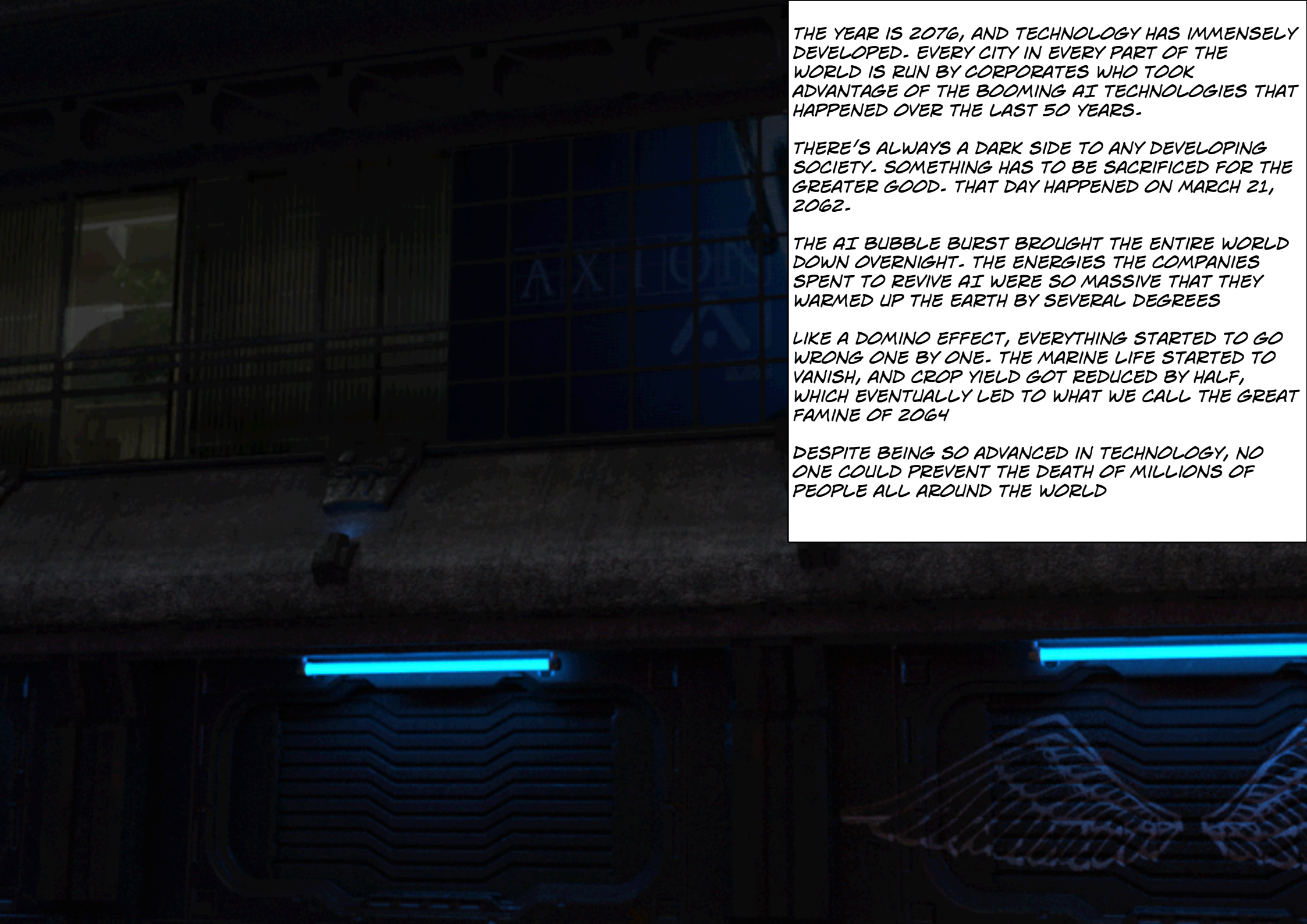


2076

BY

ITGS

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THE YEAR IS 2076, AND TECHNOLOGY HAS IMMENSELY DEVELOPED. EVERY CITY IN EVERY PART OF THE WORLD IS RUN BY CORPORATES WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE BOOMING AI TECHNOLOGIES THAT HAPPENED OVER THE LAST 50 YEARS.

THERE'S ALWAYS A DARK SIDE TO ANY DEVELOPING SOCIETY. SOMETHING HAS TO BE SACRIFICED FOR THE GREATER GOOD. THAT DAY HAPPENED ON MARCH 21, 2062.

THE AI BUBBLE BURST BROUGHT THE ENTIRE WORLD DOWN OVERNIGHT. THE ENERGIES THE COMPANIES SPENT TO REVIVE AI WERE SO MASSIVE THAT THEY WARMED UP THE EARTH BY SEVERAL DEGREES

LIKE A DOMINO EFFECT, EVERYTHING STARTED TO GO WRONG ONE BY ONE. THE MARINE LIFE STARTED TO VANISH, AND CROP YIELD GOT REDUCED BY HALF, WHICH EVENTUALLY LED TO WHAT WE CALL THE GREAT FAMINE OF 2064

DESPITE BEING SO ADVANCED IN TECHNOLOGY, NO ONE COULD PREVENT THE DEATH OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE WORLD

TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LACK OF RESOURCES, PHARMA COMPANIES INTRODUCED SEVERAL SUBSTITUTES FOR REAL FOOD PRODUCTS. THEY MADE IT ADDICTIVE TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM GOING BACK TO ORGANIC FOODS

THE WEALTHY SPENT FORTUNES SHAPING THEMSELVES INTO BIOLOGICAL INVESTMENTS. THEY TRAINED CONSTANTLY, ATE PRECISION-DESIGNED MEALS, REPLACED DAMAGED TISSUE EARLY, AND SUBSCRIBED TO ELITE MEDICAL PROGRAMS THAT MONITORED EVERY CELL IN REAL TIME

BUT THE REMAINING 95 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC, BECAUSE OF THE ADULTERATED FOOD AND LACK OF ANY PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES, BECAME UNHEALTHY, AND OBESITY SKYROCKETED

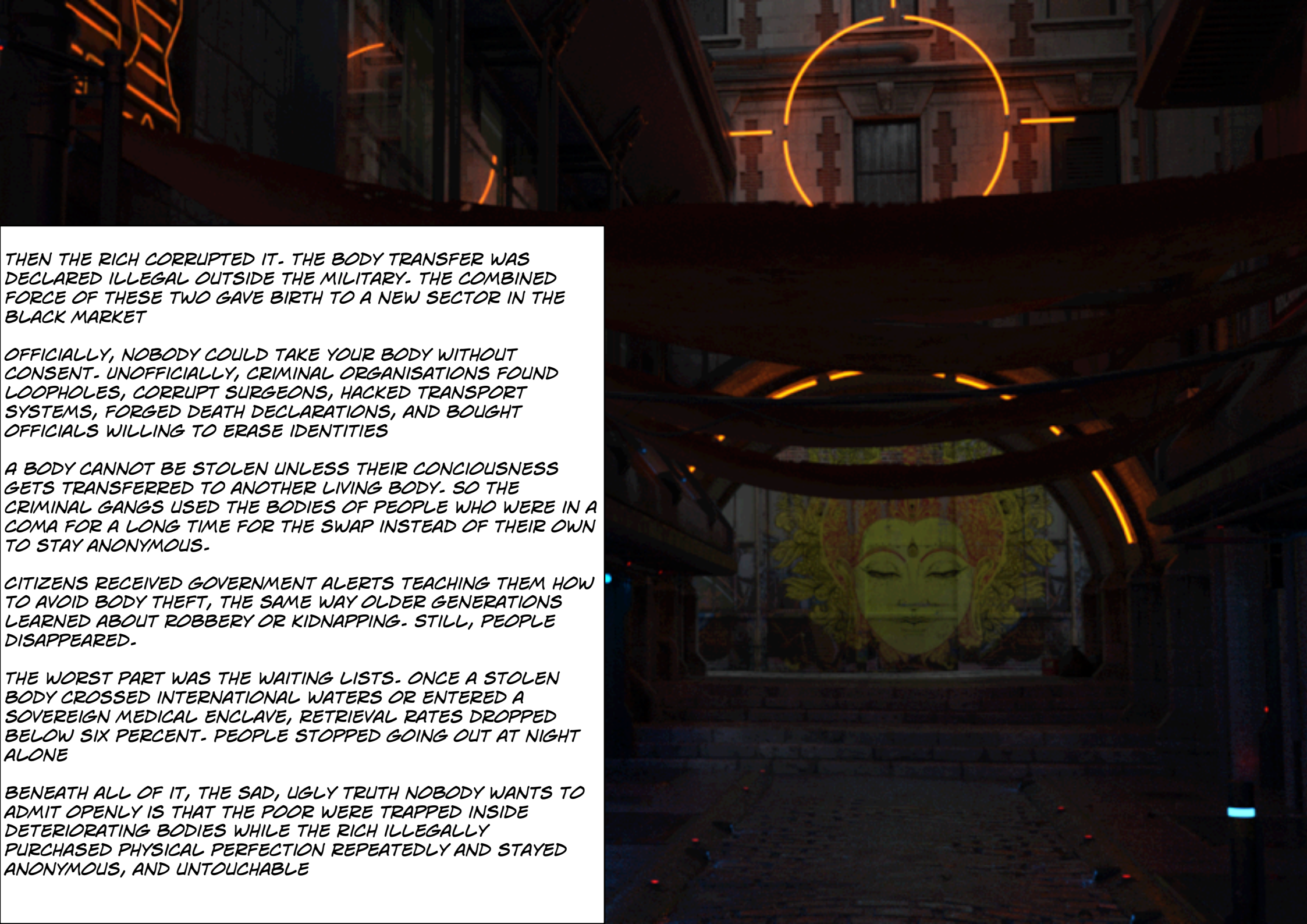
ONLY A FEW DETERMINED PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO GET OUT OF THIS RETARTED LIFESTYLE AND BROUGHT THEMSELVES TO WORK OUT REGULARLY AND TO AVOID INTAKE OF ANY FOOD THAT WAS NOT ORGANIC.

THE MILITARY WAS AMONG THE MOST AFFECTED BY THE GREAT FAMINE. WITHOUT ABLE SOLDIERS, THE PROTECTION OF THE COUNTRY WAS AT STAKE, SO WITH THE SIDE-BY-SIDE ADVANCEMENT OF NANOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE, THE MILITARY FOUND A WAY TO TRANSFER CONSCIOUSNESS FROM ONE PERSON TO ANOTHER, WITH A SUCCESS RATE OF 98 PERCENT

PHYSICALLY STRONG INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE WILLING TO JOIN THE MILITARY WERE GIVEN POLITICAL POWER, AND THE PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO TRADE THEIR BODIES FOR THE MILITARY WERE HIGHLY COMPENSATED WITH A LUXURIOUS LIFESTYLE

SEVERAL NEW LAWS WERE PASSED TO REGULATE THE CONSCIOUSNESS TRANSFER





THEN THE RICH CORRUPTED IT. THE BODY TRANSFER WAS DECLARED ILLEGAL OUTSIDE THE MILITARY. THE COMBINED FORCE OF THESE TWO GAVE BIRTH TO A NEW SECTOR IN THE BLACK MARKET

OFFICIALLY, NOBODY COULD TAKE YOUR BODY WITHOUT CONSENT. UNOFFICIALLY, CRIMINAL ORGANISATIONS FOUND LOOPHOLES, CORRUPT SURGEONS, HACKED TRANSPORT SYSTEMS, FORGED DEATH DECLARATIONS, AND BOUGHT OFFICIALS WILLING TO ERASE IDENTITIES

A BODY CANNOT BE STOLEN UNLESS THEIR CONCIIOUSNESS GETS TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER LIVING BODY. SO THE CRIMINAL GANGS USED THE BODIES OF PEOPLE WHO WERE IN A COMA FOR A LONG TIME FOR THE SWAP INSTEAD OF THEIR OWN TO STAY ANONYMOUS.

CITIZENS RECEIVED GOVERNMENT ALERTS TEACHING THEM HOW TO AVOID BODY THEFT, THE SAME WAY OLDER GENERATIONS LEARNED ABOUT ROBBERY OR KIDNAPPING. STILL, PEOPLE DISAPPEARED.

THE WORST PART WAS THE WAITING LISTS. ONCE A STOLEN BODY CROSSED INTERNATIONAL WATERS OR ENTERED A SOVEREIGN MEDICAL ENCLAVE, RETRIEVAL RATES DROPPED BELOW SIX PERCENT. PEOPLE STOPPED GOING OUT AT NIGHT ALONE

BENEATH ALL OF IT, THE SAD, UGLY TRUTH NOBODY WANTS TO ADMIT OPENLY IS THAT THE POOR WERE TRAPPED INSIDE DETERIORATING BODIES WHILE THE RICH ILLEGALLY PURCHASED PHYSICAL PERFECTION REPEATEDLY AND STAYED ANONYMOUS, AND UNTOUCHABLE

HOW ARE YOU FEELING NOW,
MISS SANDRA?

IT'S DANIEL!! DANIEL REYES!!
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN DANIEL AND
ALWAYS WILL BE!!

APOLOGIES, MISS..., SORRY,
MR DANIEL! BEFORE WE
CONTINUE, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY
A FEW THINGS!

BE YO
OW
KIND
AMAZ



WHAT DAY IS TODAY? AND... AND
WHO'S SANDRA!?

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU IS
EXTREMELY UNFAIR, AND THE MILITARY
IS WORKING ON YOUR CASE RIGHT NOW
AS WE SPEAK. I JUST WANTED TO LET
YOU KNOW THAT THIS IS A SAFE SPACE
FOR YOU TO SPEAK UP AND TELL ME
HOW YOU FEEL!

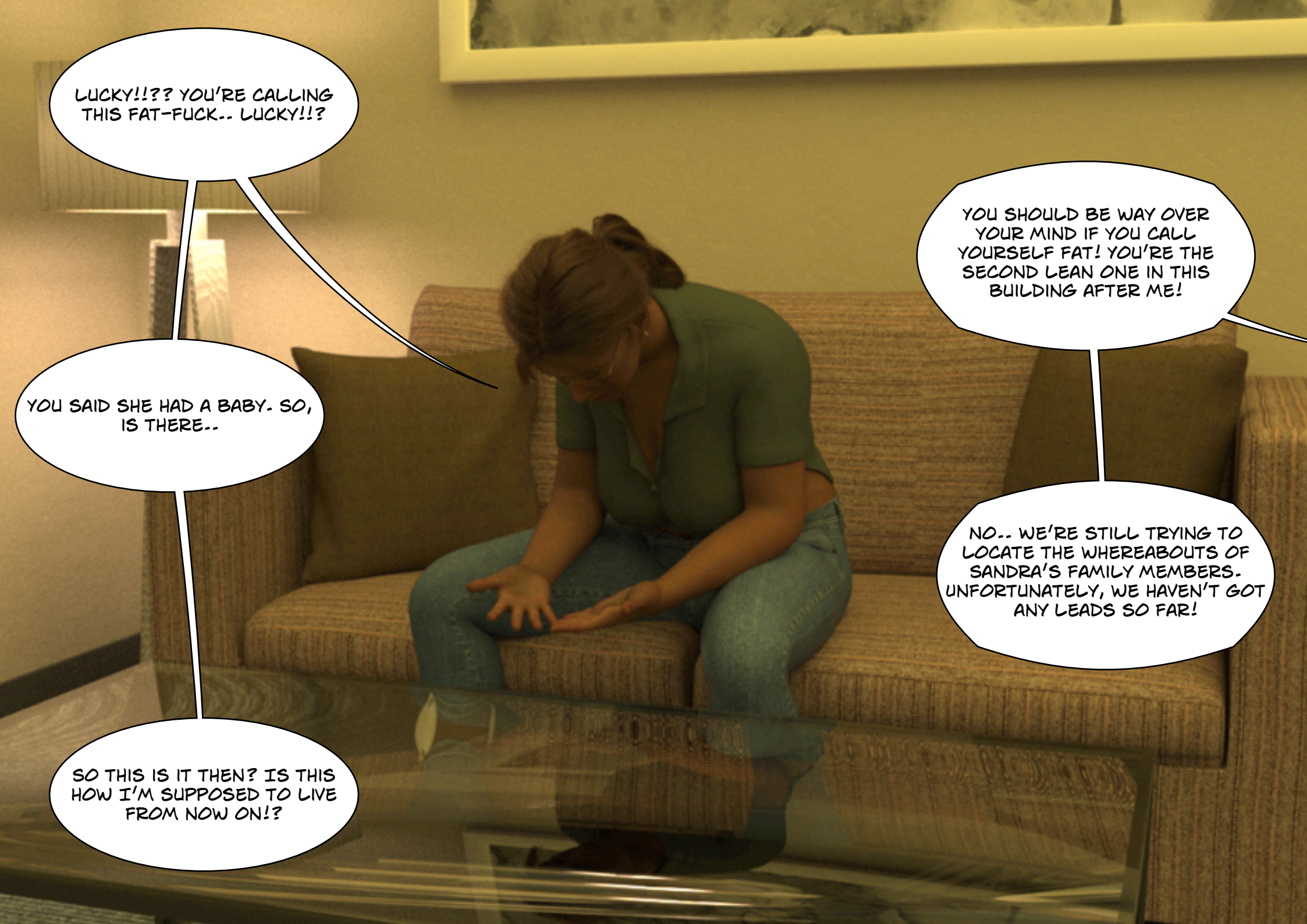
YOU WERE FOUND NAKED
ALONGSIDE HUDSON BY A SWEEPING
BOT. THANKFULLY, WE WERE ABLE TO
SAVE YOU IN TIME. WE ARE STILL NOT
SURE HOW YOU CAME BACK FROM A
COMA! WHICH IS USUALLY VERY
UNLIKELY!

A woman with long brown hair is sitting on a yellow armchair. She is wearing a grey sleeveless top and black leggings with black boots. She is looking towards the right. The background shows a modern interior with a window, a plant, and some framed pictures on the wall.

DON'T WORRY, YOU WERE IN A COMA JUST FOR A DAY AFTER YOU GOT SWAPPED. IT'S STILL THE SAME WEEK, SAME MONTH AND THE SAME YEAR!

WE WEREN'T ABLE TO RETRIEVE THE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR FORMER BODY. THE ONE YOU RESIDE IN NOW BELONGS TO A WOMAN NAMED SANDRA MARTINEZ

THIS WOMAN'S BODY HAS TYPE 1 DIABETES, CARDIAC FIBROSIS, LIVER INFLAMMATION, NERVE DAMAGE IN THE FEET, AND A JUNK FOOD ADDICTION. JUDGING FROM THE BODY FAT PERCENTAGE AND FROM THE STRETCH MARKS, THIS WOMAN HAS ALSO GIVEN BIRTH ONCE. THIS MIGHT SOUND WORSE, BUT GIVEN TODAY'S MEDICAL ANALYSIS, THE BODY YOU'RE IN IS STILL CONSIDERED TO BE IN THE TOP 90TH PERCENTILE OF HEALTHY HUMAN BEINGS IN THE UNITED STATES! YOU SHOULD CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY!



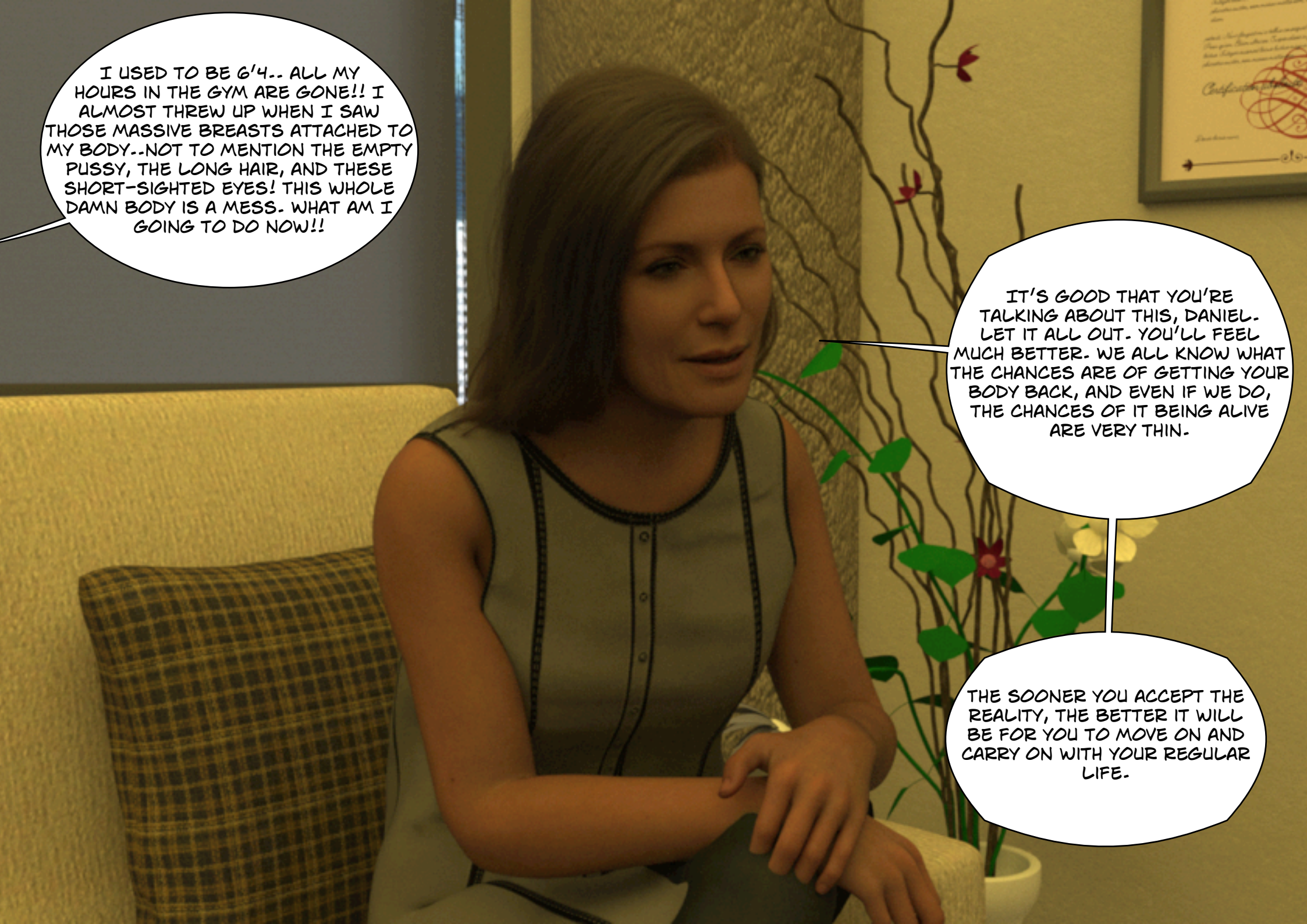
LUCKY!!?? YOU'RE CALLING
THIS FAT-FUCK-- LUCKY!!?

YOU SAID SHE HAD A BABY. SO,
IS THERE..

SO THIS IS IT THEN? IS THIS
HOW I'M SUPPOSED TO LIVE
FROM NOW ON!?

YOU SHOULD BE WAY OVER
YOUR MIND IF YOU CALL
YOURSELF FAT! YOU'RE THE
SECOND LEAN ONE IN THIS
BUILDING AFTER ME!

NO.. WE'RE STILL TRYING TO
LOCATE THE WHEREABOUTS OF
SANDRA'S FAMILY MEMBERS.
UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVEN'T GOT
ANY LEADS SO FAR!



I USED TO BE 6'4.. ALL MY HOURS IN THE GYM ARE GONE!! I ALMOST THREW UP WHEN I SAW THOSE MASSIVE BREASTS ATTACHED TO MY BODY..NOT TO MENTION THE EMPTY PUSSY, THE LONG HAIR, AND THESE SHORT-SIGHTED EYES! THIS WHOLE DAMN BODY IS A MESS. WHAT AM I GOING TO DO NOW!!

IT'S GOOD THAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THIS, DANIEL. LET IT ALL OUT. YOU'LL FEEL MUCH BETTER. WE ALL KNOW WHAT THE CHANCES ARE OF GETTING YOUR BODY BACK, AND EVEN IF WE DO, THE CHANCES OF IT BEING ALIVE ARE VERY THIN.

THE SOONER YOU ACCEPT THE REALITY, THE BETTER IT WILL BE FOR YOU TO MOVE ON AND CARRY ON WITH YOUR REGULAR LIFE.



CAN YOU TELL ME
WHAT HAPPENED THAT
DAY!?

REGULAR LIFE!!?? THERE
WILL BE NO REGULAR LIFE FOR
ME!

I WANTED TO KILL ALL THOSE
FUCKING BASTARDS!



BELIEVE IT OR NOT, ON THE NIGHT OF EVERY FRIDAY, I RUN 13 MILES AS PART OF MY FITNESS SCHEDULE.

I KNOW MY RARITY LEVEL, SO FOR MY OWN SAFETY, I CHANGE MY LOCATION EVERY WEEK.

MONKS CORNER- THAT WAS WHERE MY HALF MARATHON ENDED AS PLANNED.



I HAD LEFT A CAR THE SAME DAY IN THE EVENING, AND I WAS WALKING TOWARDS IT..

OF COURSE, IT WAS NOT MY OWN CAR. I..I WAS VERY CAREFUL..



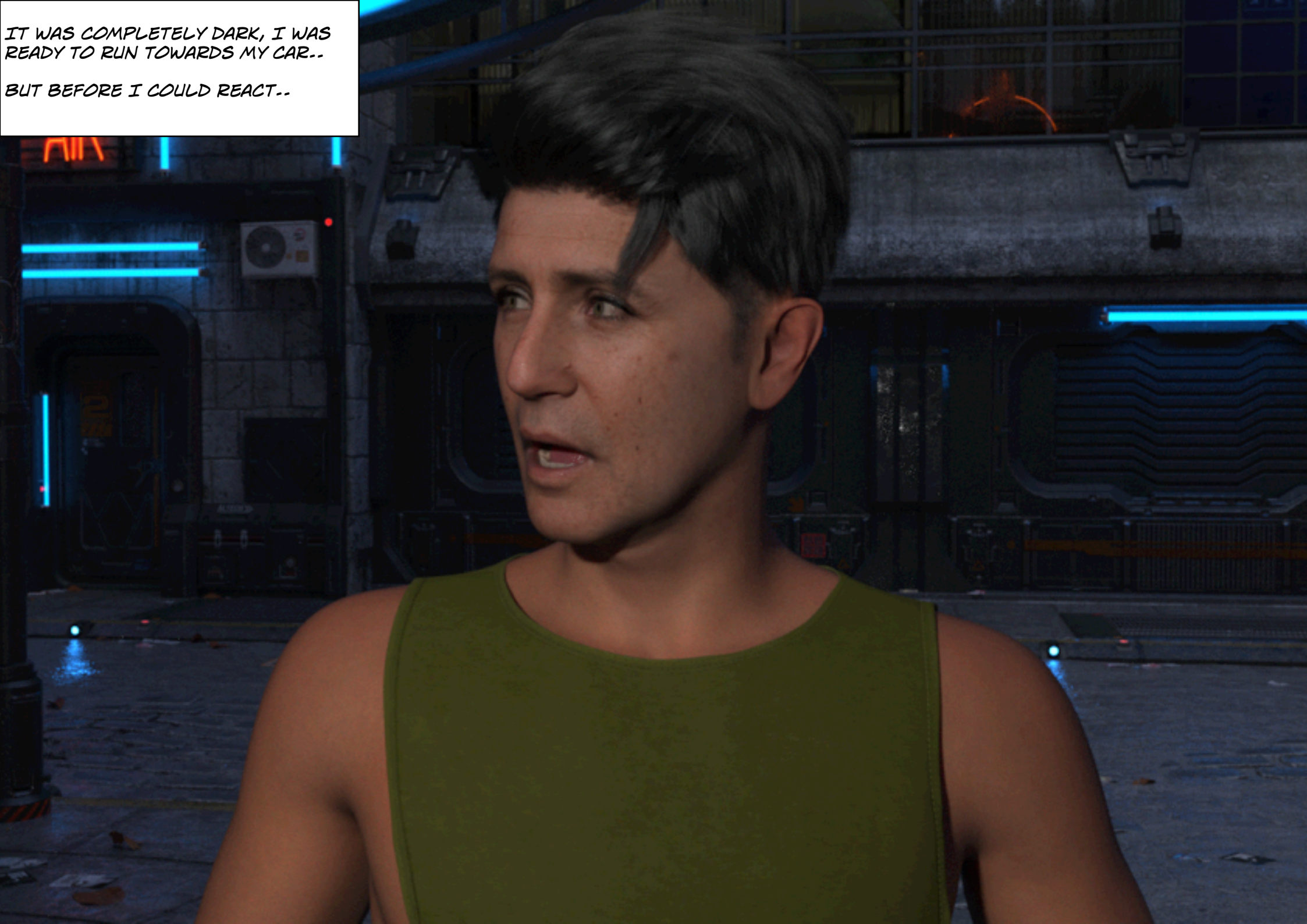
I SPOTTED THE CAR, AND THE STREETS WERE COMPLETELY EMPTY. I MADE SURE NO ONE WAS FOLLOWING ME EITHER..

THE CAR WAS ABOUT 30 M AWAY

I HEARD A NOISE AS SOMEONE STOMPED ON A PLASTIC WRAPPER..

IT WAS COMPLETELY DARK, I WAS
READY TO RUN TOWARDS MY CAR..

BUT BEFORE I COULD REACT..





AN EXTREMELY BRIGHT LIGHT BLINDED ME,
AND THAT'S THE LAST THING I REMEMBER
BEFORE WAKING UP HERE



I SEE... SO THEY WERE VERY CAREFUL NOT TO HURT YOUR BODY. BRINGS UP A LOT OF NEW POSSIBLE CRIMINALS IN THE BASKET!

WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT MORE IN THE NEXT SESSION. I STILL HAVE A FEW BLANKS TO FILL; SHALL WE PROCEED WITH THAT?

HMM...SURE



IF YOU FEEL DISCOMFORT IN ANY WAY, FEEL FREE TO TELL ME, AND WE'LL STOP IT RIGHTAWAY.

WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE GONNA DO NOW?

EVERY NORMAL WOMAN YOUR AGE HAS HAD THEIR LIFETIME TO LEARN ABOUT HOW TO BE A WOMAN, HOW TO ACT, ETC ETC.. AND THAT GAVE US INSTINCTS ON HOW TO BE SAFE, WHERE TO GO, HOW DO DRESS, SO AND SO!

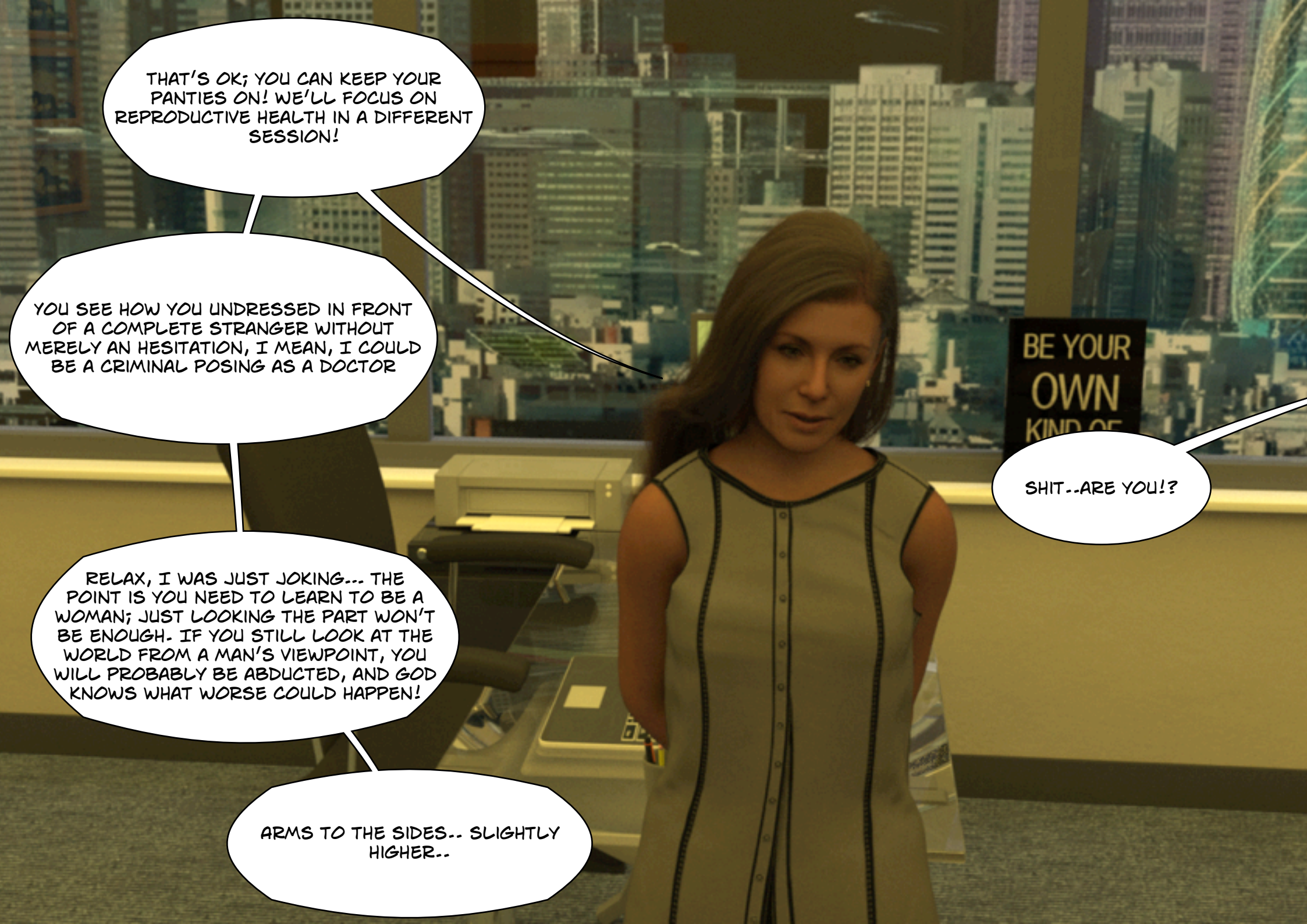
WILL GO ON ABOUT THAT SOON, BUT FIRST I NEED TO ANALYSE YOUR BODY FOR MY SUBJECT REPORT. CAN YOU PLEASE TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES?



I WISH I COULD HELP, BUT
IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU
LEARN IT YOURSELF. YOU DON'T
HAVE TO RUSH THINGS UP!!

UGHH! THIS DAMN HOOKS!

ALMOST THERE.. JUST
ONE MORE..

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey sleeveless dress with black trim, stands in a high-rise office. Behind her is a large window showing a dense city skyline at dusk. To her left is a desk with a printer and a chair. To her right is a black sign with yellow text. Five speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing humorous dialogue.

THAT'S OK; YOU CAN KEEP YOUR
PANTIES ON! WE'LL FOCUS ON
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN A DIFFERENT
SESSION!

YOU SEE HOW YOU UNDRESSED IN FRONT
OF A COMPLETE STRANGER WITHOUT
MERELY AN HESITATION, I MEAN, I COULD
BE A CRIMINAL POSING AS A DOCTOR

RELAX, I WAS JUST JOKING... THE
POINT IS YOU NEED TO LEARN TO BE A
WOMAN; JUST LOOKING THE PART WON'T
BE ENOUGH. IF YOU STILL LOOK AT THE
WORLD FROM A MAN'S VIEWPOINT, YOU
WILL PROBABLY BE ABDUCTED, AND GOD
KNOWS WHAT WORSE COULD HAPPEN!

ARMS TO THE SIDES... SLIGHTLY
HIGHER...

BE YOUR
OWN
KIND OF

SHIT...ARE YOU!?



BUT I'M NOT A WOMAN!! HOW CAN
YOU SUDDENLY EXPECT ME TO BE
ONE!!

I DIDN'T SAY SUDDENLY, BUT
THE FASTER YOU LEARN, THE
BETTER IT IS FOR YOU. THAT'S WHY
I'M HERE TO GUIDE YOU..
ALRIGHT TURN AROUND

A woman with dark skin is shown from the back, standing in a room. She is wearing a grey bikini. Her arms are slightly out to her sides. In the background, there is a painting on the wall and a brown sofa. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the left side of the image.

AND NOT JUST THAT, FOR
YOUR SAFETY, FOR
SOCIALISING AS WELL, YOU
WILL SEE THE DIFFERENCE WHEN
YOU LEAVE THE BUILDING. EVEN
THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW WILL
START TREATING YOU
DIFFERENTLY! AND IT'S NOT
THEIR FAULT!

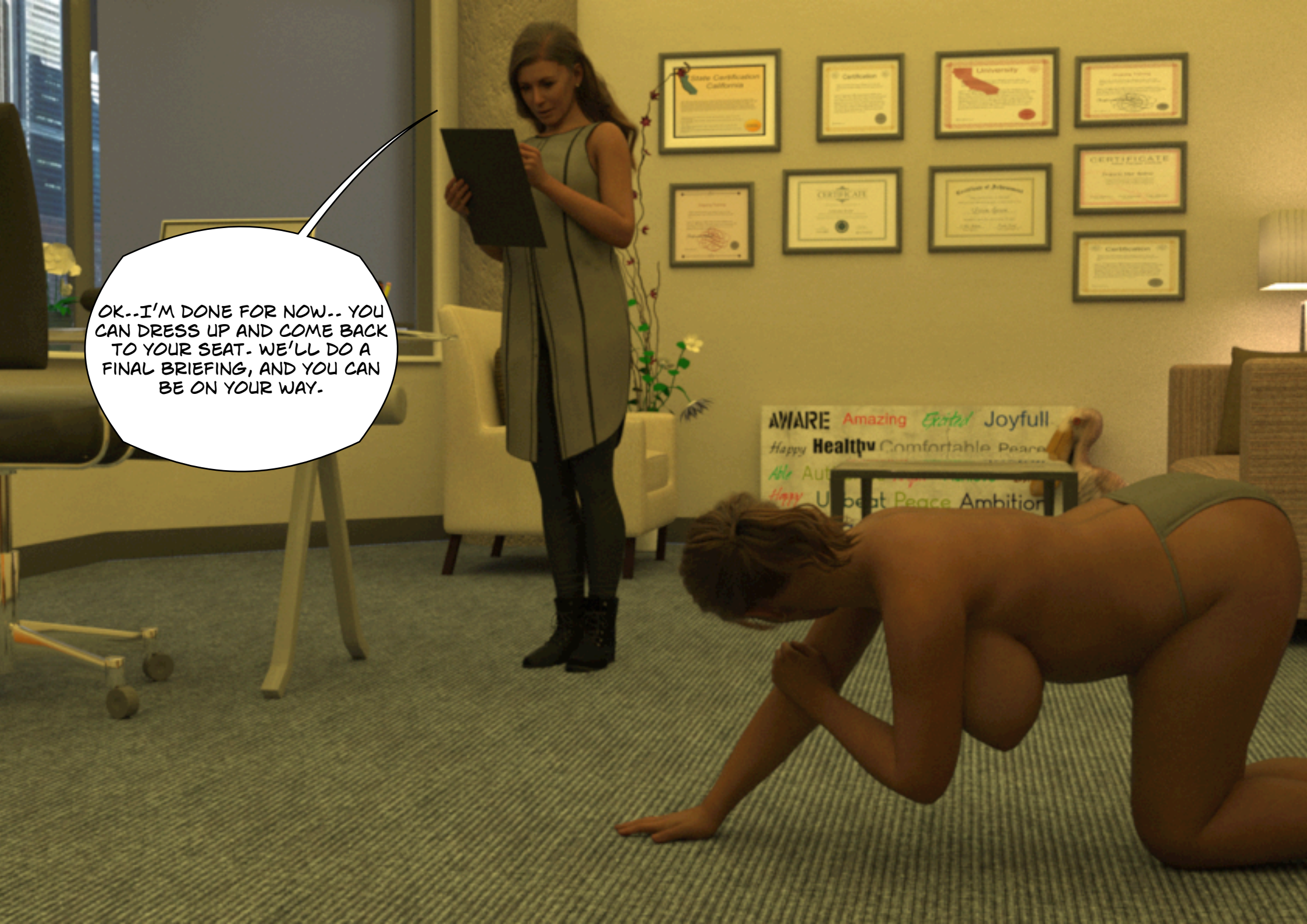
MEN ACT DIFFERENTLY IN FRONT OF WOMEN
AND VICE VERSA. AND SINCE YOU'RE A SPECIAL
CASE, YOU WILL NOW FIT INTO NEITHER OF THE
CATEGORIES.

DONE.. NOW TO THE FLEXIBILITY TEST. IT'S
NOT REALLY NECESSARY, SO I'LL PICK
SOMETHING EASY FOR YOU!



THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL
EASY?? UHH.. I CAN'T HOLD
ANYMORE!

I ACTUALLY THOUGHT YOU'D
BE A BIT MORE FLEXIBLE



OK..I'M DONE FOR NOW.. YOU
CAN DRESS UP AND COME BACK
TO YOUR SEAT. WE'LL DO A
FINAL BRIEFING, AND YOU CAN
BE ON YOUR WAY.

AWARE Amazing Excited Joyfull
Happy Healthy Comfortable Peace
Able Aut
Happy Upbeat Peace Ambition



TO BE HONEST, I HAVE NEVER DEALT
WITH ANYONE LIKE YOU BEFORE, AND
THERE ARE ONLY TWO CASE STUDIES
ABOUT THIS UNTIL NOW!

I HAVE A LOT OF TRANS MEN AND
TRANS WOMEN AS CLIENTS, BUT IT IS
WAY LESS COMPLICATED THAN BEING A
CIS MALE AND UNWILLINGLY FORCED TO
LIVE AS A CIS WOMAN

SO DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
FOR ME, MISS.. SORRY, MR.
DANIEL?



I KNOW YOU HAVE PROTOCOLS AND STUFF.. BUT I'M GOOD! I DON'T NEED ANY THERAPY! I HAVE TO FOCUS ON FINDING MY BODY BACK!

AND JUST BECAUSE I HAVE THIS BODY DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE TO ACT LIKE A WOMAN. I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT SAFETY, BUT I AM NOT READY TO ACCEPT MY FATE WITHOUT PUTTING UP A FIGHT!!

CAN YOU PLEASE MAKE SOME SHIT UP AND SIGN ME OFF, PLEASE?



UGH!! AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

WHAT!!!?

I'M GLAD YOU OPENED UP! BUT IT'S NOT UP TO ME TO DECIDE. AND I CERTAINLY CAN'T SIGN YOU OFF UNTIL YOU SHOW SOME PROGRESS! I'M SORRY, MR DANIEL, BUT YOU HAVE TO ATTEND A FEW SESSIONS, AND IT'S NON-NEGOTIABLE. ALTHOUGH THERE IS A WAY TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF SESSIONS!

WELL, I SHOULDN'T BE SAYING THIS, BUT IF YOU PROVE TO TWO OTHER PSYCHIATRISTS AND ME THAT YOU HAVE INDEED CHANGED AND ARE READY TO LEAD YOUR LIFE AS MISS SANDRA, YOU'LL BE SIGNED OFF!

AND LET ME BE CLEAR: YOU HAVE TO DO THIS AT YOUR OWN RISK, AND YOU DIDN'T HEAR THIS FROM ME!