



SEASON EIGHT
WILLOW



Joss Whedon Karl Moline

WILLOW

Buffy
the Vampire Slayer

W I L L O W

Based on the television series created by Joss Whedon

Willow Rosenberg has played many parts—a shy computer geek, a loyal friend, a passionate lover, a fierce Wiccan, and a *dark Willow*.

Since the destruction of Sunnydale, Willow's powers have grown exponentially. She can fly. Teleport. And she may or may not be immortal.

Even the people closest to her wonder how Willow's become one of the most powerful witches in the world. The answers begin here, at the end of her mystical, post-Sunnydale walkabout, with the sultry, powerful serpent lady who hides in the shadows of the Slayers' great crisis . . .

This story takes place before the events of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* Season Eight.

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GODDESSES & MONSTERS





...DERIVATIVE.



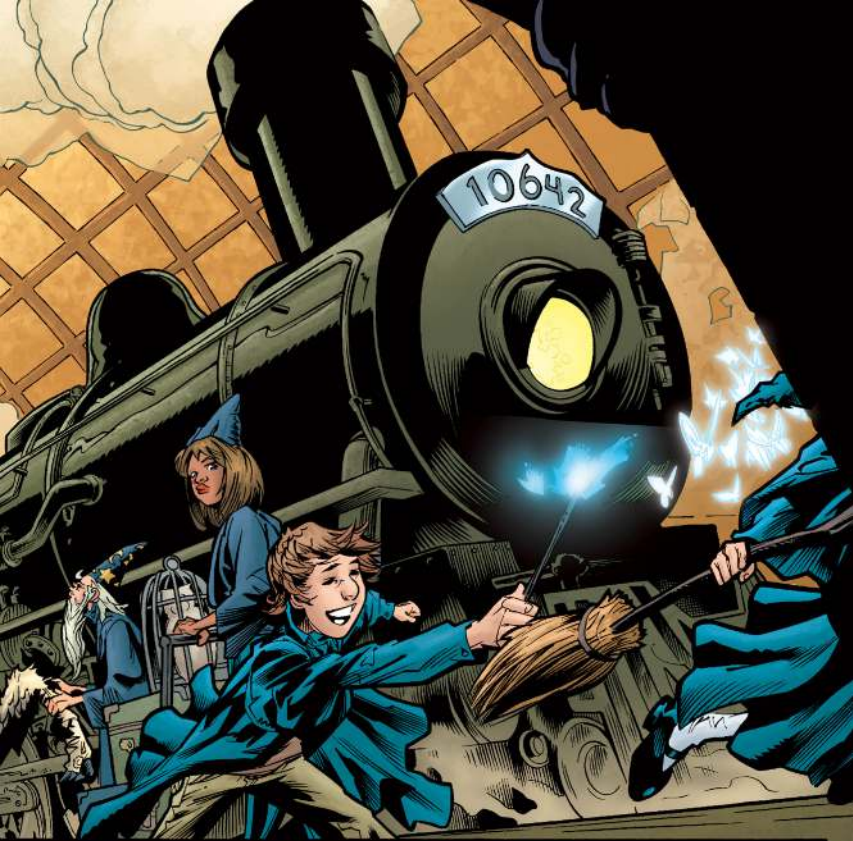
F-%&ING WIZARD SCHOOL, IT'S ALL THE RAGE.



I MEAN, IT'S COOL BY ME. I HAD A HUNDRED YEARS OF FALLING DOWN A RABBIT HOLE AND @-%& THAT SAID "DRINK ME," SO THIS IS STILL FRESH.

BUT... ISN'T THIS...

FAKE?



IT DOES SEEM KINDA
THEME-PARKY.

WE'RE
SCRATCHING
THE SURFACE.
THE ENTRYWAY TO
A BOSS FLOAT
IS ALWAYS CULLED
FROM COLLECTIVE
CONSCIOUSNESS.
SOFTENS THE
BLOW.

THERE'S
GONNA BE
A BLOW?

FOR A LADY THAT
ALMOST ENDED THE
WORLD, YOU'RE KIND
OF A PUSS.

OH, I
NEVER --

COME ON.
TIME TO
CATCH THE
TRAIN.



THIS ISN'T A TRAIN.

WOW, ARE YOU EVER A DYKE.



THAT TERM IS OFFENSIVE.

OR MAYBE IT'S EMPOWERING — I CAN'T ALWAYS KEEP UP, HOW'D YOU KNOW?



THE FIELD, THE OPENING PETALS...WITH STRAIGHT WICKS, IT'S A FOREST. TALL, THRUSTING TREES...

THE SECOND LEVEL IS YOU, BUT IT'S STILL SURFACE.

BEING A FIERCE 'MO HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR POWER. THIS IS YOU RELATING TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD.





I'LL TAKE HER FROM HERE.

three days earlier



ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

"SURE" WOULD BE OVERSTATING IT.

IT'S JUST... IT'S KIND OF A TRADITION.



AND WE'RE TRADITIONAL SINCE WHEN NOW?

IT'S PART OF A WITCH'S PATH. A PART I SKIPPED OVER.



'CAUSE YOU'RE A GODDESS.

NOT EVEN.

AND GODDESSES DON'T LEAVE THEIR GIRLFRIENDS ALL ALONE TO TAKE REMEDIAL MAGIC IN SOME WEIRD DIMENSION THAT PROBABLY HAS ZERO CELL-PHONE RECEPTION.

KEN DOLL...



"FORGET ABOUT HER."



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

IT'S ANOTHER LAYER THAT HAS TO BE PEELED AWAY.

NO CONNECTIONS, NO RESTRICTIONS... YOU HAVE TO LIVE WITHIN IF YOU'RE TO TRULY WORK THE WOUND.



WOUND?

I THOUGHT THE FLOATABOUT WAS JUST NORMAL WICCY TRAINING? NOBODY SAID ANYTHING ABOUT...

I HAVE A WOUND?



YOU HAVE A PART OF IT.

SO CLARITY NOT THE CATCH OF THE DAY, HUH?

RELAX.



THE DARKNESS WILL ILLUMINATE.

CAN I HAVE WHEELY-GIRL BACK?





STOP!



NOT THIS ONE. NOT THIS TAINTED WRETCH.

IT'S VERY NICE TO DON'T MACE ME.



WHY DON'T WE CALM DOWN, LOVE...

ALLUWYN, ARE YOU MAD? YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS!

YOU DO? DO I?



THE PATH IS NOT RESERVED FOR THE RIGHTEOUS.

WE BOTH KNOW WHERE THIS LEADS.

AND I WOULD BE WHO NOW?



WHAT WE KNOW IS THAT NOTHING IS SET. WITH THE RIGHT GUIDE--

YOU? ALLUWYN, YOU ARE SAGA VASUKI--YOU THRIVE ON CHAOS. YOU'D LOVE TO SEE HER CORRUPTED.

AND I WOULD KNOW ME FROM...?









AND NOW WE GO ON A BOAT.

THEY SAID YOU WERE SPECIAL...



YEAH.
NO THANKS.



YOU'LL NEVER FINISH THE JOURNEY IF YOU'RE AFRAID TO GET WET.



THAT'S NOT THE JOURNEY.



YOU ALL KEEP TELLING ME TO GET BEYOND THE SURFACE. THEN YOU TOSS CLICHÉS AT ME.

THE BLACK KNIGHT, THE SEA VOYAGE... THIS ISN'T MY PATH, IS IT?

THIS ISN'T MY PATH AND YOU'RE NOT MY GUIDE.



WELL, SHE GOT THERE SOONER THAN MOST...

SO MANY GET HUNG UP ON THE IDEA THAT SPACE AND TIME HAVE RULES OUT HERE.



SHAME ON YOU, ALUWYN.

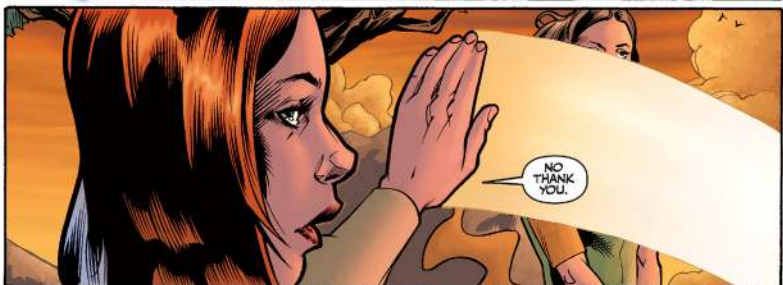
SLITHER BACK TO YOUR MAD REALM AND LEAVE THIS WITCH HER REASON.



WHO IS MY GUIDE, THEN?

DO I HAVE ONE?







I SAID
I WANTED TO
UNDERSTAND MY
POWER--
--AND
I DO.



BUT UNDER THAT,
I WANTED TO KNOW
MY FATE.
DARKNESS?
ENLIGHTENMENT?
WAS I A GOOD WITCH,
OR A BAD WITCH? I FEEL
THE PULL OF EACH.
THAT WAS MY SECRET
MOTIVE...
BUT
IT'S NOT.



UNDER
THE UNDER,
I JUST
WANTED
HER.



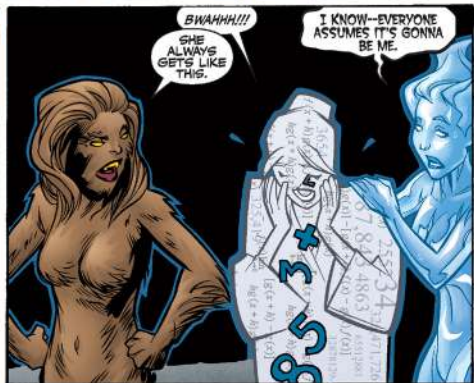
SHE
WAS MY
LIGHT.
SHE
WAS MY
ORDER.

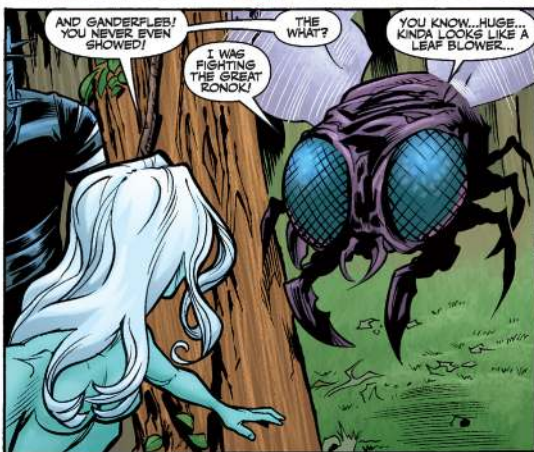
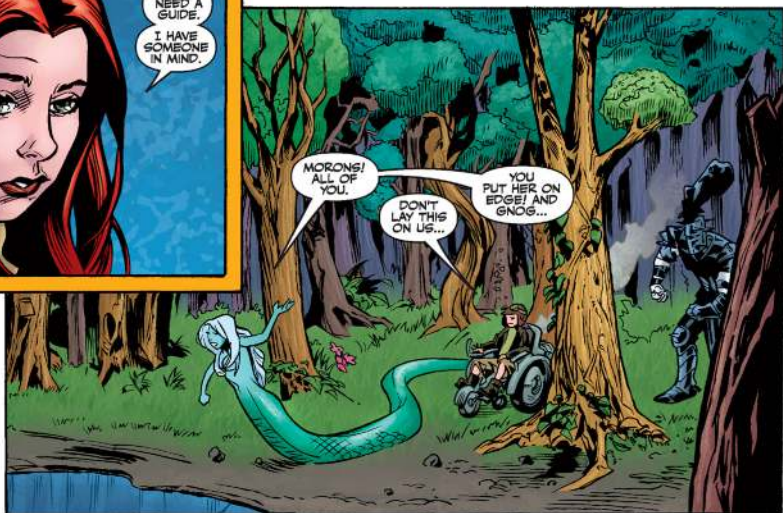


SHE WAS MY
JOURNEY.



COMPLETED.









THERE IS NO JOURNEY.
THERE IS JUST WITHIN.
SO MY PATH IS WHERE NONE'S BEATEN...



AND FOR TRUTH,
I CHOOSE THE TRICKSTER.



YOU'RE PUTTING YOURSELF IN MY HANDS?

I EXPECT IT WILL COME TO THAT.



I'LL KNOW IF YOU LIE.

I ALWAYS LIE.

THAT'S HOW I'LL KNOW.

SO HOW DO WE START?

finis

