


A short time later, at the Burns estate...





I THINK WE SHOULD GO OVER IT **ONE MORE TIME BEFORE WE GO DOWN THERE!**

JUST **ONE MORE TIME, DANIEL... PLEASE?**

**AGAIN? I'VE HAD IT DOWN SINCE WE FIRST CAME UP WITH IT DAYS AGO!**

**\*SIGH!\* FINE!**



I'M **KIM DANIELS**, THE  
KID SISTER OF YOUR BEST  
FRIEND, **GARY**, FROM BACK  
HOME IN **PHOENIX**!

I **JUST** GRADUATED  
FROM **ASU** AND YOU  
**PROMISED** YOUR BEST BUDDY  
THAT I COULD **STAY** WITH YOU  
WHILE TRYING TO GET SETTLED  
**HERE** IN FLORIDA!

SINCE YOU AND **GARY**  
HAVE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE  
YOU WERE **KIDS**, I'M LIKE THE  
**LITTLE SISTER** YOU  
**NEVER** HAD!

GOOD ENOUGH?

GOOD  
ENOUGH! LET'S  
**DO THIS!**



FINE WITH ME!

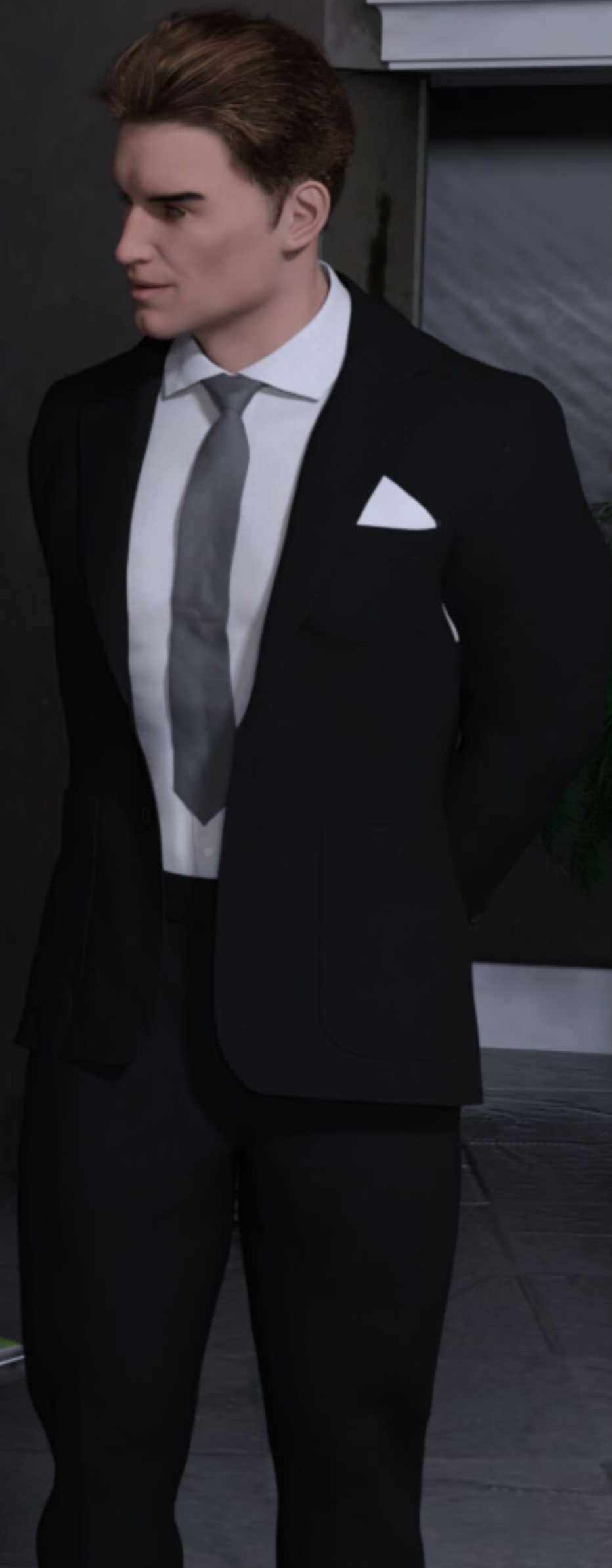
LET'S TRY AND AVOID *GLORIA* AS LONG AS WE CAN!

MINGLING WITH A FEW *OTHERS* WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO *PRACTICE* BEING "*KIM*" BEFORE WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH *HER*!

For the next hour, Rex and "Kim" mingle with the guests...



Where "Kim" succeeds in charming just about everyone "she" meets...




Until eventually...

REX, DARLING!  
THERE YOU ARE! I WAS  
BEGINNING TO THINK  
YOU WERE AVOIDING  
ME!

YOU  
READY  
FOR THIS?

AS READY AS I'LL  
EVER BE!





IT WASN'T INTENTIONAL, GLORIA, **BELIEVE ME!** YOU **KNOW** HOW DAVIS **LOVES** TO TALK ON AND ON ABOUT HIS KIDS!

YES, THAT **DOES** GET **ANNOYING** AFTER A WHILE!

NEVERTHELESS, I **FINALLY** GET TO **PROPERLY** MEET THIS **LOVELY** YOUNG COMPANION OF YOURS!

OF COURSE!



GLORIA BURNS, THIS IS KIM DANIELS, WHO'S STAYING WITH ME FOR A FEW DAYS! SHE'S AN OLD FRIEND FROM BACK HOME IN PHOENIX!

YOU CAN'T BE THAT OLD OF A FRIEND! WHAT ARE YOU... 18? 19?

I'M 23, MRS. BURNS!

PLEASE, CALL ME GLORIA, DEAR!

A woman with blue hair styled in a bun, wearing a black backless dress and gold earrings, is talking to a man in a dark suit and light tie. The man is looking at her with a slight smile. They are in a dimly lit room with a white tufted chair and a potted plant in the background.

AND, AS USUAL, REX IS A LITTLE OFF-BASE WHEN HE SAYS I'M AN OLD FRIEND FROM HOME!

THE "OLD FRIEND" IN QUESTION IS ACTUALLY MY BIG BROTHER, GARY! REX IS DOING HIM AND ME A MASSIVE FAVOR BY LETTING ME STAY WITH HIM WHILE I TRY AND GET MYSELF SETTLED HERE IN MIAMI!

HE'S REALLY BEEN A GODSEND AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD'VE DONE WITHOUT HIS HELP!

WELL, WHEN HER BROTHER CALLED ME, HE SAID KIM HERE HAS ALWAYS WANTED TO MOVE OUT HERE... EVEN SINCE SHE WAS A LITTLE KID!

I JUST FIGURED IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO FOR A COUPLE OF FRIENDS!

REX, MY BOY! JOIN US  
OVER HERE! WE WERE JUST  
DISCUSSING A CASE MCDONALD  
IS WORKING ON!

WELL AREN'T YOU JUST  
ADORABLE! ESPECIALLY WHEN  
YOU'RE RUNNING AROUND HIS HOUSE  
IN NOTHING BUT A TOWEL!

OH, THAT! I WAS JUST  
TRYING TO PLAY A LITTLE  
JOKE ON HIM THE OTHER DAY!  
YOU KNOW, TRYING TO GET A  
RISE OUT OF MY ADOPTED  
BIG BROTHER!

I REALLY DIDN'T  
KNOW YOU WERE  
VISITING AT THE TIME! I'M SO  
SORRY IF I  
EMBARRASSED YOU,  
GLORIA!

OH, YOU'LL FIND IT TAKES A  
LOT MORE THAN THAT TO  
EMBARRASS ME, KIM, DEAR!

UMM, YES  
SIR! BE RIGHT  
OVER!

IT WAS *GOOD*  
TALKING TO YOU,  
GLORIA! COME ON,  
KIM!

OH, WHY ON  
EARTH SUBJECT  
THIS *POOR* GIRL TO  
YOUR LEGAL  
DRONINGS!


LEAVE HER WITH *ME!*  
I'LL KEEP HER  
ENTERTAINED!



UMMM... I  
DON'T KNOW!

OH, GO ON, REX!  
I'LL BE FINE WITH  
GLORIA! TRUST  
ME!

WELL, OKAY! I'LL  
BE RIGHT OVER  
THERE!



MEN! THEY  
REALLY CAN BE  
QUITE *OBTUSE* AT  
TIMES, CAN'T THEY?

*\*GIGGLE!\** YES...  
YES THEY CAN!

SO, TELL ME  
WHAT'S **REALLY**  
GOING ON BETWEEN  
**YOU** AND REX!

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE  
IN TOWN! BUT THE  
LOOKS YOU TWO HAVE  
BEEN **EXCHANGING** ALL  
EVENING TELL A  
DIFFERENT STORY!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?  
IT'S **JUST** LIKE I SAID! HE'S  
MY **BROTHER'S** BEST FRIEND  
DOING ME A **FAVOR** AND...

I... I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT YOU'RE TALKING  
ABOUT! HE'S **JUST** LIKE A  
**SECOND** BIG BROTHER TO  
ME, THAT'S ALL!

A comic book panel featuring two women in conversation. The woman on the left has long, wavy blonde hair and is wearing a shimmering purple off-the-shoulder dress. She is pointing her right index finger towards the woman on the right. The woman on the right has dark hair styled in a bun with gold accessories and is wearing a black, sparkly, off-the-shoulder dress. She has her hand near her face, looking slightly away from the blonde woman. The background is a simple indoor setting with a grey wall and a potted plant.

UH-HUH! AND HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU AND YOUR "SECOND BIG BROTHER" HAVE SEEN EACH OTHER?

AND NOW THAT LITTLE TWEEN WHO HAD A HUGE CRUSH ON HIM HAS GROWN UP INTO A VERY LOVELY YOUNG LADY!

NO WONDER HE CAN'T KEEP HIS EYES OFF YOU!

OH, HONEY... ALL YOUNG GIRLS CRUSH OVER THEIR BROTHERS' HANDSOME FRIENDS! IT'S AN UNWRITTEN LAW!

OH, UMMM... YEARS! IN FACT, I THINK I WAS STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL WHEN HE LEFT FOR LAW SCHOOL!

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I HAD A CRUSH ON HIM?


WELL, MAYBE I DID! BUT...



BUT I  
DON'T THINK  
I'LL...

UH-OH! THE **ROBINSON'S** ARE  
LEAVING! **SORRY**, DEAR, BUT THE  
**RESPONSIBILITIES** OF BEING THE  
**HOSTESS** COME FIRST!

I'LL BE BACK **SHORTLY**  
AND WE CAN SCHEDULE A  
**LUNCHEON** SOMETIME THIS  
WEEK SO WE CAN **CONTINUE**  
OUR CONVERSATION!

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a black spaghetti-strap dress and gold hoop earrings, looks over her shoulder at a man in a black suit and white shirt. They are in a room with a stone fireplace, a potted plant, and a candle holder. Three speech bubbles are on the right side of the image.

...*BE* HERE  
THAT LONG?

*WOW! SUSPICIOUS*  
MUCH? THAT'S *ONE* RICH  
CHICK WHO HAS *WAY TOO*  
MUCH *TIME* ON HER  
HANDS!

I MEAN, THE *ONLY*  
REASON *REX* WOULD BE  
LOOKING AT *ME* SO MUCH IS  
BECAUSE OF HOW  
*DIFFERENT* *LOLA* MADE  
ME LOOK!

HELL, IF THERE WERE  
*MIRRORS* AROUND THIS  
PLACE, I'D BE STARING AT  
MYSELF, *TOO!*




SO, HOW'S IT  
GOING WITH  
GLORIA?

THAT'S GREAT! YOU'RE  
REALLY DOING AN  
AMAZING THING HERE  
TONIGHT, DANIEL! YOU HAVE  
NO IDEA HOW MUCH THIS  
MEANS TO ME!

OH, SHE'S GOT SOME  
INTERESTING THEORIES ON  
WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON BETWEEN  
US, BUT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP HER  
DEFLECTED WITHOUT TOO MUCH  
EFFORT!

CONSIDERING  
EVERYTHING YOU'VE  
DONE FOR ME, IT'S THE  
LEAST I COULD DO!

A man with brown hair, wearing a black suit, white shirt, and grey tie, is speaking to a woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a black dress. They are in an outdoor setting with stone steps and a building in the background.

I WAS *GOING* TO WAIT AND TELL YOU THIS *LATER*, BUT I THINK YOU'VE *EARNED* THE RIGHT TO HEAR IT NOW!


SINCE ALL THIS "*KIM*" STUFF WILL BE *BEHIND* US AFTER TONIGHT, I THOUGHT WE'D START WORKING ON GETTING YOU *BACK* ON YOUR *FEET*!

YOU KNOW... FIND YOU A *JOB*! I'VE GOT CONTACTS IN *TALLAHASSEE* AND *ORLANDO*! THAT WAY YOU'D *FINALLY* GET A LITTLE *INDEPENDENCE* AND *NOT* HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THOSE *THUGS* EVER *FINDING* YOU!

AND ONCE YOU HAVE A *JOB*, I CAN APPLY TO BE YOUR *SPONSOR* AND GET YOU A *GREEN CARD*! THAT'LL GET THE *INS* OFF YOUR *BACK* AS WELL!

BACK ON MY FEET?

OH... *YEAH*! THAT'D BE *GREAT*, REX!

A man in a black tuxedo with a white shirt and grey tie is adjusting his tie. He is looking towards a woman on his right. The woman is wearing a black, sleeveless, form-fitting dress and has her hair styled in a bun. She is looking back at him. They are standing in front of a stone fireplace with logs inside. The background is a dark, textured wall.

UH-OH! BURNS  
IS GIVING ME THAT  
LOOK! I'LL TRY TO CUT  
THIS AS SHORT AS I  
CAN!

UHH... SURE! GO  
AHEAD! I'LL BE RIGHT  
HERE WHEN YOU'RE  
DONE!



IS HE *OUT*  
OF HIS *FUCKING*  
*MIND?!*

I DID *NOT* GO  
THROUGH ALL THIS *JUST*  
SO I COULD END UP  
*FLIPPING BURGERS* IN THE  
*MAGIC FUCKING KINGDOM!*

HE MAY THINK  
THAT'S A *HUGE STEP UP*  
FROM MY *PREVIOUS*  
SITUATION, BUT IT'S  
*PATHETIC* COMPARED TO THE  
LIFESTYLE I *DESERVE!*

THE *LIFESTYLE* I  
FOUND IN *REX'S*  
*HOUSE!* A LIFESTYLE I'M  
NOT *ABOUT TO GIVE UP*  
WITHOUT A *FIGHT!*



OH, *GOOD!*  
YOU'RE STILL HERE!  
NOW, WHERE  
WERE WE?

A woman with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a shimmering purple off-the-shoulder dress, stands with her hand on her hip. She is looking towards another woman whose back is to the camera. The woman in the purple dress is wearing a necklace with a black pendant, a bracelet, and a ring. The background features a dark wall with a large circular vent and a potted plant.

OH YES! I WAS ASKING  
YOU TO LUNCH, AND, UNLESS  
I'M MISTAKEN, IT SOUNDED  
LIKE YOU WERE ABOUT TO  
SAY...

I'D  
LOVE TO!



Later, After a tense drive  
back to Rex's...

I'M *SO SORRY*, REX!  
I WANTED ALL THIS TO BE  
OVER *JUST* AS MUCH AS YOU  
DID... *PROBABLY* EVEN  
*MORE* SO!

BUT THE *WAYSHE*  
*INSISTED*... WELL, I *REALLY*  
DIDN'T THINK SAYING *NO*  
WAS AN *OPTION!*






MAYBE *SO*, BUT  
IT DOESN'T  
*FEEL* LIKE IT!

IT'S *NOT* YOUR  
*FAULT*, DANIEL! I KNOW  
HOW *INSISTENT* AND  
*INTIMIDATING* GLORIA  
CAN BE!

SAYING *NO* JUST  
WOULD'VE *PISSED HER*  
*OFF!* AND *THAT'S*  
SOMETHING WE CAN'T  
*AFFORD* RIGHT NOW!

*YOU* DID THE *RIGHT*  
*THING* ACCEPTING THE  
LUNCH DATE!



OH, CRAP! THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO LOOK GOOD ENOUGH FOR LUNCH WITH GLORIA WITHOUT LOLA'S HELP!

DO YOU THINK SHE'LL BE AVAILABLE FIRST THING IN THE MORNING?

THANK YOU SO MUCH, REX!


FOR THE MONEY I PAID HER THIS WEEK, SHE WILL BE! I'LL GIVE HER A CALL RIGHT NOW!

DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING!

*\*SIGH!\* THIS IS  
ALL STARTING  
TO GET OUT  
OF HAND!*

HELLO, LOLA?  
IT'S REX  
DAWES!





BUT AT *LEAST* IT GIVES ME  
AN EXTRA *DAY* OR TWO TO TRY  
AND COME UP WITH SOME *PLAN* TO  
KEEP REX FROM *SHIPPING* ME OFF TO  
A LIFE OF *MEDIOCRITY* IN THE  
*ARMPIT* OF THE STATE!

AND HAVING TO DEAL WITH  
*GLORIA'S SHIT* SURE AS  
*FUCK* DOESN'T MAKE IT  
ANY EASIER!

WISH I *KNEW*  
WHAT THAT *CHICK*  
WAS *UP TO!*



*\*SIGH!\* GUESS  
I'LL FIND OUT  
TOMORROW!*

The next day, early  
afternoon...

WE GET INTO THIS  
SAME ARGUMENT  
EVERY TIME  
I CALL!


WHY DO I DO  
ANYTHING, DEAR?  
BECAUSE IT'S FUN!  
\*GIGGLE!\*





•••••

WELL, THIS IS IT! NO REX TO FALL BACK ON... JUST ME AND GLORIA!



AND IF I'M NOT  
*CAREFUL*, THIS TIME NEXT  
WEEK I COULD FIND MYSELF  
ON A *SLOW BUS* TO  
*TALLAHASSEE!*  
\*SHUDDER!\*



HAVE TO GO, HUN! MY LUNCH DATE IS HERE!  
TALK TO YOU SOON!  
*BYE!*



I HOPE I  
DIDN'T  
INTERRUPT  
ANYTHING!

NOT AT ALL! JUST  
CHATTING WITH  
MY *SISTER!*

*SHE* THINKS I'M A BIG  
TROUBLE-MAKER AND I  
THINK *SHE* DOESN'T GET  
INTO ENOUGH TROUBLE!  
\*GIGGLE!\*

HAVE A *SEAT,*  
DEAR!



YOU LOOK  
ADORABLE, KIM  
DEAR! I LOVE  
THAT SKIRT!

OH, THANK  
YOU! I ACTUALLY  
JUST BOUGHT IT  
THIS MORNING!

WELL, IT'S  
LOVELY! YOU HAVE  
WONDERFUL  
TASTE!

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING WHY I WAS SO INSISTENT WE HAVE LUNCH TODAY!

THE THOUGHT DID CROSS MY MIND!

LET'S JUST SAY YOU INTRIGUE ME!

I INTRIGUE YOU? HOW SO?



THE TWO TIMES WE'VE MET,  
YOU'VE PRESENTED YOURSELF AS  
TWO VERY DIFFERENT PEOPLE!

THE FIRST TIME AT  
REX'S, IN NOTHING BUT A  
TOWEL, YOU STRUCK ME AS  
LITTLE MORE THAN A FLIGHTY,  
UNBRIDLED NYMPHETTE! NO  
OFFENSE MEANT, DEAR!


NONE TAKEN! IT  
WASN'T ONE OF MY  
FINEST MOMENTS!

BUT THE YOUNG WOMAN I MET  
LAST NIGHT WAS POISED,  
INTELLIGENT AND VERY MUCH IN  
CONTROL OF HERSELF AND HER  
SURROUNDINGS!

WELL I'VE BEEN  
TOLD I CLEAN UP  
NICELY! \*GIGGLE!\*

YES, YOU DO! BUT I THINK  
THERE'S MUCH MORE TO YOU THAN  
YOU'RE LETTING ON! AND THAT'S WHY  
WE'RE HAVING THIS LUNCH TODAY!

OKAY, HERE COMES  
THE REAL THIRD  
DEGREE! BRING IT ON,  
SISTER! I'M READY  
FOR YOU!



BUT I'M ALSO  
CURIOUS AS TO WHY A  
PHOENIX NATIVE WOULD  
WANT TO MOVE OUTHERE  
TO MIAMI?

THE HUMIDITY IS  
DREADFUL! AND IF YOU'RE HERE  
FOR THE BEACHES, CALIFORNIA IS  
MUCH, MUCH CLOSER!

WELL, LIKE I SAID  
LAST NIGHT, REX IS HERE  
AND HE HAS  
CONNECTIONS TO HELP  
ME...

FIND A JOB? SO,  
HOW MANY INTERVIEWS  
HAS HE LINED UP FOR YOU SO  
FAR? AND WHO ARE THEY  
WITH?

I KNOW A LOT OF  
PEOPLE HERE IN MIAMI, SO  
MAYBE I COULD ALSO BE OF  
SOME HELP!

UMM... WELL, I DON'T HAVE  
ANY INTERVIEW SET UP YET!  
BUT I'M HOPING...

AND WHAT WAS THE  
**REAL** REASON YOU SHOWED  
UP ON THE BALCONY IN JUST A  
**TOWEL?**

WAS IT TO **SCARE**  
**OFF** YOUR  
**COMPETITION?**  
NAMELY...**ME?**

**NO, THAT'S** NOT  
**IT AT ALL!** I JUST  
**THOUGHT** I'D... I  
MEAN I...

**SHIT!** SHE'S  
NOT GIVING ME  
TIME TO THINK UP  
ANY **ANSWERS!**



*\*GIGGLE!\* RELAX, KIM DEAR! RELAX! I'M NOT OUT TO GET YOU! QUITE THE CONTRARY... I'M ON YOUR SIDE!*

*ON MY SIDE? I DON'T UNDERSTAND! THE WAY YOU'VE BEEN QUESTIONING ME! I THOUGHT YOU WERE...*

*JUST TRYING TO CUT THROUGH THE BULLSHIT, DARLING! GET A FEEL FOR YOUR REAL MOTIVATIONS!*

*WHICH YOU THINK ARE...?*



YOUR **SCHOOLGIRL**  
**CRUSH** ON **REX** HAS EVOLVED  
INTO A FULL-BLOWN **INFATUATION**..  
IF **NOT** SOMETHING EVEN  
**MORE!**

WHEN HE SAID LAST NIGHT  
THAT YOU WERE **ONLY** STAYING  
WITH HIM FOR A **FEW DAYS** I  
COULD **SEE** THE LOOK OF  
**DISAPPOINTMENT** IN YOUR  
EYES!

YOU **ENJOY** BEING WITH  
HIM! AND YOU WANT IT TO  
CONTINUE FOR AS LONG AS  
**POSSIBLE!**

I WANT TO **HELP** YOU  
MAKE THAT **HAPPEN!**

BUT...**I**  
THOUGHT YOU  
WERE AFTER HIM!

OH, HONEY! I WAS **JUST**  
PLAYING **MIND GAMES** WITH  
HIM! HE MAKES IT SO **EASY**,  
YOU KNOW!

BESIDES, I'M A **HAPPILY**  
**MARRIED WOMAN!** DO YOU  
**REALLY** THINK I'D **RISK** GIVING UP  
**EVERYTHING** I'VE WORKED SO **HARD**  
FOR... THE **STATUS**, THE **LIFESTYLE**,  
THE **MONEY**... JUST TO HAVE A  
**FLING** WITH ONE OF MY  
HUSBAND'S **EMPLOYEES?**

EVEN IF SAID **EMPLOYEE** IS A  
**GORGEOUS** HUNK OF **MAN!**  
\*GIGGLE!\*



HOLY SHIT! SHE'S  
JUST LIKE ME! DOING  
WHATEVER IT TAKES TO  
GET WHAT SHE WANTS!

EXCEPT SHE'S  
DOING A LONG CON...  
INVESTING YEARS, MAYBE  
DECADES, DEPENDING ON  
HOW LONG THE OLD FART  
LIVES!


I COULD LEARN A  
THING OR TWO FROM  
HER!

UMMM... KIM,  
HONEY! EARTH TO  
KIM?

WAIT A MINUTE!  
THIS COULD BE THE  
ANSWER TO MY  
PROBLEMS!

I'D HAVE TO KEEP  
BEING "KIM" FOR A LOT  
LONGER THAN I'D  
PLANNED, BUT IT'D TURN A  
PERCEIVED THREAT INTO A  
FRIEND... OR EVEN A  
MENTOR!

AND, BEST OF  
ALL, IT KEEPS ME  
IN REX'S HOUSE!




IT'S PROBABLY *BEST* YOU AVOID  
THESE EXTENDED *INNER DIALOGUES*  
WHEN YOU'RE AROUND *OTHERS*, DEAR!  
*THEY* MAY THINK YOU'RE HAVING A  
*STROKE!*

SOMETHING I'VE *ALWAYS*  
BEEN *VERY* GOOD AT!

SO... DID *YOU* AND YOUR  
LITTLE *VOICE* COME TO A  
*CONSENSUS* ON THE  
TRUTH?

OH! I... I'M  
SORRY! YOU JUST  
REALLY CAUGHT ME  
OFF GUARD!




*\*SIGH!\* YOU'RE RIGHT, GLORIA!  
WHEN REX FIRST OFFERED TO LET ME  
STAY WITH HIM, I THOUGHT IT'D JUST BE  
CUTE! ME, GETTING THE CHANCE TO HANG  
OUT FOR A FEW DAYS WITH THE GUY I HAD  
A CRUSH ON SO MANY YEARS AGO!*

*BUT AFTER BEING HERE, WITH  
HIM, THESE PAST FEW DAYS, THE  
THOUGHT OF HAVING TO LIVE  
ALONE IN A CHEAP APARTMENT  
DISGUSTS ME!*

*I... I DON'T  
WANT TO LEAVE...  
HIM!*

*OKAY, THERE'S  
JUST ENOUGH TRUTH  
THERE FOR EVEN YOU TO  
BUY IT! C'MON, GLORIA...  
TAKE THE BAIT!*




WELL THEN... WHY  
DON'T **WE** PUT OUR HEADS  
**TOGETHER** AND FIGURE OUT A  
WAY TO **MAKE THAT**  
**HAPPEN?**

Several hours later...

REX? I'M  
BACK! ARE YOU  
HOME?





A FOUR  
HOUR LUNCH?  
WHAT TOOK YOU  
SO LONG?

WELL, YOU  
SEE...



*GLORIA?  
WELL... THIS IS A  
SURPRISE!*

*I'M AFRAID IT WAS  
ALL MY FAULT, REX  
DEAR!*

ONCE I GOT TO  
KNOW THIS LOVELY  
YOUNG WOMAN OF YOURS, I  
JUST **COULDN'T** LET HER  
GO!

SO I FIGURED THE  
LEAST I COULD DO IS  
GIVE HER A **RIDE**  
HOME!

AND I  
WANTED TO **BE**  
HERE WHEN **KIM**  
TOLD YOU THE  
**NEWS!**

WELL, WE  
**APPRECIATE**  
THAT, GLORIA!

THE NEWS?  
WHAT NEWS?





**GLORIA  
OFFERED ME A  
JOB!**

**A... A JOB?!  
WITH  
GLORIA?!**

**I KNOW! ISN'T  
IT GREAT?**

**GREAT?! YOU  
MEAN, YOU  
ACCEPTED IT?**



**WELL OF  
COURSE SHE  
DID! WHY  
WOULDN'T  
SHE?**

OH! UHH... THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT! I'M JUST *CURIOUS* AS TO WHAT KIND OF JOB IT IS!


OF *COURSE* IT IS! I MEAN, IF *THAT'S* WHAT *KIM* WANTS!

OH, IT IS!

SHE'LL BE MY *PERSONAL ASSISTANT*! SOMEONE TO HELP ME *ORGANIZE* MY DAYS! KEEP TRACK OF ALL MY CHARITY FUNCTIONS, LUNCHEONS, AND *OTHER* SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS!

IT'S JUST A *PART-TIME* JOB, THOUGH! I DIDN'T WANT TO STEP ON *YOUR TOES* SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HELPING HER FIND A *FULL-TIME* JOB!

I *HOPE* THAT'S OKAY WITH *YOU*, REX!



I'LL BE EARNING SOME MONEY OF MY OWN, I WON'T BE **HANGING AROUND** HERE ALL THE TIME, AND IT WILL **STILL** LEAVE ME TIME TO LOOK FOR A **FULL-TIME JOB!**

GLORIA **EVEN** BOUGHT ME A COUPLE OF **NEW OUTFITS** TO WEAR FOR MY **FIRST WEEK!** WASN'T THAT **SWEET** OF HER?

YES... IT DEFINITELY WAS!



BYE,  
GLORIA! AND  
THANKS  
AGAIN!

WELL, I'M *SURE* YOU  
TWO HAVE A LOT TO  
DISCUSS, SO I'LL GET OUT  
OF YOUR HAIR!

SEE YOU TOMORROW  
BRIGHT AND EARLY,  
KIM!

ALWAYS MY  
PLEASURE, DEAR!



A JOB? WITH  
GLORIA?! WHAT THE  
DEVIL HAPPENED  
TODAY?

I'M SORRY, REX! IT ALL  
JUST HAPPENED SO QUICKLY!  
I HAD TO THINK ON MY FEET TO  
KEEP GLORIA FROM FINDING OUT  
THE TRUTH!

WHAT DO YOU  
MEAN?




WE WERE TALKING ABOUT WHY I CAME TO MIAMI LOOKING FOR WORK AND HOW YOU WERE HELPING ME AND EVERYTHING!

WHEN SHE *FIRST* OFFERED ME THE JOB I *TRIED* TO TURN IT DOWN, BUT SHE *INSISTED*... POINTING OUT ALL THE *ADVANTAGES* I JUST RECITED OFF TO YOU A FEW MINUTES AGO!

BUT THE *MORE* I *HESITATED* ABOUT THE JOB, I COULD *TELL* SHE WAS GETTING MORE AND MORE *SUSPICIOUS* OF ME AND MY *MOTIVES*!

I *REALLY* HAD NO *CHOICE* BUT TO *ACCEPT* THE JOB!



BUT *THAT*  
MEANS YOU'LL HAVE TO  
*KEEP BEING KIM* FOR I  
DON'T KNOW HOW  
LONG!

NO PROBLEM! I'LL CALL  
HER *TONIGHT!*

I KNOW!  
*I KNOW!* BUT  
THAT'S JUST  
SOMETHING I'LL  
HAVE TO DEAL  
WITH!


I'M HOPING *LOLA*  
MIGHT HAVE SOME MORE  
*LONG-TERM*  
SOLUTIONS FOR ME!

COULD YOU MAKE AN  
*APPOINTMENT* FOR ME  
WITH HER? *GLORIA* SAID I  
*SHOULD* BE FREE BY  
*MID-AFTERNOON*  
TOMORROW!

THANK YOU SO MUCH, REX! I'M **SORRY** I **KEEP** BEING SO MUCH **TROUBLE** FOR YOU!

I **REALLY** SHOULD'VE PUT **MORE** THOUGHT INTO OUR COVER STORY! THEN MAYBE **NONE** OF THIS WOULD BE **HAPPENING!**

WELL, ACTUALLY...




I'M GOING TO GO  
CHANGE AND LIE DOWN  
FOR A WHILE!

IF I'M NOT UP IN A  
FEW HOURS, WAKE ME  
SO I CAN TAKE CARE OF  
DINNER!

DON'T WORRY  
ABOUT IT! I'LL  
ORDER US SOMETHING  
LATER ON!

WELL, *OKAY!*  
THANKS, REX!



IT'S JUST  
**MIND-BOGGLING** HOW MUCH  
DANIEL HAS PUT HIMSELF THROUGH  
THESE LAST FEW DAYS AND WILL  
**HAVE TO CONTINUE** TO DO  
BECAUSE OF MY **SCREW-UPS!**

I CAME UP WITH  
THAT **WEAK** BACK-STORY  
THAT'S **FORCED** HIM TO GO  
TO WORK FOR **GLORIA!**

AND HE WOULDN'T EVEN  
**BE** IN THIS MESS IN THE  
**FIRST** PLACE IF I JUST **HADN'T**  
LET **GLORIA** GET UNDER MY  
**SKIN!**


**\*SIGH!\*** NOW I'VE GOT  
TO DO **WHATEVER** I CAN TO  
HELP HER GET **THROUGH** ALL  
THIS!



*HIM! HELP HIM  
GET THROUGH ALL  
THIS!*

*DAMN! HE'S SO  
CONVINCING HE'S EVEN  
STARTING TO MAKE ME  
FORGET WHO'S REALLY  
LIVING UPSTAIRS!*

*OKAY... TIME TO CALL  
LOLA!*



AS MUCH AS I'D LOVE TO TAKE THIS CONTRAPTION OFF, THERE'S NO WAY I'D BE ABLE TO GET IT BACK ON THE RIGHT WAY WITHOUT LOLA'S HELP!

AND AS CONVINCING AS IT IS, I NEED A BETTER ALTERNATIVE SINCE IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE DOING THIS A HELL OF A LOT LONGER THAN I'D PLANNED!

NOT THE IDEAL SOLUTION I WAS HOPING FOR, BUT WITH GLORIA'S "HELP", THE ONLY VIABLE ONE SO FAR!




THE "JOB" SHE'S GIVING ME IS NOTHING MORE THAN AN **EXCUSE** FOR US TO GET TOGETHER SO SHE CAN "TUTOR" ME IN "SNAGGING" REX!

OBVIOUSLY A **HUGE** WASTE OF MY TIME SINCE I'M ALREADY A **PRO** AT MANIPULATING HIM, AS **EVIDENCED** BY MY LITTLE ACT DOWNSTAIRS!

HE KNOWS FULL WELL THAT **HE** WAS THE "**MASTERMIND**" BEHIND MY BACK-STORY! BY TAKING THE BLAME FOR IT **MYSELF**, I'VE DIALED HIS GUILTY CONSCIENCE UP TO **ELEVEN!**

AND THE **GUILTIER HE** FEELS, THE BETTER **MY** CHANCES OF **STAYING!**



SO AS LONG AS GLORIA  
*INSISTS* ON "HELPING OUT",  
I'LL JUST HAVE TO *STRING*  
*HER ALONG* UNTIL I COME UP  
WITH AN *ALTERNATE PLAN!*

UNFORTUNATELY, THE  
*WAYTHINGS* HAVE  
FALLEN INTO PLACE, *ANY*  
PLAN I COME UP WITH IS GOING  
TO INVOLVE "KIM"! THERE'S  
REALLY *NO WAY* AROUND IT  
AS FAR AS I CAN SEE!


BUT IF I HAVE TO  
*CONTINUE* BEING "KIM" FOR  
THE *LONG HAUL*, AT *LEAST*  
I'VE GOT TWO *TOP-NOTCH*  
"TUTORS" TO HELP ME  
*PERFECT* MY ACT!

The next day...

HOW WAS  
YOUR *DRIVE*  
OUT HERE,  
DEAR?

IT WAS  
*GREAT!* THAT  
WAS THE FANCIEST  
*OBER* I'VE EVER  
HAD!





THAT WASN'T AN  
OBER, THAT WAS MY  
PERSONAL DRIVER,  
LARS!

JUST ONE OF  
MANY PERKS I  
ENJOY BEING MARRIED  
TO A VERY  
WEALTHY MAN!

YOU HAVE A  
PERSONAL DRIVER?  
WOW!



I SAY THAT **NOT TO BRAG** SO MUCH AS TO **POINT OUT** WHAT **YOU COULD ALSO** HAVE IF YOU **PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT!**

REX OBVIOUSLY **ISN'T** AS WEALTHY AS MY HUSBAND, BUT HE **WILL BE... EVENTUALLY!**

A **SMART GIRL** WOULD **SEE** THAT AND **MAKE SURE** THAT SHE'S RIGHT THERE **WITH HIM ALL THE WAY!**

AND **YOU, KIM DEAR,** UNLESS I'M **GROSSLY** MISTAKEN, ARE A **VERY** SMART GIRL!

WELL, I **HAVE** ALWAYS BEEN ON THE **HONOR** ROLL!

I KNOW **EXACTLY** WHAT SHE MEANS, BUT THE **LESS** SHE KNOWS ABOUT MY **TRUE** CHARACTER, THE **BETTER!**



THAT'S **NOT**  
WHAT I MEANT AND  
I THINK YOU **KNOW**  
THAT!

SO IF YOU  
**REALLY** WANT MY  
HELP, **CUT THE SHIT**  
WITH THE **CUTESY ACT**  
SO WE CAN GET TO  
**WORK!**

**OTHERWISE**, I'LL  
JUST TELL REX YOU  
**DIDN'T WORK OUT** AND  
WE'LL LET THE **CHIPS FALL**  
WHERE THEY MAY!

WHICH IS IT  
GOING TO BE...  
**SWEETY?**

**SHIT!** WITHOUT GLORIA'S  
"JOB" THERE'S **NOTHING**  
KEEPING REX FROM SENDING ME OFF  
TO **ORLANDO** TO EXPLORE MY  
"INDEPENDENCE"!

LOOKS LIKE I  
HAVE TO **CHANGE**  
MY **STRATEGY!**



SO YOU ARE A  
SMART GIRL AFTER  
ALL! **GOOD!**

NOW, WILL THE  
**REAL KIM DANIELS**  
PLEASE STAND UP!

I... I'M **SORRY** I TRIED TO  
**BULLSHIT** YOU, GLORIA! I **DO** NEED  
YOUR HELP! I **THOUGHT** I COULD DO  
THIS **MY WAY**, BUT I'M IN **OVER**  
**MY HEAD!**



THAT DOESN'T  
SURPRISE ME AT  
ALL! HE IS QUITE  
THE BOY SCOUT!  
GO ON!

WHO DOES?  
\*GIGGLE!\*

FIRST OFF, **EVERYTHING**  
I'VE TOLD YOU IS WHAT I TOLD  
REX AND HE BELIEVES **EVERY WORD**  
OF IT! HE'S DONE **NOTHING**  
**WRONG!**

MY BROTHER **DID** ASK  
REX TO HELP ME FIND A JOB OUT  
HERE! BUT WHAT HE **DIDN'T** TELL  
HIM IS THAT I'VE BEEN **FIRED** FROM  
A **HALF-DOZEN JOBS** SINCE  
COLLEGE!

IT **WASN'T** THAT I WAS  
**BAD** AT THE JOBS, IT'S **JUST**  
THAT I **DON'T LIKE** TO  
**WORK!**

SINCE MY BROTHER, *GARY*, WAS ALWAYS **BOASTING** ABOUT HIS **SUCCESSFUL** FRIEND, *REX*, I **ASKED** HIM TO CALL IN A **FAVOR** AND SEE IF **HE** COULD HELP ME FIND A **JOB!**

AND SINCE I **HAVE** ALWAYS HAD A **HUGE** CRUSH ON *REX*, I **DIDN'T** LIE ABOUT **THAT**, IT SEEMED THE **PERFECT OPPORTUNITY** TO GET WHAT I WANTED WITH **MINIMAL EFFORT!**

AND JUST WHAT **IS** IT YOU WANT, *KIM*?

WHAT YOU'VE GOT...  
**THE GOOD LIFE!**

IT'S AMAZING HOW  
**REFRESHING** THE **TRUTH** CAN BE  
WHEN SHARED BETWEEN **FRIENDS!** JUST  
AS LONG AS SAID **TRUTH** IS KEPT **SOLELY**  
**BETWEEN** THOSE FRIENDS! AM I  
RIGHT, DEAR?

**GOOD**, BECAUSE THAT WILL  
ALLOW US TO BE **BRUTALLY**  
**HONEST** WITH ONE ANOTHER  
WITHOUT **WORRYING** ABOUT ANY  
**HARD FEELINGS!**

**SEE?** WE'RE **ALREADY** SO  
**SIMPATICO**, IT'S **SCARY!**

**ONE-HUNDRED**  
**PERCENT!**

I **SENSE** SOME  
"BRUTAL **HONESTY**"  
ON THE **HORIZON!**



THIS "GIRL-NEXT-DOOR" ACT OF YOURS MAY HAVE GOTTEN YOU IN THE DOOR, BUT IT WON'T HOLD UP LONG AGAINST THE ONSLAUGHT OF VOLUPTUOUS, SILICON-ENHANCED PREDATORS WHO ALSO HAVE REX IN THEIR SITES!

OH, HE DOESN'T DATE... CURRENTLY! BUT, LIKE YOU'VE NOTICED, REX IS A MAJOR CATCH! AND I KNOW OF SEVERAL WOMAN JUST IN OUR FIRM THAT HAVE THEIR EYES ON HIM!

AND, NOT TO BE TOO INDELICATE, BUT COMPARED TO THEM, YOU STILL LOOK LIKE A MIDDLE SCHOOL TWEEN!

SO IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE ONE OF THEM STEPS OVER YOUR PRE-PUBESCENT CORPSE AND TAKES THE PRIZE!

REALLY? HE HASN'T MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT HIS DATING LIFE SINCE I GOT HERE!

**DAMN!** THIS CHICK IS **BRUTAL!** JUST **ANOTHER** REASON TO HAVE HER ON MY **SIDE...** FOR **NOW,** AT LEAST!

**WOW!** THAT IS **PRETTY DAMN DIRECT!** UNFORTUNATELY, I'VE **ALWAYS** BEEN **PRETTY THIN** AND DON'T SEE ANY **SECOND PUBERTY** ON THE HORIZON!

OH HONEY, THERE ARE SO **MANY** WAYS A GIRL CAN **ENHANCE** HER FIGURE! BE IT **PADDING, DRUGS, OR SURGERY!** AND **WHICHEVER** ROUTE YOU CHOOSE, IF **ANY,** IS **ENTIRELY** UP TO **YOU!**

**HOWEVER,** THERE ARE **OTHER** ASPECTS TO THE **ART OF SEDUCTION** THAT I FEEL ARE **JUST AS IMPORTANT!** ASPECTS I CAN ASSIST YOU WITH!

THINGS LIKE **HAIR, MAKE-UP, WARDROBE,** AND, ABOVE ALL, **ATTITUDE!**



LET ME OFFER UP  
MYSELF AS A PRIME  
EXAMPLE!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT,  
WHEN I MET MY  
FUTURE, *CURRENT*  
HUSBAND, I WAS JUST AS  
SKINNY AS YOU ARE  
NOW!

ON THE  
CONTRARY! ALL OF  
THIS CAME AFTER WE  
WERE MARRIED... ON  
HIS DIME!

TO KEEP WHAT I WORKED  
SO HARD FOR! HE'S NOT GOING  
TO BE TRADING ME IN FOR A  
YOUNGER MODEL FOR A LONG,  
LONG TIME!

SO, NO OFFENSE, BUT  
YOU OBVIOUSLY HAD SOME  
WORK DONE TO HELP YOU  
LAND HIM! RIGHT?

AFTER YOU WERE  
MARRIED? BUT WHY?

OKAY, YOU'VE  
CONVINCED ME!  
WHERE DO WE  
START?

SHIT! I BELIEVE HER!  
EVEN IF HER HUSBAND WAS  
CRAZY ENOUGH TO DUMP  
SOMEONE THAT HOT, HE'D ALSO  
HAVE TO BE INCREDIBLY STUPID!

BECAUSE AFTER  
LISTENING TO ALL THIS, I  
REALIZE SHE IS NOT SOMEONE  
YOU WANT TO PISS OFF!

SO I DEFINITELY  
NEED TO TREAD LIGHTLY  
AROUND HER... FOR MY OWN  
SAKE!



WHY, WITH  
LUNCH, OF  
COURSE! \*GIGGLE!\*

OF COURSE!  
\*GIGGLE!\*

AND AFTER I'M DONE HERE,  
I'LL HEAD OVER TO **LOLA'S** AND  
SEE WHAT **SHE'S** GOT THAT'S EVEN  
**BETTER** THAN THIS BODYSUIT I'M  
STARTING TO GET A LITTLE **RIPE**  
IN!

Later that afternoon,  
at *Lola's*...

OH, THERE'S NOTHING  
MORE ADVANCED THAN WHAT  
YOU'VE GOT ON, DEAR! THAT  
GARMENT IS TOP OF THE  
LINE!

ACTUALLY I'M SURPRISED  
YOU'RE STILL WEARING IT! IT'S  
NOT DESIGNED FOR  
LONG-TERM USE!


BUT THAT'S  
EXACTLY THE  
PROBLEM... I NEED  
SOMETHING  
LONG-TERM!



MY TALENTS ARE FOCUSED ON THE IMMEDIATE AND SHORT-TERM TRANSFORMATIONS! A PERFORMANCE, A PHOTO-SHOOT, OR, AS IN YOUR CASE, A WEEKEND PARTY!

ANYTHING LONGER FALLS IN THE REALM OF MEDICAL PROCEDURES, AND I AM NEITHER A LICENSED DOCTOR NOR PHARMACIST!

BUT MY SITUATION HAS CHANGED! IT'S NOT JUST FOR THE WEEKEND ANYMORE! I HAVE TO...

A woman with brown hair styled in an updo, wearing a purple long-sleeved top and black pants, is walking down a black spiral staircase. She is looking back over her shoulder. The background features a red wall with a diamond pattern, a chandelier, and shelves of lingerie.

LET ME **STOP** YOU RIGHT THERE!  
MY BUSINESS IS **SUCCESSFUL** BECAUSE  
MY CLIENTS **KNOW** THAT I VALUE  
**DISCRETION** ABOVE ALL ELSE!

THAT'S WHY I PREFER THEY **DON'T**  
TELL ME THEIR **REASONS** FOR MY  
SERVICES! THE **LESS** I KNOW, THE **LESS**  
I CAN **ACCIDENTALLY DIVULGE!**

I GET THAT! SO  
LET ME JUST **STRESS**,  
WITHOUT GOING INTO ANY  
DETAIL, THE **IMPORTANCE**  
OF THIS!

I UNDERSTAND YOUR NEED, DEAR!  
BUT OUTSIDE OF SHOWING YOU THE  
PROPER WAY TO MASK THE EDGES OF THAT  
GARMENT, THE BEST I CAN DO FOR YOU IS  
RECOMMENDING PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE  
LICENSED IN THE PROCEDURES YOU  
WOULD NEED!


SOME ARE ACTUALLY VERY  
SIMPLE BUT WOULD DEFINITELY  
ASSIST YOU IN KEEPING YOUR  
FEMININE APPEARANCE FOR A  
LONGER PERIOD OF TIME!

I ACTUALLY HAVE A  
FRIEND WHO IS LICENSED IN  
PERFORMING BOTH *ELECTROLYSIS*  
AND *LASER HAIR REMOVAL* AS WELL  
AS *COLLAGEN INJECTIONS* FOR  
YOUR LIPS!

THOSE IN  
THEMSELVES WILL  
SAVE YOU A GREAT OF  
PREP TIME EVERY  
DAY!

WHAT  
PROCEDURES  
WOULD THOSE  
BE?

I GUESS THAT'S  
A START!

A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue ribbed dress and a brown blazer, stands in a clothing store. She is looking towards another woman whose back is to the camera. The woman with her back to the camera has long brown hair and is wearing a pink top. The store has shelves with bras, a pink chair, and a counter with various items.

I ALSO HAVE THE NAMES OF SEVERAL VERY **REPUTABLE** DOCTORS AND SURGEONS WHO **SPECIALIZE** IN TREATING **TRANS-PEOPLE!**

THAT ALL SOUNDS A LITTLE **TOO PERMANENT** FOR MY NEEDS!


OH HONEY, WITH THE  
MEDICAL ADVANCES WE  
HAVE TODAY, NOTHING IS  
PERMANENT! \*GIGGLE!\*



A short time later, in a  
different part of town...

THIS IS GOOD  
RIGHT HERE,  
DRIVER!





CAN YOU WAIT  
FOR ME? THIS  
WON'T TAKE  
LONG!

I CAN ONLY SIT IDLE  
FOR ABOUT FIFTEEN  
MINUTES... *TOPS!* AFTER  
THAT, I'M ACCEPTING  
*NEW FARES!*

THAT *SHOULD* BE  
ENOUGH! *THANKS!*



COMING BACK  
DOWN *HERE* HAS  
GOT TO BE ONE OF MY  
STUPIDEST IDEAS  
EVER!

BUT GIVEN THE *BIND*  
I'M IN, MY *OPTIONS* ARE  
VERY, VERY *LIMITED*!

IF I'M GOING TO BE SPENDING  
*SHIT LOADS* OF TIME WITH  
*GLORIA* AS SHE TEACHES ME THE  
"WAYS OF *SEDUCTION*", MY  
*APPEARANCE* HAS GOT TO BE  
*FLAWLESS*!

AND EVENTUALLY, NO MATTER  
HOW *GOOD* I GET AT HIDING IT,  
*GLORIA* WILL *REALIZE* I'M WEARING  
A *BODY SUIT*! AND THEN THE  
*SHIT* WILL HIT THE *FAN*!

SINCE GOING UNDER THE  
KNIFE IS *NOT* AN OPTION, I'M  
LEFT WITH REALLY ONLY *ONE*  
ALTERNATIVE THAT'LL GET ME  
RELATIVELY *QUICK RESULTS*!

I JUST NEEDED TO  
*FIND* SOMEONE WHO  
KNOWS *WHERE* TO GET  
THAT *ALTERNATIVE*!

AND THERE  
"SHE" IS! STILL  
HANGING OUT IN THE  
SAME SPOT!

IF YOU'RE  
LOOKING FOR A  
GOOD TIME,  
SWEETIE, IT'S MONEY  
UP FRONT!

OTHERWISE, KEEP  
ON STEPPIN', BITCH,  
'CAUSE THIS IS MY  
CORNER!



EVEN IF I WANTED TO, THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL I COULD EVER COMPETE WITH YOU! YOU'RE A LEGEND!

DO I KNOW YOU?

IT'S ME... DANIEL! HOW YOU DOIN', CHERRY?





YEAH... BEEN TRYING THINGS OUT IN A **DIFFERENT** PART OF TOWN!

FIGURED THERE WAS **MORE MONEY** IN **LOOKING** THE PART INSTEAD OF JUST **ACTING** THE PART!

WHICH IS **WHY** I CAME TO SEE YOU!

DANIEL?!  
HOLY SHIT!  
LOOK AT YOU!

FINALLY DECIDED TO TAKE MY ADVICE AND **BROADEN** YOUR CLIENT BASE, HUH? \*GIGGLE!\*

CONSIDERING YOU WENT FROM A SKINNY "BEIBER-WANNABE" TO A "CENTERFOLD-COULDBE" IN A MATTER OF WEEKS, YEAH! I THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE A CONNECTION OR TWO!

SO... CAN YOU HELP A SISTER OUT?

YOU'VE GOT A DEAL!

WELL I KNOW IT'S NOT TO LEARN ALL ABOUT MY INFAMOUS COCK-SUCKING TECHNIQUE! 'CAUSE I LEARNED THAT FROM YOU!

SO I'M BETTING YOU'RE LOOKIN' TO ADD SOME SERIOUS CURVATURE TO YOUR ASSETS AND FIGURED I KNEW WHERE TO GET 'EM!

ON THE CONDITION YOU KEEP YOUR CURVY NEW BOD ON YOUR SIDE OF TOWN AND AWAY FROM MY REGULARS! I DON'T NEED THAT KIND OF COMPETITION!



WHAT DOES HE  
CHARGE?

*\*SIGH!\** I KNOW  
EXACTLY WHAT YOU  
MEAN AND I'M NOT AT  
ALL SURPRISED!

THERE'S A LITTLE HOLE-IN-THE-WALL CLINIC  
IN AN ALLEY OFF OF 1ST AND BAYSIDE! THE  
DOC THERE'S A **BIG** FAN OF US **GIRLS** AND IS **MORE**  
THAN HAPPY TO PROVIDE US WITH WHATEVER  
**GOODIES** HE HAS AVAILABLE!

HE SAYS **MONEY**  
ALWAYS LEAVES A **TRACE!**  
SO HE PREFERENCES "**SERVICES**  
**RENDERED**", IF YOU KNOW  
WHAT I MEAN!



YOU TOO,  
CHERRY! AND  
THANKS!

BY THE WAY, DON'T GO  
EXPECTING BEAUTIES LIKE THESE  
OUT OF A BOTTLE! I HAD TO SAVE  
UP AND GET 'EM THE OLD  
FASHIONED WAY! \*GIGGLE!\*

TAKE CARE OF  
YOURSELF, DANIEL! AND  
GOOD LUCK!

YOU MADE IT  
JUST UNDER THE  
WIRE! I WAS GETTING  
READY TO TAKE  
OFF!

I KNOW AND I  
REALLY  
APPRECIATE YOU  
WAITING FOR ME!

AND IF YOU DON'T  
MIND, I HAVE ONE  
MORE QUICK STOP  
TO MAKE!

ALL THESE  
EXTRA STOPS ARE  
GONNA COST YOU!  
HOPE YOU'VE GOT  
ENOUGH TO COVER  
IT!

A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue ribbed dress and a brown blazer, is sitting in the passenger seat of a car. She is looking towards the driver's side. The car's interior is visible, including the dashboard and steering wheel. The background shows a brick wall and some foliage.

WELL, HOW ABOUT I  
RIDE UP *HERE* INSTEAD  
AND *PAY OFF* PART OF MY  
FARE *BEFORE* WE LEAVE?  
HMMMM?

*\*SIGH!\* MIGHT AS WELL  
GET SOME *PRACTICE* IN  
SO THE DOCTOR IS PROPERLY  
*SATISFIED* WITH MY  
*PAYMENT!**

OH YEAH! I  
THINK *THAT'LL*  
WORK OUT *JUST*  
*FINE!* HEH-HEH!

Later, back at Rex's...

*PTOO!!*

*THERE! I  
THINK THE THIRD  
GARGLING FINALLY  
GOT THE TASTE OUT OF  
MY MOUTH!*



I REALLY HOPED  
I'D NEVER HAVE TO  
DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT  
EVER AGAIN!

BUT WHEN THE DOCTOR  
SAID IT'D TAKE AT LEAST A  
WEEK TO SEE ANY EFFECTS FROM  
THE PILLS AND THE SHOT HE GAVE  
ME, I KNEW I HAD TO GIVE HIM A  
LITTLE EXTRA SERVICE TO GET A  
LARGER DOSE!

AS OBSERVANT AS  
GLORIA IS, I CAN'T AFFORD  
TO WAIT MORE THAN A WEEK  
TO GET SOME REAL CURVES!  
I NEED THEM  
ASA-FUCKING -P!

HOPEFULLY, THAT  
BIGGER SHOT, ALONG  
WITH ME TAKING TWICE THE  
PRESCRIBED DAILY PILL DOSAGE, WILL  
START PRODUCING SOME  
VISIBLE RESULTS IN JUST A  
FEW DAYS!





SOUNDS LIKE REX IS GETTING HOME! I'M **SURE** HE'LL WANT TO KNOW **ALL ABOUT** MY FIRST DAY "**WORKING**" FOR GLORIA!

I OBVIOUSLY **WON'T** TELL HIM **EVERYTHING**, BUT **JUST ENOUGH** TO KEEP HIM AWARE OF THE **IMPORTANCE** OF MAKING **SURE** GLORIA IS **SATISFIED**!

**HMPH!** A **NORMAL** PERSON WOULD PROBABLY GO **CRAZY** TRYING TO KEEP SO MANY **DIFFERENT** STORIES STRAIGHT! BUT WITH **ME**, IT'S **CHILD'S PLAY!** HEH-HEH!



HEY! YOU LOOK LIKE YOURSELF AGAIN! EVERYTHING OKAY?

HEY THERE! WELCOME HOME!

OH, YEAH! I STOPPED BY LOLA'S TODAY AND SHE'S MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BODY SUIT SO I CAN WEAR IT LONG-TERM! I'M GOING TO PICK IT UP TOMORROW!

SOUNDS GOOD! SO... HOW DID IT GO WITH GLORIA TODAY?



PRETTY *CHILL!* SHE TALKED ABOUT EVERYTHING *I'D* BE RESPONSIBLE FOR, WHICH IS *MOSTLY* JUST *REMINDING* HER WHAT'S ON HER *OWN* DAMN *CALENDAR!* SO IT SOUNDS LIKE A PRETTY *EASY* JOB!


A LOT MORE THAN I'M *WORTH!* BUT THERE'S A *PROBLEM!* GLORIA WANTS MY *BANK INFO* FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT OF MY *PAY!* AND SINCE I DON'T HAVE *ANY KIND* OF BANK ACCOUNT, "*KIM*" DOESN'T HAVE ONE *EITHER!*

I WAS THINKING SETTING UP A *VEN-PAL* ACCOUNT WOULD BE THE *EASIEST* THING TO DO! BUT...

YEAH... I'M AFRAID IT *DOES!*

THAT'S GOOD! DID SHE TALK ABOUT HOW MUCH SHE'S GOING TO *PAY* YOU?

BUT THAT *STILL* REQUIRES A LINK TO AN *EXISTING* BANK ACCOUNT OF SOME KIND!



**NO PROBLEM!** I'LL CREATE AN ACCOUNT IN **KIM'S** NAME AS PART OF MY OVERALL ACCOUNT! THEN **YOU** SETUP THE **VEN-PAL** ACCOUNT AND WE'LL LINK IT TO THAT!


I'LL EVEN GO AHEAD AND PUT SOME **MONEY** INTO IT! I **SHOULD'VE** THOUGHT OF THIS **BEFORE** SINCE IT'LL SAVE **ME** THE TROUBLE OF HAVING TO GIVE YOU **CASH** ALL THE TIME FOR EXPENSES!

AND SINCE THE **VEN-PAL** APP IS ON MY PHONE, I **DON'T** NEED TO APPLY FOR A **CREDIT CARD!**

**EXACTLY!**

**GREAT IDEA, REX!**

**ACTUALLY MY GREAT IDEA, BUT IT NEVER HURTS TO PUMP UP THE MARK'S EGO! HEH-HEH!**



SO, BESIDES MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BODY SUIT, DID LOLA SAY ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT CONTINUING YOUR DISGUISE FOR A WHILE LONGER?

THAT'S A LITTLE EXTREME, DON'T YOU THINK?

YOU'RE KIDDING! REALLY?

AS A MATTER OF FACT, SHE DID! SHE SUGGESTED COLLAGEN INJECTIONS FOR MY LIPS SO I WOULDN'T HAVE TO KEEP PLUMPING THEM UP EVERY DAY AND ELECTROLYSIS TO GET RID OF MY BODY HAIR!

ACTUALLY, I THINK THEY'RE BOTH GOOD IDEAS!



THE STUFF I USE TO PLUMP MY LIPS **NOW** TAKES A LITTLE TIME TO KICK IN AND ONLY **LASTS** A FEW **HOURS!** SINCE GLORIA DOESN'T HAVE ANY **SET** HOURS FOR ME, THAT **COULD** BE A **PROBLEM!** THE **INJECTIONS**, HOWEVER, LAST FOR **MONTHS!**

AND AS SOMEONE WHO HAS JUST **RECENTLY** EXPERIENCED THE "**JOY**" OF **SHAVING** HIS LEGS AND ARMS AND CHEST FOR THE **FIRST** TIME, THE ALLURE OF **NOT** HAVING TO DO IT AGAIN IS A **NO-BRAINER!**

IT'D TAKE **SEVERAL** SESSIONS, BUT I **REALLY** THINK IT'D BE **WORTH** IT!

ACTUALLY, FROM WHAT **CHERRY** TOLD ME, THE HORMONE TREATMENT SHE TURNED ME ONTO WILL **DRASTICALLY** **REDUCE** MY BODY HAIR **ALL BY ITSELF!**

BUT IF REX IS **WILLING** TO FOOT THE **BILL** FOR MY "**SESSIONS**", WHO AM I TO ARGUE! HEH-HEH!

WELL, **OKAY**, BUT...



WOW! WELL, DO YOU  
HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE  
TO GET ALL THIS  
DONE?

LOLA GAVE ME THE  
NAME OF A PERSON  
WHO CAN DO **BOTH** IN  
JUST A COUPLE OF  
**HOURS!**

SINCE GLORIA  
DOESN'T NEED ME  
**TOMORROW**, I WAS  
THINKING I COULD GET THEM  
**BOTH** DONE **TOMORROW**  
**AFTER** I PICK UP THE  
SUIT FROM LOLA'S!

WHAT DO YOU  
THINK?

A man in a houndstooth suit is standing and talking to a woman in a grey dress who is sitting on a couch. The man is gesturing with his hands as he speaks. The woman is looking at him with a slightly concerned or questioning expression. The scene is set in a modern living room with a brick wall and a window in the background.

I THINK WE NEED TO GET  
YOUR VEN-PAL ACCOUNT SET UP  
FIRST THING IN THE MORNING SO  
YOU CAN GET THOSE PROCEDURES  
DONE!

THANKS, REX! I KNOW  
IT ALL SOUNDS A LITTLE  
EXTREME TO YOU, BUT TRUST  
ME! IT'LL ALL HELP KEEP GLORIA  
IN THE DARK ABOUT WHO I  
REALLY AM!

AND THAT'S THE  
NAME OF THE GAME,  
ISN'T IT?

DAMN  
STRAIGHT!


WHOA!

WHAT IS  
IT?  
SUDDENLY YOU  
DON'T LOOK  
SO WELL!

I, UHHH... THINK IT'S  
SOMETHING I HAD FOR LUNCH!  
GLORIA TOOK ME TO A FANCY  
PLACE AND I'M NOT REALLY SURE  
WHAT IT WAS SHE ORDERED  
FOR ME!

OR THOSE PILLS  
AND SHOTS ARE  
FINALLY KICKING IN!  
WHATEVER HAPPENS, I  
DON'T WANT IT HAPPENING  
IN FRONT OF REX!



A man in a grey checkered suit stands at the bottom of a white staircase, gesturing with his right hand towards a woman standing on the stairs. The woman is wearing a grey sleeveless dress and has her hand to her head. The background features a wood-paneled wall with two framed abstract paintings. The scene is lit with recessed ceiling lights.

I THINK I'M GONNA  
GO LIE DOWN! I'LL  
PROBABLY PASS ON  
DINNER AS WELL!

ALL RIGHT! TAKE IT  
EASY, DANIEL!

OOF! OH, HELL  
YEAH! I'M  
DEFINITELY GONNA  
PASS ON DINNER!

*\*GROAN!\**




The next morning...






UGH! WHAT  
TIME IS IT?



TEN O'CLOCK?!  
FUCK, I HAVEN'T  
SLEPT THIS LATE  
SINCE COLLEGE!

AND THERE'S A  
TEXT HERE  
FROM REX!



**ALL RIGHT!**  
IT'S THE INFO ON THE  
**BANK ACCOUNT** HE  
SET UP FOR ME!


**HOLY SHIT!** LOOK  
AT THE **AMOUNT** HE PUT  
IN THERE FOR ME! BUT HEY...  
COLLAGEN SHOTS AND  
ELECTROLYSIS TREATMENTS  
**AIN'T CHEAP!** HEH-HEH!

AND SINCE I **WON'T**  
NEED THE HAIR  
TREATMENTS, **THAT'S**  
GONNA LEAVE A **TIDY LITTLE**  
**NEST-EGG** FOR ME TO  
SPEND AS I PLEASE!

OKAY, TIME  
TO SEE IF THERE  
ARE ANY **VISIBLE**  
RESULTS YET!

CONSIDERING THOSE  
**MIND-NUMBING CRAMPS**  
AND **MUSCLE SPASMS** I  
PUT UP WITH ALL NIGHT,  
THERE'S GOT TO BE  
**SOME CHANGES!**

IF **NOT**, I'M  
TAKING **SOME** OF  
THIS NEW MONEY OF MINE  
AND **PAYING** SOMEONE TO  
**BEAT THE SHIT** OUTTA  
THAT **QUACK**  
**DOCTOR!**

A woman with long dark hair is standing in a bathroom, looking at her reflection in a large mirror. She is nude. The bathroom has a wooden vanity with a white sink, a mirror, and a shelf with rolled-up towels. A white door is open on the left side of the frame.

WELL, WILL YOU  
LOOK AT THAT!  
SOME LITTLE **BOOBIES**  
ARE STARTING TO  
**SPROUT!**

AND I'M  
DEVELOPING A LITTLE  
**JUNK** IN MY **TRUNK** AS  
WELL! NOT A LOT, BUT  
DEFINITELY **NOTICEABLE**  
ON MY **SKINNY-ASS**  
FRAME!

LOOKS LIKE I'LL **STILL** BE  
**SHAVING** FOR A FEW MORE DAYS,  
**GODAMMIT!** I **ESPECIALLY** HOPE  
THAT ONE KICKS IN **REAL FUCKIN'**  
**SOON!**

ALL IN ALL, **SEEMS** LIKE  
THE **DOC'S** **POTIONS** ARE **GONNA**  
BE **WORTH** THE TROUBLE AFTER  
ALL!

BUT IF *THESE* ARE ALL THE RESULTS I'M GONNA GET AFTER ALL THAT *SHIT* I WENT THROUGH LAST NIGHT, THEN THE DOSAGE IS *STILL* TOO LOW!

DOC SAID *ONE* PILL A DAY UNTIL I GET THE SHAPE I WANT! WELL, LET'S BUMP THAT UP TO *TWO* RIGHT NOW AND *TWO* MORE TONIGHT IF I *HAVE* TO!

I'M *USED* TO PAIN, AND NOW THAT I *KNOW* WHAT TO EXPECT, I CAN BE *READY* FOR IT!

Later that afternoon...

UGH! THANK  
GOD I MADE IT  
HOME!

I CAME THIS  
CLOSE TO  
DOUBLING OVER IN  
THE OBER!

THE CRAMPS ARE  
**ONE** THING, BUT THE WAY  
THE BODY SUIT FEELS LIKE IT'S  
**CRUSHING** MY HIPS AND CHEST  
MAKES THE **SIMPLEST**  
MOVEMENTS ALMOST  
**UNBEARABLE!**

AT THE VERY  
**LEAST** IT TELLS ME  
MY BODY'S **STILL**  
CHANGING!




BUT IT *ALSO*  
MEANS I *WON'T*  
BE ABLE TO *WEAR*  
THE DAMN THING  
ANYMORE!

NOT THAT I'M  
*COMPLAINING!* I  
REALLY *HATE* PUTTING  
THIS THING ON AND  
TAKING IT OFF!

I'LL JUST *HAVE* TO  
COME UP WITH AN EXCUSE  
TO *AVOID GLORIA* FOR  
ANOTHER DAY OR TWO!


*REX* WILL BE *EASY*  
TO DEAL WITH! HE'S  
NOWHERE *NEAR* AS  
*OBSERVANT* AS *GLORIA*  
IS!

HE'S SEEN ME AS  
*BOTH DANIEL AND AS KIM*,  
SO ANYTHING *IN-BETWEEN*  
*WON'T* BE MUCH OF A  
*SURPRISE* TO HIM!



IT WOULD **ALSO** BE PRETTY  
**TOUGH** TO EXPLAIN THESE **LIPS** TO  
GLORIA! THE DOC SAID THE SWELLING  
SHOULD GO DONE IN ABOUT **24 TO 48**  
HOURS!

SO I **REALLY** SHOULD  
**AVOID** GLORIA UNTIL THEY'RE  
DOWN TO THE SIZE SHE'S  
**USED** TO SEEING ON ME!



**JESUS! I  
LOOK LIKE I'M  
HAVING AN ALLERGIC  
REACTION TO  
SOMETHING I ATE!**

**THE DOCTOR HAD  
BETTER HAVE GOTTEN  
THESE RIGHT! 'CAUSE I'M  
STUCK WITH THEM FOR  
AT LEAST THE NEXT 6  
MONTHS!**

Not too much later,  
as Rex gets home...

*DANIEL? ARE  
YOU UP? HOW  
ARE YOU  
FEELING?*

*I'M IN THE  
KITCHEN, REX!*






YEAH! LOLA HAD ME PUT IT ON WHEN I WENT IN EARLIER TO PICK IT UP!

I TAKE IT YOU'RE FEELING...

OH! YOU... YOU'RE WEARING THE SUIT AGAIN!

A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a purple sleeveless crop top and olive green shorts, stands in a room with a grey stone wall and a wooden floor. She is gesturing with her hands as she speaks. In the foreground, the back of a man's head and shoulders is visible; he is wearing a dark blue checkered suit jacket and has his hand on his head. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the scene, containing text from both characters.

HOPE IT LOOKS  
OKAY! SHE UPDATED  
IT SO I CAN WEAR IT  
24-7!

BUT BECAUSE OF  
THOSE  
MODIFICATIONS, I  
REALLY CAN'T TAKE IT  
OFF AGAIN WITHOUT  
HER HELP!

IT... IT LOOKS  
GREAT! IN FACT, IT  
MAKES YOU LOOK A LOT  
BETTER THAN THE OLD  
ONE DID!

I MEAN... IT  
LOOKS A LOT MORE  
REALISTIC!




THANKS! IT FEELS  
A LOT MORE  
COMFORTABLE THAN  
THE OLD ONE, TOO!

YEAH!, I, UHHH... I  
GUESS IT WOULD!

WHAT'S WRONG?  
YOU'RE LOOKING AT ME  
FUNNY! OH GOD, IT'S THE  
LIPS, ISN'T IT? THEY'RE  
HUGE, AREN'T THEY?

NO! UHHH... NOT  
AT ALL!



THE  
DOCTOR SAYS  
THE SWELLING WILL  
GO DOWN IN A  
DAY OR TWO!

WHAT?

OH! THAT'S **STOO**  
**BAD!** BECAUSE THEY  
LOOK **REALLY GOOD**  
THAT WAY!

**FOR A WOMAN!** I MEAN,  
THEY REALLY **HELP** MAKE **YOU**  
LOOK LIKE A **REAL** WOMAN AND **FOR**  
**A WOMAN** THOSE KIND OF LIPS LOOK  
REALLY **GOOD** AND WITH THE NEW  
BODY-SUIT IT ALL MAKES YOU  
LOOK VERY... I MEAN...

A woman with dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a purple ribbed crop top and a green skirt, stands with her back to the camera. She is talking to a man in a dark blue suit, white shirt, and striped tie. The man is looking at her with a slightly concerned expression, his hand near his head. The background is a simple grey wall with a doorway.

OH, I'M A LOT BETTER TODAY! STILL A LITTLE **ACHEY**, BUT MANAGEABLE!

I DON'T WANT **GLORIA** TO SEE MY LIPS LIKE THIS, SO I TOLD HER I WAS **STILL** SICK AND WON'T BE IN TOMORROW!

SO... HOW ARE YOU **FEELING** TODAY? YOU WERE PRETTY **SICK** LAST NIGHT!

YEAH, UHHH... **GOOD IDEA!**



I'M, UHHH...  
GONNA GO  
CHANGE BEFORE  
DINNER!

OKAY! IT  
SHOULD BE READY  
IN ABOUT TWENTY  
MINUTES!



WOW! I HAVEN'T SEEN  
REX THAT FLUSTERED SINCE  
THAT TIME *GLORIA* WAS HERE  
PUTTING THE *MOVES* ON HIM!

BUT SHE WAS *RIGHT!*  
IT REALLY *DOESN'T* TAKE  
MUCH TO THROW *HIM* OFF  
BALANCE!

SOMETHING TO  
KEEP IN MIND!  
\*HEH-HEH\*



WHEW!  
THIS IS  
STARTING TO GET  
**WAY** OUT OF  
HAND!

A few days later...

*Ding dong*

KIM! I THINK  
YOUR CAR'S  
HERE!

DOWN IN A  
COUPLE OF  
MINUTES!





GOOD  
MORNING, REX!

GLORIA! I... I  
WASN'T  
EXPECTING  
YOU!

I JUST THOUGHT I'D  
PICK UP KIM IN **PERSON**  
TODAY! SENDING MY  
**DRIVER** SEEMED SO  
**IMPERSONAL** AFTER  
HER ILLNESS!


SHE SHOULD BE DOWN  
**ANY MINUTE!** MAKE  
YOURSELF  
**COMFORTABLE!**

YOU KNOW, YOU'VE  
REALLY GOT A  
BEAUTIFUL PLACE  
HERE, REX!

YOU KNOW WHAT  
WOULD MAKE IT EVEN  
NICER? A POOL OUT BACK!  
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT  
JUST ENOUGH ROOM FOR  
A SMALL ONE!

THANKS, GLORIA!  
IT'S STILL A WORK IN  
PROGRESS, BUT I'M  
VERY HAPPY WITH IT!


ACTUALLY, I'VE  
CONSIDERED IT! BUT IT'S  
NOT SOMETHING I'M  
LOOKING TO DO ANYTIME  
SOON!



OH, BUT **WHY NOT?**  
I USE OURS **ALL THE**  
**TIME!** THEY'RE **GREAT** FOR  
KEEPING IN **SHAPE!**

I'M SURE **KIM**  
WOULD **LOVE** HAVING ONE  
SHE COULD USE! I NOTICED SHE  
**COULDN'T** KEEP HER **EYES**  
OFF **MINE** THE OTHER  
DAY!

I **REALLY** THOUGHT  
SHE MIGHT JUST **JUMP IN**  
RIGHT THERE ON THE **SPOT!**  
**\*GIGGLE!\***



LOOK, GLORIA... I REALLY APPRECIATE ALL YOUR INTEREST IN KIM! IT MEANS A LOT TO ME AS I'M SURE IT ALSO DOES FOR HER!

IT'S MY PLEASURE, DEAR! SHE'S A DELIGHTFUL YOUNG LADY! IN FACT, SHE REMINDS ME A LOT OF MYSELF WHEN I WAS HER AGE!

I JUST DON'T WANT YOU TO GET TOO INVESTED IN HER SINCE SHE MAY NOT BE AROUND FOR AS LONG AS YOU MIGHT HOPE!

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT, DEAR?

SHE'S KIND OF HINTED TO ME THAT MIAMI MAY NOT BE THE PLACE FOR HER AFTER ALL!

REALLY? THAT'S INTERESTING! BECAUSE SHE'S TOLD ME, IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS, THAT SHE LOVES IT HERE IN MIAMI! IN FACT, SHE WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE ANYWHERE ELSE!



*SHE DID?!*

*OH, YES!  
WHICH MAKES WHAT  
YOU'RE ALSO DOING  
FOR HER SO  
THOUGHTFUL!*

*MIAMI IS SUCH A DIFFICULT  
PLACE TO GET STARTED IN FOR A  
YOUNG PERSON! THE JOB  
COMPETITION IS FIERCE AND THE  
COST-OF-LIVING IS  
ASTRONOMICAL!*

*THANK HEAVENS SHE  
HAS YOU TO RELY ON!*



OH, HI  
GLORIA! I  
DIDN'T KNOW  
YOU'D BE  
PICKING ME UP!

IT'S THE **LEAST**  
I COULD DO FOR  
YOU, DEAR!

MY, DON'T **YOU**  
LOOK ESPECIALLY  
**LOVELY** TODAY!  
DOESN'T SHE LOOK  
**RAVISHING**, REX?

UMM, **YES...**  
**YES, SHE**  
**DOES!**

WELL, IT'S **NOT** HARD  
TO DO IN DRESSES LIKE  
**THIS** THAT YOU BOUGHT  
ME!

UMM... COULD I  
TALK TO YOU FOR A  
MOMENT BEFORE YOU  
GO! IN PRIVATE?

UHHH...  
SURE!

SOUNDS  
IMPORTANT, DEAR!  
I'LL BE WAITING IN  
THE CAR!



WHAT'S UP?

BECAUSE THAT WOMAN HAS A MIND LIKE A STEEL TRAP!

I WAS TRYING TO DROP HINTS TO GLORIA THAT YOU, KIM, MIGHT NOT BE STICKING AROUND MIAMI FOR VERY LONG, AND SHE TELLS ME THAT YOU SAID YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO LIVE HERE!

WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



THE OTHER DAY AT LUNCH, I STARTED TO TELL HER I WAS THINKING OF GOING BACK TO PHOENIX... LIKE WE DISCUSSED! BUT SHE REMEMBERS ME STATING AT THEIR PARTY THAT I'VE WANTED TO LIVE IN MIAMI ALL MY LIFE!

WELL THAT CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD AND THEN SHE STARTS ASKING ALL THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT PHOENIX! IS THERE SOME REASON I HAVE TO GO BACK? ARE THERE FAMILY PROBLEMS? IS THERE ANYTHING SHE CAN DO TO HELP?

BEFORE I KNOW IT, SHE'S READY TO START CALLING PEOPLE IN PHOENIX, SO I DID THE ONLY THING I COULD THINK OF!

I TOLD HER I REALLY DID WANT TO STAY IN MIAMI, BUT I WAS AFRAID I WAS BEING A HUGE BURDEN ON YOU!


SHE THEN TRIED TO ASSURE ME THAT I WASN'T INCONVENIENCING YOU! BUT, IF YOU EVER DID "KICK ME OUT", SHE WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO LET ME STAY WITH HER!



WELL, *CRAP!*  
THAT OBVIOUSLY  
CAN'T HAPPEN FOR SO  
MANY REASONS!

IT'S NOT *YOUR* FAULT,  
DANIEL! WE *BOTH* GOT  
OURSELVES INTO THIS AND  
WE'LL *FIND* A WAY OUT  
*TOGETHER!*


I'M *SO SORRY*, REX! I'VE  
JUST *NEVER* BEEN REALLY  
*GOOD* AT *LYING* TO PEOPLE! I  
ALMOST NEED A *CHEAT SHEET* TO  
KEEP TRACK OF *EVERYTHING*  
I'VE TOLD HER!

A man with dark hair, wearing a white dress shirt and a dark tie, is shown in profile on the left. He is looking towards a woman on the right. The woman has dark hair styled in a bun and is wearing a sleeveless, high-waisted top with a pink and white floral pattern and a dark blue skirt. She is looking back at the man with a slight smile. The background shows a modern interior with a brick wall on the left and a glass door or window on the right.

I'M *SURE* WE WILL,  
REX! WELL, I BETTER GET  
*GOING* BEFORE GLORIA  
LEAVES WITHOUT ME!

OH, DANIEL... ONE  
MORE THING!

WHAT IS IT?



ALL THE **WORK** YOU'VE PUT INTO THIS HAS **DEFINITELY** PAID OFF! YOU REALLY **DO** LOOK **AMAZING**, DANIEL! AND IT'S NOT **JUST** THE DRESS, EITHER!

THAT'S GOOD, BECAUSE I SPENT **ALL DAY** YESTERDAY POURING OVER **HAIR** AND **MAKEUP VIDEOS** SO WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO **KEEP** RELYING ON **LOLA**!

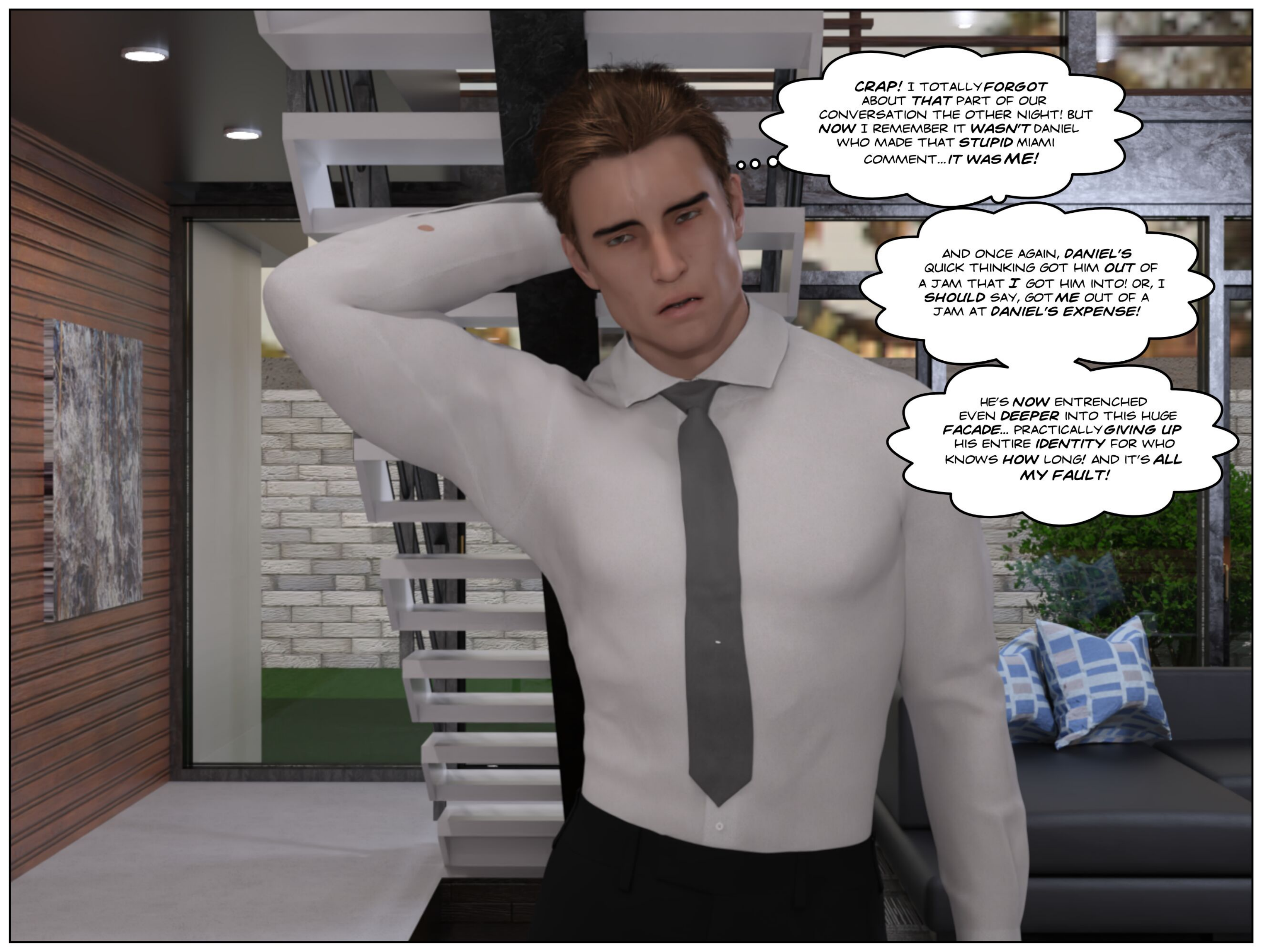
BUT YOU **REALLY** THINK I LOOK **OKAY**?

LIKE **GLORIA** SAID... YOU LOOK **RAVISHING!**  
\*CHUCKLE!\*

CUTE... *REAL* CUTE! BY THE WAY, CONSIDERING THE WAY *GLORIA* KEEPS *POPPING IN* WITHOUT NOTICE, YOU SHOULD *PROBABLY* GET *USED* TO CALLING ME "*KIM*"!

THAT WOMAN IS *SMART* AND HAS *EARS* LIKE A *HOUND-DOG*! ONE SLIP ABOUT "*DANIEL*" COULD RUIN *EVERYTHING*!

YOU'RE *RIGHT*! HAVE A *GOOD DAY*... *KIM*!



**CRAP!** I TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT THAT PART OF OUR CONVERSATION THE OTHER NIGHT! BUT NOW I REMEMBER IT WASN'T DANIEL WHO MADE THAT STUPID MIAMI COMMENT...IT WAS ME!

AND ONCE AGAIN, DANIEL'S QUICK THINKING GOT HIM OUT OF A JAM THAT I GOT HIM INTO! OR, I SHOULD SAY, GOT ME OUT OF A JAM AT DANIEL'S EXPENSE!

HE'S NOW ENTRENCHED EVEN DEEPER INTO THIS HUGE FACADE... PRACTICALLY GIVING UP HIS ENTIRE IDENTITY FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG! AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT!

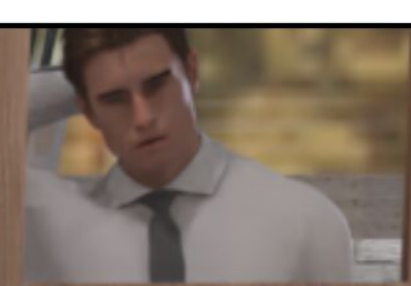
*PERFECT! JUST PERFECT! MY VERSION OF MY CONVERSATION WITH GLORIA HAS GOT HIM FEELING EVEN GUILTIER ABOUT MY "PREDICAMENT!"*

*EVEN AFTER THIS "KIM" CHARADE COMES TO AN END, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO BRING HIMSELF TO SENDING ME AWAY!*

*BUT UNTIL THEN, I'M BETTING HIS FEELINGS OF RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL TO HOW FEMININE I APPEAR TO BE!*

*AND GLORIA'S HAPPY BECAUSE SHE GETS TO "GROOM" HER LITTLE INGENUE WHILE REX STRESSES OVER HOW TO REPAY ME FOR MY EFFORTS!*

*IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION! \*GIGGLE!\**





SO, WHAT WAS  
HIS LITTLE  
"TALK" ABOUT?

EXCELLENT! IT'S  
JUST A MATTER OF  
TIME, DEAR! TIME AND  
EFFORT!

OH, HE JUST  
WANTED TO  
"PRIVATELY" COMMENT  
ON HOW NICE I LOOKED  
TODAY!

OH, I AGREE,  
GLORIA! THINGS ARE  
DEFINITELY GOING IN THE  
RIGHT DIRECTION!  
\*GIGGLE!\*



Later that day, at Gloria's favorite lunch spot...


**NONSENSE, KIM!**  
CONSIDER IT ALL AS **PART**  
OF YOUR **COMPENSATION**  
FOR BEING MY ASSISTANT!

BESIDES, I JUST **LOVE**  
DRESSING UP THAT  
**ADORABLE FIGURE** OF  
YOURS!

AS MUCH AS I  
**APPRECIATE** ALL THE **OUTFITS**  
YOU'VE BOUGHT FOR ME, **GLORIA**, I  
**REALLY WISH YOU'D STOP!** I  
DON'T FEEL LIKE I'VE **EARNED**  
YOUR **GENEROSITY!**

WELL... **THANKS!**  
**\*GIGGLE!\***





UMMM... YEAH, I KNOW! BUT I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PRETTY **SKINNY** AND **SMALL BREASTS** HAVE ALWAYS RUN IN MY FAMILY!

YOU DID! BUT I DON'T KNOW IF **CHANGING MY APPEARANCE** IS SOMETHING I'M WILLING TO TRY!

OF COURSE, IF OUR **GOAL** IS TO GET **REX INTERESTED**, OUR JOB WOULD BE MUCH **EASIER** IF YOUR FIGURE WERE A LITTLE MORE... **DEVELOPED UP TOP**, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!

OH, HONEY! I **THOUGHT** I MADE IT **CLEAR** THAT **GENETICS** CAN'T HOLD A **CANDLE** TO A **GOOD PLASTIC SURGEON!**  
\*GIGGLE!\*

I SEE! SO YOUR **LIPS** JUST **MAGICALLY PLUMPED ON THEIR OWN** I TAKE IT!

OH, SHIT!  
I THOUGHT THEY'D GONE  
DOWN ENOUGH SO SHE  
WOULDN'T NOTICE!

OH! UMMM... THAT WAS  
JUST AN EXPERIMENT WITH  
SOME TOPICAL LIP PLUMPER I  
PUT ON LAST NIGHT!

I WAS JUST CURIOUS TO  
SEE WHAT IT DID SINCE IT'S JUST  
TEMPORARY!

THEY FELT...WEIRD!  
AND THEY STILL DO A  
LITTLE BIT!

I'M VERY  
FAMILIAR WITH THE  
PRODUCT, DEAR! SO...  
WHAT DID YOU  
THINK?

AND, MORE  
IMPORTANTLY, WHAT  
DID REX THINK?

YOU KNOW, THAT WAS  
EVEN WEIRDER! HE DIDN'T  
WANT TO ADMIT IT, BUT I THINK  
HE REALLY LIKED THEM  
THAT WAY!

HMMM!  
SOMETHING TO  
KEEP IN MIND FOR A  
LATER DATE!

UMMM... I GUESS!



SO... SPEAKING OF  
DATES, I HAVE A BOLD IDEA  
ON HOW TO INCREASE REX'S  
INTEREST IN YOU!

OKAY, I'LL BITE!  
WHAT IS IT?

YOU NEED TO START  
DATING OTHER MEN!



WHAT?!

Several days later...

YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS, DANIEL! I MEAN, KIM! I MEAN...

AW, HELL! YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN! THIS IS CRAZY!



A woman with dark, wavy hair is standing in a hallway. She is wearing a strapless, teal-colored dress. She has a slightly distressed or thoughtful expression. Her right hand is raised, palm up, in a questioning gesture. The hallway has a light-colored wall and a wooden floor. To the left, there is a door with a wood-grain pattern. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing text.

I... I WISH I DID!

YOU DON'T THINK I KNOW THAT? OF COURSE IT'S CRAZY!

BUT IT'S KIND OF *HARD* TO SAY *NO* TO YOUR BOSS, WHO JUST SO *HAPPENS* TO BE MARRIED TO *YOUR* BOSS, WHEN SHE SETS YOU UP ON A *DATE* WITH HER *NEPHEW*!

IF *YOU* CAN THINK OF AN EXCUSE THAT *DOESN'T* GET US *BOTH* IN TROUBLE WITH *GLORIA*, I'M ALL EARS!

A man with short brown hair, wearing a black tank top and blue jeans, stands in a hallway. He is looking to his left with a slightly concerned expression. His hands are held out in a questioning gesture. The hallway has a white wall and a wooden door to his right. In the foreground, there are dark wooden railings for a staircase. The scene is lit with soft, indoor lighting.

BUT THIS IS PUTTING  
**WAYTOO MUCH**  
ONTO **YOU!**

IT'S **ONE THING** TO  
PRETEND TO BE A WOMAN  
AROUND **GLORIA**, BUT GOING  
ON A **DATE...** WITH A **GUY?**

THIS HAS **POTENTIAL**  
**DISASTER** WRITTEN ALL  
OVER IT!

IN CASE YOU HADN'T **NOTICED**  
LATELY, TO SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T  
**KNOW** BETTER, YOU'RE A **VERY**  
**ATTRACTIVE WOMAN!** THAT GOES  
**DOUBLE** FOR MEN!

AND BEING **ALONE** WITH A GUY  
WHO THINKS YOU'RE **HOT**, WELL... LET'S  
JUST SAY I **WORRY** ABOUT WHAT  
**COULD** HAPPEN!

A woman with dark, wavy hair is standing in a hallway, wrapped in a teal towel. She is looking towards the left of the frame with a slightly annoyed or determined expression. Her right hand is raised to her chest, and her left hand is held out to the side. The background shows a wooden door and a grey wall.


THAT'S *SWEET* OF YOU  
TO BE *CONCERNED*, REX! BUT  
I CAN TAKE CARE OF  
*MYSELF*!

I'VE HAD *ALL WEEK*  
TO PREPARE FOR THIS DATE,  
AND *TRUST ME...* THIS GUY IS  
*NOT GOING* TO DISCOVER  
*ANYTHING* ABOUT ME THAT  
I DON'T WANT HIM TO!

NOW, WILL YOU JUST  
*STOP WORRYING*, GO *BACK*  
DOWNSTAIRS AND *NOT SCARE*  
THE *CRAP* OUT OF THE GUY  
WHEN HE GETS HERE?

*\*SIGH!\** I'LL GO  
DOWNSTAIRS, BUT *NO*  
*PROMISES* ON WHAT I  
DO OR *SAY* TO THE GUY!


WELL, THAT'S  
*BETTER* THAN NOTHING!  
*THANKS*!



YEAH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT **ME**, REX! GLORIA ASSURED ME HER NEPHEW WOULD BE A **PERFECT GENTLEMAN** TONIGHT... **IF** HE KNOWS WHAT'S **GOOD** FOR HIM!

**FUNNY** HOW REX SEEMS TO BE **MORE** WORRIED ABOUT **ME** THAN WHAT COULD **HAPPEN** IF I'M **FOUND OUT**!

AND THAT'S THE **SECOND TIME** THIS WEEK HE'S MENTIONED HOW **ATTRACTIVE** I AM! COULD GLORIA BE **RIGHT** ABOUT HIM AFTER ALL?

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a teal dress, is sitting on a wooden bench in a bathroom. She is holding a pill bottle in her left hand and two pills (one red and yellow, one yellow and red) in her right hand. The background shows a white tiled floor and a white wall.

I JUST **HOPE** I CAN MAKE IT THROUGH THE DATE **WITHOUT** ANY **CRAMPS** ACTING UP! I'M **SURE** THEY'LL PROBABLY GO AWAY ONCE I **STOP** TAKING THESE PILLS!

BUT WHEN **GLORIA** **SHOWED** ME THE **DRESS** SHE WANTED ME TO WEAR TONIGHT, I **KNEW** I NEEDED TO **KEEP** TAKING THEM **THROUGH** THIS WEEK AT LEAST!

IT'S THE **SKIMPIEST** THING I'VE WORN TO DATE, BUT **GLORIA** WANTED TO MAKE **SURE** I WAS "SHOWING **REX** WHAT HE WAS MISSING OUT ON!"



*\*SIGH!\* LET'S  
HOPE I CAN PULL IT  
ALL TOGETHER IN  
THE NEXT HOUR!*

And, one hour later...

**YES SIR!  
SHE'S MY DAD'S  
YOUNGER  
SISTER!**

**OKAY, UHHH...  
MR. DAWES!**

**SO... GLORIA BURNS  
IS YOUR AUNT, HUH?**

**DON'T CALL ME  
SIR!**





WHAT DO YOU DO, MATT?

I'M A, UHHH... THIRD-YEAR LAW STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI AND CLERKING FOR JUDGE PINCKNEY WHO SITS ON THE CIRCUIT COURT!

I KNOW WHO JUDGE PINCKNEY IS! I'VE ARGUED BEFORE HIM ON MULTIPLE OCCASIONS!

YES, I... I KNOW THAT, SIR... I MEAN, REX... I MEAN, MR. DAWES!



SO WHERE ARE YOU TAKING KIM TONIGHT?

ALL THE WAY OVER THERE, HUH? MAKE SURE YOU TAKE CARE OF HER! SHE'S LIKE A LITTLE SISTER TO ME!

DINNER AT A RESTAURANT MY AUNT RECOMMENDED OVER ON MIAMI BEACH! THEN MAYBE A WALK ALONG THE COAST!

I GET THAT, MR. DAWES! I REALLY, REALLY DO!

AND IF ANYTHING  
HAPPENS... **ANYTHING** AT  
ALL, **CALL ME!** I'LL BE HERE  
ALL EVENING!

PRACTICING MY  
TAEKWANDO.. AND  
CLEANING MY GUNS!

I THINK  
YOU'VE GOT HIM  
SCARED ENOUGH...  
**BIG BRO!**

YE...  
**YES, SIR!**



YOU MUST BE  
MATT! HI, I'M  
KIM!

WHOA! UHH...  
HI, KIM!

WHAT THE... ?

NOW THAT REX  
HAS HAD HIS FUN,  
IT'S TIME FOR US TO  
HAVE OURS!

READY TO GO?

OH, HECK  
YEAH!





GLORIA SAID SHE  
PICKED OUT **THIS**  
DRESS TO **KNOCK**  
REX'S **SOCKS** OFF!

FROM THE **LOOK**  
ON HER **NEPHEW'S**  
**FACE** AND THE STUNNED  
**SILENCE** COMING FROM  
REX, I'D SAY IT'S **DOING**  
IT'S **JOB!**

DON'T WAIT UP...**BRO!**  
\*GIGGLE!\*



WHAT THE  
HELL...?

Slam!!

Several hours later...

OKAY, IT'S ALMOST  
**MIDNIGHT** AND I **KNOW**  
THE RESTAURANT THEY WENT  
TO AND IT **DOESN'T** SERVE  
PAST **TEN!**

AND **WALKING**  
ALONG THE COAST, AT  
**THIS TIME OF NIGHT**, IS  
HARDLY THE **SAFEST**  
PLACE TO BE!

I MEAN THAT **KID**  
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE **HE**  
COULD EVEN HANDLE A PAIR OF  
**SURLY BOY SCOUTS**, MUCH  
**LESS** A COUPLE OF  
**MUGGERS!**

AND WHY THE HELL  
IS KIM WEARING A DRESS LIKE  
THAT... ON A DATE... WITH A  
GUY SHE'S NEVER EVEN MET  
BEFORE!?

WHAT WAS SHE  
THINKING?! I MEAN...  
HE THINKING! I  
MEAN...

SHIT! WHERE THE  
HELL ARE THEY?

Vroom!



*FINALLY!  
IT'S ABOUT  
FREAKING  
TIME!*

*NO NEED FOR  
THEM TO SEE THAT  
I'VE BEEN WAITING  
UP FOR THEM!*

A woman with dark, curly hair is sitting in the passenger seat of a car. She is wearing a blue patterned dress and has a black handbag on her lap. She is looking out the window with a thoughtful expression, her hand near her chin. The car's interior is visible, including the brown leather seats and the dashboard. In the background, a man in a grey jacket is partially visible, standing near a stone wall. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting it might be nighttime or in a shaded area.

DOES REX  
**REALLY** THINK I  
DIDN'T **SPOT** HIM  
BEFORE HE **DUCKED**  
INSIDE?


HE'D MAKE A  
**LOUSY** SPY!  
\*GIGGLE!\*



GLORIA MUST'VE PUT  
THE **FEAR OF GOD** INTO HER  
NEPHEW, BECAUSE HE HASN'T EVEN  
**TRIED TO LAY A HAND ON ME**  
ALL NIGHT!

I'M **NOT**  
COMPLAINING, BUT FOR  
GLORIA'S **PLAN TO WORK**,  
REX NEEDS A LITTLE **SHOW**  
FROM THE TWO OF US!

AND I DON'T THINK  
**THIS SCHMUCK** HAS  
THE **BALLS** TO PULL IT  
OFF!



I HAD A  
**REALLY NICE**  
TIME TONIGHT,  
MATT!

ME TOO,  
KIM!

*\*SIGH!\**  
YEAH... LOOKS  
LIKE IT'S GONNA  
HAVE TO BE UP  
TO ME!

WELL... I'VE HAD TO DO  
A HELL OF A LOT  
**WORSE** IN OTHER  
SITUATIONS!





SEE YA,  
MATT!  
\*GIGGLE!\*

YEAH!  
SEE YOU, KIM!



WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

HOLY CRAP! YOU SCARED ME!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN STANDING THERE?

AS IF I DIDN'T ALREADY KNOW!

LONG ENOUGH TO SEE THAT GOODNIGHT KISS! WHAT'S GOING ON... DANIEL?

MAKING **SURE** GLORIA GETS A **GOOD** REPORT FROM HER **NEPHEW**! REMEMBER, IF ANYONE AT YOUR FIRM GETS EVEN AN **INKLING** THAT I'M ANYTHING **BUT** A **REAL** GIRL, YOUR **JOB** IS IN **JEOPARDY**!

BUT... YOU **KISSED** HIM! AND... IT LOOKED **SO REAL**!

REMEMBER WHEN I TOLD YOU THERE WERE **THINGS** I HAD TO DO WHILE LIVING ON THE STREETS THAT I **WASN'T** PARTICULARLY **PROUD** OF?

YEAH?

WELL, LET'S JUST SAY THAT I **WISH** THAT **KISSING** A GUY WAS **ALL** I HAD TO DO BACK THEN!

OH... **OH!**

FUCK! I DID NOT WANT TO TELL HIM THAT MUCH ABOUT MYSELF... AT LEAST, NOT YET!

LOOK! CAN WE CONTINUE THIS TOMORROW? I'M TIRED, I ATE TOO MUCH AND THIS DRESS IS VERY TIGHT!

THANK YOU!  
GOOD NIGHT, REX!

YEAH, THAT'S PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA! WE'LL TALK ABOUT THIS IN THE MORNING!

GOOD NIGHT!





WOW! IF I DIDN'T  
KNOW BETTER, I'D SAY  
THAT REX WAS ACTING A  
LITTLE JEALOUS ABOUT  
MY DATE!

WELL I'M SURE  
GLORIA WILL BE HAPPY  
TO HEAR THAT HER PLAN  
WORKED TO **SOME** DEGREE  
AT LEAST!

I'M JUST **GLAD** THE NIGHT'S  
OVER, 'CAUSE THE FUCKING **CRAMPS**  
CAME BACK ABOUT **HALFWAY** THROUGH  
DINNER! AND IT TOOK **EVERYTHING** I HAD  
TO KEEP A **SMILE** ON MY FACE ALL  
EVENING!

MAYBE IT'S TIME TO  
START **DIALING BACK**  
THE **DOSAGE** ON THOSE  
PILLS!

**MAN! I THOUGHT  
GETTING OUT OF THAT  
DRESS WOULD HELP, BUT THE  
PAINS ACTUALLY GETTING  
WORSE!**

**JESUS! FEELS LIKE  
I'VE BEEN KICKED IN THE  
BALLS... BY A FUCKING  
HORSE!**



OHH... FUCK!!



The next morning...

*Knock, knock*

DANIEL? ARE YOU AWAKE YET? IT'S ALMOST NOON!



DANIEL?

MAN, YOU MUST'VE  
**REALLY** BEEN TIRED LAST  
NIGHT IF YOU FELL ASLEEP  
WITH **ALL** YOUR LIGHTS  
ON!





*JESUS, DANIEL! YOU SHOULD REALLY TAKE THAT BODYSUIT OFF AT NIGHT! YOU'RE SWEATING LIKE A PIG!*



UGH!

WAIT A MINUTE!  
YOU'RE SWEATING...  
**EVERYWHERE!**  
EVEN ON YOUR...



**HOLY SHIT!  
THAT... THAT'S  
NOT A BODYSUIT!  
HOW THE HELL...?!**



**GOD!  
YOU'RE BURNING  
UP! WAKE UP,  
DANIEL!**

**DANIEL?!**