

Seeing Redd - Part II of The Looking Glass Wars

Seeing Redd

By: Frank Beddor

Alyss is being given a tour of Wonderland's new palace, her new home. She seems to be a bit overwhelmed with the attention to detail that has been given to it and still says it's more than she needs. Of course, Bibwit lets her know it's more for the rest of Wonderland than it is for her. It's their way of knowing that things are going to stay better, especially now that Redd has disappeared. Or has she?

Alyss's reign is soon faced with challenges any new ruler would dread: an attack. Dodge immediately believes Redd is behind it, as it is Glass Eyes that are attacking the various outposts of soldiers, but Alyss wonders if it's someone other than that. And she's right, but so is Dodge.

King Arch of Boarderland has come up with a new little scheme that would make him ruler of Wonderland and Boarderland. His scheme is already underway when a most disturbing sight meets his eyes: Redd and The Cat are entering his tent. In order to keep his life, he follows Redd and tries to make himself as indispensable as possible. He succeeds until the end of the book - even though he does suffer from a close call or two - and at the end we know that only one will survive the last segment in *The Looking Glass Wars*. I really can't decide which one I want to see live - I guess it would depend on who learns the most in the last book. Arch is a very self-centered egoist who believes women should be subjugated to men, that they are weak and can't do anything while Redd is literally evil incarnate. She doesn't blink an eye at sending people into battle for her cause, just so long as she wins.

When Alyss uses Arch's great weapon, it has effects that even Arch himself wasn't expecting (as Hatter Madigan didn't do *exactly* what he was supposed to with the Caterpillar thread - and why Hatter was talking to Arch is a completely critical part of the story involving Homburg Molly, a woman named Weaver and, of course, Hatter). At the end of the novel all of Wonderland has lost something very unique and important to them - but the point is that Redd lost it too, and that is what Alyss was planning on, but can they get it back? What is the future of Wonderland without this extremely important element to their society?

Again, great storytelling, although you are going to get more battle scenes in this book. There is a war going on! The relationships in this book are more defined, set out, interesting and complicated (at least I thought so). The descriptions are fantastic too. I can't get the ones of Redd's "living rose" dress out of my head. If I ever saw a woman with crazy-red hair (and I am not insulting red-heads, if you saw

the cover of this book you would know what I mean by crazy-red hair) coming right for me with a red rose dress that lives - the roses have teeth that snap out at you I would run screaming in the opposite direction - even though that wouldn't matter much, because with a flick of her wrist I could be dead. Seriously, the imagination these books must have taken! I'm so impressed!

Unfortunately, I think we're going to have to wait awhile for book 3. But it does look like they're going to be made into a movie. That could be really fun, but they better get a good director because they're going to need it to really portray some of the places in the novels accurately! Oh, and his book, Alyss of Wonderland will be out the first of November, and if you're into graphic novels/comics the Hatter M. graphic novels/comic books will be out towards the end of this month!

<http://www.lookingglasswars.com/home.html>

This is a gorgeous website! Don't get too lost!

Recommended To:

- . fans of the first book
- 0. fans of fantasy fiction
- 0. Alice in Wonderland fans (just for a different perspective)
- 0. Everyone!

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