

**From Volume 5 Hatter M: LOVE OF WONDER**

**PROLOGUE**

**PAGE P-1**

PANEL 1 (Large panel)

**CAPTION: WONDERLAND 1859**

**NARRATION BOX:**

*Following the coup that killed Queen Genevieve and exiled Princess Alyss, enemies of the new regime were rounded up by Redd's rebel army of Rogue Card Soldiers.*

NOTE: The rebel army is attacking a group of unseen people – we see the rebel army from the POV of the people. This is the first image in Volume 5 – let's show 6 or 7 of Redd's Rogue Card Soldiers in full battle mode – practically popping off the page in 3D as they attack 'us'. Clear detail on the contorted faces and uniforms – different violent body positions as they wield their weapons.

Redd's Rogue Card Soldiers (barbaric looking mercenary types wearing mismatched, ragged rebel uniforms with numbers indicating their place in the deck – not sleek or well trained soldiers -- just brutish lower number cards – 2,5,6)

The Card Soldiers wield axes and blades and fire crystal shooters (guns with crystal barrels that fire red crystal orbs.)

(Sami: Note - we will visually contrast this barbaric army of rebels circa. 1859 with the advanced Card Soldiers of 1872 we see later on).

WILD LINES OF UNSEEN ATTACK VICTIMS (use letterer)

White Imagination have mercy on us!

Barbarians!

Rogues!!

All hail Genevieve!

**PROLOGUE P-1 CONTINUED**

2 WIDEN PANEL

**NARRATIVE BOX:** *Enraged by their loyalty to her dead sister, Redd ordered EVERY Milliner killed or exiled and the Millinery burned.*

THE MILLINERY BURNING – USE REFERENCE ART OF MILLINERY SHAPED LIKE HAT – AND SET FIRE TO IT!

3

**NARRATION BOX:** *So began the infamous purges of 1859 when countless Wonderlanders were killed or driven into the Pool of Tears.*

We see Heart Palace Soldiers and marching side-by-side with civilians – some wounded – men and women. Redd's Rogue Card Soldiers are policing them – keeping order. A BLAST OF FLAMES FROM AN UNSEEN SOURCE burns anyone daring to step out of line.

WOMAN

I would rather die in Wonderland  
than be lost in the Pool of Tears.

MAN

Redd prefers we suffer for eternity.

**SECOND NARRATION BOX:** *Wonderlanders believed that anyone entering the mysterious pool of spinning vortexes would be lost. No one had ever entered the pool and returned – dead or alive.*

4

WIDEN PANEL TO REVEAL THE SOURCE OF THE MYSTERIOUS FLAMES:

A JABBERWOCK is helping the rogue card soldiers to police and drive the prisoners of war towards the Pool of Tears. (see reference art for Jabberwock – in terms of size ratio compared to the people – the Jabberwock should be about the size of a small elephant – large but controllable – not huge.)

ADD WILD LINES

Monster!!

Flame you! Flaming Jabberflamer!

Etc.

**PROLOGUE P-1 CONTINUED**

5

**NARRATION BOX:** *Members of the Millinery, having sworn to avenge Queen Genevieve were considered highly dangerous...*

ABOVE THE CROWD IS A CAGE STRAPPED TO 'SOMETHING' CARRYING IT

FOCUS AND DETAIL IS ON CAGE -- inside the cage are as many Millinery men and women as you can fit (6?) -- they are missing their hats -- some bleeding -- some still teenagers -- crowded on top of each other. Hands on the bars -- still rebellious -- still fighting -- still noble. (These are men and women trained in hats and blades like Hatter and Dalton -- uniforms are similar -- blue coats -- **ONE MAN still holds a HAT close to his heart.**)

## PROLOGUE PAGE 2

Panel 1 WIDE

**NARRATION BOX:** *...and as a precaution any Milliners destined for the Pool...were caged.*

The cage packed with Milliners is strapped to the back of a LARGE VICIOUS JABBERWOCK – wilder and less contained than the other Jabberwock – this is a big, ugly, pissed off and MEAN Jabberwock. It's head is twisting around – angry bloodshot eyes. Flames sparking out of its mouth.

2

WIDE SHOT OF POOL OF TEARS, CLIFFS OVERLOOKING POOL AND PRISONERS BEING DRIVEN TO THE EDGE BY SOLDIERS AND JABBERWOCK

THE SKY: Turbulent dark clouds contrast and mix with a brilliant blue sky.

Pool of Tears – the surface is spinning with energy vortexes.

The prisoners are being marched to the edge of the HIGH cliff surrounding pool.

The Jabberwock carrying the cage of Milliners is close to the edge.

3

Beneath the turbulent dark clouds and brilliant blue sky -- Redd is REVEALED IN THE DISTANCE standing on a cliff overlooking the Pool of Tears – dramatic – as though part of the landscape.

Note: When we first see Redd here in 1859 she is in her late 20's – a wild thing. She had just come down from the mountains with her rebel forces.

She is a young warrior Queen (late 20's) – her gown is partially armor, her crimson, waist length curling hair appears to be exploding around her – feral, wicked and charged with energy.

**PROLOGUE PAGE 2 CONTINUED**

Panel 3 continued

Redd at this age is not yet accustomed to being the Queen in a palace – she is something from a distant, crystal cave.

REDD THOUGHT BALLOON

They all had their chance to serve me and refused.  
Closed minded, petty nobodies who lack IMAGINATION!  
Wonderland will excel without them.

4

CLOSE UP: REDD ON EDGE OF CLIFF

Looking out over the Pool her face contorts and SHE SCREAMS – LIKE A JET TAKING OFF – EVERYTHING TREMBLES FROM THE POWER OF HER VOICE

REDD

(a furious/insane show of temper)  
GET OUT!

5 WIDEN PANEL

Redd extends her arms over the Pool

The power of Redd's voice has churned the Pool into a frenzy – the dark clouds spin in the sky reflecting the pool.

The soldiers and prisoners stare back at her – even the Jabberwock have been shocked into submission.

And now comes the order.

REDD

Rid Wonderland of my enemies!

**PROLOGUE PAGE 3**

Panel 1

SNAPPING INTO ACTION -- the Rogue Card Soldiers wield blades and crystal orbs -- flames blast from the Jabberwocks -- the people back towards the edge of the cliff -- hands up -- beseeching.

WILD LINES

SFX: Screams and shouts of terror

FACES OF THE ABOUT TO BE EXILED:  
A mix of terror/panic/shock.

A Rogue Card Soldier shouts an order:

ROGUE CARD SOLDIER SERGEANT  
Release the cage!

2

CLOSE ON

AN AXE IS SWUNG AT THE STRAPS SECURING THE CAGE TO THE BACK OF THE JABBERWOCK -- show enough of the cage and the surrounding area to give this good context.

3

THE AXE slashes the strap and SIMULTANEOUSLY SLICES INTO THE JABBERWOCK HIDE -- ENRAGING IT AS SIZZLING HOT BRIGHT GREEN BLOOD EXPLODES FROM THE WOUND

SFX: JABBERWOCK SCREAM OF FURY -- AAAAHEEEEE!

4

WIDEN PANEL -- SHOW ACTION AS

THE JABBERWOCK 'TWERKS' AND VIOLENTLY WHIPS ITS TAIL LAUNCHING THE CAGE PACKED WITH MILLINERS AIRBORNE OVER THE POOL OF TEARS.

**PROLOGUE PAGE 3 CONTINUED**

5

AS THE CAGE IS HURLED OUT OVER THE POOL

The Milliner seen with Hat on Page 1 has **extended his arm**  
through the bars of the cage – **AND RELEASED HIS HAT**

**The Hat spins away from his hand..**

**PROLOGUE P-4**

**SPLASH PAGE**

Sami: See attached reference art of Frank Miller's '300'

**VERTICAL**

Cliff overlooking pool, Redd's rogue soldiers forcing people OVER THE CLIFF, people in mid-air and people hitting the pool of tears – see steady stream of people going over cliff – as in '300'

Cage with Milliners HITS the surface of the pool and is slowly sucked under –

MILLINERS ALL LOOKING UP to see HAT SOARING OVER THE POOL – DRAMATIC MOMENT OF HOPE AND DEFIANCE.

SEE VORTEXES swirling in the pool where people are sucked down – hands waving as they are pulled under.

Redd stands on cliff also looking upward at Hat soaring over Pool.

**REDD THOUGHT BALLOON**

I will miss seeing the noble Hats of the Milliners over Wonderland but they chose their fate.

Not I.

**NARRATION BOX:**

*Seasons passed and the purges continued. The belief in the forever exile – the ultimate void – of the Pool of Tears created an ironclad grip on the minds of Wonderlanders. As a result, Redd's unchallenged reign would proceed for 13 years...*