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MCCREERY  
DEL COL  
BELANGER

# KILL SHAKESPEARE

*The Tide of Blood*

"If you haven't picked up *Kill Shakespeare*, you're missing out on an extremely cool and deliciously nerdy book."

—Diamond Previews Staff Pick

STAFF PICK

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# KILL SHAKESPEARE



BE AFRAID.  
THE ISLE IS FULL  
OF NOISES.

IT CAN HOLD A  
MIRROR TO THY SOUL  
AND CAST UPON THY  
DEEPEST FEARS AND  
REGRETS. DO NOT  
ALLOW IT.

COME. I  
BELIEVE THIS  
SHALL BE  
THE WAY.











DRINK.  
FILL UP THY  
SKINS. THE JOURNEY  
STILL LOOKS  
TO BE LONG.



WE SHOULD SET  
UP CAMP HERE. I  
LOSE FAITH IN  
MIRANDA.

DOES YOUR  
SENSE OF  
SHAKESPEARE  
GROW,  
HAMLET?

WHY PRESS ON  
BLINDLY THEN? IF  
THAT STIRRING DOES  
NOT STRENGTHEN  
THEN HER TALE WAS  
A LIE AND WE LEAVE  
THIS LAND.

CAMP?  
HERE?

I FEEL...  
SOMETHING.

WE MADE  
A PROMISE,  
JULIET.

I SWORE  
TO MIRANDA TO  
FREE HER FATHER  
OF THIS ISLAND'S  
CURSE.

I APPLAUD  
THY DESIRE TO HELP  
HER BUT WE ARE LOST.  
MIRANDA KNOWS NOT THE  
WAY. HER BOOK DOES  
NOT GUIDE HER AS I  
BELIEVED IT WOULD.

I FEAR THAT  
WITHOUT SHAKESPEARE WE  
MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ESCAPE  
THIS ISLAND AS IT IS—



WE... WE CANNOT WAIT FOR  
SHAKESPEARE TO COME AND  
PROVIDE SALVATION. WE  
MUST FREE PROSPERO  
OURSELVES.



HAMLET

DO  
YOU HEAR  
THAT?



DO  
YOU—?

HAMLET?

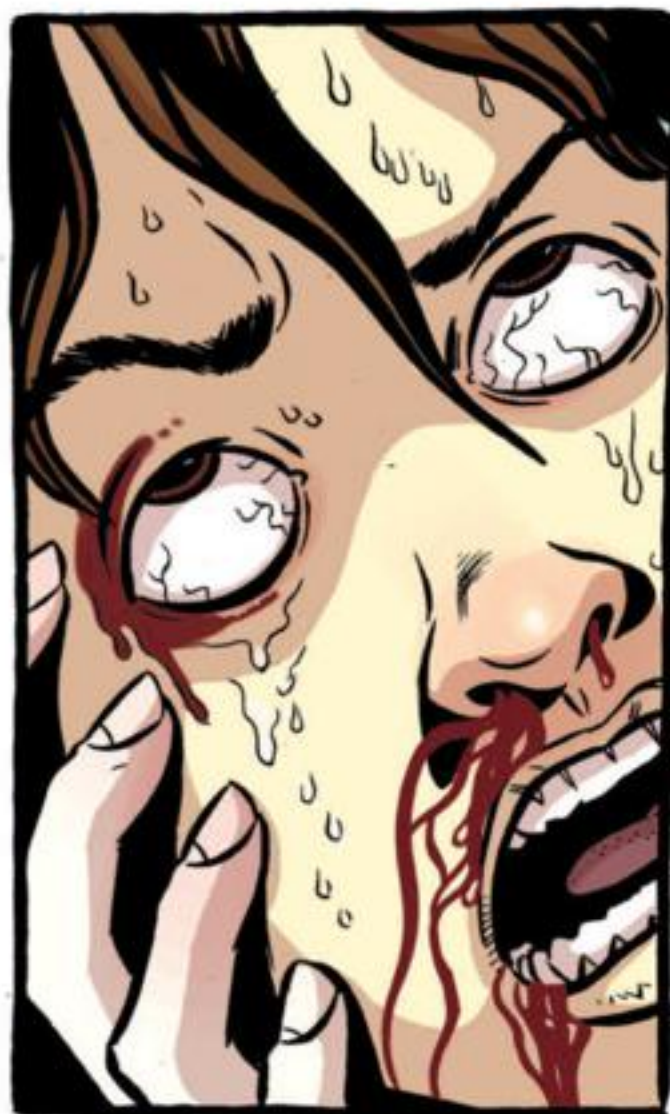




































IF THERE BE TRUTH  
IN SIGHT, THIS  
ISLAND IS MAD.





IF THERE BE SIGHT  
IN MADNESS, THIS  
ISLAND IS TRUTH.





THIS ISLAND IS NOT REAL. NOT REAL! I SHALL WAKE UP AND DISCOVER SHAKESPEARE HAS BEEN... BEEN PLAYING MISCHIEF.



NO, SHAKESPEARE IS NOT HERE. HE HAS ABANDONED ME, BANISHED ME... TO THIS ISLAND.

YOU FOUL LIAR, YOU TURN THY BACK EVEN TO HAMLET, YOUR SAVIOR... MY FRIEND.

SO I BANISH THEE, FALSE GOD. NO MORE SHALL ROMEO BE THY FAITHFUL SERVANT.



BUT... HAMLET IS NOT ALONE. HE HAS JULIET.

JULIET, WHO WAS ONCE MINE... WHO I ONCE... LOVED. AND GAVE UP FOR SHAKESPEARE'S EMPTY WORDS.

JULIET, WHO I STILL LOVE. WHO I... I STILL WANT... WHO I STILL DESERVE...



NO, TRAVEL NOT DOWN THIS PATH. LISTEN NOT TO THESE NOISES THAT BILLOW FROM THY LIPS...

...ROMEO, YOU MUST FIND YOUR JULIET.



SNAP





























THOSE  
THAT MUCH  
COVET ARE  
WITH GAIN  
SO FOND...



FOR WHAT  
THEY HAVE  
NOT, THAT  
WHICH THEY  
POSSESS...

FATHER...?  
WHAT NOISES  
DOST THOU  
MAKE?



THEY  
SCATTER AND  
UNLOOSE IT  
FROM THEIR  
BOND...



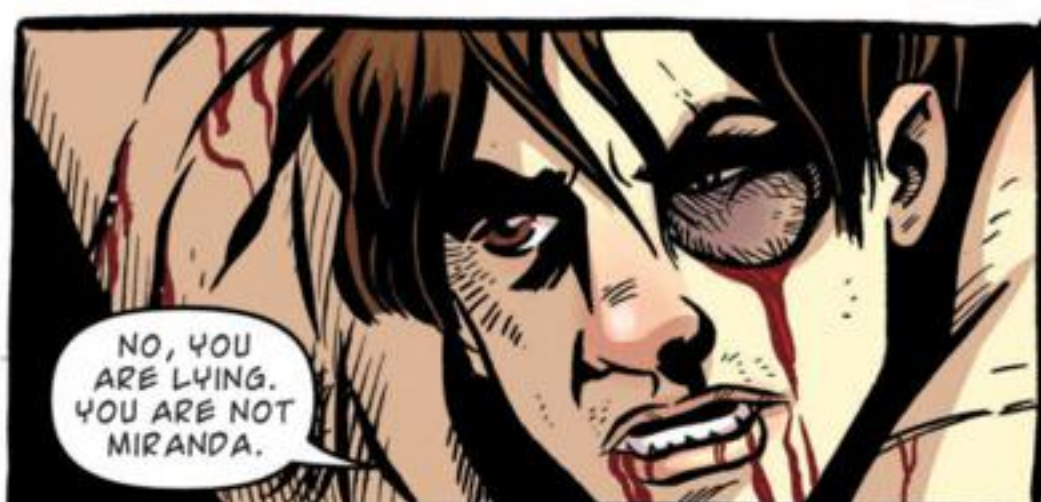
AND SO,  
BY HOPING  
MORE, THEY  
HAVE LESS...

HELP  
ME. I AM  
TRAPPED!



THE PROFIT  
OF EXCESS  
COME AS  
SUCH GRIEFS  
SUSTAIN...









MIRANDA, CHILD. GIVE ME THE KNIFE.

ALL WILL BE WELL. I PROMISE THEE CALM SEAS.



BACK TO STAY? WHY DIDST THOU LEAVE ME?

SHH-SHH-SHH... I WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU, MIRANDA. I WILL REMEDY WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH DADDY.

THAT IS NOT MIRANDA.



BUT IT IS, HAMLET. THE TRUE MIRANDA.



LIKE ALL PLAYERS I NEEDED A COSTUME. SO I CAME TO THEE AS "MIRANDA."




BUT I DID NOT LIE TO THEE. I DO NEED THEE TO PLAY THY ROLE, TO PULL THE COWARD SHAKESPEARE FROM HIS PLACE OFF-STAGE.



I CAST ROMEO AS THE FOOL—THE PERFECT FOOL—TO LEAD YOU HERE.





LADY  
M—?

SAY NOT  
MY NAME, LEST  
YOU MAY MAR  
YOUR FORTUNES,  
HAMLET.

I DID NOT LIE  
ABOUT THIS ISLAND—  
IT IS MADE OF MADNESS.  
YOU HAVE HEARD ITS NOISES.  
AND PROSPERO—MY FORMER  
MASTER—DOES ROAM ITS  
POISONED SHORES.

HE AND HIS BOOKS  
SHALL BRING DOWN THE  
CURTAIN ON SHAKESPEARE.  
AND I SHALL YET HAVE  
THE QUILL.

BUT BE NOT  
AFEAARD. BEFORE  
SHAKESPEARE  
DIES I SHALL FIRST  
SILENCE YOUR  
NOISES...

TO BE CONTINUED.