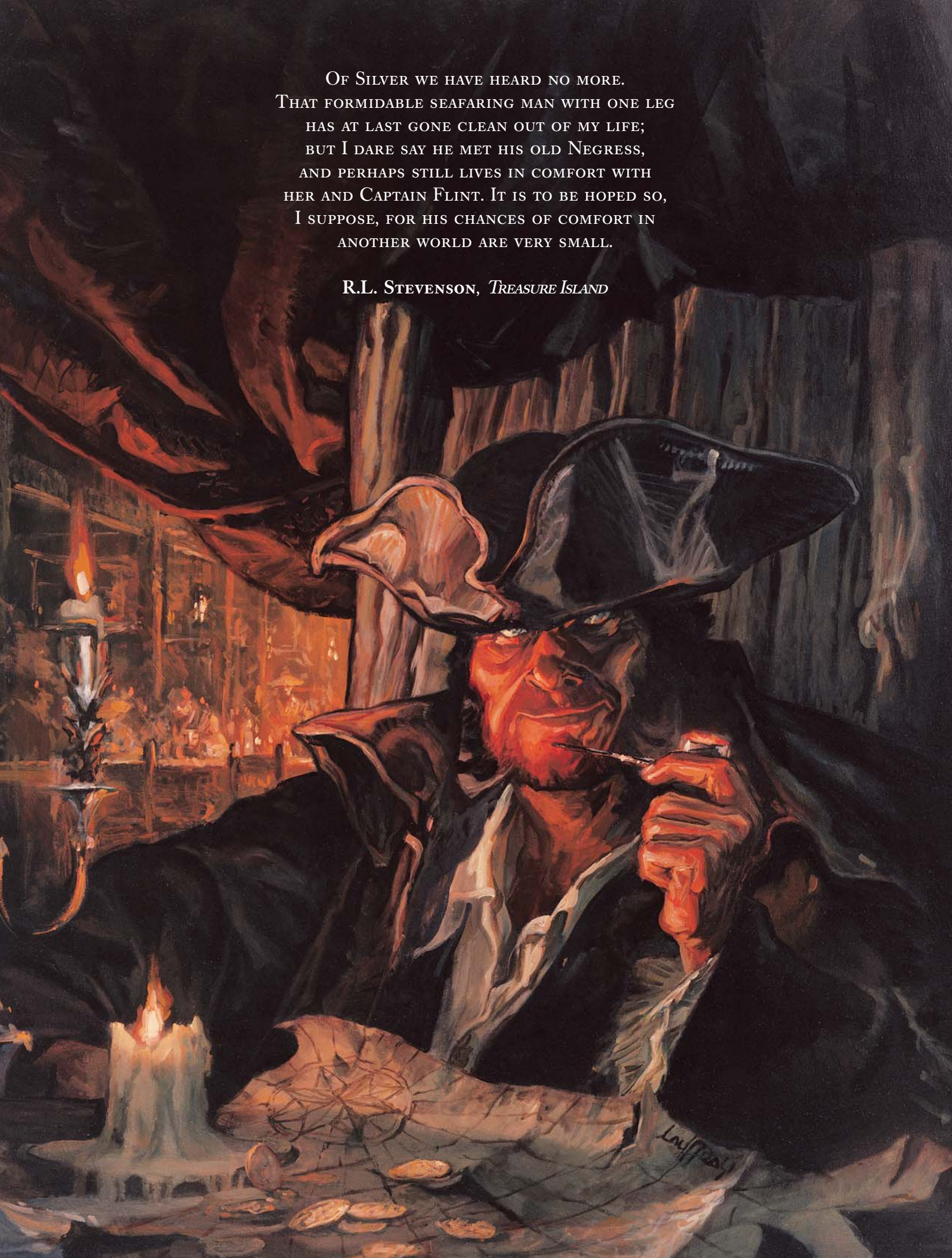


OF SILVER WE HAVE HEARD NO MORE.  
THAT FORMIDABLE SEAFARING MAN WITH ONE LEG  
HAS AT LAST GONE CLEAN OUT OF MY LIFE;  
BUT I DARE SAY HE MET HIS OLD NEGRESS,  
AND PERHAPS STILL LIVES IN COMFORT WITH  
HER AND CAPTAIN FLINT. IT IS TO BE HOPED SO,  
I SUPPOSE, FOR HIS CHANCES OF COMFORT IN  
ANOTHER WORLD ARE VERY SMALL.

R.L. STEVENSON, *TREASURE ISLAND*



“ALIVE TODAY, DEAD TOMORROW,  
WHAT DO WE CARE FOR LOOT AND HOARDS?  
ALL THAT COUNTS IS THE DAY WE ARE LIVING,  
AND NEVER THE ONE WE WILL HAVE TO LIVE...”

ALEXANDRE OEXMELIN  
SURGEON TO THE BROTHERS OF THE COAST

THE STORY SO FAR...

DEEP INSIDE THE UNEXPLORED LANDS OF THE AMAZON, LORD BYRON HASTINGS HAS DISCOVERED THE CITY OF GUIANA-CAPAC AND ITS FABULOUS WEALTH. IN ORDER TO BRING THE TREASURE BACK TO ENGLAND, HE SENDS THE NATIVE MOXTECHICA WITH A LETTER ASKING HIS WIFE, LADY VIVIAN HASTINGS, TO FUND A SECOND EXPEDITION, AND HIS BROTHER, CAPTAIN EDWARD HASTINGS, TO LEAD IT.

WITH CHILD, VIVIAN KNOWS THAT HER HUSBAND WILL REPUDIATE HER—OR WORSE—ONCE HE DISCOVERS SHE IS PREGNANT.

SO, SHE CONVINCES DR LIVESSEY TO HELP HER CONTACT PIRATE LONG JOHN SILVER AND HIS BROTHERS OF THE COAST SO SHE CAN MAKE A PACT WITH THEM. ALL WILL BOARD THE *NEPTUNE* WITH BUT A SINGLE GOAL: TO SEIZE THE INCAN TREASURE...

DURING THE CROSSING, THE SHIP'S CAPTAIN REALISES THAT HIS CREW HAS BEEN INFILTRATED BY THE PIRATES. LACKING PROOF, HE HAS A YOUNG SAILOR, JACK O'KIEF, CLAPPED IN IRONS. JACK IS SILVER'S PROTÉGÉ, HIRED INTO THE CREW BY A LOWLIFE NAMED PARIS AGAINST THE PIRATE'S OPPOSITION.

WITH VIVIAN'S HELP, SILVER MANAGES TO GO TO JACK. BUT IT'S TOO LATE. THE YOUNG MAN HAS SUCCUMBED TO THE FLOGGING ORDERED BY HASTINGS.

MAD WITH FURY, SILVER TRIGGERS A MUTINY. DURING THE BATTLE, VIVIAN IS ASSAULTED BY TWO MUTINEERS. SHE ESCAPES THEM WITH LIVESSEY'S HELP. LIKE HER, THE DOCTOR FINDS HIMSELF FORCED TO KILL TO SURVIVE.

LONG JOHN FIGHTS THE CAPTAIN AND KILLS HIM. IN THE RED HAZE OF HIS RAGE, HE THROWS THE BODY INTO THE OCEAN, ALONG WITH THE MAP TO GUIANA-CAPAC.

SAILORS AND PIRATES ARE NOW FREE, BUT COMPLETELY LOST AS THEY APPROACH THE MYSTERIOUS SHORES THAT HERALD IT AT LAST... THE NEW WORLD.

Original title: Long John Silver III – Le labyrinthe d'émeraude  
Original edition: © Dargaud Paris, 2010 by Dorison & Lauffray

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English translation: © 2011 Cinebook Ltd

Translator: Jerome Saincantin

Lettering and text layout: Imadjinn

Printed in Spain by Just Colour Graphic

This edition first published in Great Britain in 2011 by

Cinebook Ltd - 56 Beech Avenue

Canterbury, Kent - CT4 7TA

www.cinebook.com

A CIP catalogue record for this book

is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-84918-105-1




# LONG JOHN SILVER

III - THE EMERALD MAZE


XAVIER  
DORISON

MATHIEU  
LAUFFRAY

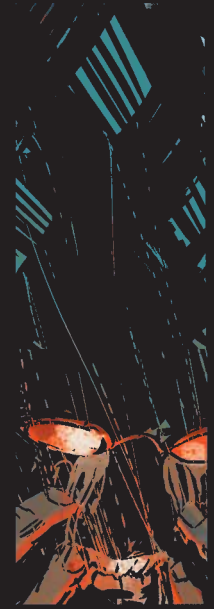


WE HADN'T LOST OUR HEADING.  
IT WAS THE POLES THAT HAD  
DISAPPEARED.  
THERE WAS NO MORE NORTH,  
OR SOUTH, OR LAND OR SKY..

.. ONLY THE MAELSTROM.




OF THE CHILDREN OF NEPTUNE,  
IT HAD MADE RABID DOGS.  
IT HAD BROKEN THEIR CHAINS  
TO LET THEM BITE AND TEAR  
TO THEIR HEARTS' CONTENT.



BUT IT WASN'T AT OPPRESSION  
THAT THEIR CUTLASSES HACKED  
AND TORE..

.. IT WAS AT THEIR OWN INNARDS.

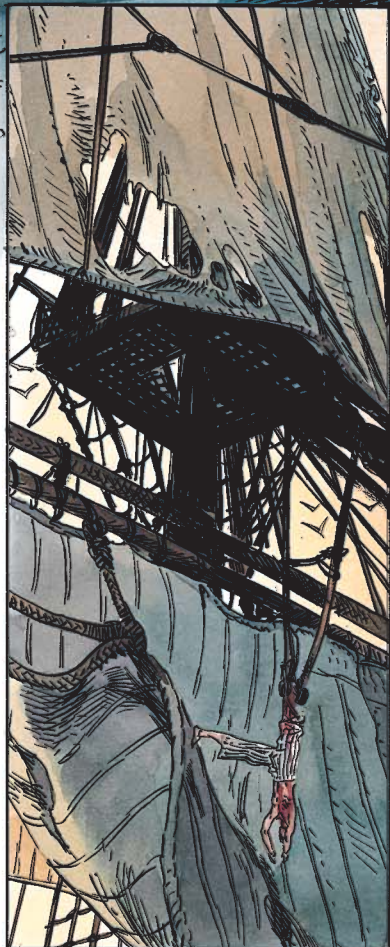
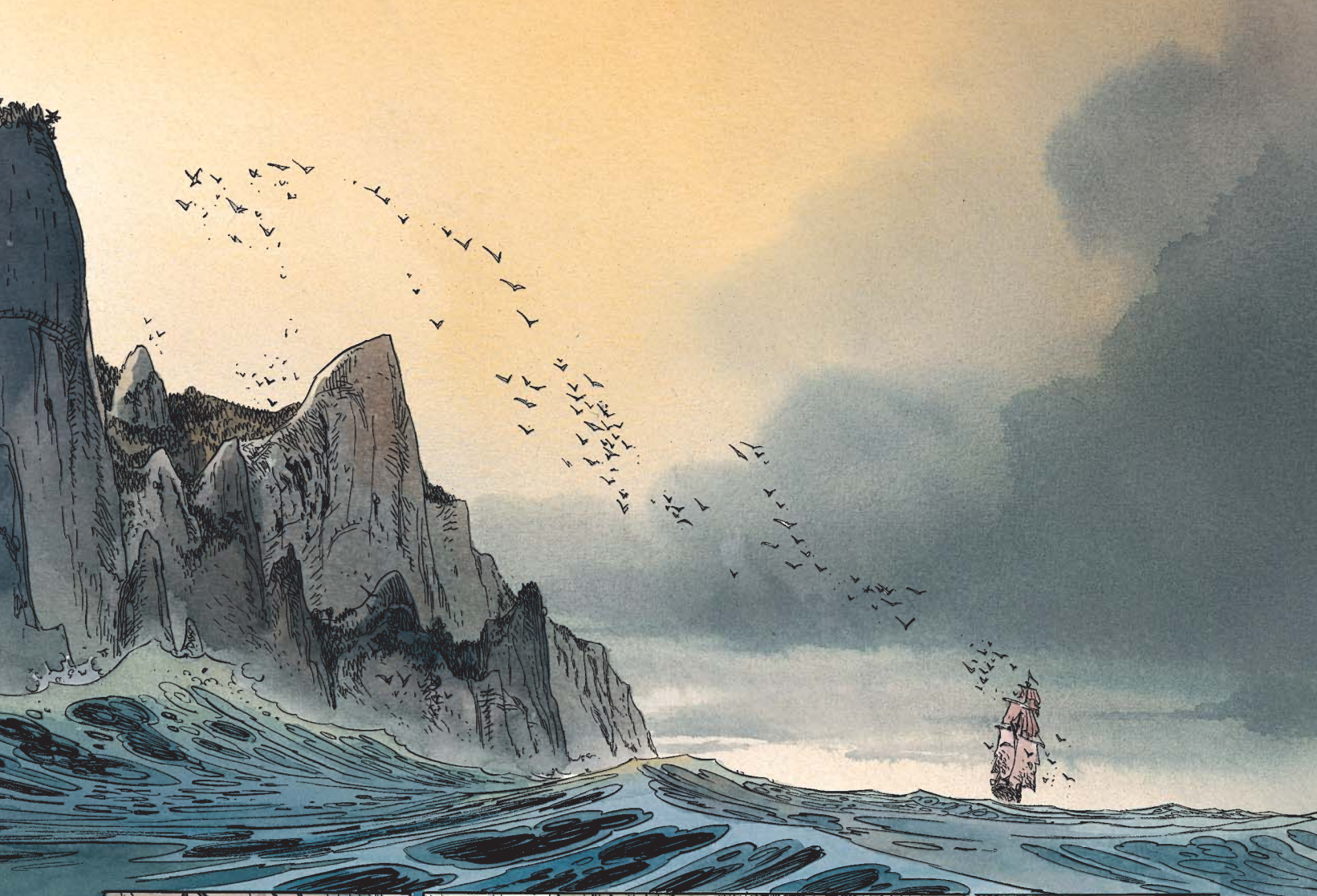


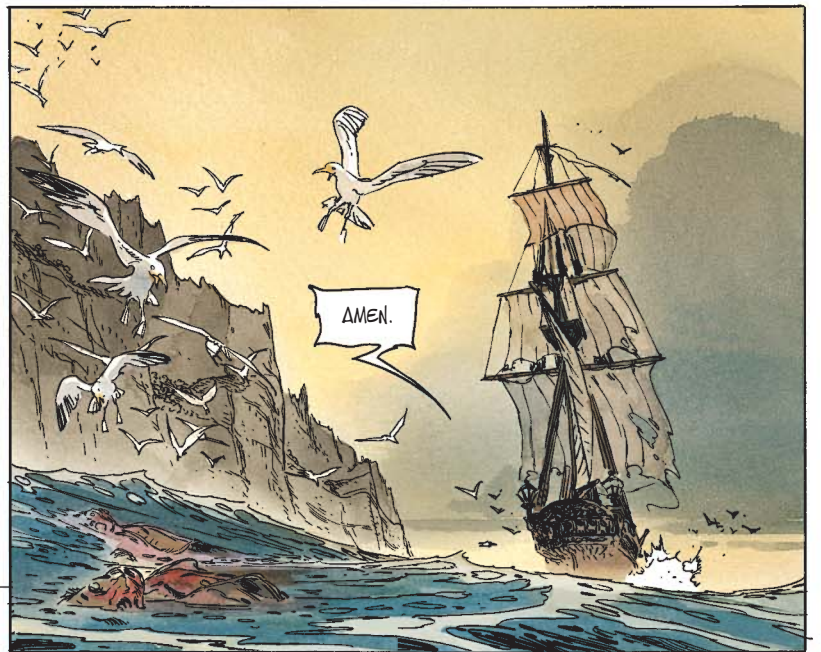
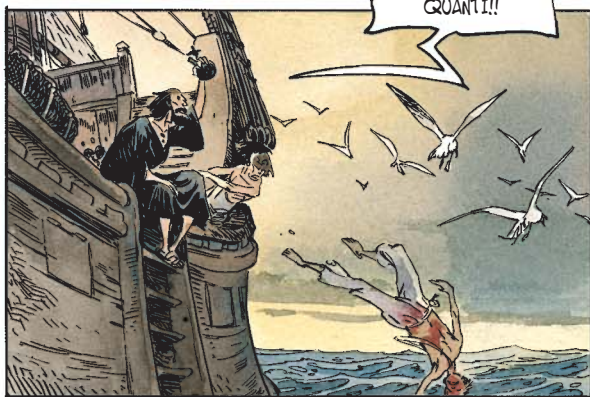
DRUNK WITH BLOOD AND STEEL,  
THEY FORGOT THAT THE  
BOTTOMLESS ABYSS WILL  
SUCK US INTO ITS DEPTHS.



THE MAELSTROM  
WANTS US DEAD.

I FIND MYSELF  
BLESSING IT.



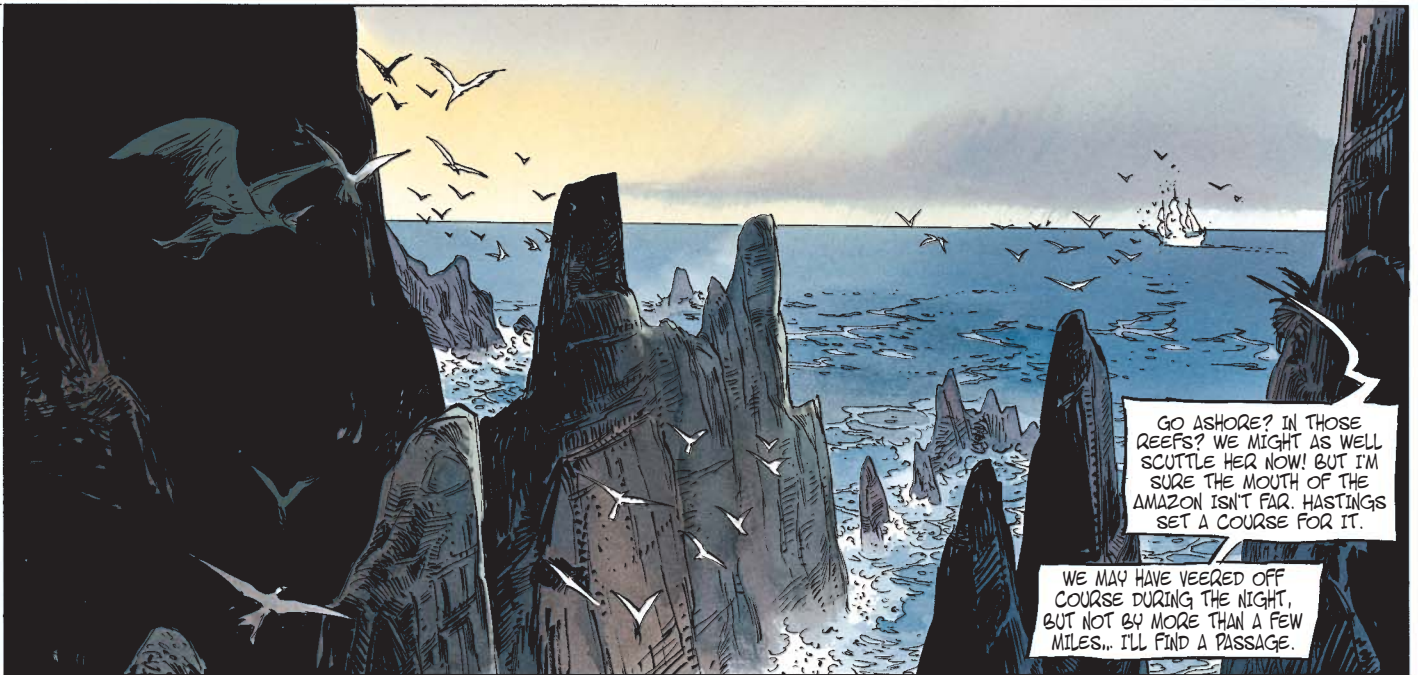




IT WON'T DO, LONG JOHN. THIS BLASTED COCKLESHELL SPLIT OPEN LIKE AN OVERRIPE MELON. WE DON'T HAVE A PRAYER OF REPAIRING IT HERE.

WE HAVE TO GO ASHORE.

LOWER YOUR VOICE, YOU OLD TOAD. THE DECKS HAVE EARS.



GO ASHORE? IN THOSE REEFS? WE MIGHT AS WELL SCUTTLE HER NOW! BUT I'M SURE THE MOUTH OF THE AMAZON ISN'T FAR. HASTINGS SET A COURSE FOR IT.

WE MAY HAVE VEERED OFF COURSE DURING THE NIGHT, BUT NOT BY MORE THAN A FEW MILES... I'LL FIND A PASSAGE.



WELL, THEN, FIND IT QUICKLY, CAPTAIN. 'CAUSE WE'RE SINKING!

FREE DANTZIG. TAKE HIM WITH YOU TO THE HOLD.

DANTZIG? THAT BERIBBONED BASTARD OF AN OFFICER? WHAT USE COULD I HAVE FOR HIM? NOT TO MENTION THAT WITH THE BEATING WE GAVE HIM, HE'S BOUND TO HAVE GONE ALOFT!



YOU'D BETTER PRAY HE'S STILL ALIVE, OLAF! OFFICERS LIKE HIM LEARN TO CAULK A BOARD BEFORE THEY CAN WALK!! SO WIPE THAT AFFRONTED-MAIDEN EXPRESSION OFF YOUR FACE AND PUT HIM TO WORK TOOT SWEET!!