

NORSE

DAWN OF THE SHIELD MAIDEN™

931 A.D.

BY
JAMES
LEMAG

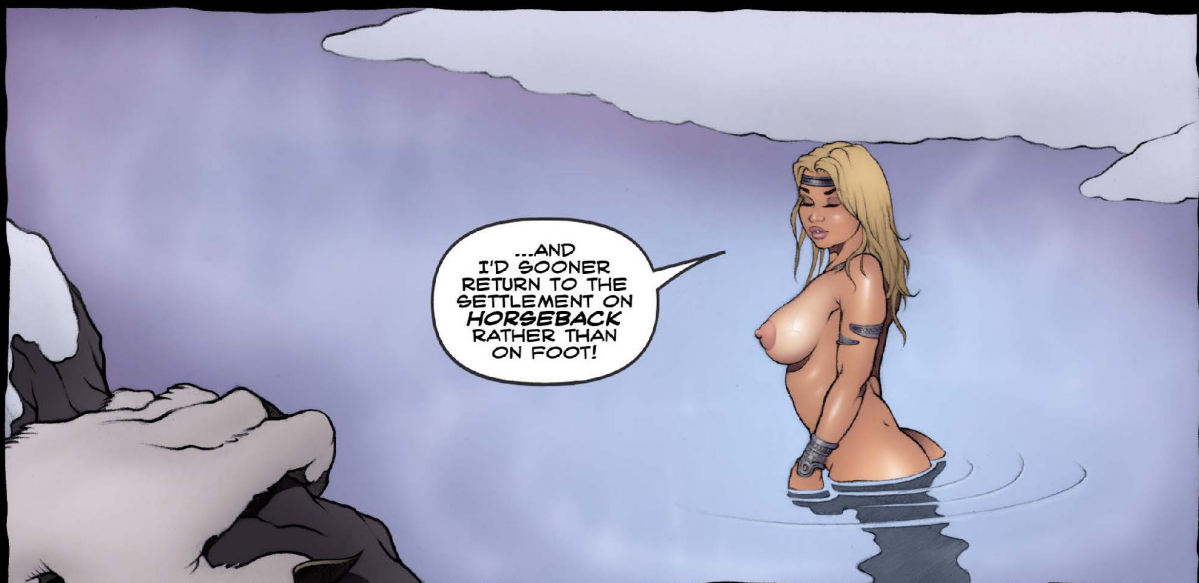
A NATURAL hot spring
in Southern Iceland...

I WOULDN'T
DRINK *TOO*
MUCH OF
THAT WATER,
VINKA--

--LEST THE
MINERALS
SHOULD BRING
FORTH VIOLENT
SICKNESS...



...AND
I'D SOONER
RETURN TO THE
SETTLEMENT ON
HORSEBACK
RATHER THAN
ON FOOT!







930 A.D.

A remote ABBEY nestled deep
within the Scottish Highlands...





BRIANNA!?!
HOW DID YOU--?
YOU CAN'T BE HERE!
IF THE OTHER MONKS
WERE TO FIND OUT!

WORRY NOT,
GREGORY, THE OLD
FOOLS ARE TOO
BUSY PRAYING!

DON'T SPEAK
ILL OF THEM!
I-I DON'T WANT
TO SEE YOU...
YOU MUST
LEAVE!



YOU
CAN'T
TRULY
MEAN
THAT!



I DO MEAN
IT... I TOOK AN
OATH! PLEASE,
YOU MUST GO!

BUT...

I SAID LEAVE
ME BE! I HAVE
TO GET BACK TO
MY STUDIES!

GREGORY,
DON'T FORSAKE
ME FOR THIS...

...THIS
CULT...!

...OLD MEN
IN TUNICS WHO
BURN WOMEN AT
THE STAKE--

--IS THAT
WHO YOU
WISH TO
BECOME...?

...



...PERHAPS
WORDS ARE NOT
THE MEANS BY
WHICH I SHALL
MAKE YOU COME
TO YOUR
SENSES...



WELL...

...YOUR LIPS MAY SAY YOU DON'T WANT ME HERE--

--BUT THAT **BULGE** UNDER YOUR ROBE TELLS QUITE A DIFFERENT STORY!



WHY SHOULD IT BE SUCH A **SIN** FOR YOU TO POSSESS ME...?



...AFTER ALL, GOD GAVE YOU A **COCK** FOR A REASON--

--SO COME OVER BY THE FLAME AND **USE IT** ON ME...