

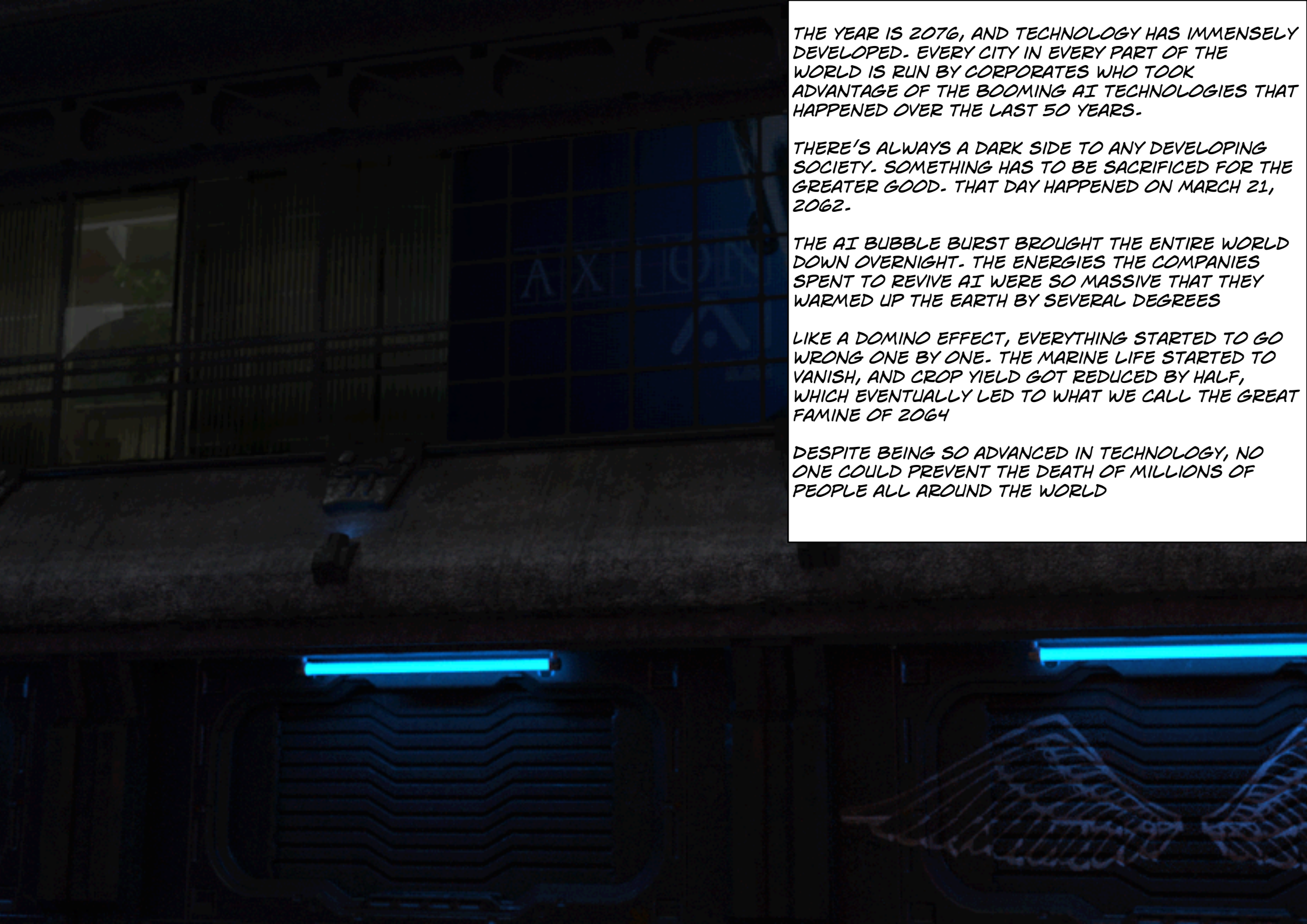


2076

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

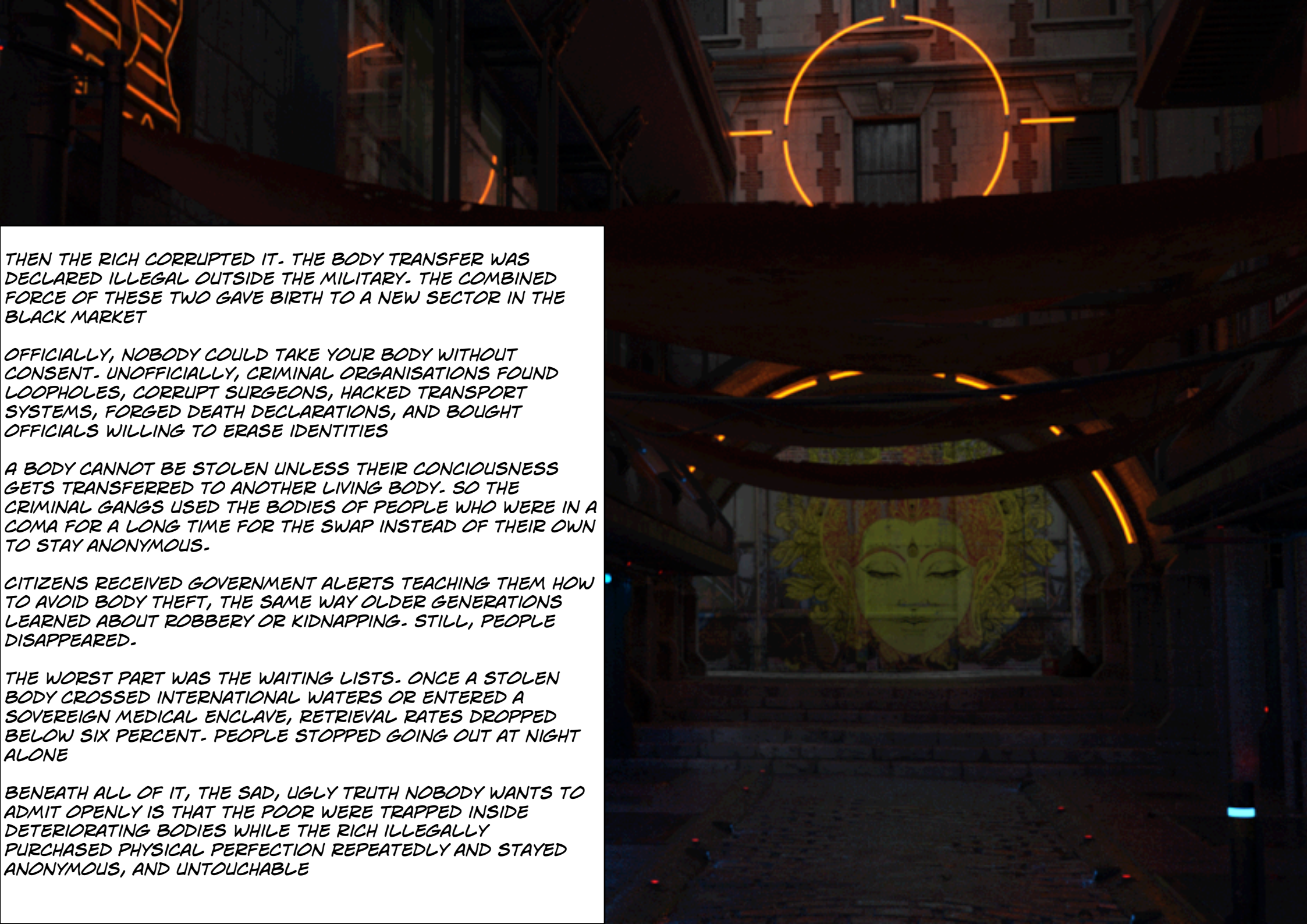
ONLY A FEW DETERMINED PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO GET OUT OF THIS RETARTED LIFESTYLE AND BROUGHT THEMSELVES TO WORK OUT REGULARLY AND TO AVOID INTAKE OF ANY FOOD THAT WAS NOT ORGANIC.

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!

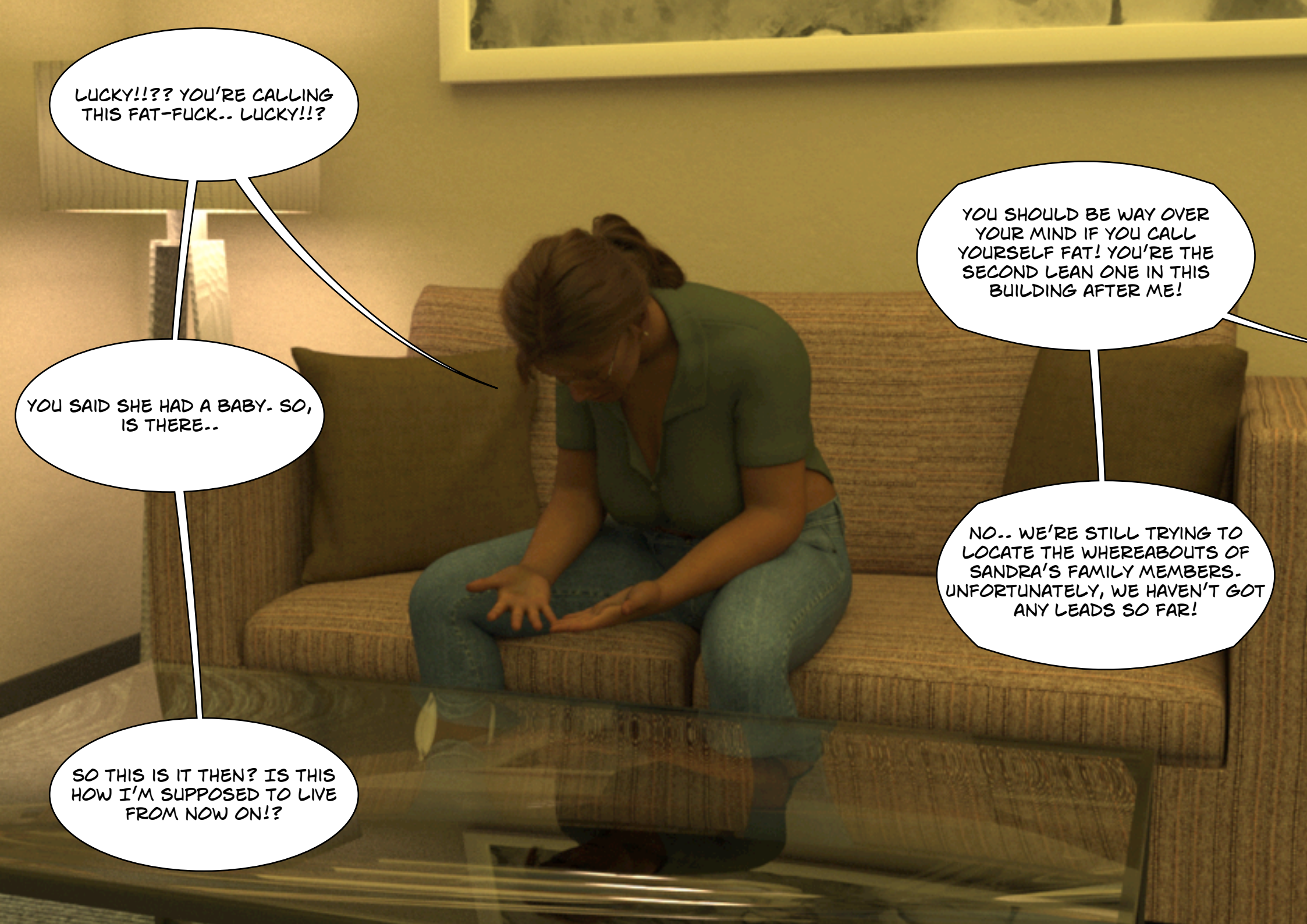
YOU WERE FOUND NAKED
ALONGSIDE HUDSON BY A SWEEPING
BOT. THANKFULLY, WE WERE ABLE TO
SAVE YOU IN TIME. WE ARE STILL NOT
SURE HOW YOU CAME BACK FROM A
COMA! WHICH IS USUALLY VERY
UNLIKELY!



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!



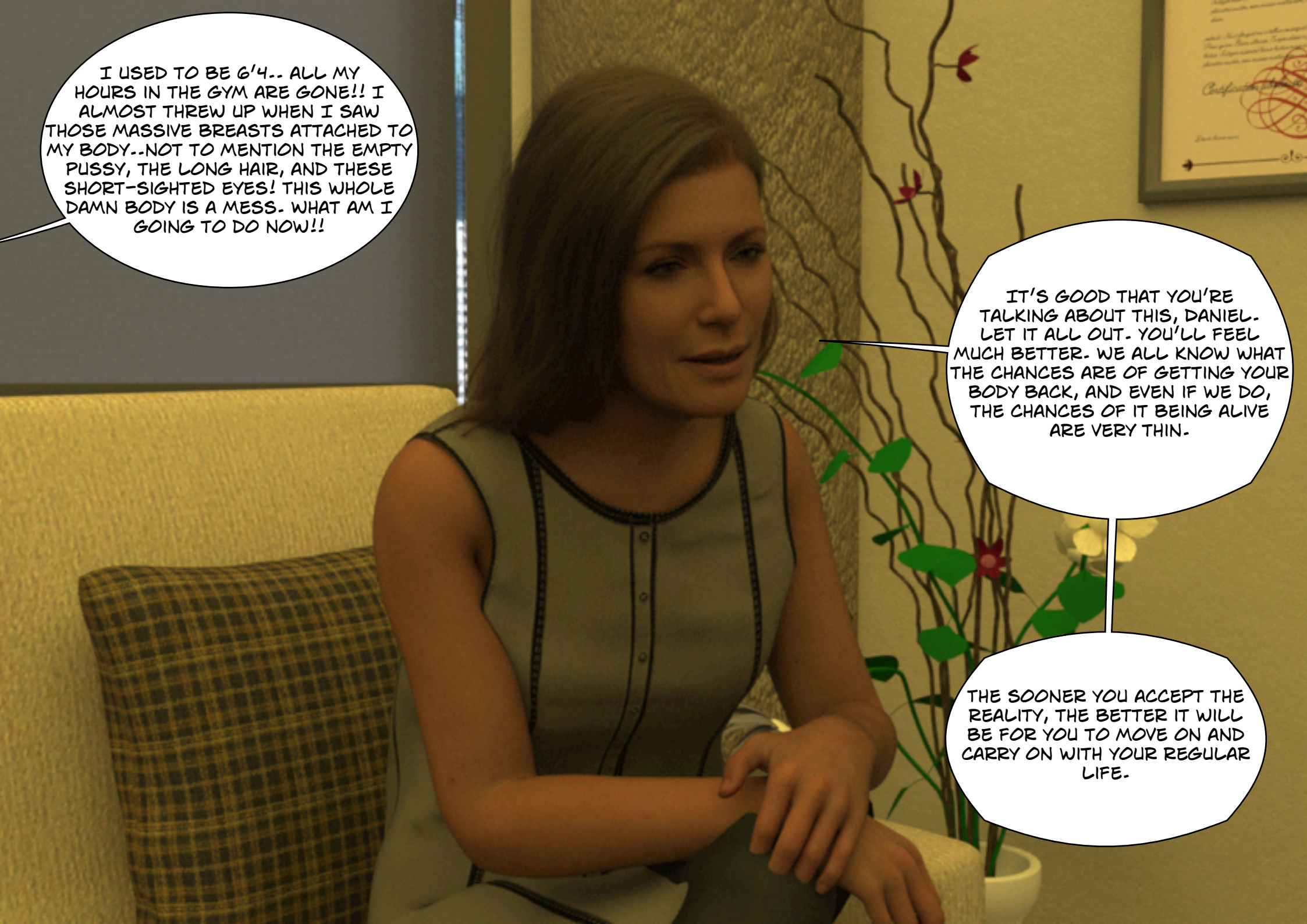
LUCKY!!?? YOU'RE CALLING
THIS FAT-FUCK-- LUCKY!!?

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.

A woman with long brown hair is sitting on a patterned couch, her head buried in her hands in a gesture of despair or grief. She is wearing a green short-sleeved shirt and blue jeans. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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..



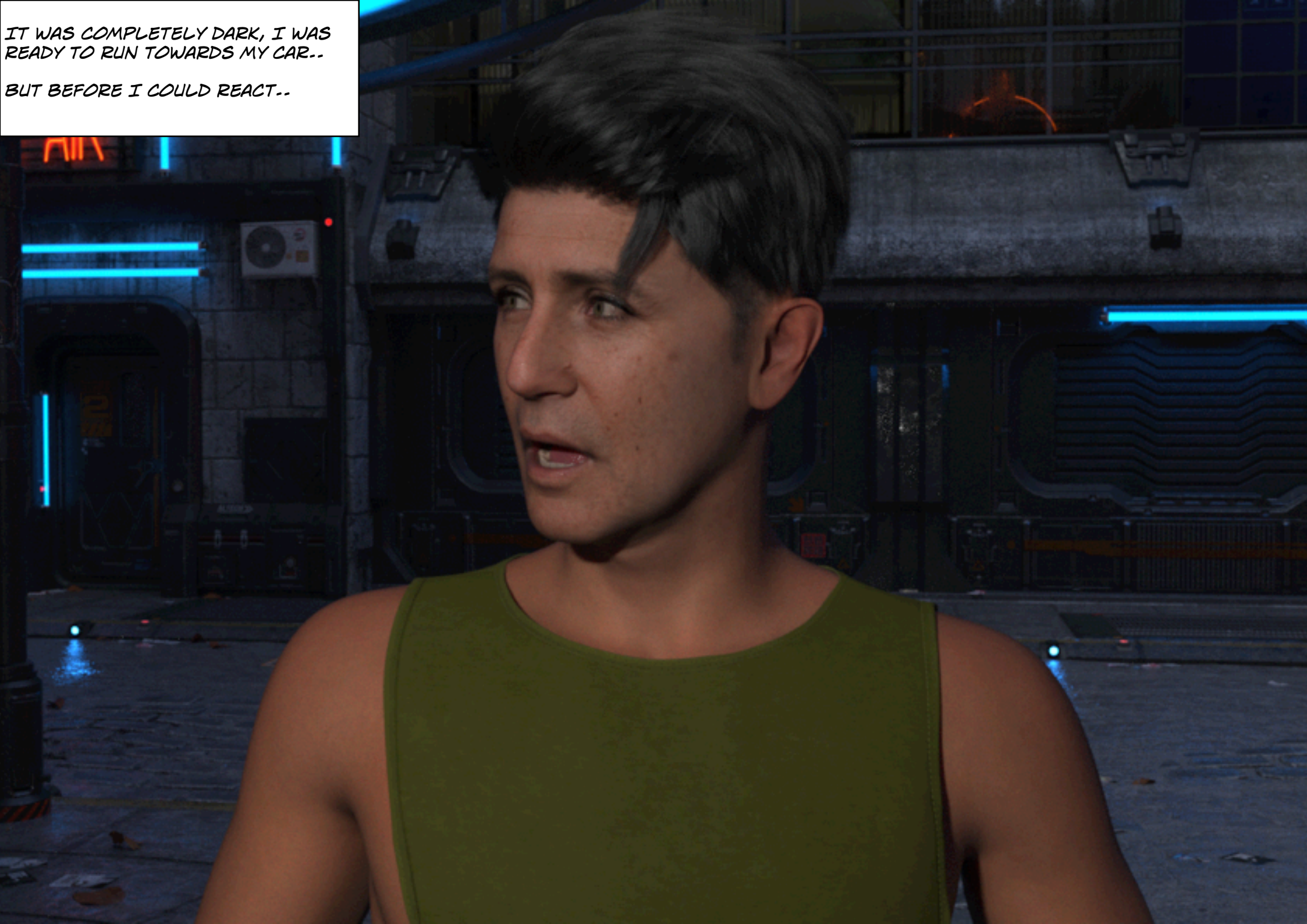
I SPOTTED THE CAR, AND THE STREETS WERE COMPLETELY EMPTY. I MADE SURE NO ONE WAS FOLLOWING ME EITHER..

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!

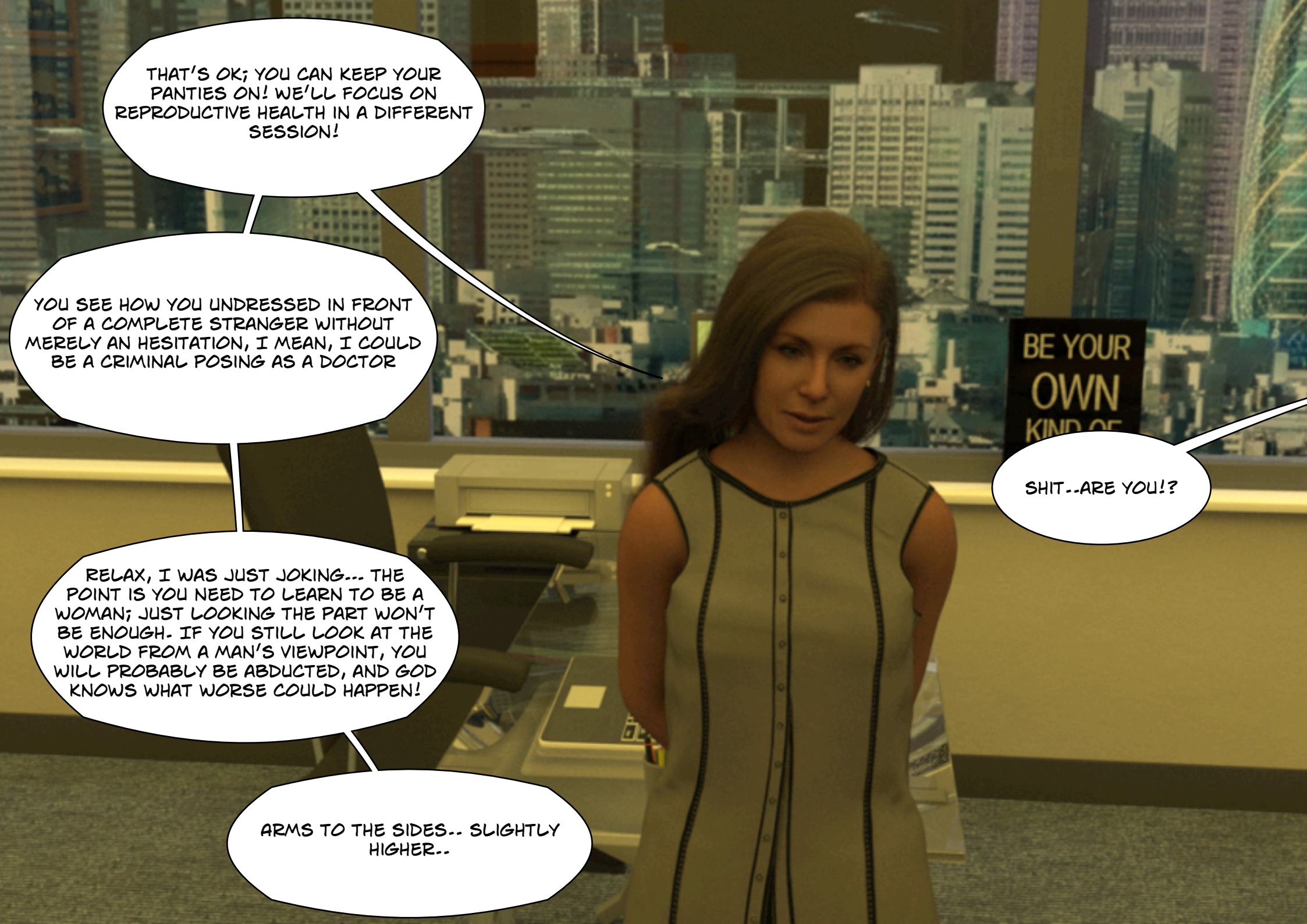
WILL GO ON ABOUT THAT SOON, BUT FIRST I NEED TO ANALYSE YOUR BODY FOR MY SUBJECT REPORT. CAN YOU PLEASE TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES?



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 an 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 sign that reads "BE YOUR OWN KIND OF". Five comic-style 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 standing in a room, facing away from the camera. She is wearing a grey bikini. 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.

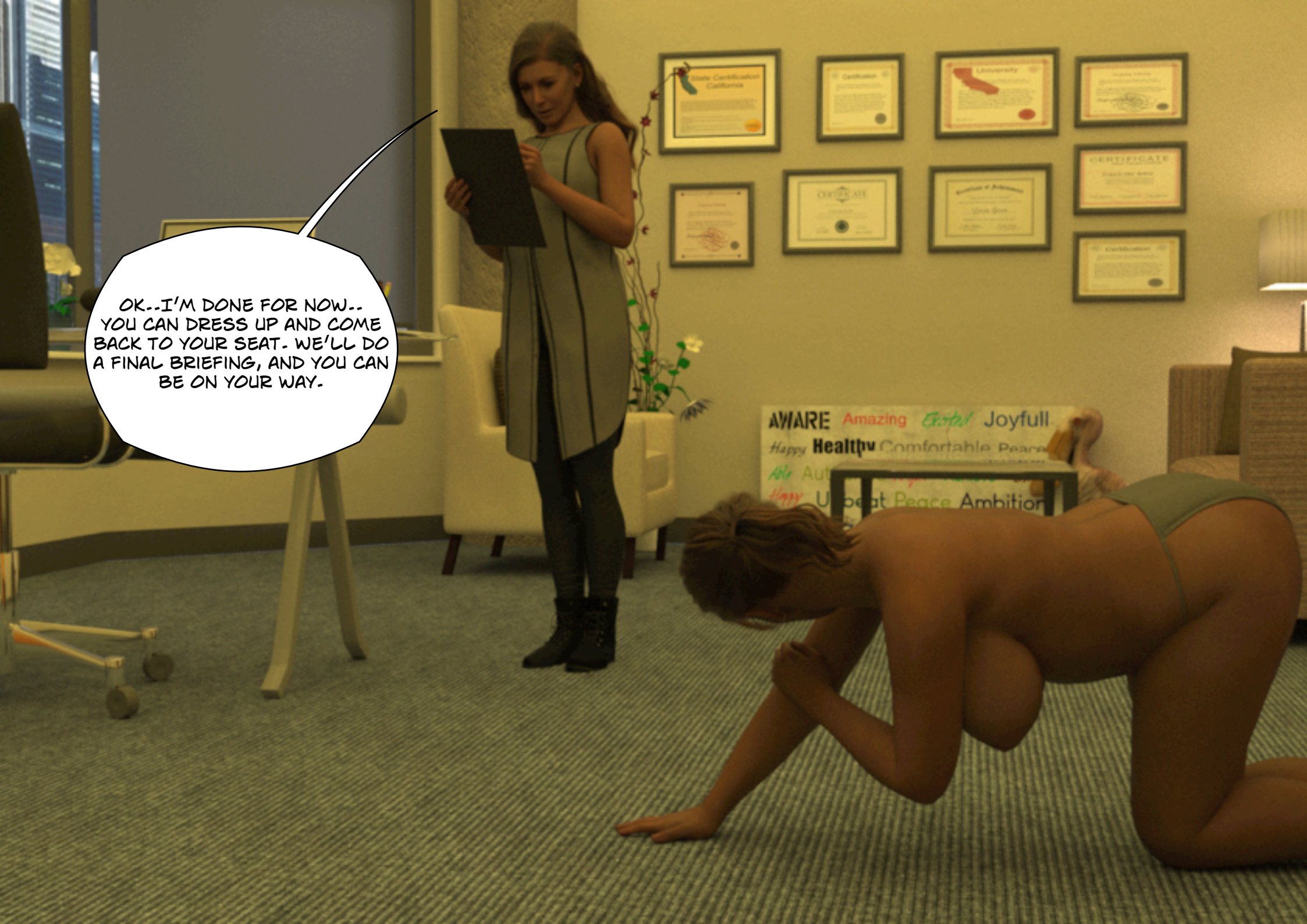
DONE.. NOW TO THE FLEXIBILITY TEST. IT'S
NOT REALLY NECESSARY, SO I'LL PICK
SOMETHING EASY FOR YOU!



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.





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!

click





UGH!! NOW HAVE TO UPDATE
THE LOCK SYSTEM TO ADD MY
NEW FINGERPRINT!

THE DOCTOR WAS RIGHT,
THE WAY EVERYONE LOOKED
AT ME GAVE ME CHILLS!
ESPECIALLY MEN! EVEN THE
ONES I USED TO PASS BY
EVERY DAY

I'D BETTER GET A SHOWER! I
STILL SMELL LIKE HAND
SANITISER!

A person's legs are shown from the mid-thigh down to the feet, standing on a dark, textured floor. The person is barefoot. The background is a futuristic interior with grey concrete walls and a large glass display case containing various items. To the left, there is a dark sofa with a yellow cloth draped over it. A thought bubble originates from the person's head, containing the text "AND MAYBE TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT MY BODY!".

AND MAYBE TAKE A GOOD LOOK
AT MY BODY!



I LOOK MUCH OLDER THAN I
LOOKED IN THE HOSPITAL MIRROR!
MUST BE THE LIGHTING!

IT'S STRANGE TO TOUCH MY
CHEEKS WITHOUT A BEARD OR EVEN
TINY SHARP STUBBLE!



NOT TO MENTION THESE UNRULY
GLOBES! HOW CAN THEY BE THIS
SOFT!!

GASP

THAT'S THE FASTEST
I'VE EVER FOUND A
CLIT!

AND THAT TOO WITHOUT
LOOKING! GOD!! WHAT IS
ALL THIS THAT I'M
FEELING!

MOAN

IT'S LIKE A WHOLE NEW SENSE ORGAN. IS THIS HOW WOMEN FEEL? THIS--THIS IS NOT FAIR!! I'M BARELY TOUCHING IT!

I'M A MAN, FOR GOD'S SAKE! I SHOULD NOT BE GIVING IN TO THIS--UHHH--FEE--UHH--LING--

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG IN GOING A BIT--DEE--AHHH--



GOD!!

AHHH

ANH!

A woman with red hair and glasses is shown in profile, looking down. She is in a dark room with some colorful vertical lines visible in the background. Three comic-style thought bubbles are overlaid on the image, connected by dotted lines to her head. The first bubble is at the top, the second is in the middle, and the third is at the bottom.

MAYBE I SHOULD EXPLORE
THIS A BIT MORE BEFORE
TAKING A SHOWER!

SHE DID SAY I HAVE TO
CONVINCE THE DOCTORS TO
SIGN ME OFF! SO I GUESS THIS
WILL DEFINITELY HELP!

THE SOONER I LEARN TO BE A
WOMAN, THE SOONER I CAN FIND
MY BODY BACK!

A woman with brown hair and glasses is lying on her back on a bed with a white and brown striped sheet. She is wearing a grey pillow and has her hands resting on her pubic area. A speech bubble is positioned above her head, and a stylized sound effect is to her right.

I'M DOING THIS FOR MY BODY!!!

ААААА!

28 MINUTES LATER

WUFF!!! THAT WAS AMAZING!! GOD!!
WHAT WAS EVEN THAT!! WOMEN CAN
FEEL THAT AND STILL HAVE THE
CONTROL TO SAY NO!! WOW!!

I SHOULD TRY ONE MORE
TIME BEFORE COMING TO ANY
CONCLUSION!

THIS TIME, I SHOULD
CHANGE MY LEG
POSITION!



GASP

SCREAM

AHHH

UHH



2 HOURS LATER

UFF!! THAT'S VERY
REFRESHING!!



20 MINUTES LATER

UGH!! I CAN'T THINK OF
ANYTHING OTHER THAN TOUCHING
MYSELF!!

I HAVE TO FOCUS!! I NEED
TO GET MY BODY BACK!! I
CANNOT ACCESS MY BACK
ACCOUNTS WITHOUT MY
FINGERPRINTS!

I DON'T EVEN HAVE ENOUGH
MONEY TO HIRE A PRIVATE
INVESTIGATOR! SHIT!!



**40 MORE MINUTES
LATER**

YES! CHRIS!! HE'S THE ONLY ONE
WHO CAN HELP ME!!

HE USED TO BE AN ACTOR
BEFORE THE AI TOOK OVER AND
SO FAR THE ONLY GUY I COULD
TRUST

NOTHING CAN CONVINCE THE
DOCTORS MORE THAN ME GETTING
INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH A MAN!

IT'S BEEN SEVERAL YEARS
SINCE I SPOKE WITH HIM, THOUGH!
WHAT IF HE'S MARRIED? UHH, LIKE,
SOMEONE WOULD ACTUALLY MARRY
THAT IDIOT!



2 DAYS LATER

I STILL HAVEN'T TOLD HIM ANY
OF THIS BODYSWAP SHIT!

GOD! WHY AM I NERVOUS ALL
OF A SUDDEN!!

YEAH,
ALMOST
THERE.. WILL BE
THERE SOON!



A woman with reddish-brown hair, wearing a white short-sleeved dress with a deep V-neckline and a pattern of small circular cutouts, stands in a modern, minimalist interior. She has a distressed expression, with her right hand running through her hair. The background features a grey wall with a large arched opening, a bookshelf with books, and a glowing blue vertical light strip. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, connected by dotted lines to her head.

I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING
CRAZY FOR SURE! HE'S NOT EVEN
ATTRACTIVE! UGHHH!! WHAT AM I
EVEN THINKING!! I'M NOT GAY!!

MAYBE I SHOULD QUICKLY
MASTURBATE AND CLEAR MY MIND
OF ANY DIRTY THOUGHTS!

YEAH, I SHOULD DO THAT!
IT'LL TAKE FOREVER FOR HIM TO
WALK UP THE STAIRS!

7 SECONDS LATER

BIZZZZZ

SHIT!! HE'S HERE
ALREADY!!



THIS WAS A BAD IDEA!
THIS BODY IS SO MESSED
UP!

YOU CAN DO THIS, DANIEL!!

HE'S JUST AN UGLY FAT
GUY WHO USED TO WORK AT
YOUR OFFICE!

AND HE'S THE ONLY TICKET
OUT FROM THIS MESS!