

The Blue Smoke Wore a Red Dress

A Comic Book Script by Thomas A. McKean

SPLASH PAGE

SINGLE LARGE 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] Visiting from her homeworld of Thanagar with her husband, Katar, Shayera Hol -- armed with technology of the future and weapons of the past -- studies earth police methods and fights 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] (CONT'D) 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) EEEEEEEEEYYYYAAAAAAHHHH!!!!!

[SFX] (CD player) And your faithfulness...

PANEL SEVEN

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

NO DIALOGUE

[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 deep space 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 (CONT'D)

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 (CONT'D) (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 (CONT'D) (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!!! HHHEEEELLLPPPP MMMEEEEEE!!!!!

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

Oooohhhhhhhhh....

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 (CONT'D) (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 (CONT'D) 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 <u>was</u> 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 (CONT'D) 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 (CONT'D) ...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 (CONT'D) (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 (CONT'D) (Thought) --but let's face it--

PANEL THREE:

Zooming in from the sky down onto Hawkgirl as she rises, with wings spread, flying 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!