

# HAWKGIRL

In

The **Blue Smoke** Wore a **Red Dress**

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## Quick Introduction:

This is my first attempt at writing a comic book.

I realized something while I was writing this. Writing fan fiction is like jumping someone's fence without permission and then playing in their sandbox. I don't have a problem in playing in someone else's sandbox when it comes to writing because, let's face it; there are some great sandboxes out there that beg to be played in!

But Hawkgirl/Shayera Hol/Shiera Hall isn't one of them. Kendra Saunders? Definitely. Shayera Hol? Not so much!

This is my first super-hero story, but it won't be the last. The reason for this is because I can relate to wearing a mask.

Many of our heroes will have a duality component to them. Superman/Clark, Spider-Man/Peter and Batman/Bruce, for example. They are part of two different worlds, yet they belong truly to neither one. As one of the first people acknowledged as being both inside and outside of autism, this is something I can very much relate to in a way I believe few others can.

So why Hawkgirl for the first story? The truth? Ummmm, I like her earrings.

My thanks to the following people.

Bob Ingersoll, Bob Rozakis, Elliot S! Maggin, Gerry Conway, Mindy Newell, Paul Kupperberg, Steve Skeates and Tony Isabella.

Most (if not all) of these guys are as much a legend in their field as I am in mine. (And mine is not in writing comics!) It's been great getting to know you. You will see that I took your advice to heart in writing this script.

There are a few of things to keep in mind while reading this.

*I wanted this to be simple since this is my first comic script. No double issue (though it almost was), no complicated sub-plots, just Hawkgirl finding a problem and resolving it.*

*There is a place (can you believe only one?) where I feel like I may have cheated, and that is with the absorbascon. I don't really feel right using the absorbascon as I did, but it is a part of Hawkman and Hawkgirl, and one must use the tools one has available at the time.*

*I tried my best to be clear in the panel descriptions with what was to be in the panel and also leave room for artist interpretation. This was difficult to do.*

*Annie was named after my friend, Annie, who requested the antagonist in the story be named after her.*

Special thanks to Steve Skeates for his permission to play in the *Hawk and Dove* sandbox. I may just have to take you up on that, Steve. At least that story will have to be better than this one, now I have some (very small) experience with this.

This story takes place in the DC continuity somewhere between Hawkman v1, Issues 1 to 27. (Circa 1960's.) With time, I could track down the exact issue. But I don't feel it is that necessary because I know this will never be published.

Enjoy.

SPLASH PAGE

SINGLE SPLASH PANEL

On Hawkgirl and Blue Smoke hovering in the sky above Midway City. Blue Smoke is a ghostly life form made of blue smoke. Blue Smoke has a rough, ghostly female shape and a ghostly face of smoke with a look more like utter fright or terror than of anger or evil.

[ CAPTION ]

She visits from her home world of Thanagar with her husband, Katar. She is armed with technology of the future and weapons of the past. She is Shayera Hol, studying earth police methods and fighting crime as...

[ LOGO ]

Hawkgirl!

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

Great Thanagar! How can I defeat a being made of ... SMOKE?

[ CAPTION ]

With Hawkman on a mission away from Midway City, Hawkgirl is left alone to face her first solo challenge when she discovers...

[ TITLE ]

The Blue Smoke Wore a Red Dress!

PAGE ONE - SEVEN PANELS

PANEL ONE

Establishing shot. Cairo, Egypt. Archaeological dig. Sand and pyramids. In the far distance, we see tents, tripods, and the usual set up for a dig.

[ CAPTION ]

Cairo, Egypt. The Cerpanna Archaeological Expedition.

PANEL TWO

Zoom in a little closer. We see Annie Cerpanna, a pretty and fit woman in her late forties with long, wavy hair and bangs.

She is digging and looking for artifacts. A portable CD player sits off to the side.

[ CAPTION ]

Annie Cerpanna searches for clues  
to unlock the secrets of the past.

[ SFX ]

(CD player. Words appear  
with musical notes)  
I will sing of your tender  
mercies...

PANEL THREE:

Zoom in to a close picture of Annie, who has now uncovered a small black box in the sand with hieroglyphics printed on all sides and on the lid. The box is half buried in the sand.

[ CAPTION ]

She finds a small box buried in the  
sand from a time long gone.

[ SFX ]

(CD player. As before.)  
The young and old...

PANEL FOUR:

Annie is lifting the box from the sand.

[ CAPTION ]

Carefully, she lifts the box from  
the sand, being the first person to  
touch it in thousands of years.

[ SFX ]

(CD player, as before)  
Will hear of your love...

PANEL FIVE:

We see Annie open the lid and begin to excitedly peer inside the box.

[ CAPTION ]

Annie slowly opens the lid...

[ SFX ]

(CD player continues  
playing)  
Your great truth will last  
forever...

PANEL SIX:

Seeing what is in the box, Annie is terrified and begins to scream.

[ CAPTION ]

...and her world will never be the same!

ANNIE

(Screaming in fright)

EEEEEEEEEEYYYYAAAAAAH!!!

[ SFX ]

(CD player)

And your faithfulness...

PANEL SEVEN

View pulls out to find Annie unconscious alone on the ground, with the CD player still playing.

[ SFX ]

(CD player)

Long as the heavens above.

PAGE TWO - FOUR HORIZONTAL PANELS

PANEL ONE:

On Katar and Shayera in the office of Midway City Museum. Katar is in his Hawkman outfit and is just putting on his hawk mask.

[ CAPTION ]

A few days later, in the office of the Midway City Museum.

KATAR

The Justice League has called me in for a mission, so you'll need to keep an eye on things while I'm gone, Shayera.

SHAYERA

Be careful, Katar. And remember I love you.

PANEL TWO:

Hawkman and Shayera share a kiss between husband and wife.

[ NO DIALOGUE ]

PANEL THREE:

On Hawkman and Shayera. Hawkman walks out the door to the Justice League mission. Shayera sadly watches him leave.

[ NO DIALOGUE ]

PANEL FOUR:

Door closes shut. Shayera still looks sad.

SHAYERA

>sigh<

PAGE THREE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Shayera is walking along a busy street in downtown Midway City. Stores of various types line both sides of the street. Around her, people of all types and manner of dress are going on about their lives.

[ CAPTION ]

Later that day...

SHAYERA

(Thought)

As long as Katar is gone, I may as well get some shopping in.

SHAYERA

(Thought)

I haven't heard from our friend Annie over in Egypt for a while. Maybe I should fly out there and see how she's doing--

PANEL TWO:

Shayera opens the door of a Victoria's Secret. As she walks through, she fails to notice the almost invisible blue smoke coming in at the same time through the open transom above her.

SHAYERA

(Thought)

--But before I do, I'll stop in here real quick and look for a dress to surprise Katar when he gets home.

PANEL THREE:

Shayera is holding a red dress and looking at it admiringly as a sales woman approaches her. Sales Woman is very prim and proper. Dressed professionally, she has her dark hair pulled tight to the back of her head. Neither Shayera nor the sales woman notices the same almost invisible blue smoke as it hovers very close to the ceiling.

SALES WOMAN

May I help you, Miss?

PANEL FOUR:

The blue smoke, now not so invisible, begins to flow down into the red dress Shayera is holding as she answers.

SHAYERA

Yes, please. I'd like to...

PANEL FIVE:

The blue smoke descends, forms an ahnk, then completely takes over the red dress Shayera is holding, forming itself into the shape of a humanoid female looking directly at Shayera, who has let go of the dress.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

HELP ME!!! HHHEEEELLLLPPPP  
MMEEEEEE!!!!!!

PAGE FOUR - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Close on Shayera (left) and the sales woman (right), who both have a look of utter shock and horror.

[ NO DIALOGUE ]

PANEL TWO:

Shayera turns and catches the sales woman as the sales woman faints.

SALES WOMAN

Oooohhhhhhhh.....

PANEL THREE:

On Shayera, now more angered than frightened, as she turns back to the Blue Smoke.



SHAYERA

Who are you? What do you want?

PANEL FOUR:

On Blue Smoke, hovering in dress in front of Shayera.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Help me, Shiera! Help me!

PANEL FIVE:

On Shayera, puzzled with brows furrowed.

SHAYERA

How do you know who I am?

PAGE FIVE - SEVEN PANELS

PANEL ONE:

View of Shayera from behind as she watches Blue Smoke float back out of the transom. The red dress is falling to the floor of Victoria's Secret. Any others who are shopping are startled by what they see.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly, Fading)

Shiera! Please help me!

PANEL TWO:

View remains on Shayera from behind. Blue Smoke is gone and the red dress sits on the floor.

SHAYERA

Great Thanagar!

SHAYERA

(Thought)

Shiera Hall can't help her, but she knows someone who can!

PANEL THREE:

Shayera looks down to see the sales woman coming around and she begins to help the woman to her feet.

SHAYERA

Are you okay?

PANEL FOUR:

On Sales Woman, now on her feet and standing (barely) on her own.

SALES WOMAN

Yeah. I think so. What was that thing?

PANEL FIVE:

On Shayera as she picks up the red dress.

SHAYERA

I don't know. But I do intend to find out!

PANEL SIX:

Still on Shayera, reaching into her purse for money.

SHAYERA

I can't stay here any longer...

PANEL SEVEN:

Sales Woman is holding money, Shayera is running out the door with the red dress.

SHAYERA

...so keep the change!

PAGE SIX - THREE FULL HORIZONTAL PANELS

PANEL ONE:

On Shayera (with red dress) as she rushes down the busy street, making her way back to the Midway City Museum.

SHAYERA

(Thought)  
I hated leaving the sales woman like that--

PANEL TWO:

On Shayera, back in the museum office. She has her Hawkgirl outfit and wings on and is putting on her hawk mask.

SHAYERA

(Thought)  
--but let's face it--

PANEL THREE:

Zooming in from the sky down onto Hawkgirl as she rises, with wings spread and holding the red dress, out of the museum and looking heroic.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

--This is a job for Hawkgirl!

[ CAPTION ]

Will Hawkgirl be able to solve the mystery of the blue smoke in the red dress? And what of her missing friend, Annie? Turn the page to find out!

PAGE SEVEN - THREE FULL HORIZONTAL PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Hawkgirl approaching the Hawk Ship in orbit around Midway City.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

It shouldn't be too difficult to get some information on that smoke if I use Thanagarian technology...

PANEL TWO:

Three connecting panels of laboratory on Hawk Ship, full of advanced research equipment. A Hawkgirl appears in every panel working a different gizmo and with a thought as below.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

Hard to believe this...

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

But...

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

Blue Smoke is...

PANEL THREE:

In same room, Hawkgirl in the middle, with look of horror on her face.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)  
Annie Cerpanna!

PAGE EIGHT - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Hawkgirl desperately running left to right down long hallway of Hawk Ship.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)  
What could have happened? I've got to find her!

PANEL TWO:

Hawkgirl leaping from door of Hawk Ship with arms and wings spread.

[ CAPTION ]

Spreading her arms and beating her mighty pinions, the female fury takes to flight once more!

PANEL THREE:

Hawkgirl flying over Midway City, with Blue Smoke spotted somewhere below.

[ CAPTION ]

It doesn't take long to find Blue Smoke in Midway City, so...

PANEL FOUR:

Hawkgirl confronts Blue Smoke high above Midway City.

HAWKGIRL

Annie! Annie! What happened? Let me help you!

PANEL FIVE:

On Blue Smoke...

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)  
Stay away! Stay awaaaaaay!

PANEL SIX:

On Hawkgirl, still above Midway City.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

There's only thing I can do. I  
must show her who I am!

PAGE NINE - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE:

On Hawkgirl, reluctantly lifting her mask.

SHAYERA

Annie! Look, it's me! Your  
friend, Shiera!

PANEL TWO:

On Blue Smoke, with a look a mixture of surprise and delight.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Shierrrrrrra? Is that yooooouuuu?

PANEL THREE:

On Hawkgirl, replacing mask.

HAWKGIRL

Yes. Come with me, Annie.

PANEL FOUR:

On Blue Smoke and Hawkgirl.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Wherrrrre will you taaaake meeeee?

HAWKGIRL

Where did this start?

PANEL FIVE:

On Blue Smoke and Hawkgirl.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Eeeeegyyyyypt!

HAWKGIRL

Then that's where we're going!

PANEL SIX:

On Hawkgirl and Blue Smoke, both rising to the Hawk Ship in the far distance.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

I willlllllll follllloooooowwww,  
Shierrrrra!

PAGE TEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Hawk Ship hovering over Egypt.

[ CAPTION ]

Later -- as they approach Egypt...

PANEL TWO:

On Hawkgirl and Blue Smoke on bridge of Hawk Ship, spying down on archaeological site below.

HAWKGIRL

Is this where you were, Annie?

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Yeeesssss!! Dooooowwwnnn  
Beeelllllloooooowww!!!!

PANEL THREE:

On Hawkgirl and Blue Smoke at an airlock of Hawk Ship.

HAWKGIRL

Stay here, Annie. I'll try to find out what's going on.

PANEL FOUR:

On Hawkgirl, soaring toward archaeological site below.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

Can I trust her up there alone?  
She is my friend. I have no choice!

PANEL FIVE:

Hawkgirl alighting on Egyptian sands next to a group of archaeologists.

ARCHAEOLOGIST

Hawkgirl! What brings you out to the middle of nowhere?

PAGE ELEVEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Hawkgirl on the sand with site in the background. Archaeologists are gathered around her.

HAWKGIRL

I'm investigating the disappearance of your fearless leader. Could you by chance show me what she was working on?

PANEL TWO:

On Archaeologist, pointing to area where Annie was digging.

ARCHAEOLOGIST

Sure! Glad to have you on board. Come right this way.

PANEL THREE:

Hawkgirl and archaeological group gathered round Annie's excavation site.

ARCHAEOLOGIST

She was working right here, Hawkgirl.

PANEL FOUR:

Close up of Archaeologist's hand, holding the box Annie found.

ARCHAEOLOGIST

We found this close by, but haven't opened it. We thought it may have something to do with her disappearance.

PANEL FIVE:

On Hawkgirl, studying the box which is now in her hand.

HAWKGIRL

Would you mind if I took this back to my ship for a few minutes?

PAGE TWELVE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE:

On Archaeologist.

ARCHAEOLOGIST

Go ahead, Hawkgirl. We need all  
the help we can get.

PANEL TWO:

On Hawkgirl, taking flight as Archaeologists watch her go.

HAWKGIRL

Thank you, Gentlemen. I'll try not  
to be too long.

PANEL THREE:

On Hawkgirl, rising to Hawk Ship in the distance.

HAWKGIRL

(Thought)

This is a long shot. What could a  
small box have to do with Annie's  
transformation? Still, the  
archaeologists seemed to think it  
was important, so...

PANEL FOUR:

Hawkgirl enters the Hawk Ship, looking for Annie. Annie is  
waiting by the air lock.

HAWKGIRL

Annie?

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Yeeeeesssss?

PANEL FIVE:

Somewhat comedic panel. Hawkgirl holds up the box and Blue  
Smoke is seen floating away from her with speed lines behind,  
as if moving at great speed.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Noooooooooooooooooooo!!!!!!!!!!!!



PAGE THIRTEEN - FOUR PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Back in laboratory on Hawk Ship. Hawkgirl, minus her mask, is seen connecting the box to advanced scientific device.

[ CAPTION ]

Later, in the Hawk Ship lab...

SHAYERA

(Thought)

Judging by Annie's reaction, those archaeologists may be onto something. Katar is so much better at interpreting hieroglyphics than I am. But since he's not here, maybe the absorbascon can help me.

PANEL TWO:

Close-up on absorbascon.

[ CAPTION ]

The absorbascon! Advanced Thanagarian technology used by Hawkman and Hawkgirl when they first arrived on earth to learn the language and customs of our alien planet. Now Hawkgirl employs it again to save the life of her friend!

PANEL THREE:

On Shayera, placing absorbascon headphones on her head.

SHAYERA

(Thought)

Now--Let's see what secrets this little box contains.

PANEL FOUR:

Shayera has headphones on with her eyes closed and is lost deep in thought.

SHAYERA

(Thought)

Hmmm....The box was set as protection for the buried. When opened, it transforms whoever opens it into smoke, rendering them incapable of robbing the grave.

(MORE)

SHAYERA (CONT'D)

The only way to reverse the effect  
is by--

PAGE FOURTEEN - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE:

On Shayera, with headphones still on, eyes open in  
recognition.

SHAYERA

(Thought)

--What sorcery is this? The  
effects can only be reversed by  
blue smoke created by a certain  
combination of Egyptian herbs!

PANEL TWO:

Looking at Shayera from the back as a voice sounds behind  
her.

VOICE (O.S.)

Shayera.

PANEL THREE:

Shayera turns around with a look of surprise.

SHAYERA

KATAR! You're back!

PANEL FOUR:

Hawkman standing in the doorway of the lab.

HAWKMAN

Just got in. Who's our mysterious  
passenger?

PANEL FIVE:

Shayera hands the headphones of the absorbascon to Hawkman.

SHAYERA

I see you've noticed Annie is here.  
This will explain everything.

PANEL SIX:

Hawkman, mask removed, puts on the headphones.

KATAR

(Mumbling)

This oughtta be good...

PAGE FIFTEEN - FOUR PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Hawkman, Hawkgirl, Blue Smoke, and archaeologists all gathered in a tent at the dig in Egypt.

[ CAPTION ]

Later...

HAWKGIRL

--So that's what happened. In order to restore Annie, we will need to perform a ceremony with the herbs Hawkman and I have collected.

ARCHAEOLOGIST

Strange happenings, indeed! But we're behind you all the way, Hawks. Just tell us what to do.

PANEL TWO:

On Hawkgirl.

HAWKGIRL

First, we wait for dusk. Then here's what we do...

PANEL THREE:

Dusk arrives. Hawkman, Hawkgirl, Blue Smoke and archaeologists are gathered in a circle around a small fire started where Annie found the box. Hawkgirl is on the right of Blue Smoke, Hawkman is on the left. Other archaeologists complete the circle. Blue Smoke is wearing the red dress. Hawkman is tossing a small bag into the fire.

[ CAPTION ]

At dusk.

HAWKGIRL

Okay, Hawkman, we're ready. Toss the herbs into the fire.

PANEL FOUR:

Shows everyone with hands joined in circle (Hawkman and Hawkgirl are both holding one of Blue Smoke's "hands") and breathing in a blue smoke coming from the fire.

HAWKGIRL

Now--Everyone join hands!

PAGE SIXTEEN - ONE LARGE PANEL

Hawkman, Hawkgirl and archaeologists all carry looks of amazement toward Blue Smoke. Blue Smoke is separating from Annie, leaving both Blue Smoke and Annie. Annie is wearing red dress, now looking torn, mini, and jungle like.

ANNIE/BLUE SMOKE

(Screaming in Pain)

EEEEEEEEEEYYYYAAAAAAHHHH!!!!!!

PAGE SEVENTEEN - FOUR PANELS

PANEL ONE:

Shows circle. Hawkgirl is tending to slowly recovering Annie while the rest are gazing in amazement at Blue Smoke, who is hovering over the herbs in the fire.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Thank you for freeing me! Long have I been trapped in that box. I was a young and faithful servant to Pharoah and Joseph until an evil sorcerer put me unwillingly in the box as guard so he would not be disturbed during his time of eternal sleep.

PANEL TWO:

On Blue Smoke, hovering over the fire.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Now, thanks to Annie of the Cerpanna and Hawk of the Girl, I am finally free to take flight myself, where my love patiently awaits me in the next world.

PANEL THREE:

On Blue Smoke, disappearing into the Heavens.

BLUE SMOKE

(Ghostly)

Thank you again, my  
friieeennddddsss...

PANEL FOUR:

Members of the circle staring at the space where Blue Smoke was.

[ NO DIALOGUE ]

PAGE EIGHTEEN - THREE PANELS. TWO ON THE TOP, ONE ON THE BOTTOM.

PANEL ONE:

Hawkman, Hawkgirl and Annie, sitting at a table in a tent at the site in Egypt. All have cups of coffee or tea or water.

[ CAPTION ]

The next day...

ANNIE

Thanks again for your rescue,  
Hawks. I can't imagine what it  
would have been like to be smoke  
forever.

HAWKMAN

Glad we could help, Annie.

PANEL TWO:

On Hawkgirl, sipping her tea.

HAWKGIRL

What are your plans for the next  
few days?

PANEL THREE:

On the beautiful Annie Cerpanna, looking contemplative.

ANNIE

Of course I'd like to take it easy  
for a while. But I can't allow  
this experience to stop my work.  
It's too valuable.

ANNIE

We can't move forward into the  
future unless we know where we have  
been in the past.

(MORE)

ANNIE (CONT'D)

We need to keep digging and excavating, yet at the same time, we must somehow find a way to even more deeply respect the buried. I will be turning my attention to that problem.

PAGE NINETEEN - FOUR PANELS

PANEL ONE:

On Hawkman.

HAWKMAN

Then I'd say the past is in good hands.

PANEL TWO:

On Hawkgirl, nodding in agreement.

HAWKGIRL

I agree, Hawkman. I think it is safe for us to head back to Midway City.

PANEL THREE:

Hawkman and Hawkgirl alight off the ground outside the tent. They turn back to wave at Annie, who is watching them go and waving from the ground below.

[ NO DIALOGUE ]

PANEL FOUR:

On Hawkman and Hawkgirl as they approach the Hawk Ship.

HAWKMAN

What do you say to a quiet evening at home?

HAWKGIRL

Sounds great to me, Katar, so long as those plans don't go up in smoke!

END STORY.