

SHE BUILT HER BODY for LOVE

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BULKING

for Romance



#2

BULKING FOR ROMANCE #2

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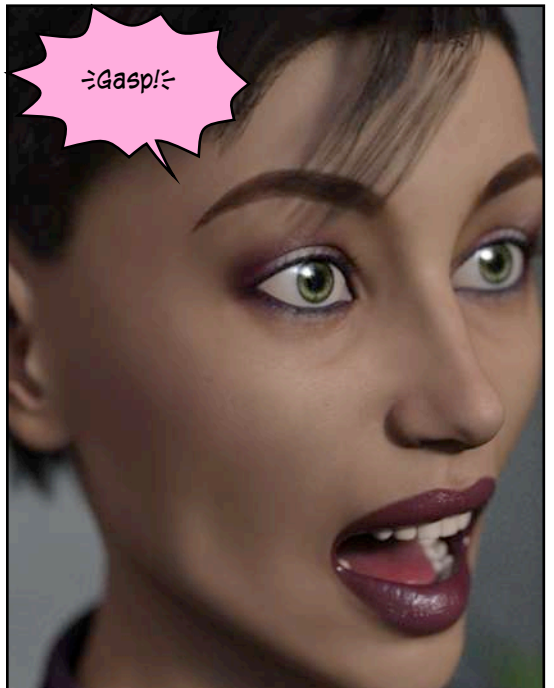
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Part 2: The Date

He's pretty cute, it's hard to believe a girl would stand him up.

I hope Mary Helen isn't standing me up...





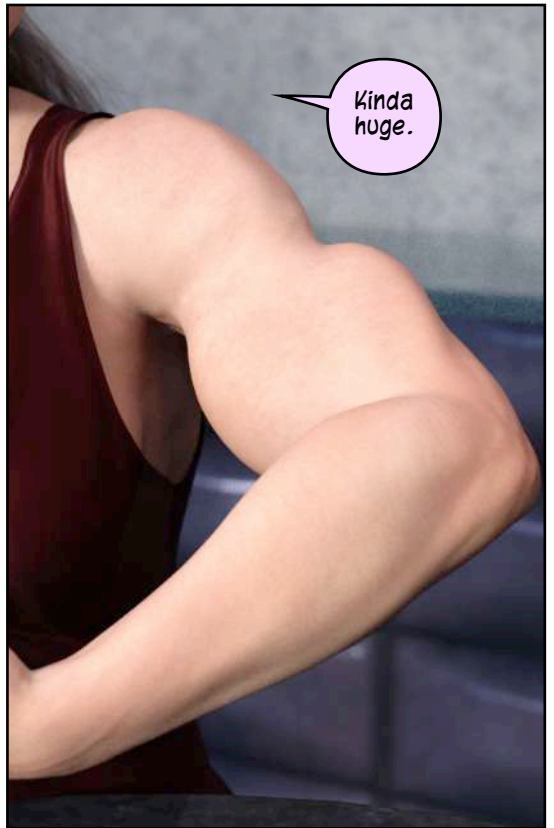
*That's the most
muscular girl
I've ever seen!*

Hi!!
(Sorry
I'm late!)









I probably should have worn something with *sleeves* but I like showing off how much progress I've made.

Plus, I've gotten so *muscular* that sleeves don't really hide it, anymore. I can wear *really bulky* clothing to hide my muscles, but then I just look *fat*.

I get a lot of stares. You don't think I look like a *freak*, do you?

Freak? Are you crazy!?

You're **BEAUTIFUL!**

I mean, I'm completely dazzled by you, too, just like the waitress.





Everyone can see it...

What you've accomplished is so impressive!



I wish I'd accomplished a *tenth* as much as you did while the school was closed.

I ...



...NNNGH!!!



Are you... Can I help?

I just gotta use my legs to brace it...



Or me? I, uh, I lift.

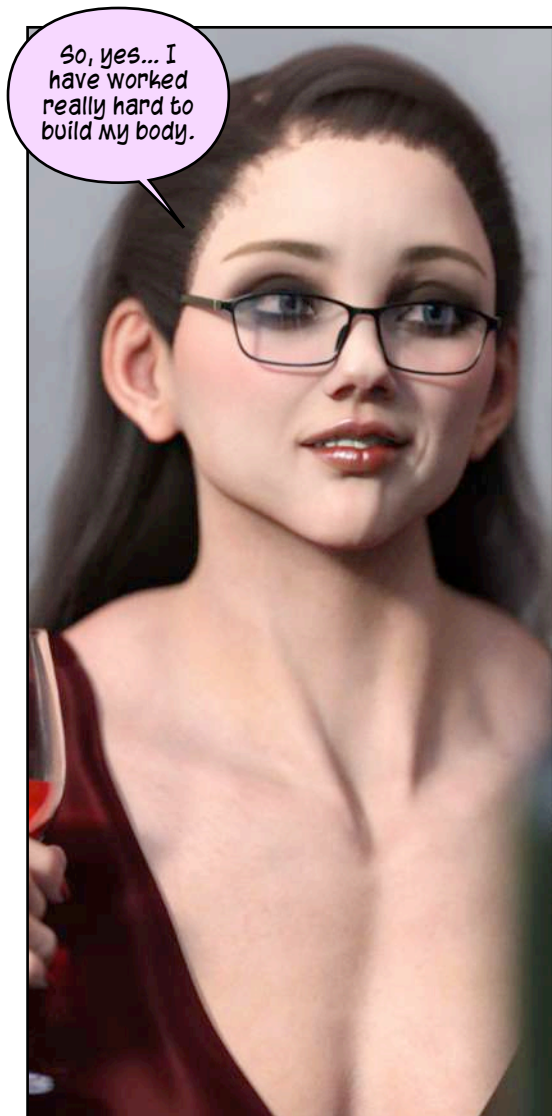
Maybe I should start lifting, too.

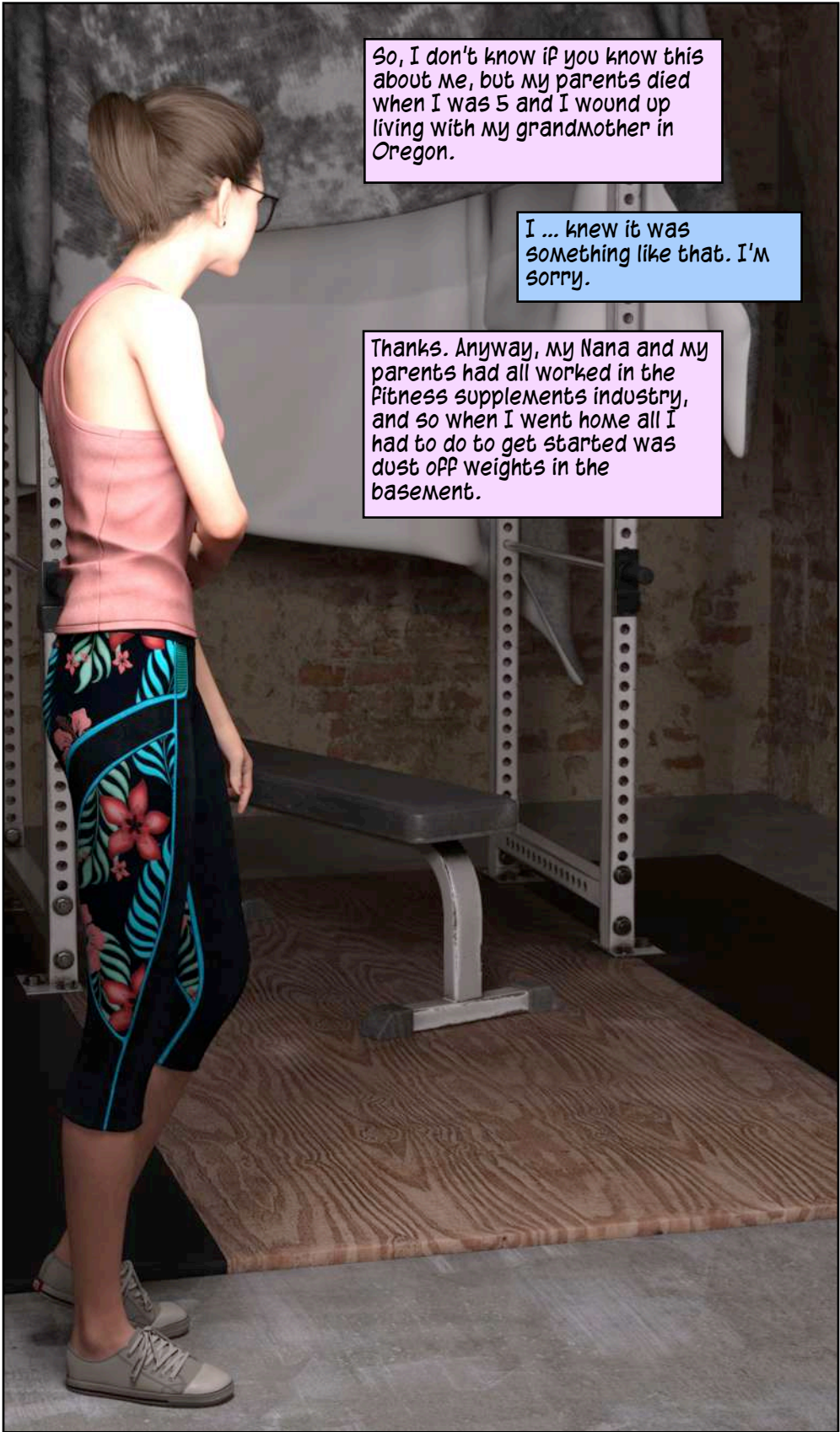
POP!



Whew!





A woman with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing glasses, a pink tank top, and black leggings with a teal and red floral pattern, stands in a gym. She is looking towards the right. In the background, there is a silver metal rack with a black bench. The floor is made of light-colored wood. Three text boxes are overlaid on the image.

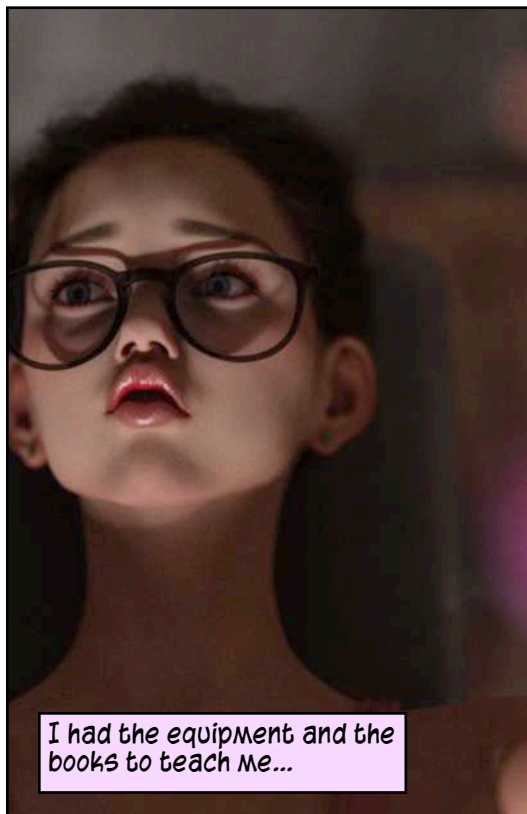
So, I don't know if you know this about me, but my parents died when I was 5 and I wound up living with my grandmother in Oregon.

I ... knew it was something like that. I'm sorry.

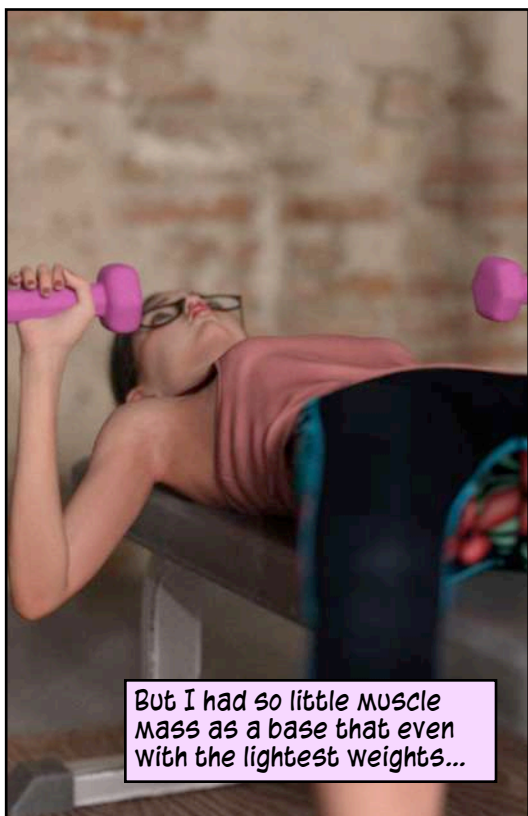
Thanks. Anyway, my Nana and my parents had all worked in the fitness supplements industry, and so when I went home all I had to do to get started was dust off weights in the basement.



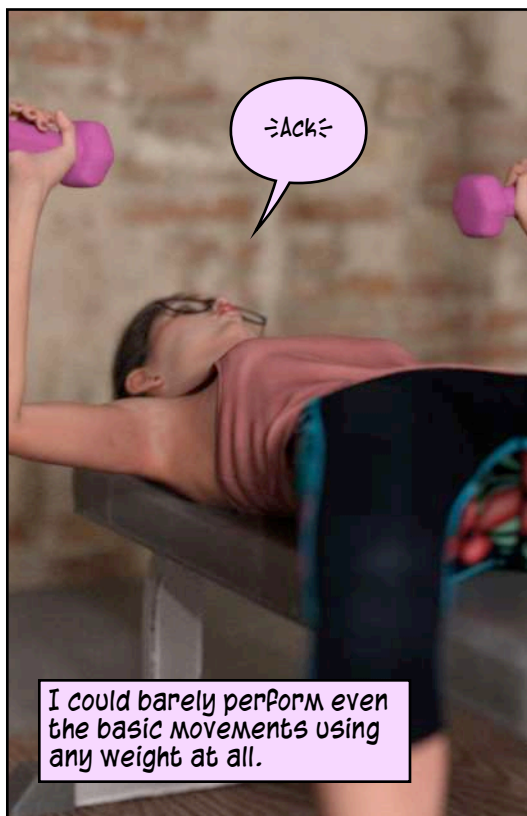
But despite my family legacy, I was *really* weak.



I had the equipment and the books to teach me...

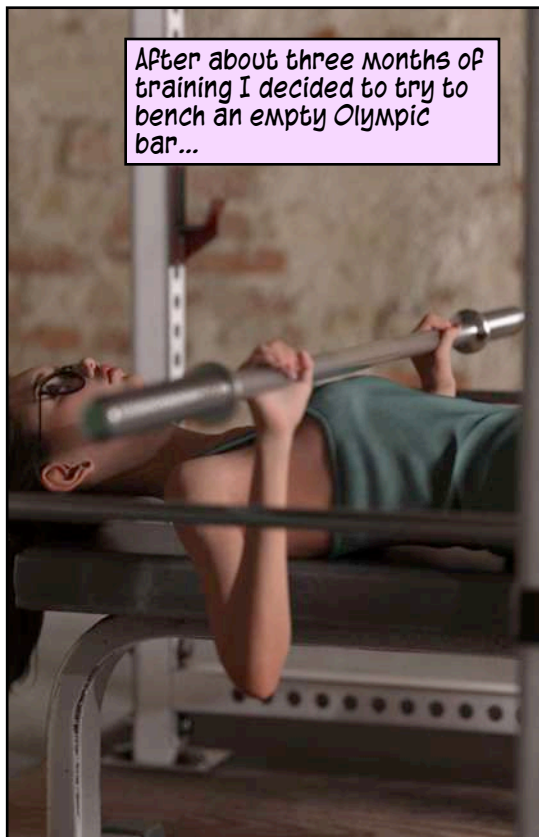


But I had so little muscle mass as a base that even with the lightest weights...



I could barely perform even the basic movements using any weight at all.

After about three months of training I decided to try to bench an empty Olympic bar...



But it was too heavy! And I'd set the safety pins too low!



I was *stuck!*

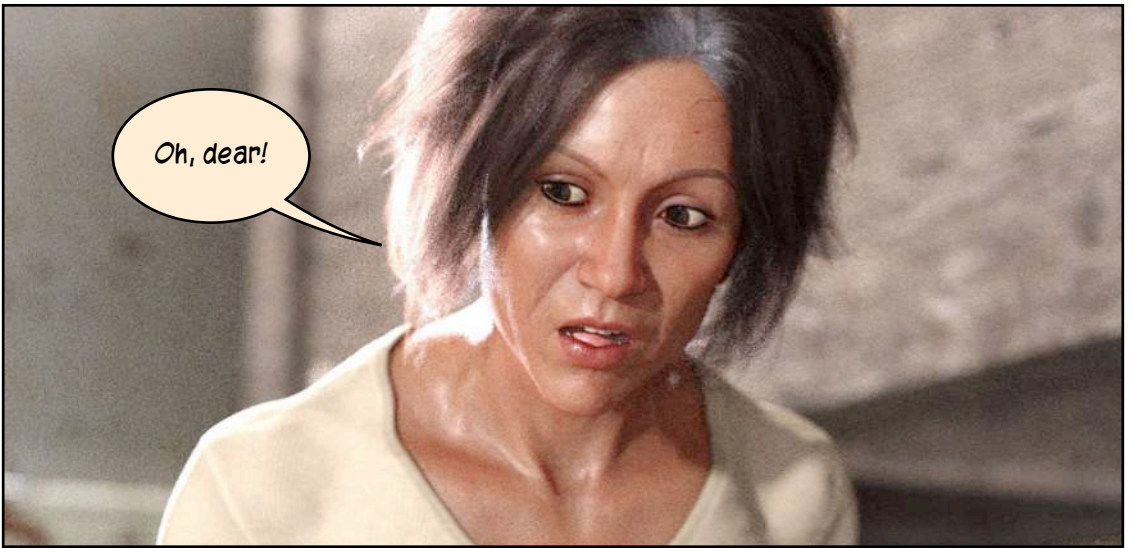
TRAPPED!

NANA!!





Sweetie?



Oh, dear!



I'M STUCK!!

I got it. I
got it. You're
OK.





Growing up,
you were so girly
& never showed an
interest in any of
this.



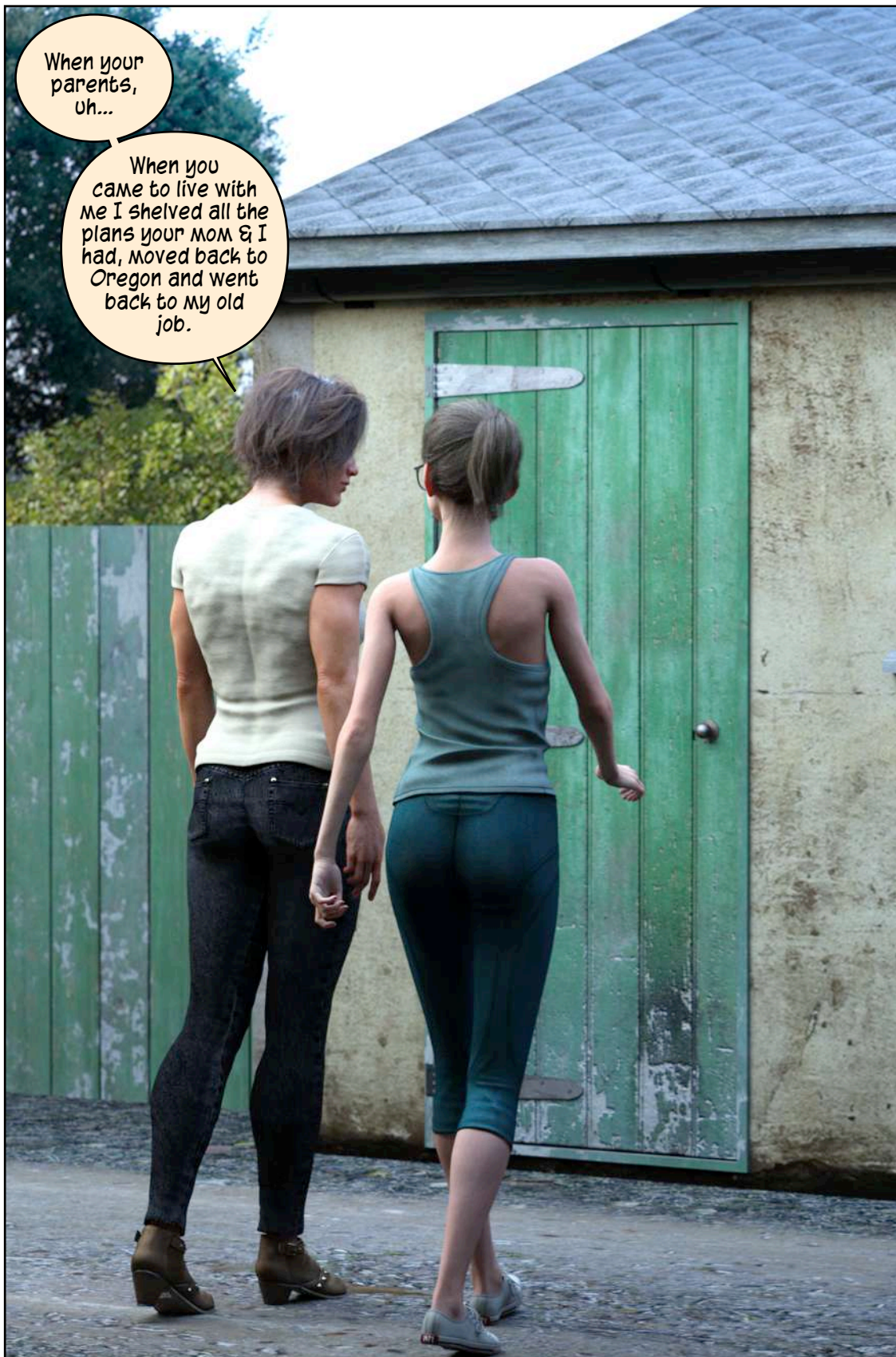
But... Maybe
it's time to
share your
legacy.



My...
Legacy?

When your
parents,
uh...

When you
came to live with
me I shelved all the
plans your mom & I
had, moved back to
Oregon and went
back to my old
job.





But I kept up with the training your mom and I had started a few years earlier...



And I kept the most important element of that here...



I remember how *jacked* you used to be...

Before you, uh, began training less.



I never slowed down my training. Not permanently, anyway.



But... You're still obviously really fit but you're smaller than you were!

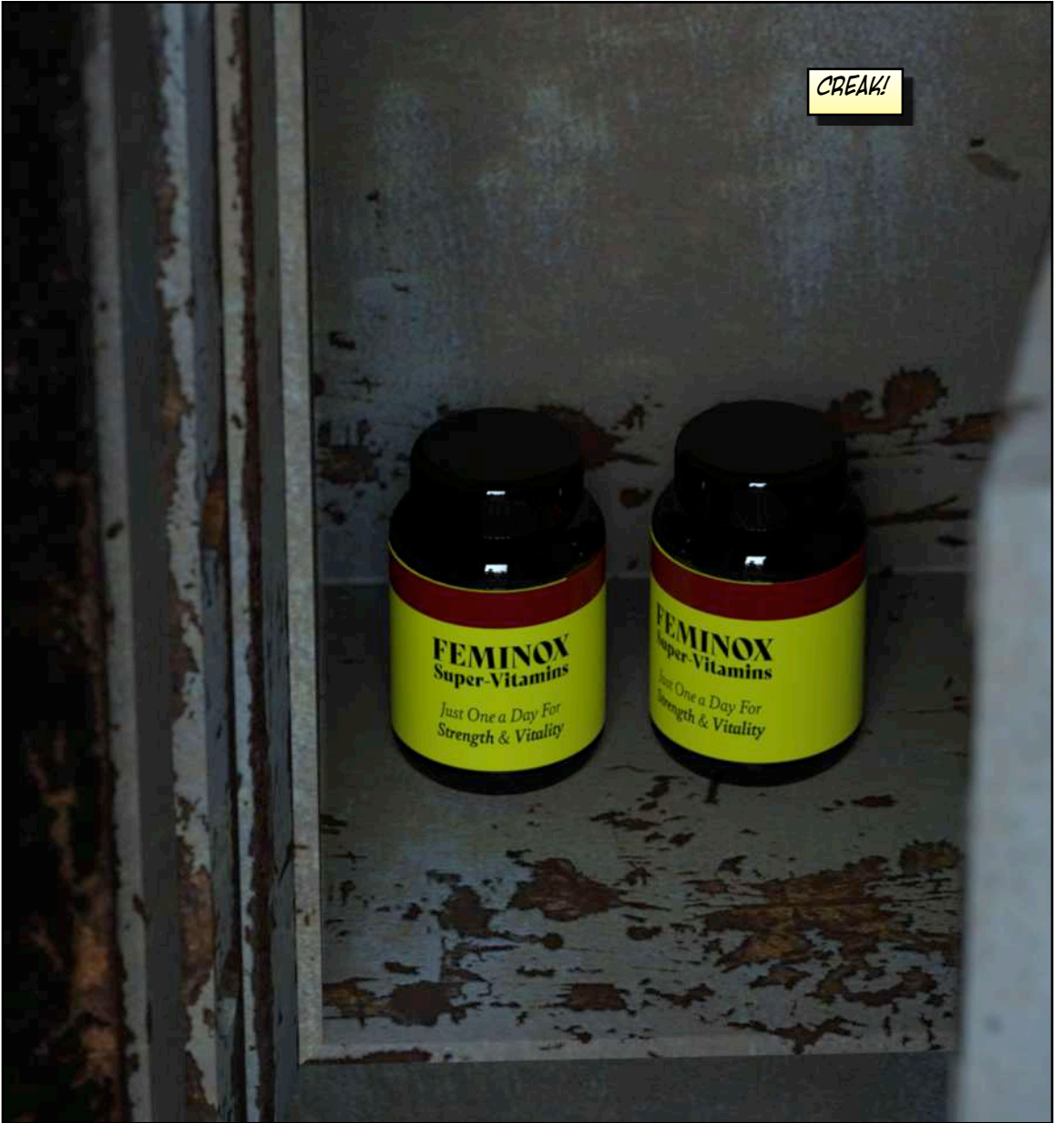
And what does the safe have to do with it?




I kept it locked away when you were little, so you wouldn't accidentally get into it.

And later I stopped using it except on rare occasions.

And there's a LOT more of it, plus production equipment, in a storage facility.

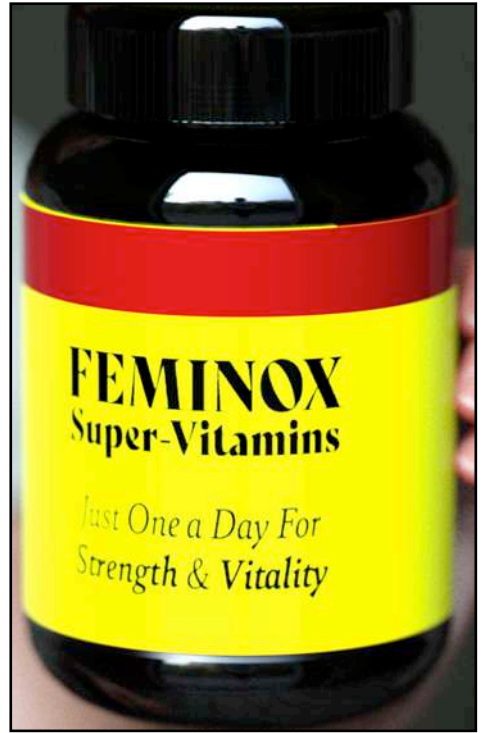


A woman with glasses and a green tank top stands by a window, looking out at a lush green landscape. In the foreground, the back of a person's head and shoulders is visible, looking towards the woman. A speech bubble points to the woman.

What are those?



This is your legacy.



FEMINOX
Super-Vitamins

Just One a Day For
Strength & Vitality



Old-timey
lady
vitamins?



How many old
ladies do you
know with
MUSCLES?

OK, Fair.



Take one, but
don't put it in
your mouth,
yet.



I'll go
first.





OH.
MY.
GOD.



Your muscles!
They're as big as they used to be!


That's *RIGHT*.

A single **FEMINOX** tablet approximately doubles any woman's strength. And it only works on women.


It wears off after 24 hours. At least that's what we *thought*.

But after 15 years of almost daily use, I realized there were some long-term side-effects, so I stopped.



A young woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing black-rimmed glasses and a teal tank top, is flexing her right bicep. She has a serious expression. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage.

Is that it? I
thought I'd get
really big **MUSCLES**
like you did!



You're starting out with very little muscle.

Feminox can only double the strength you have.

OK.



Take one every day for a month, and keep lifting, and then we'll start you on two pills a day.



So, two pills will quadruple my strength?

Why not just start now?

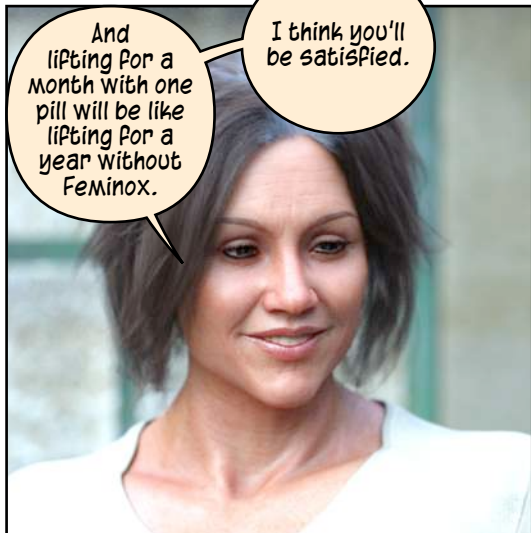


You need to see Feminox as a gateway, not a crutch.

You should use it, along with training, to reach your goals. And then stop using it.



I guess I understand.



And lifting for a month with one pill will be like lifting for a year without Feminox.

I think you'll be satisfied.



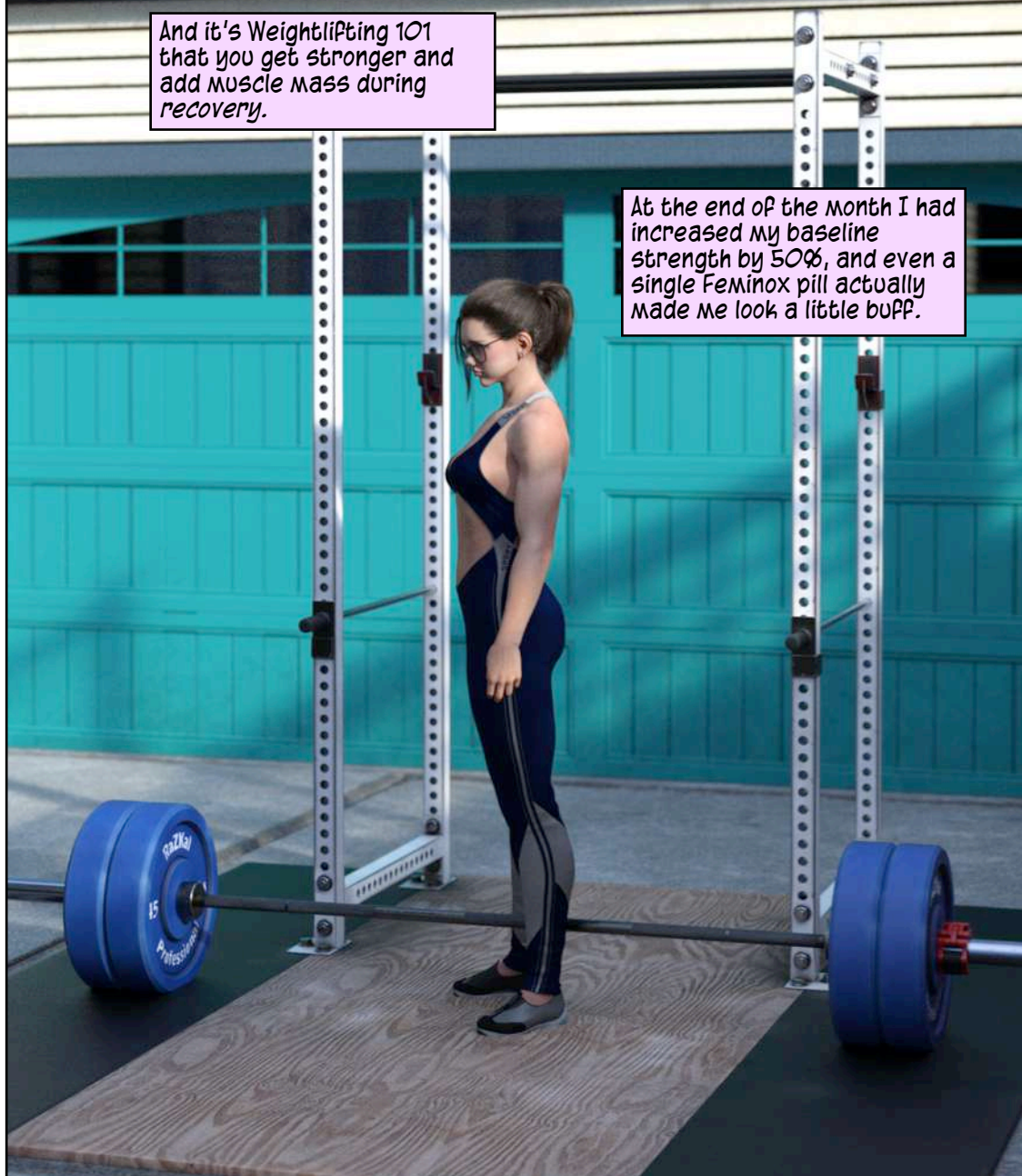
Ok. Thanks, Nana.

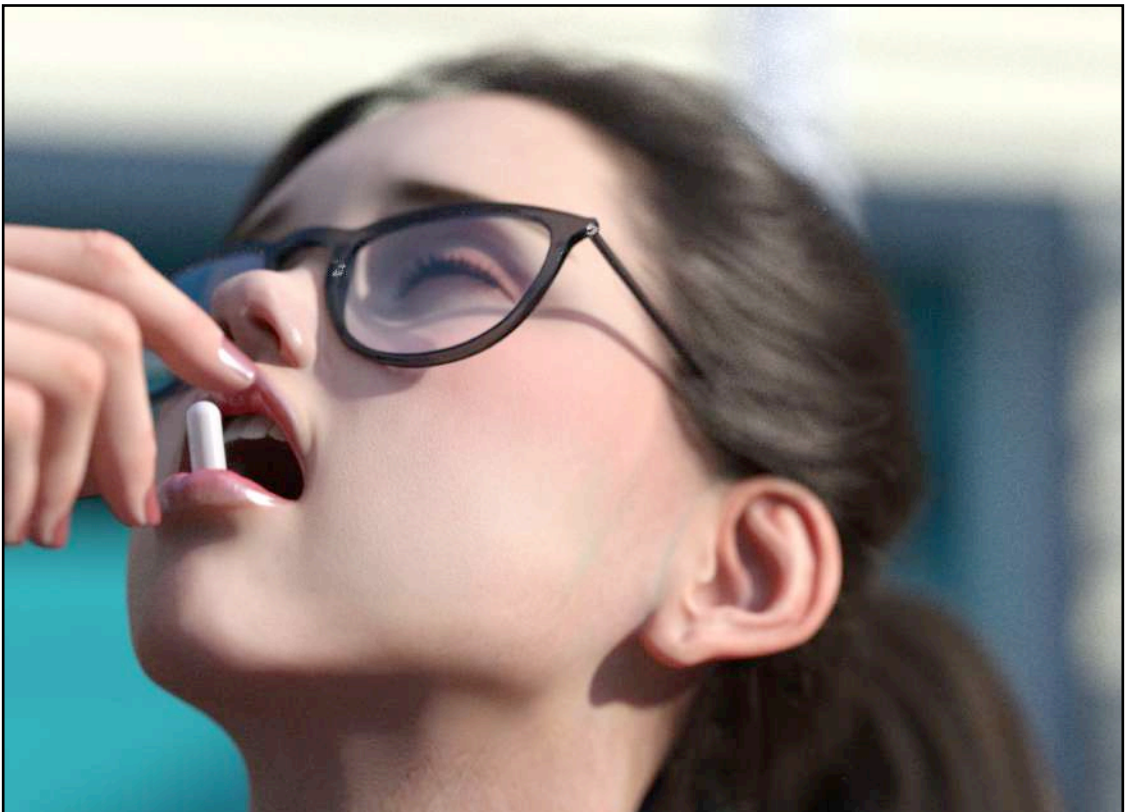
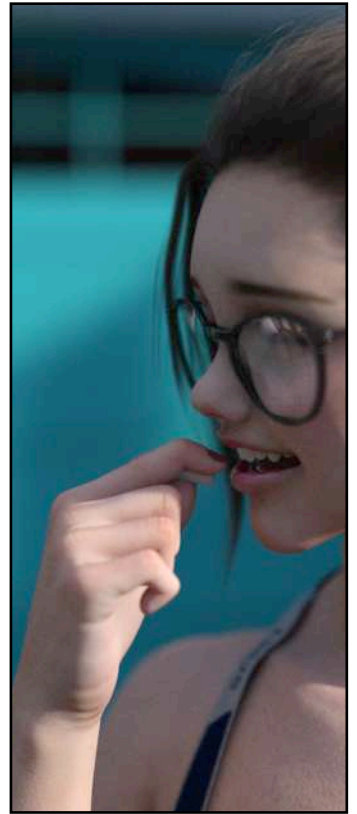
So I did what Nana said and kept lifting while I was taking one Feminox pill per day.

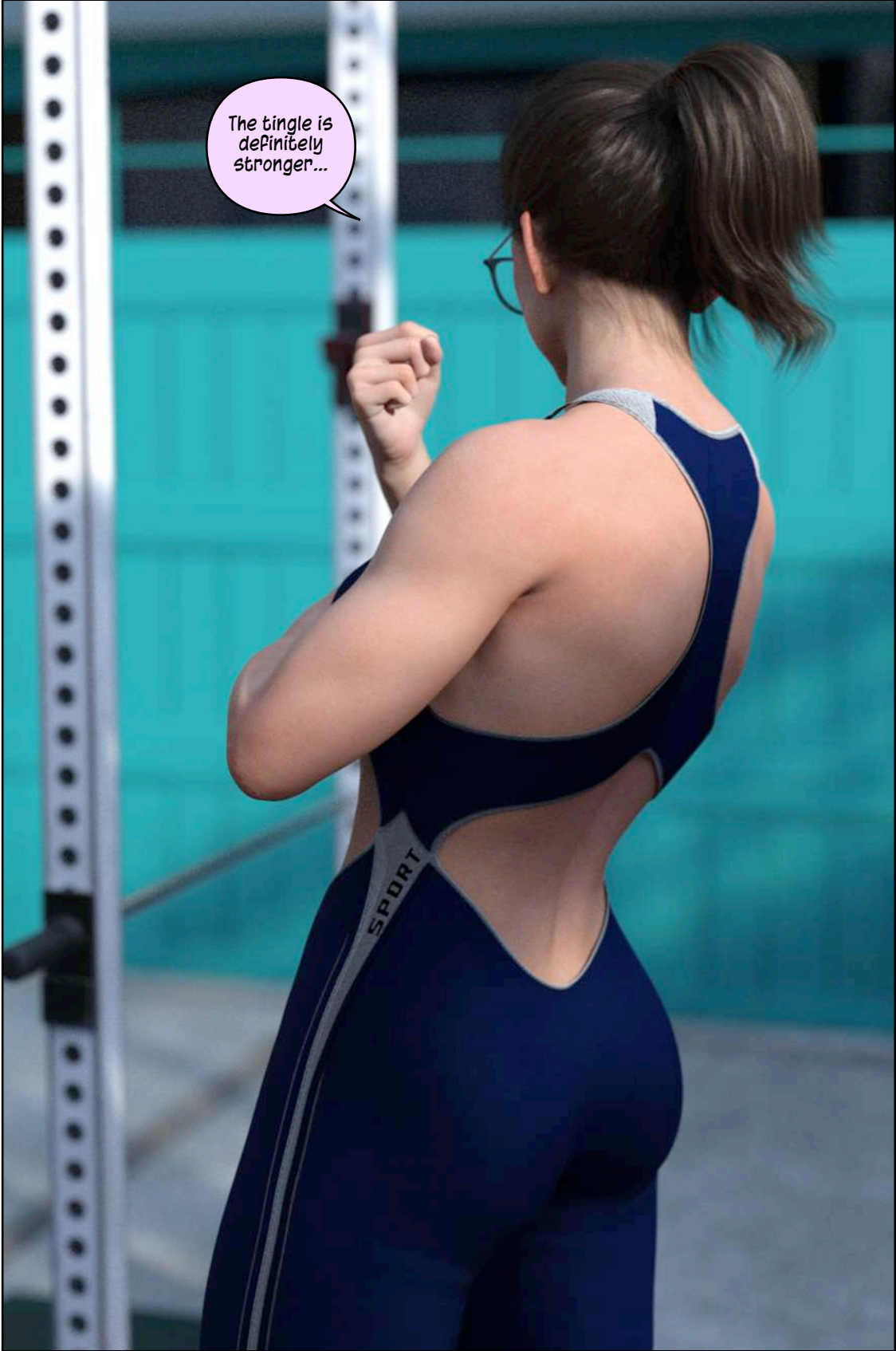
But here's the thing: when you lift with Feminox you also eat and sleep with Feminox, and so your recovery is amplified and accelerated.

And it's Weightlifting 101 that you get stronger and add muscle mass during recovery.

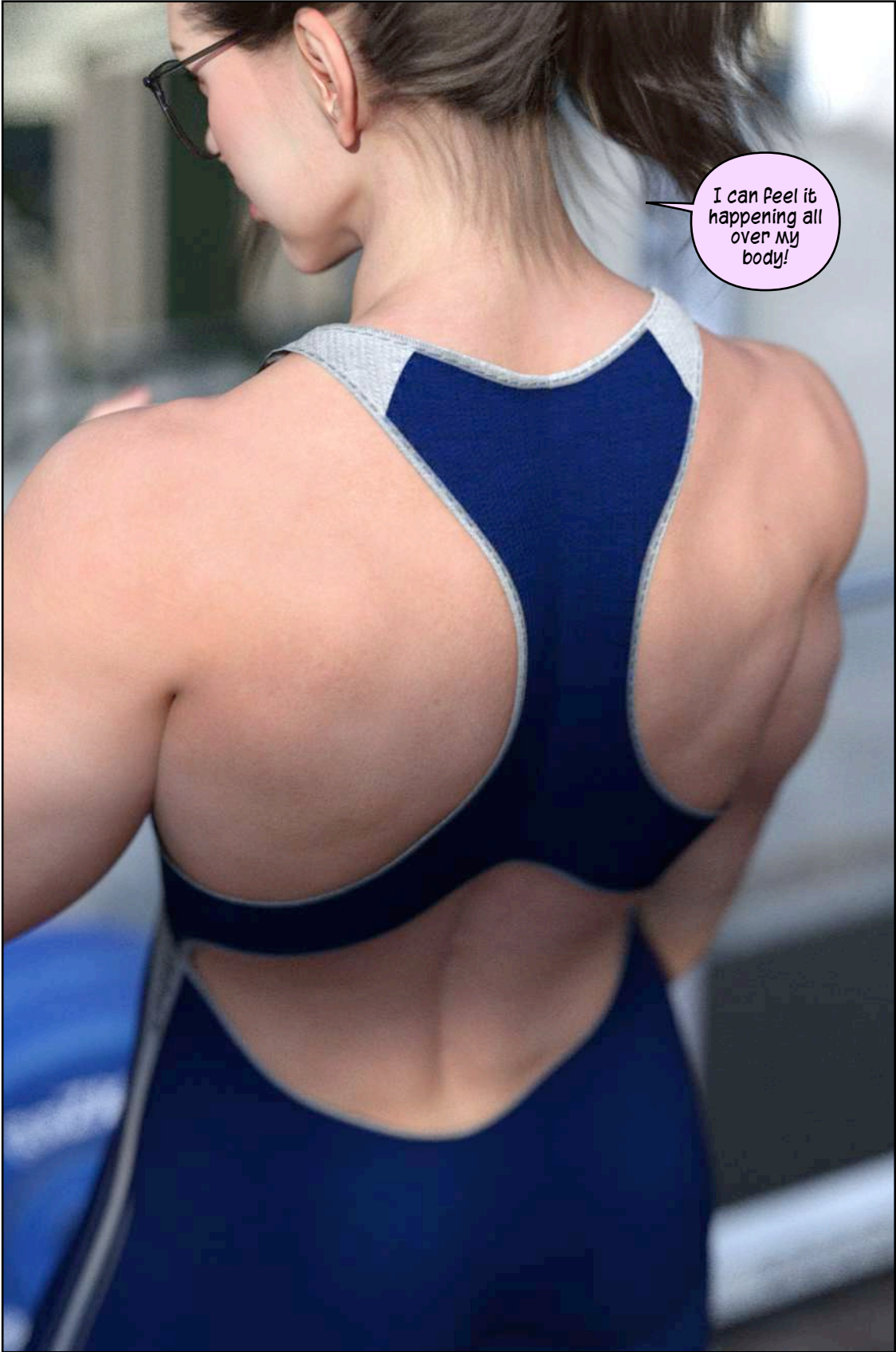
At the end of the month I had increased my baseline strength by 50%, and even a single Feminox pill actually made me look a little buff.







The tingle is definitely stronger...



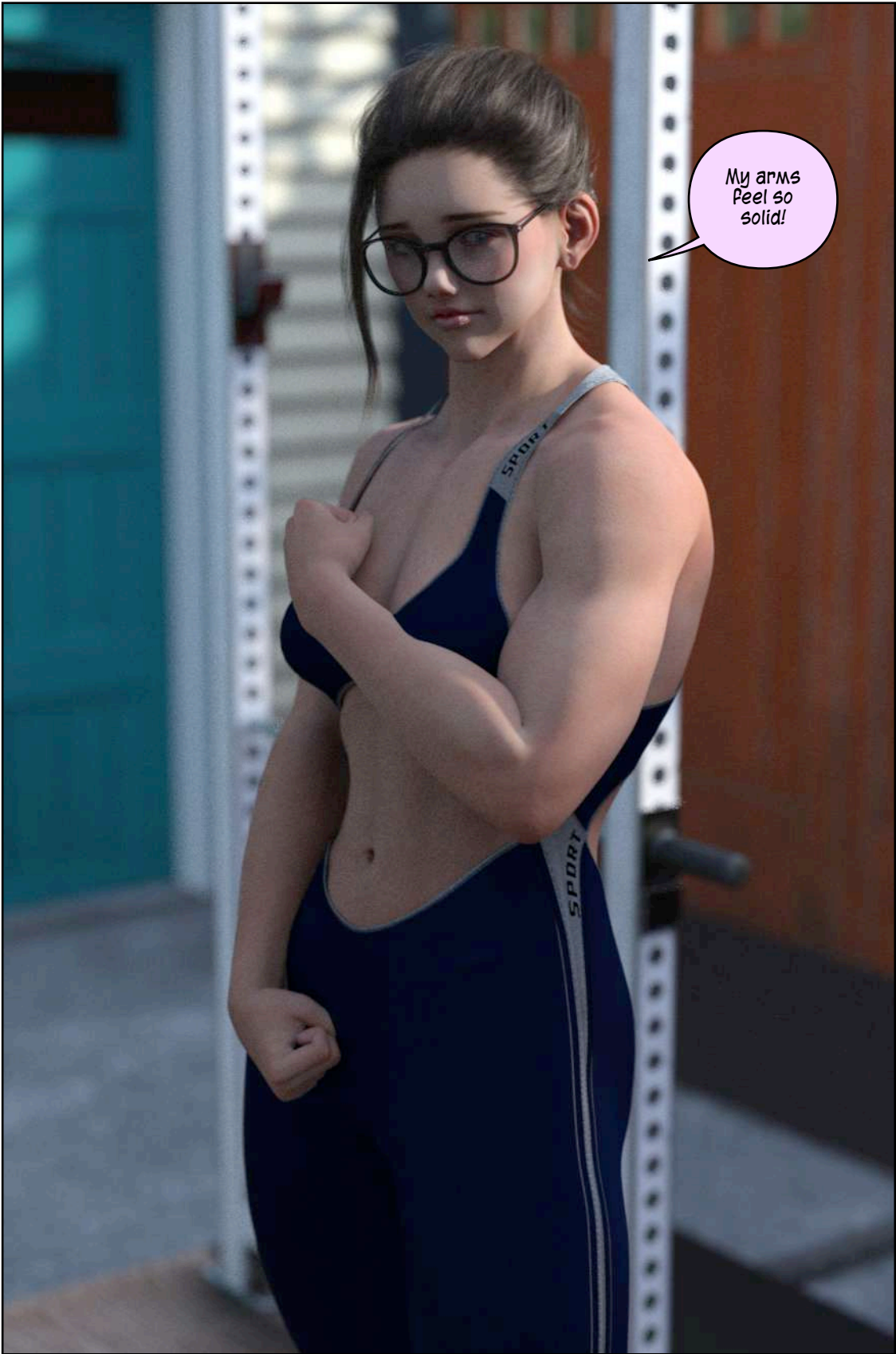
I can feel it happening all over my body!



I'm really getting jacked!

SWELL!

SWELL!



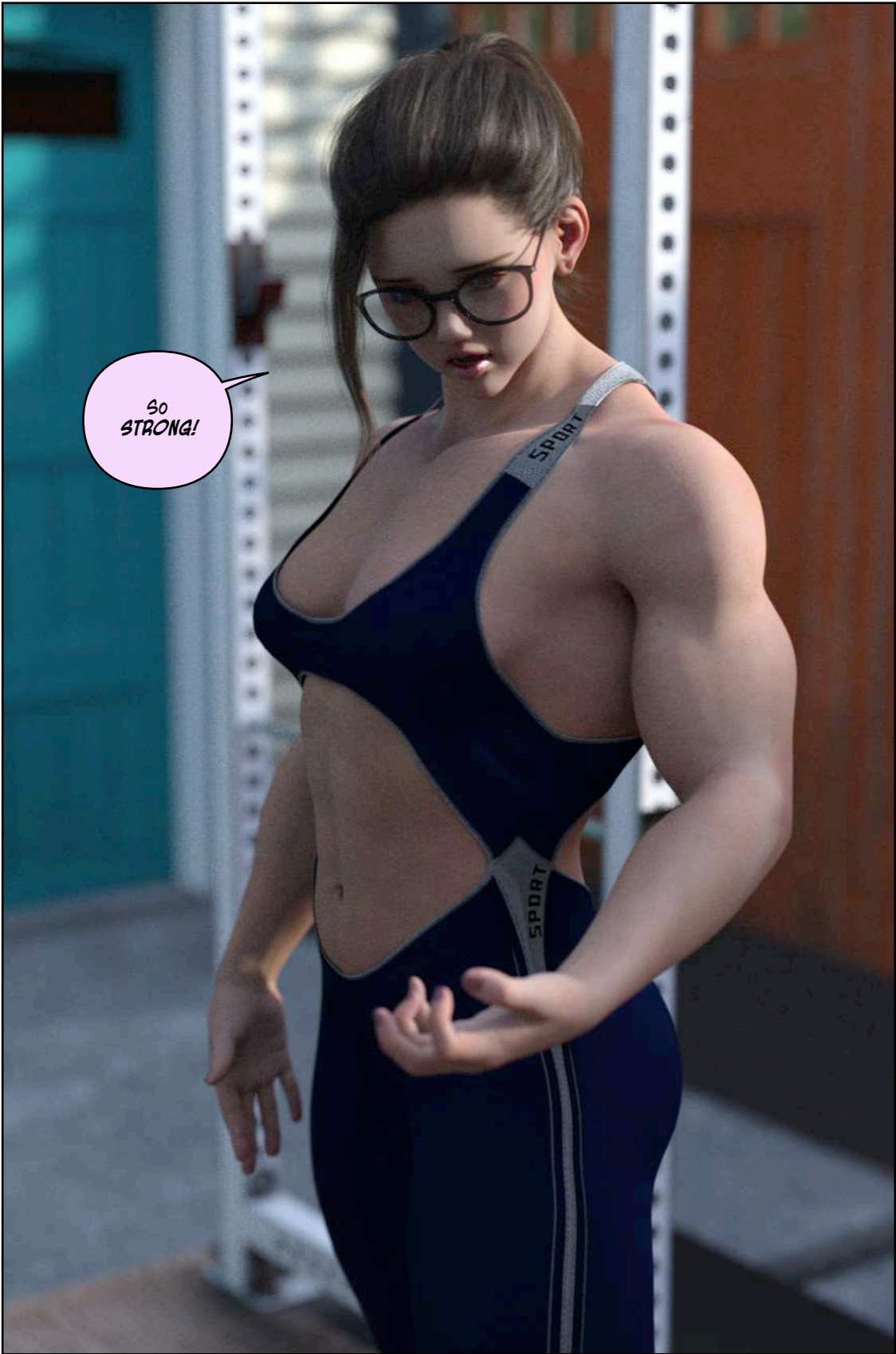
My arms
Peel so
solid!



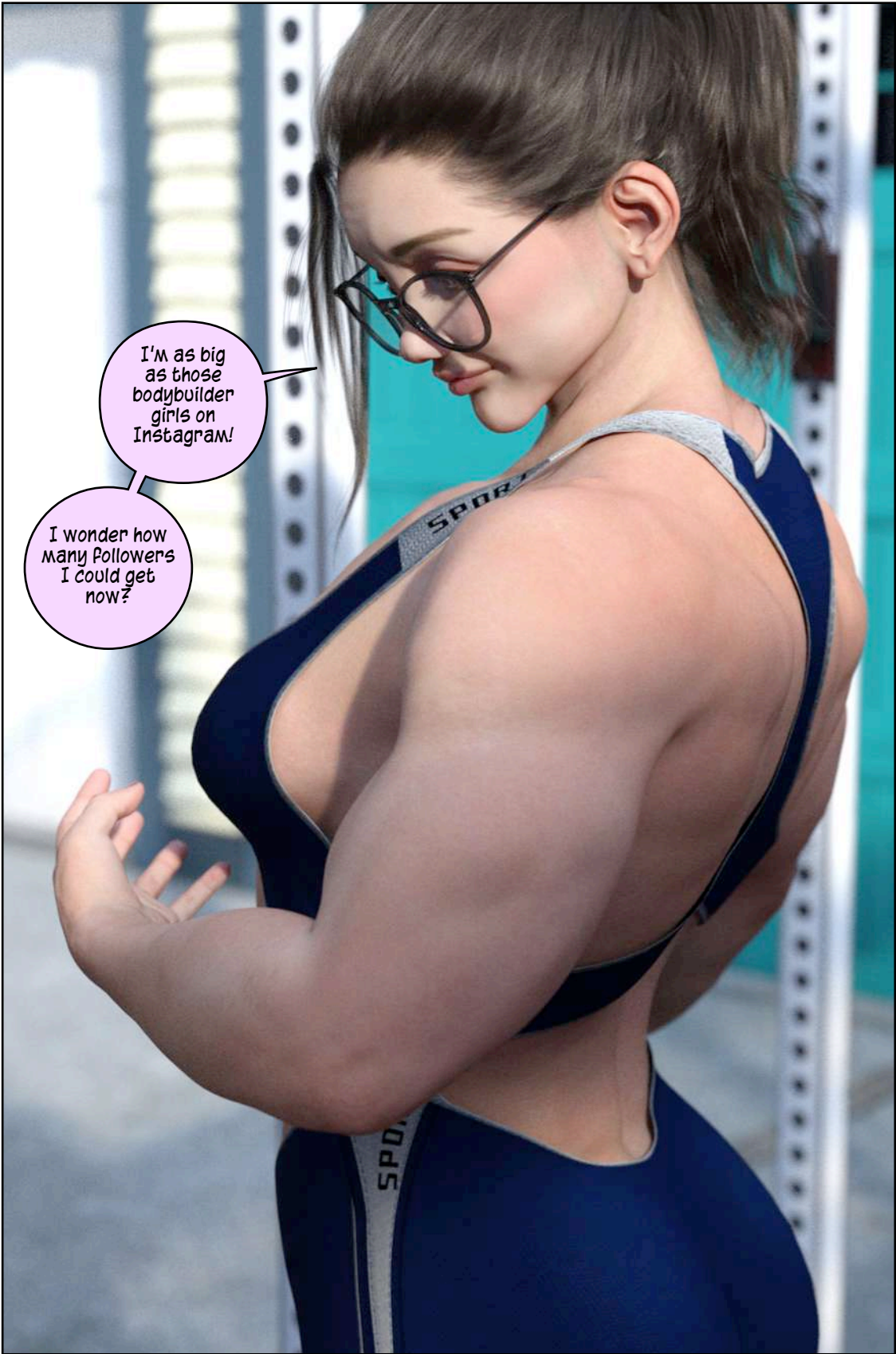
I can see them getting bigger and stronger!

This is so much better than just one pill!

I'll probably be able to bench 225 when this has finished!



So
STRONG!



I'm as big as those bodybuilder girls on Instagram!

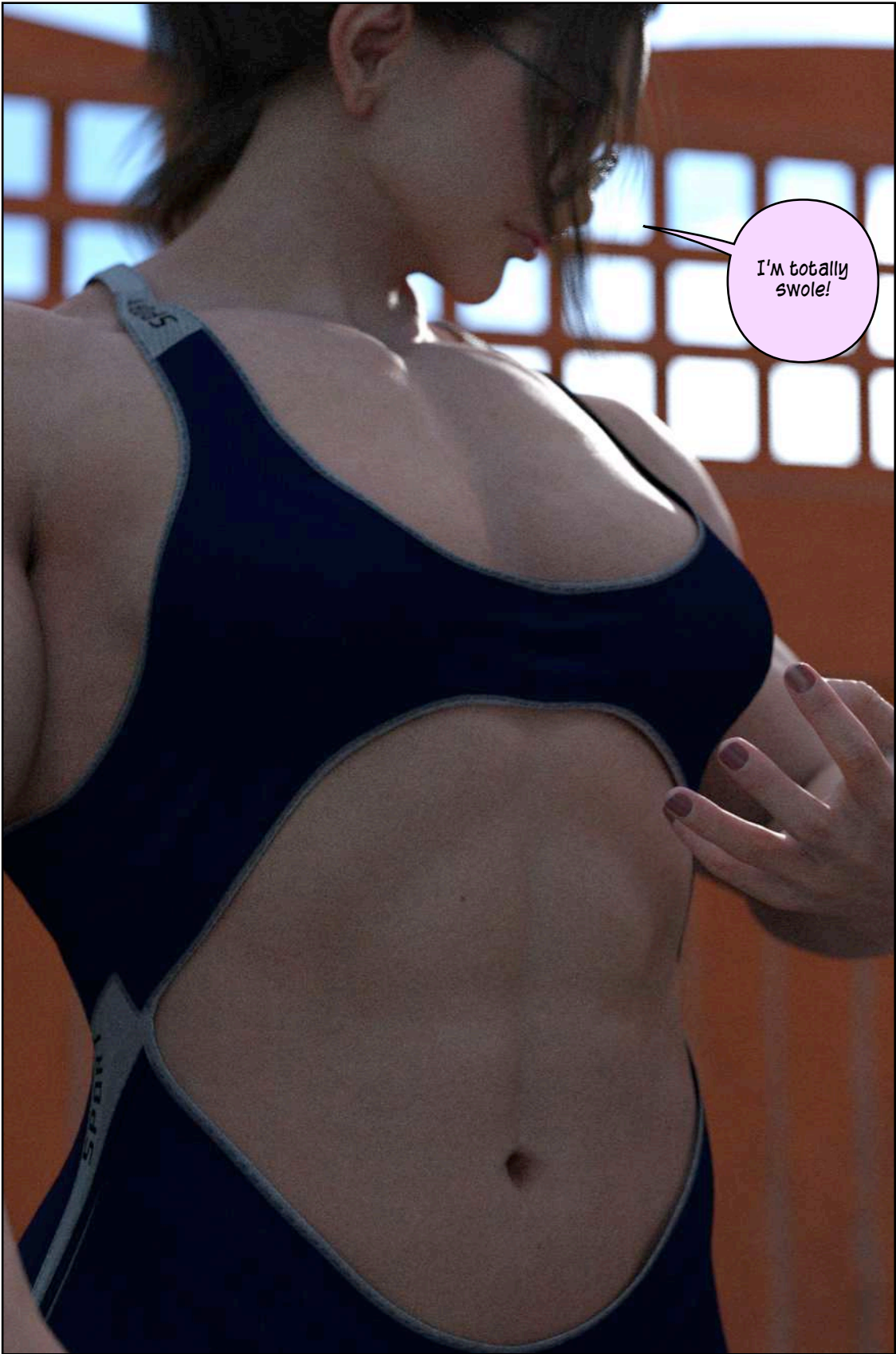
I wonder how many Followers I could get now?



My shoulders
and back Peel so
big and broad!



It's a good thing my pants are stretchy!



I'm totally swole!



This is
fantastic!!

And once I began lifting with two Feminox pills each day, the gains came faster than I could believe. Eventually I dropped back to one and kept making gains, which is what I do now.

I'm as big and strong right now as I've ever been, although I did accidentally take a third pill once, early on, and wound up almost as big as I am now, for 24 hours.



This is my building.

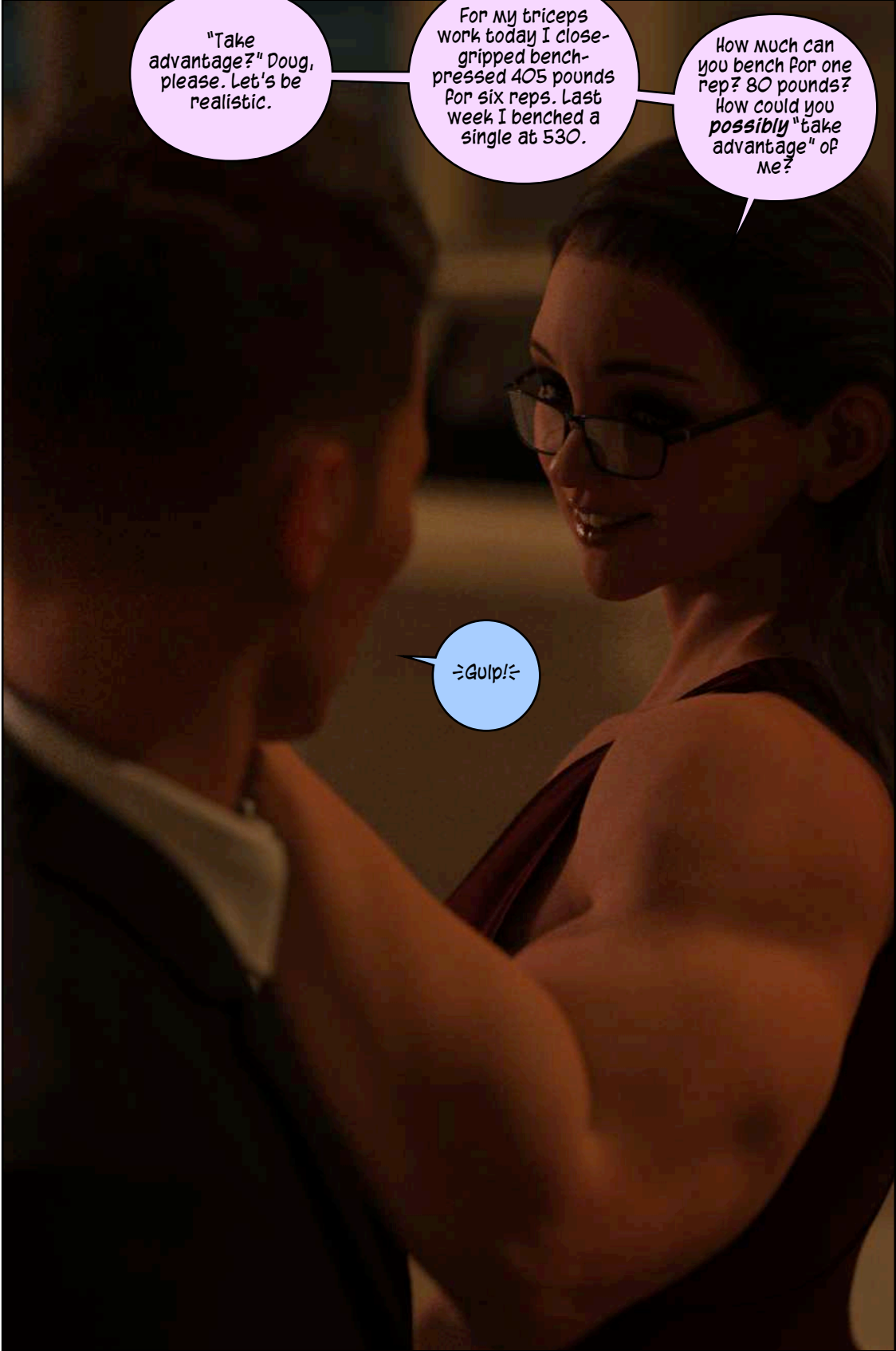
A woman with long dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark, sleeveless dress, is talking to a man in a dark suit. She has her hand on his shoulder. The background is a dimly lit interior with a stone wall and a window with vertical bars.

Come on upstairs.

There's something I want to show you.

Are you sure?

You've been drinking and I don't want to take advantage of you.



"Take advantage?" Doug, please. Let's be realistic.

For my triceps work today I close-gripped bench-pressed 405 pounds for six reps. Last week I benched a single at 530.

How much can you bench for one rep? 80 pounds? How could you *possibly* "take advantage" of me?

=Gulp!=-



I may well
be the
strongest
woman on
Earth...

And you've been
staring at my big,
sexy, crazy strong
muscles every chance
you've had. Come
upstairs.


FLEX!



⇒Choke!⇐

How could I say **NO** to the biggest lady biceps I've ever seen?

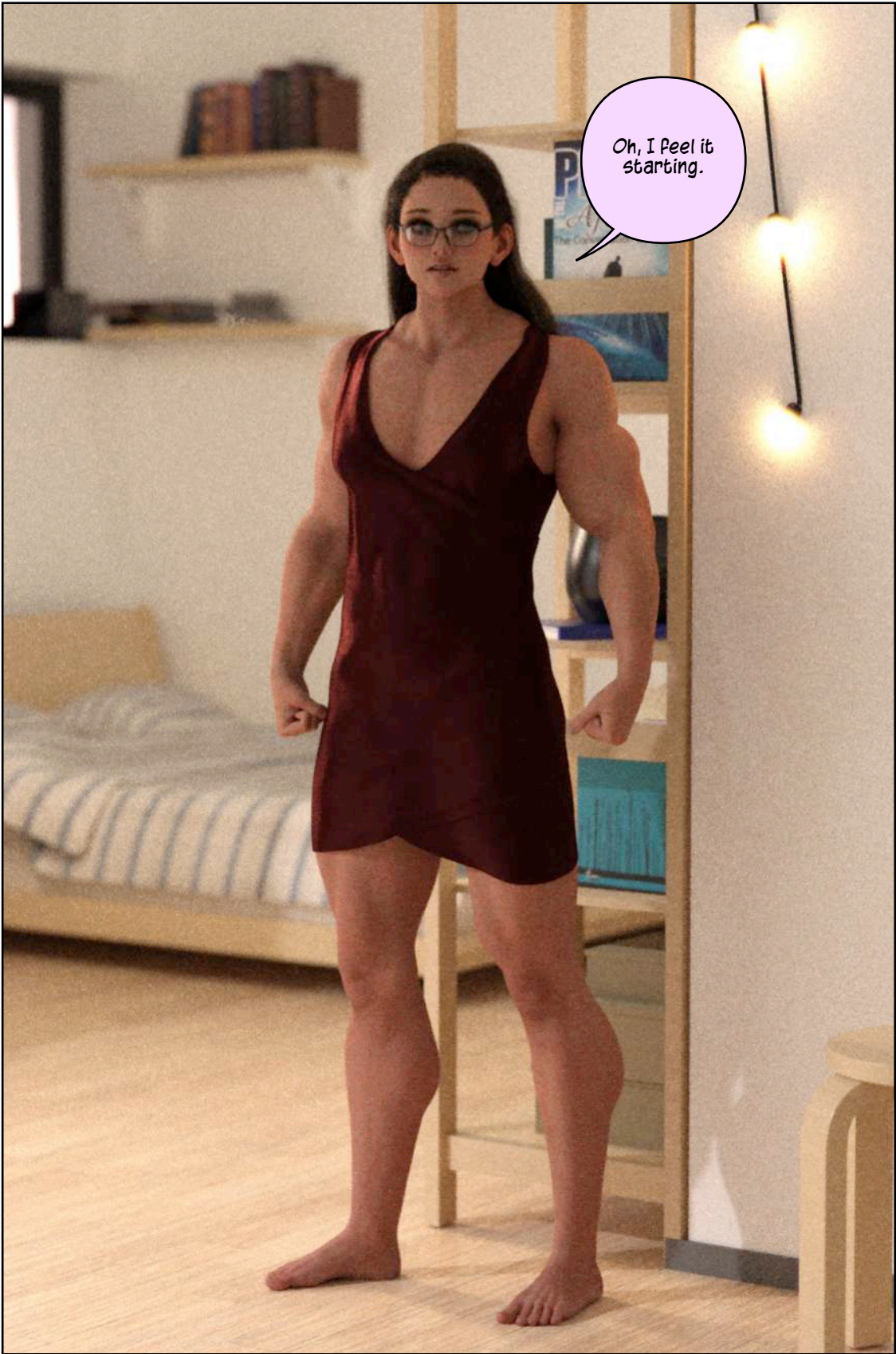




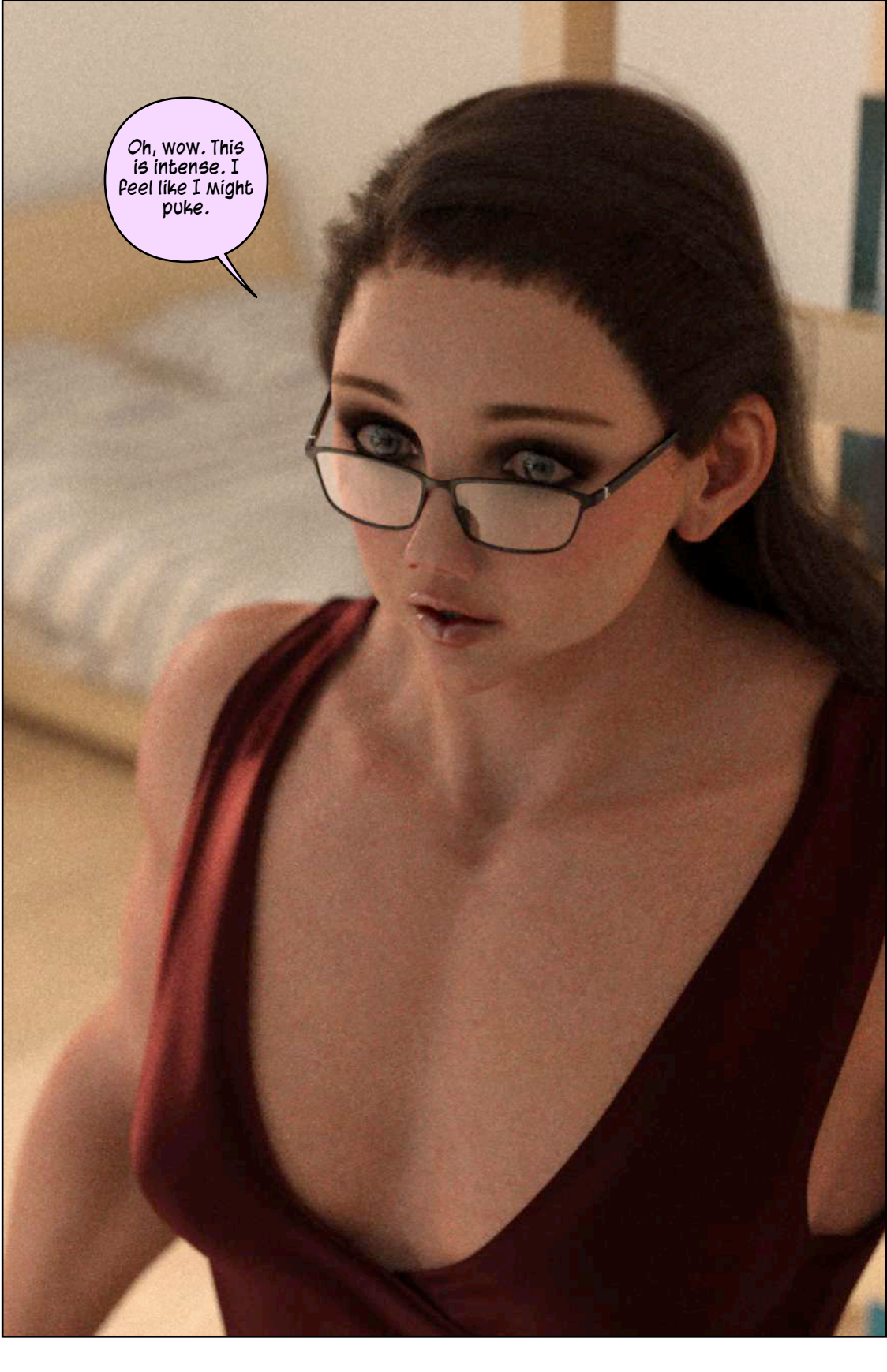
And I want you to sit there and watch while I prove to you...

What Feminox can do!

I'm watching!



Oh, I feel it starting.

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing black-rimmed glasses and a dark red, low-cut top. She has a surprised or overwhelmed expression on her face, with wide eyes and slightly open lips. The background is a softly blurred indoor setting, possibly a bedroom with a bed and a chair visible.

Oh, wow. This
is intense. I
Feel like I might
puke.

My body feels like it's heating up.





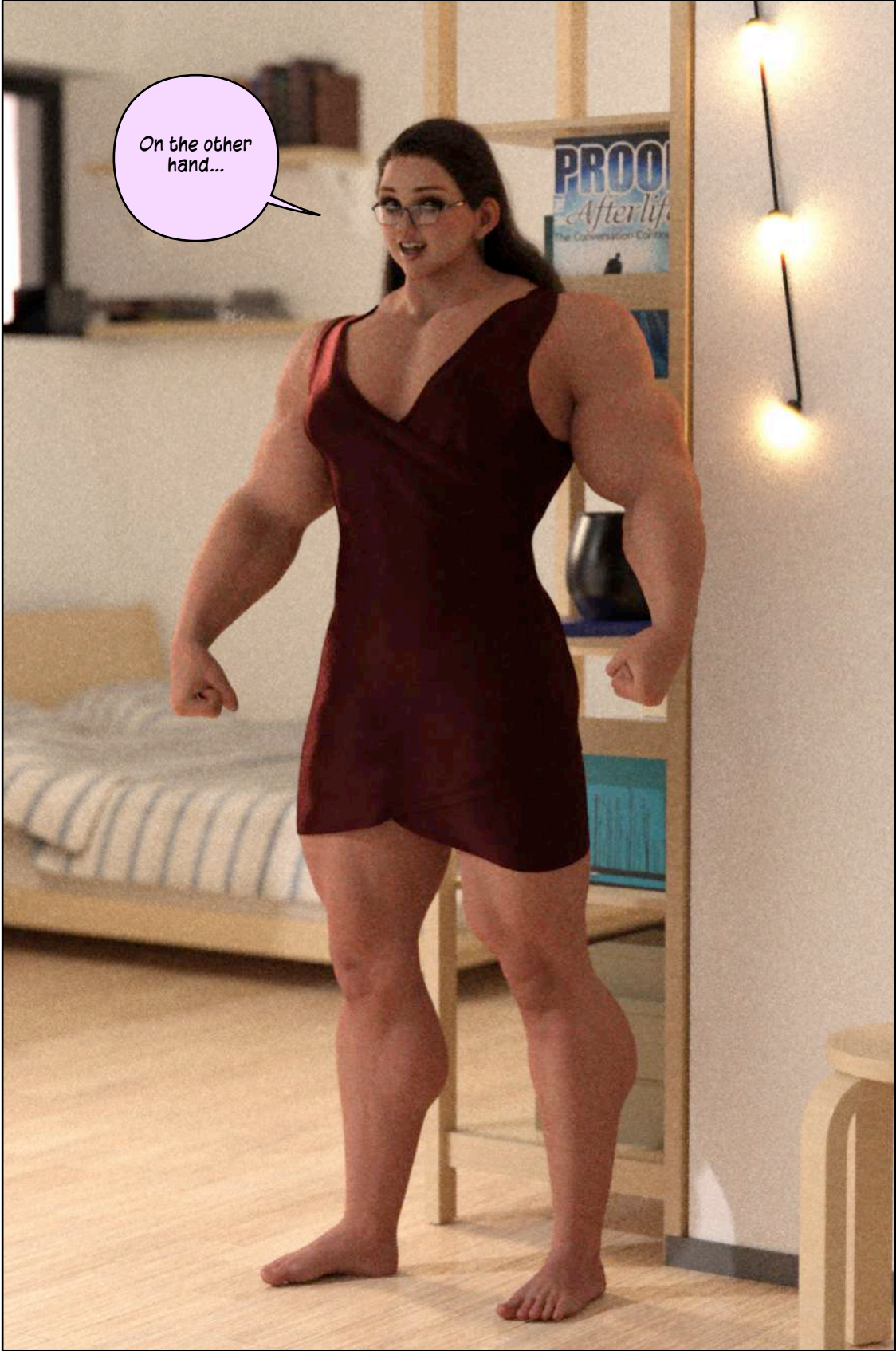
I'm not 100% sure this was a good idea.

If this works I'll be twice as strong as I've ever been...

Stronger than any man has ever been...

Oh, gosh. What if I freak out?

On the other hand...





Imagine what I'll be able to do with these muscles!

I'll be able to deadlift the front end of my car!

Remember
how tiny I used
to be? And now
look at me!

Strongest
human alive!





Look at how thick my pecs are! How thick everything is!

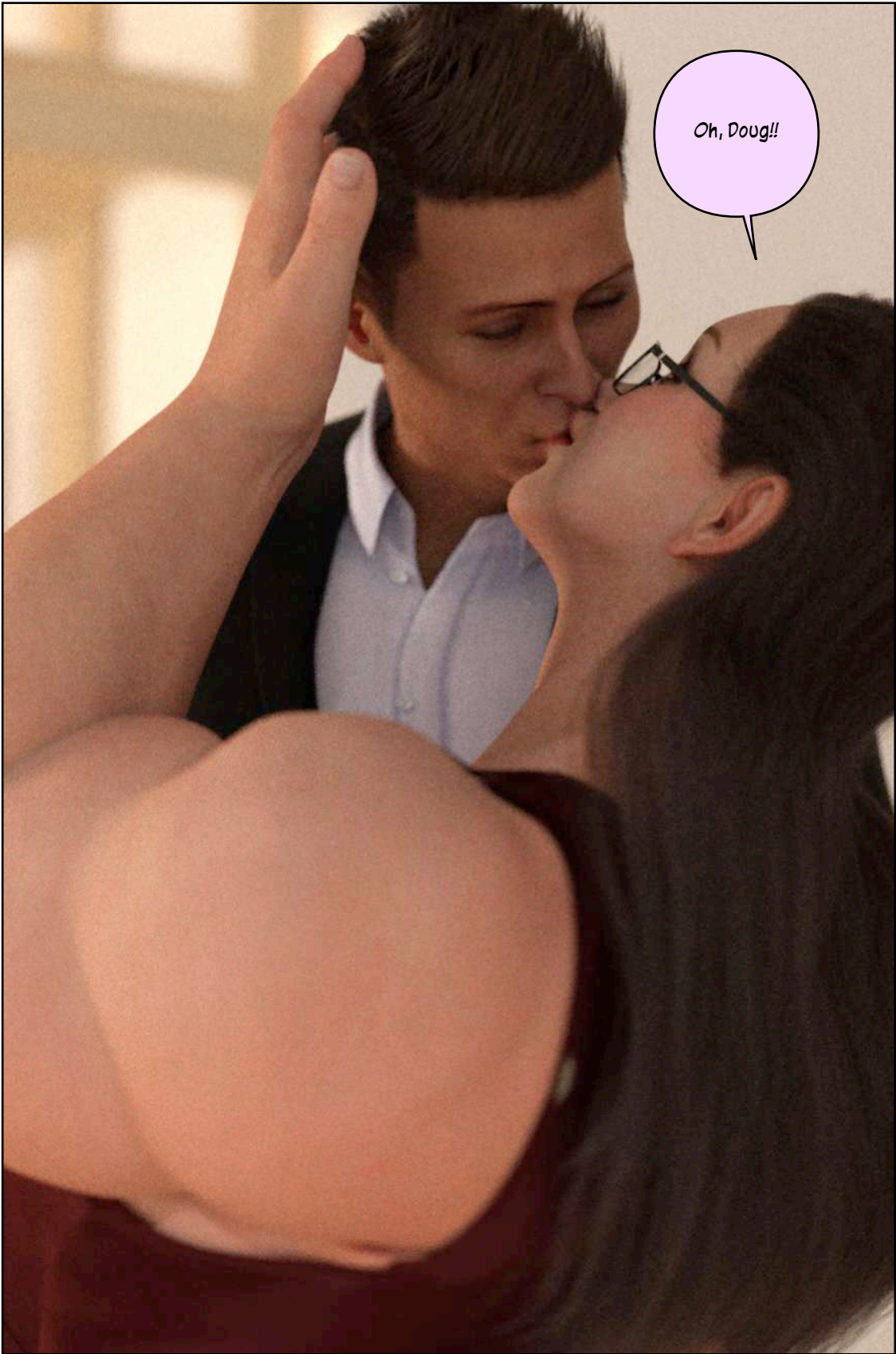
I Feel like I could twist a barbell into a pretzel!!



See? It works just like I said!

Doug? Doug? Say something!

You are the most beautiful woman I've ever seen.




Oh, Doug!!



Oh, Mary
Helen!

The End.

A comic book panel showing two women in black dresses standing in a brick alleyway. They are both holding lit cigarettes. The woman on the left is looking towards the woman on the right. The background features a brick wall, a doorway with graffiti, and a trash can on the left. Four speech bubbles contain their conversation.

Didja see that muscle lady at that table I had tonight?

That was wild! I've never seen a woman built like that.

And the guy she was with was teeny tiny! And totally into her!

Lots of guys like it. Look at how many Instagram Followers some of those CrossFit girls have.



I made a
joke at one
point that I
should start
lifting...

And she left me a
note with the check...
She left her phone
number and wrote that
she's opening a women-
only lifting gym!

Isn't that
crazy?



It's not
crazy. I would
totally be down
for that.

Text me her
number, OK?

End Epilogue.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

I don't really know for sure who came up with the idea of *Feminox*, the vitamin that doubles a woman's strength for 24 hours. There were early internet stories in the 90s by Femgrowth – and probably it was his idea. But Julie Velor and David Annand also wrote early stories, and some of these folks wrote under multiple pseudonyms and I don't know (or don't remember if I did know) for sure who was who. About ten years later a couple stories were published by Rick Powers, who was also known as Mick Powers, and also as The Power Company. Rick's two *Feminox* stories that I know of are called *The Inheritance* and *The Inheritance II*, you can find them on the Diana the Valkyrie site.

Bulking For Romance is a sort-of sequel to Rick's *The Inheritance* stories. I reached out to him to talk about doing it last year, but emails to three different email addresses yielded no response. Subsequently, I learned that a number of people believe him to have passed away not long after he published *The Inheritance II*. They say he died in the crash of an experimental aircraft he was piloting, which is totally a Rick Powers way to go.

I didn't try to finish *The Inheritance*. Powers didn't set a specific date for his stories, though he published them in 2010 and 2011. I rolled the setting back to the late 90s so that the next generation would be old enough to take the stage and worked from there.

I hope you've enjoyed it. I always loved the old *Feminox* stories but I never wrote one before now. I was also very flattered that Rick created an off-stage character in *The Inheritance* that he named for me.

It's sad that he wasn't able to finish what he started with *The Inheritance*, but it's good that we can still read so many of his stories.

Lingster
November 28, 2021

THANK YOU!

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