


Beta Test Part 4

*By Areg5 and
TinyThea*



Video Link






This is quite a
setup you have
here, Nan ...

Thanks. Despite all of
this *gear*, I don't know
how many *answers* I
can give you.

I appreciate
you *trying*.


A screenshot from a video game showing two female characters in a futuristic, metallic hallway. The character on the left has long brown hair and is wearing a black long-sleeved top and a light blue skirt. The character on the right has long black hair and is wearing a purple crop top and black jeans. There are four white speech bubbles overlaid on the scene, containing text. In the background, there is a grey wall with a yellow 'CAUTION' sign and a computer terminal on the right.

Why are we
even *here*?

Jess ...it's ok.

You *always*
say that!

Mom just wants
to *check out* a few
things, that's all.



It is kinda cool, though.

*It's like *Star Trek* or something.*

*That thing looks like it belongs in the *Enterprise Sick Bay!**

*Yeah ...or the *holodeck!**



I dunno.

What do you think it *does*?

Analysis mode ready

Analysis:

DNA structure:

Estimate physiologic age:

It's got a *touch screen* ...

Maybe we shouldn't *mess* with it.



This device will determine your true age.

It should say I'm 38.

It should. Put your hand on the scanner.

Yes.

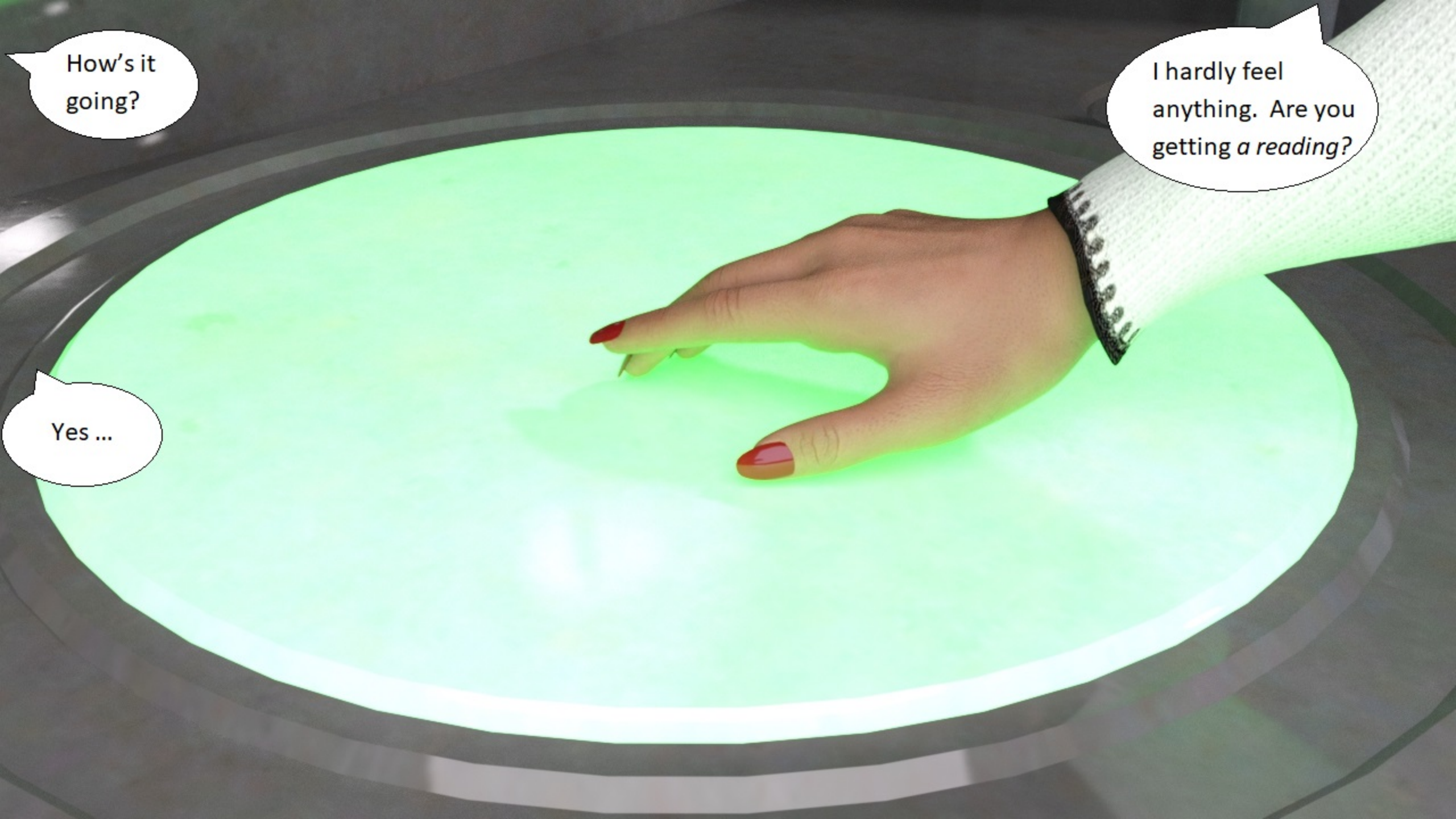
Like this?



Initiating sequence ...

I'm going to start the sequence. You might feel a *slight tingle* ...

I'm ready.

A hand with red nail polish is hovering just above a large, glowing green circular surface. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with the fingers slightly curled. The green surface has a subtle, textured pattern and a bright white highlight in the center. The background is dark and indistinct.

How's it going?

I hardly feel anything. Are you getting a *reading*?

Yes ...


...your *physiologic age* is
38 years 4 months. So
your *perception* of your
age is *correct*.

subject physiologic age ...

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 38 y 4m


*That's a
relief ...*



That would correspond with the perceptions of your daughters ...or rather, your husband and daughter.

So we're all being affected by the same process, whatever it is.

So it appears.

A woman with short brown hair and black-rimmed glasses is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a grey t-shirt with a black floral pattern. She is looking towards the right of the frame. In the background, there is a control panel with several buttons and two large green rotary dials. The setting appears to be a laboratory or a medical facility.

I would like to use my *more advanced* sensor to examine the girls, *especially* Jessica. Her changes are more profound than your own.

Whatever you think is *best*.


Don't worry, Hon ...
in analysis mode it's *completely safe*.

I trust you, Nan ...
you know I do.

*Pretty cool,
huh girls?*

*It sure is! What
does it do?*

*It's an *advanced body
scanner*. It can tell me
things about your
physiology.*



*What kinds
of things?*

*Your age, your DNA
structure ...*

Your mother would like me to *examine* you girls with it.

Examine us? But ...

Analysis mode ready

Analysis:


DNA structure:

Subject physiologic age:

...you *already* examined me! I don't wanna go through *that* again! *No way!*

Relax ...it's not that kind of examination ...



A woman with short brown hair and glasses is shown in a medical setting, possibly a laboratory or clinic. She is wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt with a black floral pattern. She is looking towards the right. In the background, there are various medical machines and a biohazard container. Another woman with long brown hair is visible in the foreground, seen from the back, and another woman is partially visible on the right side of the frame.

...this won't be
anything like that.
I promise.

I dunno ... no
speculums?


No *speculums*.

I think it might be cool! What do we have to do?

Well, first I need you girls to undress.

Un ...undress?


C'mon Jess ...it's just us girls here.



*Bow chicka bow chicka ...
gettin' pretty racy, huh
froggo?*

*I can't believe she
would show that!*


*I think I like this
Nancy chick!*



Maybe I'll *tune up her scanner ...*

Don't you dare!

You can leave *your underwear* on. Lie on the table, Dana.

A woman with long black hair, wearing a black lace bikini, is lying on a grey medical table. She is looking upwards with a slightly confused expression. The table has a control panel on the left side with buttons labeled 'RCA', 'CLC', 'TVR', 'LOG', 'NAT', 'INT', 'DIF', 'IMG', and 'OBJ'. The floor is made of brown square tiles. Two white speech bubbles are overlaid on the image. The first speech bubble is near her head and contains the text 'Now what?'. The second speech bubble is to her right and contains the text 'Take slow deep breaths. This will only take a second.'

Now what?

Take slow deep breaths. This will only take a second.

This might tingle a bit ...

Analysis mode ready
Analysis:
DNA structure:
Subject physiologic age:



Nancy?

Oh!

Er ...Dana ...



Analysis mode ready

Analysis: Running

DNA structure: Stable

Subject physiologic age: 26 y 5 m

*...is 26 and a
half years old.*

I knew you looked older! You're 10 years older! You're like totally a woman!

I guess I am ...

That is so cool!



You don't even
hafta go *to school*
anymore! Maybe
I'm older too!

Hop on the
table and *we'll*
see, Jessie.

Ok!

*My daughter ...is a grown
woman ... and I'm too
young to be her mother ...
she's too old for school ...*

*What did
you do?!*

Haha ...*nothing!* I swear!!
It's their *stupid app* that did
it! That's what *they* get for
trusting *technology!*

Yeah,
right ...

Would I *lie?*

Yes!

Mom? Um ...

...are you ok?

You can call me *Lauren* ...
you're old enough to be my
sister. Do you even have to
ask? What are we going to
do?!

What's the *big deal*? So I'm
a little older. I don't mind,
really ... *Lauren*. Jessie
doesn't seem to either.

*She doesn't ...
but I'm worried
about her.*

I know ...

*I was hoping ...well, if
you were 18 ...at least
you could look after her
at school.*



*Now she'll be all alone ...
and she's so new to
being a girl, even if she
doesn't know it.*

She'll be ok.

*I wish I could ... I
dunno ... keep an eye
on her there. I'm just
so scared.*

Maybe you won't
have to, Mom ... I
have to call Thea ...

Meanwhile ...



Yes!! I'm *myself* again! Being a kid *sucked!* How do I look? *Sexy*, huh?




Oh yeah ...you're real sexy, stick girl.

Hey shut up!

Whatcha
lookin' at?

*This woman ...
she is soooo
beautiful.*





I know, *right?* *She's*
really sexy!

She sure is! I am so
jealous! There *aren't* any
black girls in *Croatia*. Tons
of *gingers*, though ...


Hmmm ...

beep beep



Hi D! *Huh?* Slow down ...
what's wrong?

It's *my mom* ...

A woman with long black hair, wearing a purple tank top and large black headphones, is shown in a control room. She has a slightly nervous or concerned expression. The room is filled with various pieces of electronic equipment, including monitors and control panels. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing text.

...she's really starting to lose it. She's getting all uptight about Jessie going to school with no one watching her.

No one watches us!

I know, but she's sorta ... innocent, y'know?

I can switch you *back* and *you* can keep an eye on her ...



I don't want to sound *selfish*, but *I like* being 26 ...

You're *not* 26 ...
you're 21.

I'm at this *scientist's* lab
and she *tested me*. I'm
26.


Wow ...*that's*
weird.



Anyway, maybe you should just *change Dad* back ...


But I haven't even *seen* him ...her ...yet. Is *she* losing it *too*?

Hardly ...



...you wouldn't know she was ever *any other way*. Mom's really *bonding* with her, too.

I *really* think she'll be ok at school ... me and Jackie'll watch out for her.



I know that, but ...
Mom's just scared.
Maybe we should tell
her ...

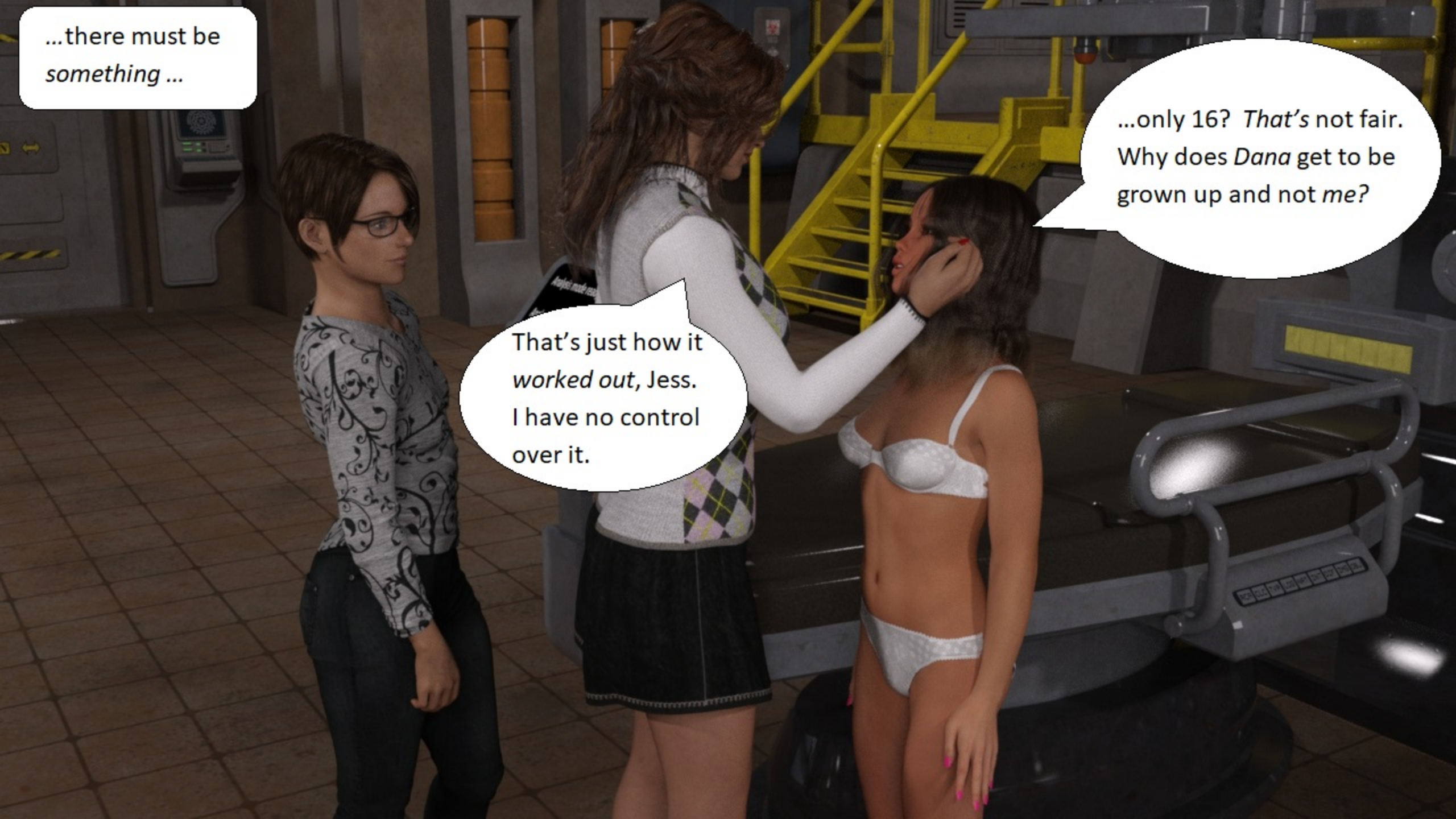
If we do *that*, she might
take *my phone* away. She
would *definitely* make you
16 again.


You're right ...

...there must be
something ...

That's just how it
worked out, Jess.
I have no control
over it.

...only 16? *That's* not fair.
Why does *Dana* get to be
grown up and not *me*?



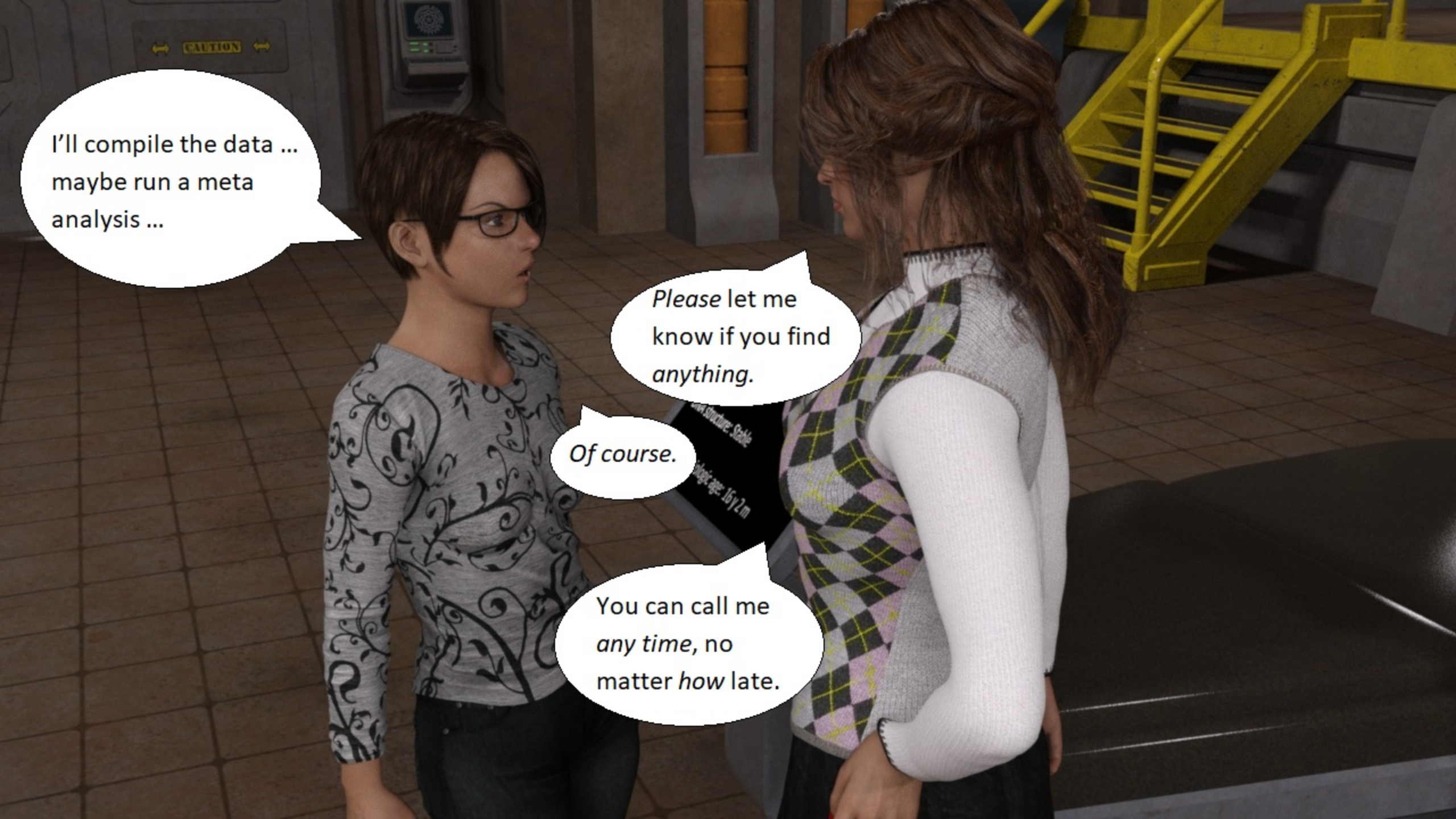


You'll just have to be *my little girl* for a little *longer*.

I'm *not* a *little girl*, Mom!

You know what I mean.
Why don't you get *dressed*.

'k.




I'll compile the data ...
maybe run a meta
analysis ...

*Please let me
know if you find
anything.*

Of course.

You can call me
any time, no
matter *how late*.




Look, let me and Jackie brainstorm ... we'll come up with something.

Dana ...time to go ...

I have to go now. Let me know if you guys come up with any ideas.

'Later.

A scene from a video game showing two young women on a staircase. The woman on the left has long, straight brown hair and is wearing a black top with a purple floral pattern. The woman on the right has shoulder-length wavy reddish-brown hair and is wearing a white t-shirt with a pink and black graphic. They are standing on a wooden staircase with a grey metal railing against a blue wooden wall. Three speech bubbles are present, containing dialogue. A magazine titled 'GLAMOUR' is visible on a red cushion in the bottom right corner.

What's *her* deal?

She says her mom's *all* upset about Jessie being alone *at school*.

Alone? There are tons of kids at school! *Duh!*

Hello? Alone with the *other* kids!!

*Oh! Oh! I
know! Give me
your phone!*

*No way! The last
time you had it ...*

*This is different!
You'll see! I'll
show you!*

Ok ...

...here.

See? We do this!

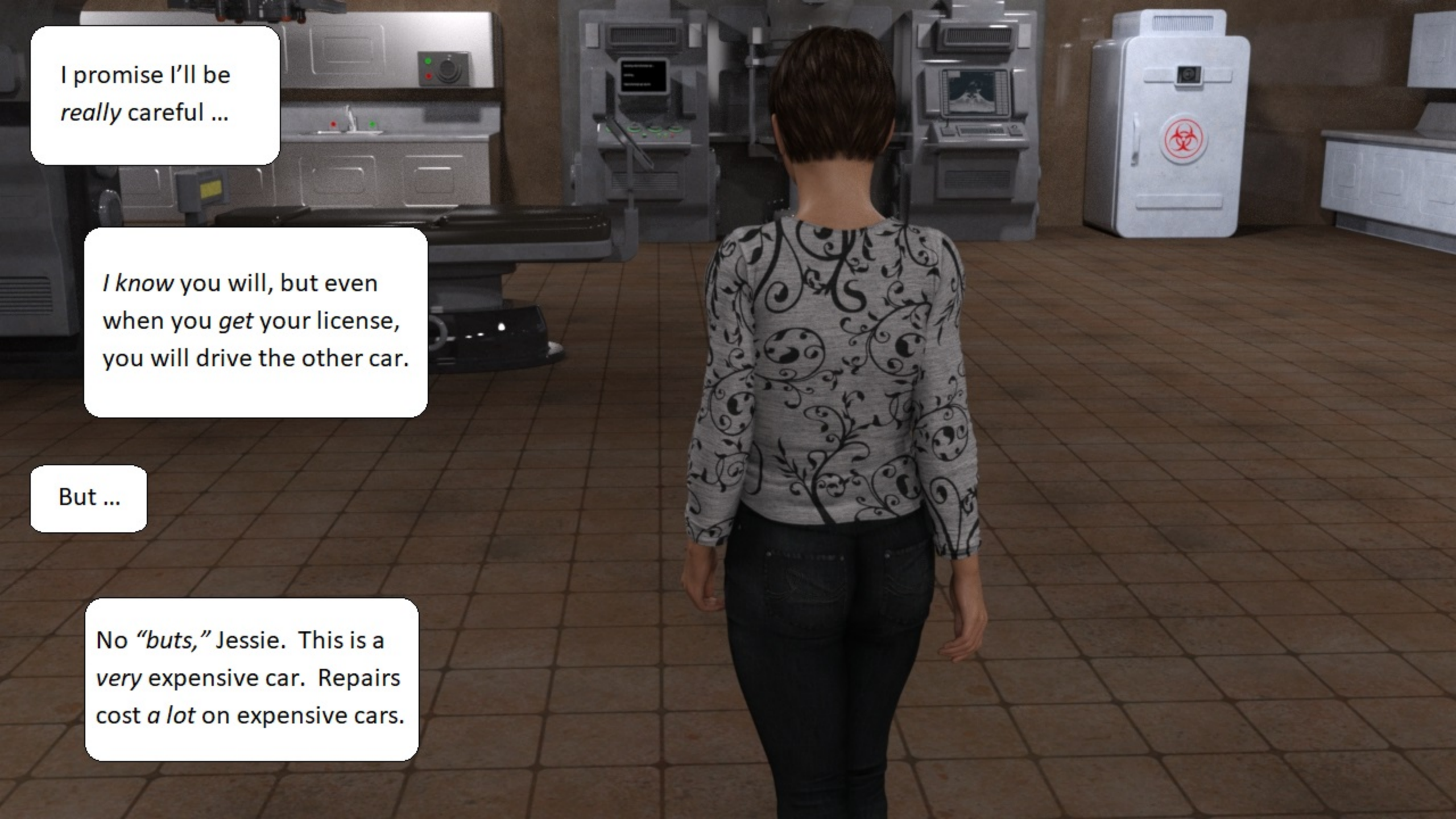
I ...

Problem solved!

...but why?

Because I said so.






I promise I'll be
really careful ...

I know you will, but even
when you *get* your license,
you will drive the other car.

But ...


No "*buts*," Jessie. This is a
very expensive car. Repairs
cost *a lot* on expensive cars.



Chill out, Jess. She doesn't let me drive it either.

That is so not fair!

Yeah, but you're a sucky driver.




See? This way
everybody's happy!

I have to *admit*, I never
thought of *that* one! You're
crazy!!

Crazy like *a wolf!!*
I'm *a genius!*

*Haha ...I wouldn't
go that far!*



I just *wish* I was there to *see* it.

Heh ...we'll see it soon enough.

I have *tons* of great ideas! Wanna see *another* one?


Sure ...

...but you have to
undo it if it isn't
cool!

Done!



Why do I hafta
sit in *the back*?!

A red Mercedes-Benz car is shown from a front-facing perspective. The car has a human-like face with large, expressive eyes and a wide, toothy grin. The Mercedes-Benz logo is visible on the front grille. Inside the car, three people are visible: a driver in the front seat and two passengers in the back seat. The scene is set in a dark, indoor environment, possibly a parking garage, with some rectangular panels on the wall in the background.

You have the
shortest legs!


No fighting, girls.



Haha ...what a little brat!

Mommmmmm, tell Dana that she has to sit in the back next time!

Please stop whining, Jessica ...



...and Dana's *right* ...
you're the only one
who *fits* back there.

But ...

Tell you what ...



...when *we get home*, Dana or I can take you out driving in the *other car* ... but *only* if you *behave yourself* and stop fighting with your sister. *Deal?*

**grumble* ...
deal.*

Oh God ...


Calculating subject physiologic age ...

Calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 36 y 9 m

...God ...no ...

So what is this *other*
"great idea" you had?




You'll *totally*
like it! *Go see!*

See *what?*

The *new* you,
dummy!

The *new* me?!
Jackie ...



*I swear, I'll kick your
skinny little ass if you
messed me up!*

*I didn't! Honest!
Go see!!*


I better *like* what *I* see
or you're *dead meat!*

giggle ...shut up!
You'll *like* it!

Oh!


*Well?
Like it?!*





I can change
you *back* ...

*The hell you will!!
Don't you dare touch
that phone, girlfriend!!*



*I totally have
some clothes
that'll kick ass ...*

I look amazing!

knock knock

Jackie?



I'm on it ...

Your mom ...

...there's this
perception thingy ...

Vrooom ...

Wheeee...

Ahhhhh
hhhhh ...

*Lookout lookout
Lookout!!!*


**giggle*
...oops!*

Screeeeeeeeee...

A silver Lotus Evija electric hypercar is parked on a brick-paved surface. In the foreground, the nose of a red Ferrari Formula 1 race car is visible, showing its distinctive air intake and yellow accents. The scene is captured from a high-angle perspective.

gasp


...eeeeeeech!



**pant ...pant* ...
ohmyGod ...*

*That was
awesome!*


*I know,
right?!*



I totally *kick ass* at driving, *huh?*

Haha ...

Lauren! What the *f**k* ...



Ah!

Whoa!

What? Do I have a booger or something?


So *that* was their solution? *Great.*

Hey! What happened to Mom?

Shh! Tell you later. *Be cool.*

Er, *no* ...you just came in *kinda fast* ...

I guess but I did good besides *that*, right?




Holy shit!

You almost hit
the *other* car ...

But *I* didn't, so
it's cool!


You think?

Give me the *keys*.



Alright ...um ...thanks
for letting me drive
the *good* car.

Last time I make
that mistake!
Jeez!



Sure! I feel great!

Are you ...um ...
feeling ok?


*What the hell is
going on?! You ...*

Me what?

*I'll tell you
"me what?!"
You're ...*

Jess ...

*She's a teenager. Oh
man ... my parents are
both kids!*


A scene from a game featuring three female characters in conversation. The character on the left has long black hair and is wearing a pink tank top. The character in the middle has wavy brown hair and is wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and light blue pants. The character on the right has long, wavy brown hair and is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt with a grey and yellow argyle pattern vest. They are standing on a brick-paved area in front of a building with a window. The scene is lit with soft, indoor lighting.

Go *inside*. I need to talk to Lauren *in private*.

But ...

Now.

'k.



No ...uh...do you remember where we just were?

You're not gonna yell at me about *the car*, right? I totally didn't wreck it!

Duh! Dr. Baker's lab!

Remember *why* we
went there?

Yeah ...to find out
what happened to
you and *Dad*.

Dad?

Um ...she tested
you too.

Uh huh ...

...I put my *hand* on *this thing* and it said how old I am. Then she tested you and Dad on a *different* machine. That is so *weird* how you got older and *Dad* turned into a *girl*, right?

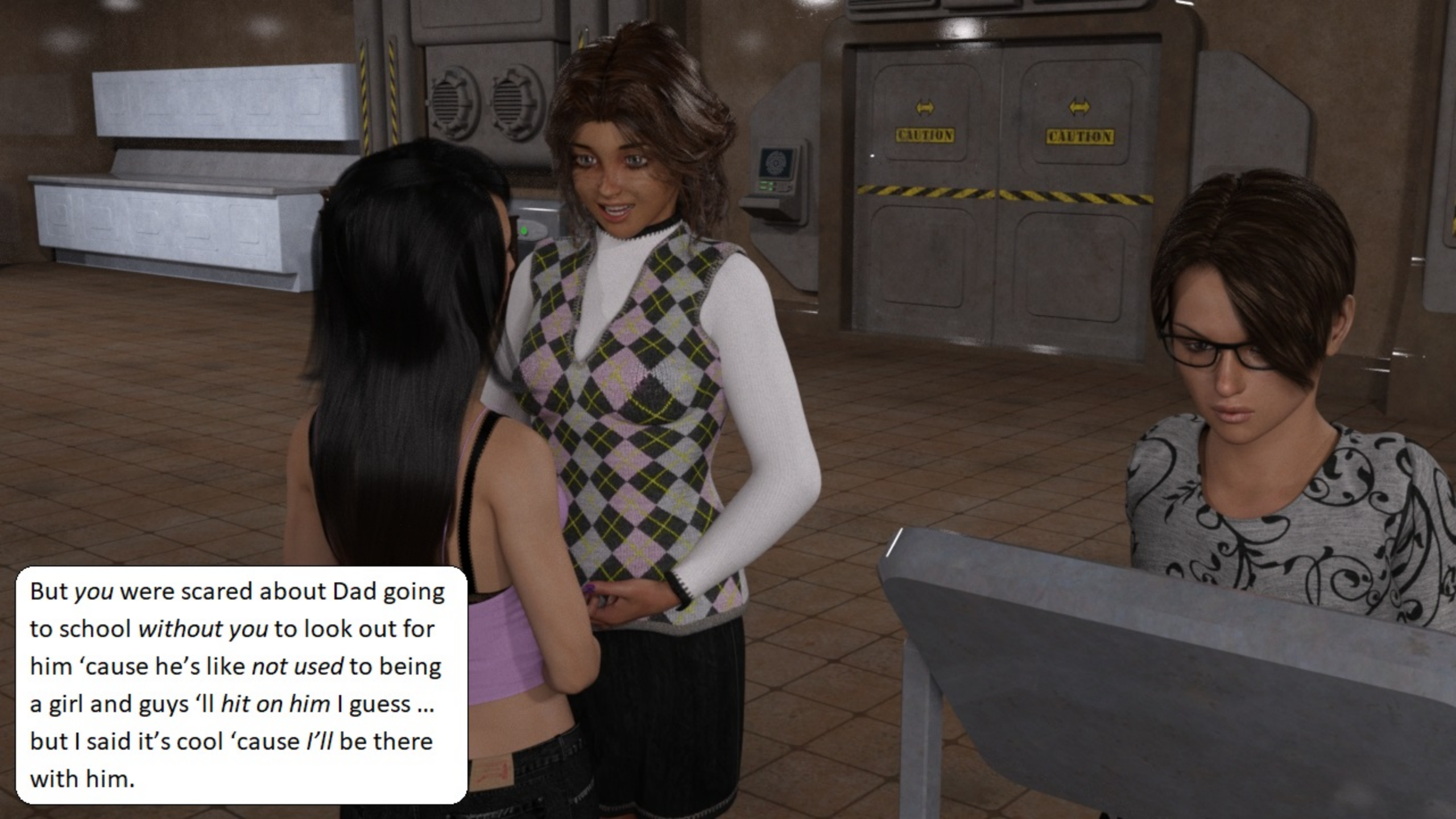
Yes ...*it is* weird.



subject physiologic age...

ologic age: 16y 2m

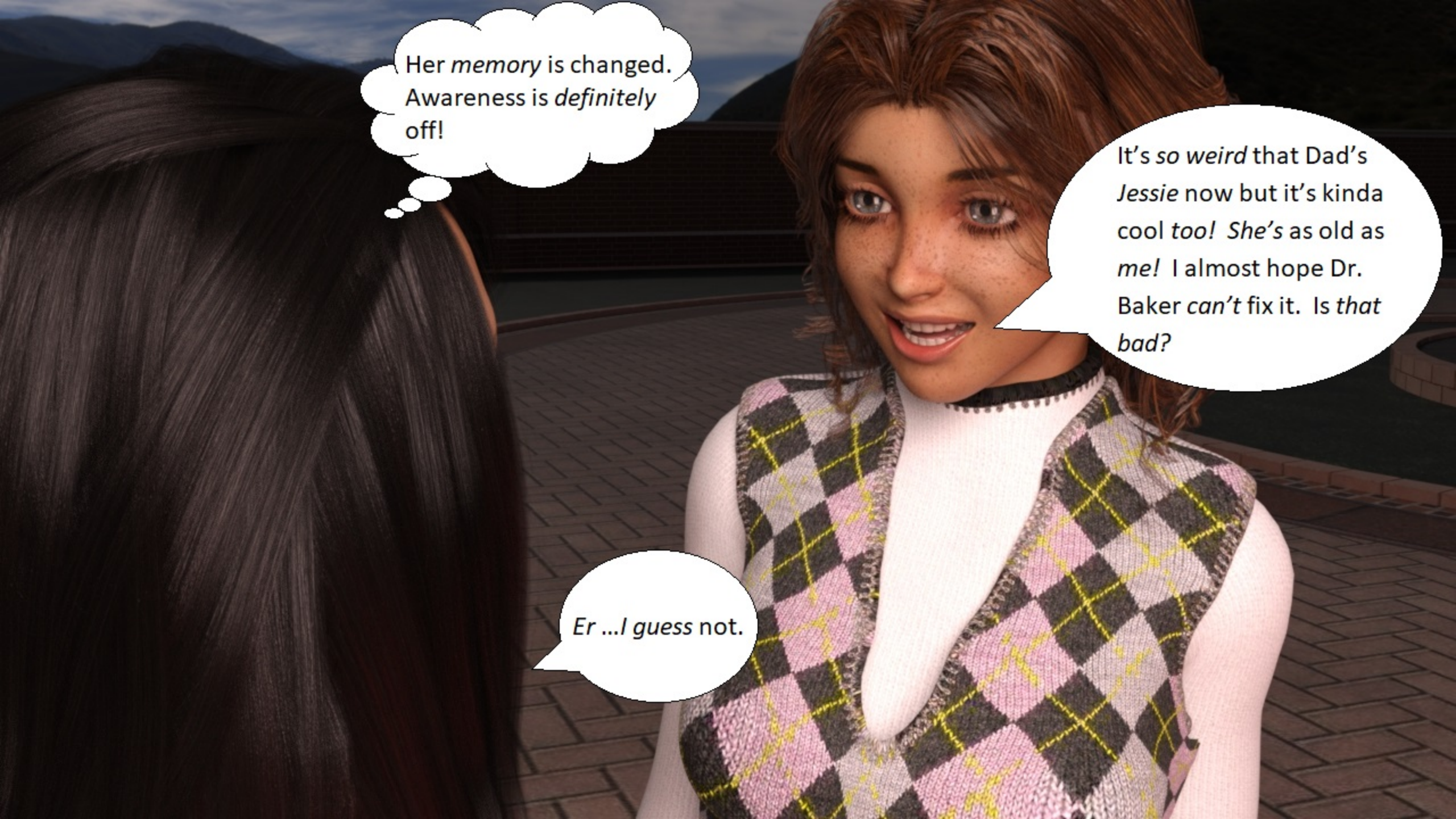
So like Dr Baker said I'm 16. Well *duh!* I could have told her *that!* I wanted to be older too, *like you* ...but I'm not. *That* would have been so cool!



But *you* were scared about Dad going to school *without you* to look out for him 'cause he's like *not used* to being a girl and guys 'll *hit on him* I guess ... but I said it's cool 'cause *I'll* be there with him.

Then you let me drive the Mercedes home, which really pissed Dad off cause he wanted to drive. Maybe he remembers that it was his car ...I think he just didn't wanna sit in the back.






Her *memory* is changed.
Awareness is *definitely*
off!

It's so *weird* that Dad's
Jessie now but it's kinda
cool *too!* *She's* as old as
me! I almost hope Dr.
Baker *can't* fix it. Is *that*
bad?

Er ...I guess not.




Better *adapt* to the situation ...

I ...I think that she thinks *you* changed like I did. *Maybe* she thinks you were *older* and got *younger* like *she* did.

The *only thing* I don't get is why she *freaked out* when she *looked* at me. Why did she *do that*?

She's *crazy*. I'm the only one that stayed *the same*.



Poor Dad.
What should
we do?

But *she* thinks *she's* the
one who stayed *the same*.
You can't *blame her* for
being *confused*.

Let's try not to
scare her ...

...let *me* talk to her before *you* do. If she says *anything* about you *changing* ...just *agree* with her. Just say you must have been affected like *I was*. She doesn't think *she's changed*.

Perfect.

Ok. I won't tell her *she did*. I'll just *hang* with her like everything's *fine*.

beep beep

Hello?

Hello
Lauren ...

Oh *hey* Dr. Baker!
We were *just talkin'*
'bout you!

She *sounds*
different ...


Er ...that explains the
burning in my ears, I
suppose. May I speak to
Dana please?

Haha ...*sure!*

Calculating subject physiologic age...

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 16y 2m



Goin' inside.

'k ... hi Nancy.

Are you alone?

Yes.

I see some ...
disturbing readings
on my sensor. Is
Lauren ... *younger?*

*She sure is.
Very much so.*

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 16 y 2m

*I was afraid of that.
My readings indicate
that she's 16 years old,
the exact same age as
your father.*

*That makes
sense based on
what I've seen.*

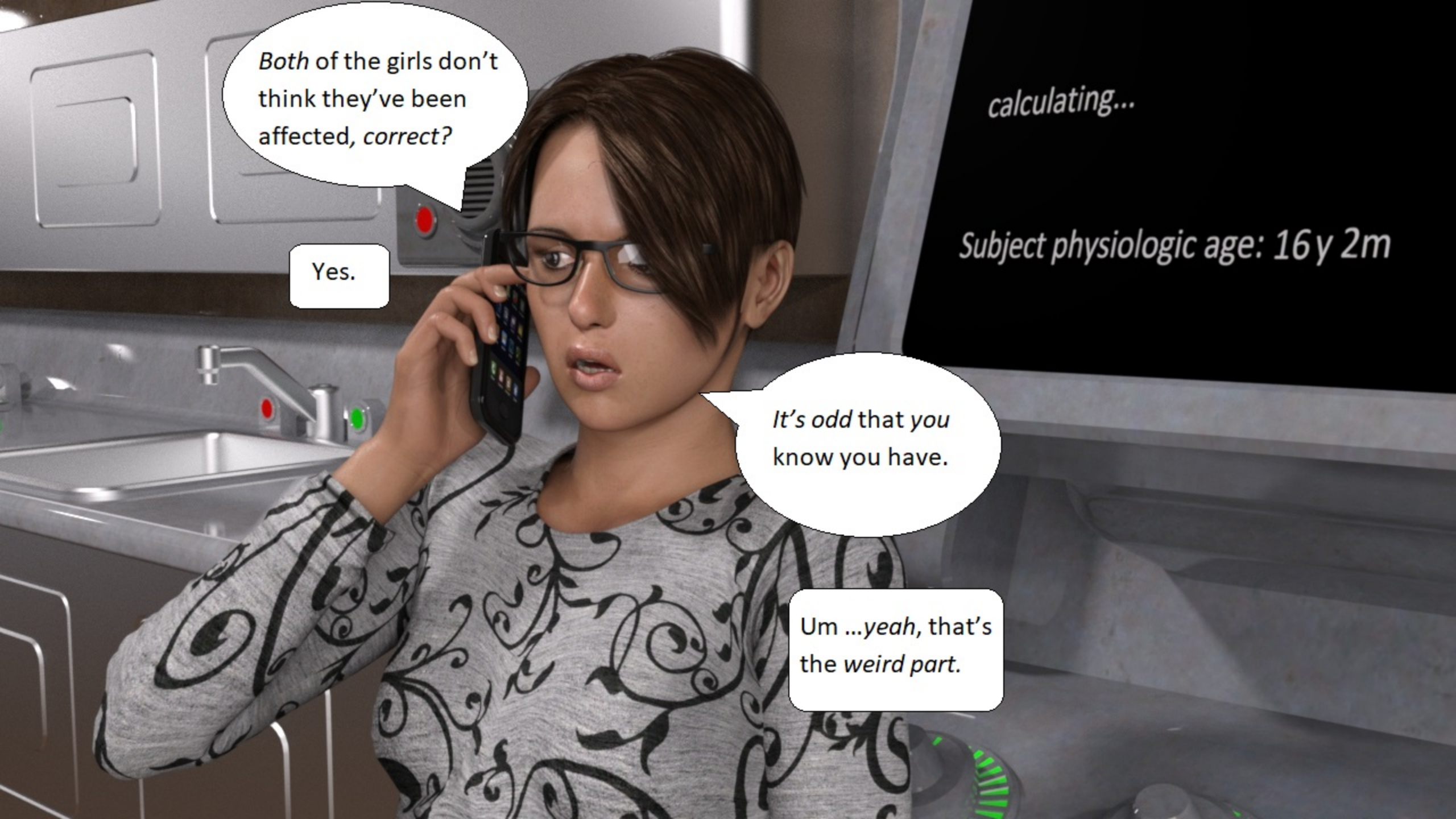
Whatever process
is affecting them is
very consistent.

So ...have you
figured out what
it is yet?

Not yet. I'll have
to *research* it.

Ok.





Both of the girls don't think they've been affected, correct?

Yes.

It's odd that you know you have.

Um ...yeah, that's the weird part.

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 16 y 2m

I'll probably be up *all night* going over these readings ...and searching everywhere I can *think of* for an answer.

You would *do that?*

I would do *anything* for your mother, you know that. I'll call tomorrow with an update.

Thank you.

Maybe I should *tell her ...* but I *don't* want to be 16 again ... not yet.

You look *great*, Mom!




Thank you Dear.

I love *that dress!* Where are you going?

One of the *other nurses* fixed me up on a *blind date*.

Ooooooh ... is he cute?



I never saw him. She says he is. I couldn't get out of it. At least he's taking me to Seasons 52.

Yum! Wish I was going!


Actually, so do !! But we can't just leave Thea all alone, can we? Besides, you already had your dinner.

*Yeah, and the portions there are small anyway.
Smile!*

**sigh* ...
alright.
Cheese!*


click






What is *she* up to?

Got it! *Awesome*
picture!




Are you going to
be back *late*?



I'm not *planning* to.
Did you clean up *the*
kitchen?

Uh ...*not yet*.


Jackie ...



If you leave the
dirty dishes out,
we'll get *ants*.

I'll do it ...

I've heard *that*
one before!


A woman with shoulder-length reddish-brown hair and bangs, wearing a black, one-shoulder, lace-trimmed dress. She has blue eye makeup and is looking slightly to her left. She is standing in a doorway with a white door behind her. There are four speech bubbles around her, containing text. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Honestly, Jackie ...I do wish you would help out when I ask you to.

I said I would do it!

Mind your tone! I really don't want to come home to a dirty kitchen. You treat our home like a hovel.

I do not!



You do. When I was your age, I would help out my mother whenever she asked, and she would never have to ask me twice!

Rrrrr ...she's starting to piss me off!

Hey ...cool!

Are you even
listening to me?

Uh huh ...

*Something ...about
your mother ...*



*Oh really? What
did I just say?*


*You are just
too much!*

It's *Thea's* phone ...



Maybe if I want to have a *conversation* with you, I need to take *your phone* away!

I'm sure *Thea* doesn't treat *her father* as rudely as *you treat me*.



It is *very rude* to *text* when someone is *talking* to you. I taught you *better* than that!

Heh ...how cool would this be?

Just ask Thea!

Um ...

daphony

Edit Multiple Targets:

Age:

35

16

Awareness:

On

Off

Relationship:


Parent

Child

Apply changes? Y/N

Then I could go out to
second dinner and make
her do the dishes! I am
stil hungry ...

Young lady, put
down the phone!



*I said, put down
the phone!*

...and she *sounded* like she
really *didn't* want to go ...
I'd be doing her a *favor* ...

*...she'd probably
thank me ...*

*I'm warning
you ...*



Parent

Relationship:

Child

Apply changes? Y/N

...and I am really hungry ...
and she won't know the
difference. Everyone wins!


Ok, that's ...

A woman with her back to the camera is holding a black smartphone. She has purple nail polish on her fingers. The room has blue walls with white trim, a wooden ladder, and a red and blue patterned rug on the floor. A speech bubble is in the top left corner.

...um ...that's ...

*I'm sorry, Dear.
What were you
saying?*

Yikes!

A scene from a video game featuring three female characters in a room with a white door. The character on the left is a Black woman with long dark hair, wearing a white t-shirt and a light blue apron. The character in the center is a white woman with short reddish-brown hair, wearing a black sleeveless dress. The character on the right is a white woman with long reddish-brown hair and bangs, wearing a black long-sleeved top with purple floral patterns and tan shorts. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the woman on the right and one from the woman in the center.

Um ...I forget.


Don't you *hate it*
when *that* happens?
So *make sure* you
clean up the kitchen.



That's enough *attitude*
out of *you*, young lady!
Go on.

Rrr ...

I know,
Mom! *Jeez!*



I'll be home *late*.

I'm sure
you will!




slam


Haha ...kids
these days!

You are *bad!*

beep beep



*Oh hey D! Yeah,
she's right here.*




Hey D! How's it going?

My parents are both *teenage girls*. How's it going with you?

Haha ...really weird!
Jackie's going out on a date.

Anyone I know?




See ya.

Bye.

*Not likely. It's a
blind date!*

I won't even ask.
*Seriously, my deal here is
a real headache! Thanks
a lot!*

Oh *that*. It was
Jackie's idea.



Why am I *not* surprised.

Want me to change her back?

Well ...I was *thinking* ...it might be nice to be *in charge* around here for a bit ...

I hear ya.


...but I actually think Mom would *enjoy* her newfound youth if she *knew* about it.

I can toggle her *awareness* back on.

My thinking *exactly*, but don't do it yet.

Ok, so *when*?





I think ...make it some time when she's asleep. I'll text you when she's down. I'll get up early to deal with the fallout.

You are one sneaky girl!

Hey! I'm a sneaky woman!

Oh yeah ...I forgot ... Ma'am!

Stop that.

*Oh! Did I tell you?
Jackie and her mom
switched roles! She's
Sara's mom!*

Oh ... I'm shocked.

*Yeah. Not very
surprising. Oh! And
she changed me too!*



Really? How?


Haha ...
you'll see!

I can *hardly* wait.
Look, I have to go.

Later!

Hi.






Hey Jess. How's she doing?

Ok *I guess*. We did our hair ...

I can *see* that. Looks cool.

Thanks ...she doesn't remember being Mom *at all*.




That sucks.

How come *you* remember *being younger* but *she* doesn't remember *being older*?

I dunno ...maybe she's still adjusting.


So she *might* get her *memory back*?



Uh ...who can
say ... hope so.

I guess you're
just lucky.

Isn't it *funny* how you guys
got changed but *I didn't*?
Why do you think *that* is?




I sure am. I wouldn't mind being older ...like you ... but what if I got younger like Mom did?

That's a scary thought!

Tell me about it! Brrrrr!

I'm sure Nancy will find a solution. In the meantime ... be her sister ...


A scene from a video game showing two women in a living room. The woman on the left has long black hair and is wearing a purple tank top and dark jeans. She is gesturing with her right hand while talking. The woman on the right has brown hair in a ponytail and is wearing a light blue tank top and patterned pants. They are standing in front of a brown sofa with patterned cushions. In the background, there are wooden kitchen cabinets and a tiled wall.

...and *don't* let on that *anything* happened to her, unless *she* says something about it.

I'll try not to *scare her*.

Good.

Y 'know ...



...she's actually a pretty cool girl. Who would have known?!

I know, right?

She's like a lot cooler than you are.

Hey! Shut up!

Later ...

Oh Thea ...


Huh?

Haha ...think
fast!!

whap!


Hey!!






*Haha ...you
asked for it!!*

*Defend
yourself!!*

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a pink tank top and purple shorts, is leaning over a bed with a white headboard. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The room has blue vertical wood paneling. A window with a white frame is visible behind the bed. A small white shelf with books is on the wall behind her. A staircase with a metal railing is on the right. Two white speech bubbles are overlaid on the image.

*You better defend
your bony little ass!!*

Just try it!!



Ahhhhh!


giggle that
all you got?!!

vroom ...



Hold on ...a car ...


creak

A scene from a video game showing two women in a room. The woman on the left has reddish-brown hair and is wearing a blue tank top and red bikini bottoms, holding a purple cloth. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a pink tank top and patterned shorts, holding a light blue cloth. They are standing in front of a red bookshelf filled with books and framed pictures. There are windows with white frames on either side. The room has blue walls and a wooden floor.

I think *Mom's* home.

I dunno.

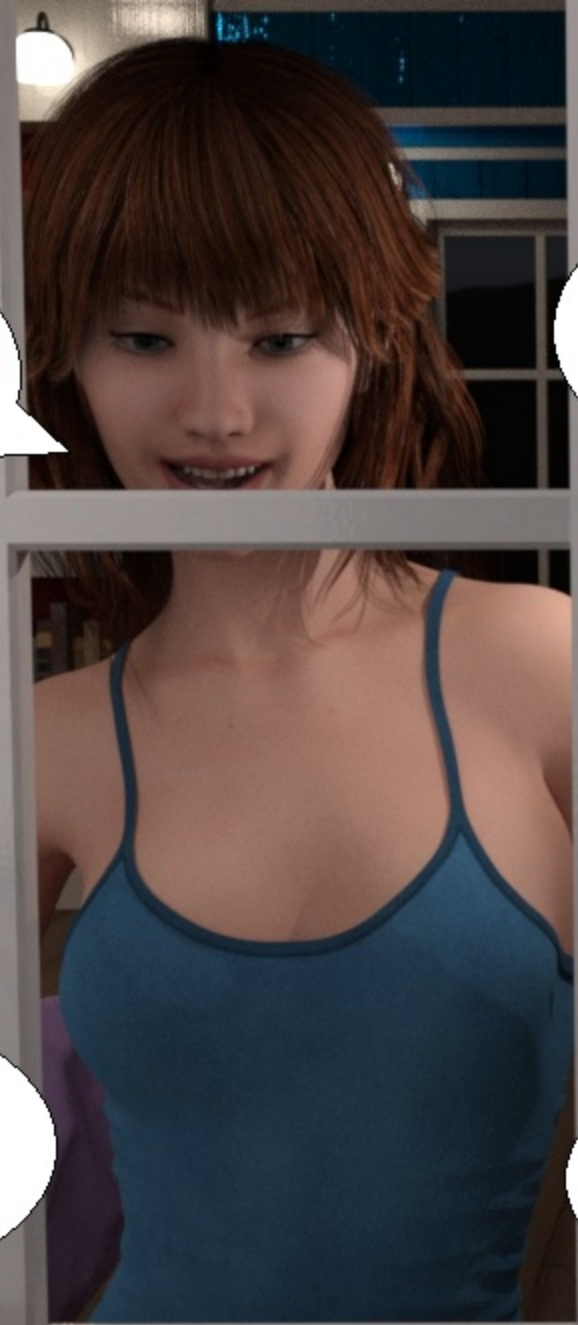
Wonder how *her date* went.




Is that her?

*Maybe. I
can't tell ...*

Wow ... nice car!



I think *that's* her.



She must have gotten a ride home.

Yeah. If he's driving *that*, he must be *loaded!*

Nothing wrong with *that!*

They're *just*
sitting in there.

Uh oh!

What?


They're probably
making out!

Hey! That's my mom!
But yeah, probably.






He's *getting out!*



I wish it wasn't so *dark!* What does he *look* like?



It's hard to tell ...


...I can tell he
isn't *fat*.

That's a start.


Mom's still *in there*.

Hmmm ...






Hey *look!*



Awww ...*how*
sweet!

A man in a blue shirt is leaning into the back of a car to help a woman in a black dress get out. The woman is sitting on the orange leather seat, and the man is holding her hand. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting it's nighttime.

He's helping her
out of *the car*.

*I think she could
get out by herself!*

*Stop ...he's being
a gentleman!*

**giggle* ...yeah ...*

She *looks* like
she likes him.


Yeah ...

They're coming
in here ...



*...c'mon! I
wanna see!*

'k ...

A scene from a video game showing two women in a hallway. The woman on the left is wearing a pink bikini and has a speech bubble that says "We're gonna get caught!". The woman on the right is wearing a blue bikini and has a speech bubble that says "Nah ...it's cool. I just wanna see if he's a stiff.". There are three other speech bubbles in the center: "But ...", "Shhh ...", and another one that is partially obscured. The hallway has white walls, a wooden floor, and a wooden banister with white spindles.

We're gonna
get caught!

But ...

Shhh ...

Nah ...it's cool. I just
wanna see if he's a
stiff.



He *looks* ok ...I
guess ...

If you *like* that
look.

What do you
mean?

He's a guy.

Geez ...we're not *all*
into alternative
lifestyles!


You should try it!

Shh!

I had a *really* nice time, Tony.


So did I. I don't think I've *ever* seen a woman *eat as much* as you did.

Uh ...guess I was just *hungry* ...

A man with dark, wavy hair, wearing a bright blue button-down shirt, is looking towards a woman with long, straight brown hair. The woman is seen from the back, wearing a black top. They are in a room with a white door and a two-bulb wall sconce.

...I usually just get
salad ...

I thought it was *cute* ...
like *you are*. I'm glad
your sister *cancelled* on
me.



*Uh ...yeah, me too ...
I ... I think you're
cute too ...*

gasp

Are you ok?

squeeze

**gulp* ...
f...fine ...*

*Yes ...you are ...
fine ...*

**giggle* ...looks like
someone's gettin' lucky!*

*Shut up! That's my
mom!*



You're so beautiful ...

I...I...



...no ...

*Damn! If Jackie's awareness was off I bet she'd jump in *the sack* with this guy!*

Um ... this is getting heavy ... maybe we shouldn't watch.

*Mom knows what she's doing ...she would *never**

You were
saying?

Shut upThea!

Mmmmm ...



She just met this
guy!! Mom ...

Um ...maybe you
should go ...


Are you *sure*?

Yeah ...

Can I call you
tomorrow?


Sure Tony!
G'night.

whew

A woman with short reddish-brown hair, wearing a black, backless, form-fitting dress, stands in a doorway. She is looking towards a man who is standing with his back to the camera. The man has short brown hair and is wearing a bright blue, long-sleeved, form-fitting shirt and dark trousers. The doorway is open, revealing a dark night sky outside. The interior walls are light-colored with a subtle pattern. A light switch is visible on the wall to the left of the doorway.


You too.

*Sleep tight
sexy.*



Have a *nice*
time, Mom?

Now what are *you girls*
doing up? You weren't
spying on me, were
you?




Yeah.

Thea!

Haha ...that's ok. I had a very nice time. I had the surf and turf! Then I had the cheesecake! And wine!

Mom! What about the guy?

Oh yeah ...he's nice. His name is Tony and he's a doctor.

A scene from a video game showing three women on a staircase. The woman on the left has long brown hair and is wearing a black top. The woman in the middle has short brown hair with bangs and is wearing a blue tank top. The woman on the right has long dark hair and is wearing a pink tank top. They are all looking towards the woman on the left. A wooden staircase with white railings is in the background.


So when can I
meet him?

Maybe we can
do something
tomorrow!

Cool! He's really
handsome.

Don't I know it!

buzz buzz



I thought he was
going to *get fresh*
with you.

Like I would *let him*
on the *first date!*


It's Dana ...

...it's time.

I know, but ...

Now, on the *second date*, well ... I mean *he did* buy me a lobster and steak dinner ...and *dessert* ...



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a pink top, is looking down at a black smartphone she is holding. To her left, the back of another woman with long brown hair, wearing a blue top, is visible. The background shows a staircase with wooden steps and a wall with red patterned wallpaper. A white door is visible on the right side of the frame.

Mother!

I'm a grown woman, Dear.

I hope this doesn't wake her up. Let's see ...

...so *that's* what
she looks like now.
Wow ...

That *doesn't*
mean you have
to be *easy!*

Hey, who's the
mother here
anyway?



...won't *she* be surprised in the morning! Heh.



You are ...

That's right. Now, I'm going to *bed* ...


...why don't *you girls*
do the *same*. It's *very*
late.

groan ...ok.
'Night Mom.

Good night Dear ...
Thea.

'Night.

Zzzzz ...uhhhh ...

A woman with dark hair is lying in bed, looking distressed. She is wearing a light-colored top. The room is dark, with a window in the background showing a dark sky and silhouettes of trees. The bed has a blue and white polka-dot sheet. A white speech bubble is positioned near her head.

*...no ...I'm not ...
no ...it's ...it's ...*

subject physiologic age...

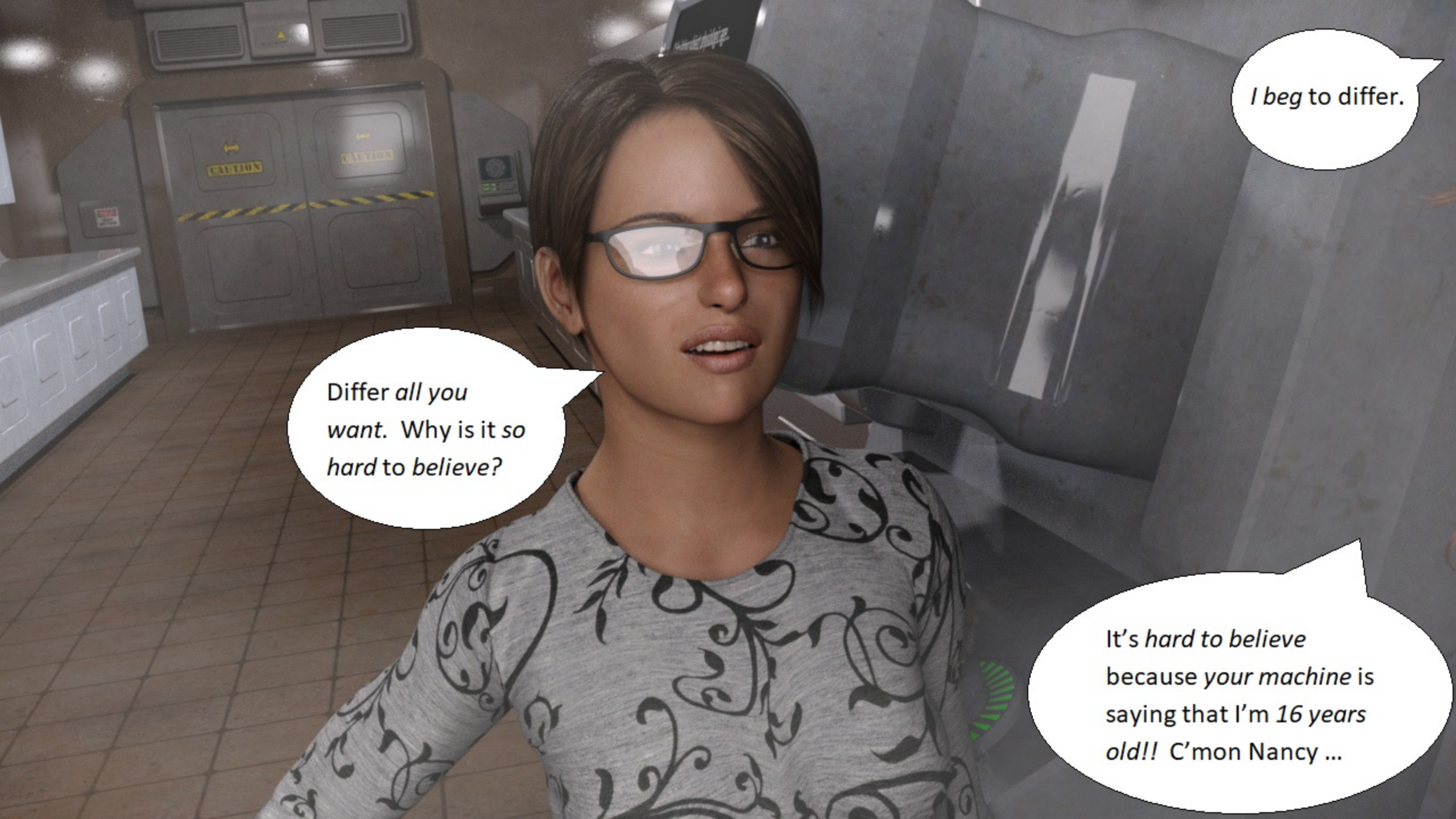
ologic age: 16y 2m

My readings say
otherwise.

I ran a *diagnostic*
on it and it's
working *perfectly.*

...it's *impossible.*

I'm a *grown woman*
Nancy. Your *machine*
must be *broken.*

A woman with short brown hair, wearing black-rimmed glasses and a grey long-sleeved shirt with a black floral pattern, stands in a futuristic, metallic room. She has a slightly skeptical or questioning expression. In the background, there are grey metal lockers with yellow "CAUTION" signs and a large, curved metallic structure. The floor is made of light-colored square tiles. Three white speech bubbles with black text are overlaid on the image.

I beg to differ.

Differ all you want. Why is it so hard to believe?

It's hard to believe because your machine is saying that I'm 16 years old!! C'mon Nancy ...

subject physiologic age...


ologic age: 16y 2m

Yes.

Do I look 16 to you?!

What are you *blind* or something?


Are you? You're a 16 year old girl, Lauren. Whatever made you think you were *older*?



And you *magically* got younger? You do have quite the *imagination*, young lady.

Because I am!

I am not a young lady!
I'm an adult ...




...aren't I?

Child, I have *a lot* of work to do today, but if it would make you *feel better* I can run the scan again.

Um ...ok.
Thanks.




*I don't understand ...
people don't get
younger ...*




Put your hand
on the scanner.

...what kind of *game*
is she *playing*?


A close-up photograph of a person's hand hovering just above a glowing, circular, light-blue interface. The hand has purple nail polish on the index finger and a purple and black patterned design on the thumb. The interface is set within a dark, multi-layered circular frame. The background is dark and out of focus.

You might feel
a *slight tingle*.
Ready?

Uh huh ...
ready.

A close-up photograph of a person's hand hovering just above a large, glowing green oval light. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with fingers slightly curled. The person has purple nail polish on their fingers and a purple and black patterned design on their thumb. The light is a bright, uniform green and is set within a dark, possibly metallic, circular frame. In the upper right corner, there is a white thought bubble with a black outline, containing text.


I'm a grown up. *She'll*
see ...stupid Nancy ...

A hand with purple nail polish is resting on a light blue circular surface, possibly a table or a piece of equipment. The hand is positioned in the center of the frame, with the fingers slightly curled. The background is dark and out of focus.

Done.

...she just doesn't want to admit she's *wrong*.

What does *it* say?

A woman with short brown hair and black-rimmed glasses stands in a kitchen. She is wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt with a black floral pattern. She is looking towards a control panel on a grey machine, possibly a washing machine or dryer, which has two large knobs with green LED rings and several buttons. In the background, there is a kitchen counter with two sinks and a tiled floor.

It says *exactly* what
it said *before* ...



calculating...
Subject physiologic age: 12y 2m


...not that I'm surprised. After all ...

Calculating subject physiologic age ...

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 12y 2m


...I told you I tested the equipment, and it's working just fine. As I've already told you ...



... you're 12
years old.

What?! Now
I'm only *12?!!*

As of 2 months ago.
Belated happy
birthday, Laurie.



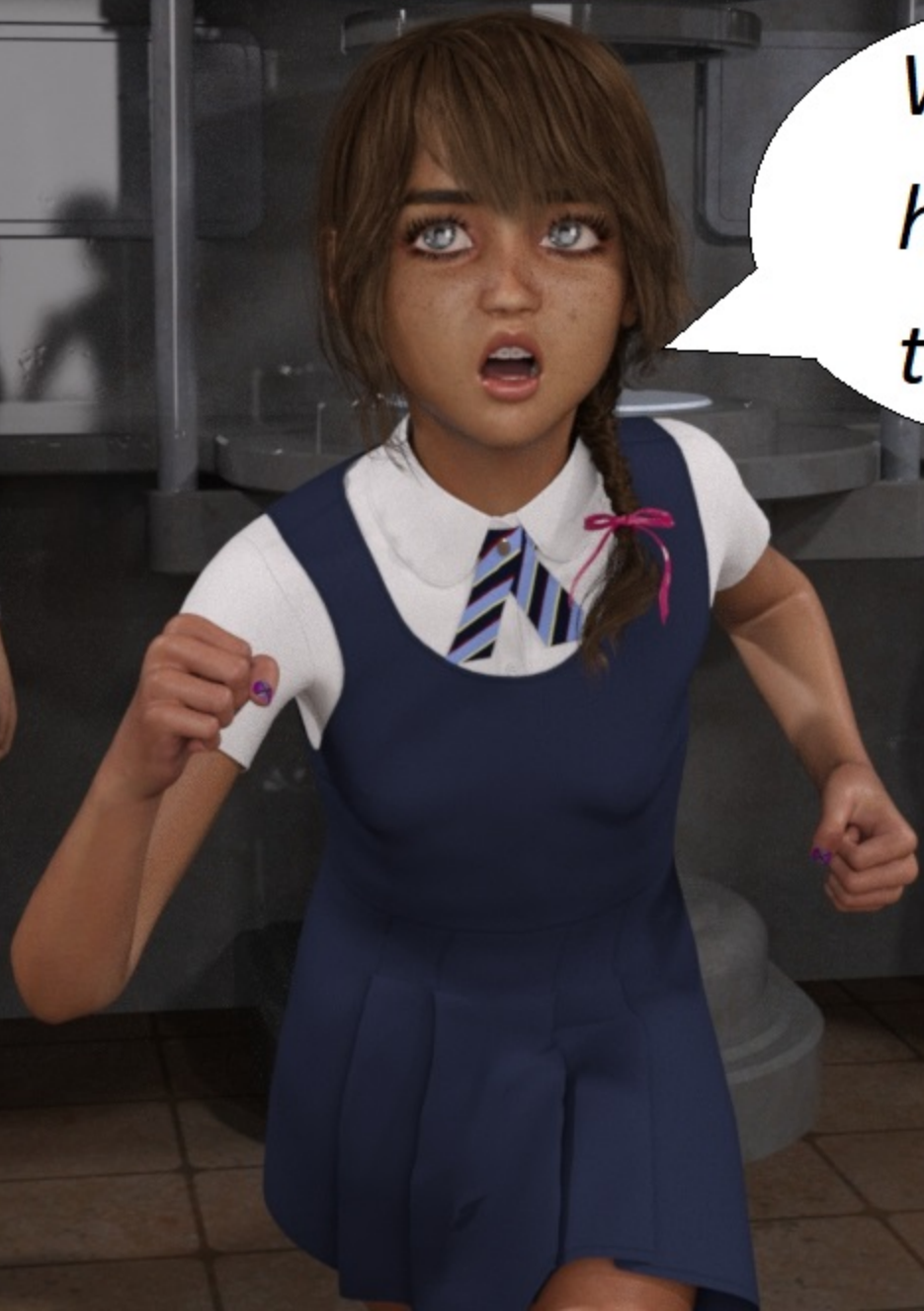
Laurie?

*Noooooo!!
You're wrong!!*

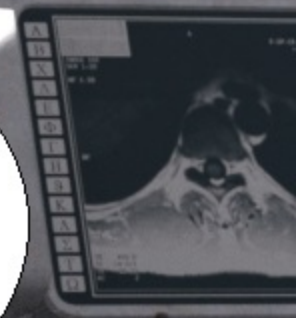
Calculating subject physiologic age ...

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 12y 2m



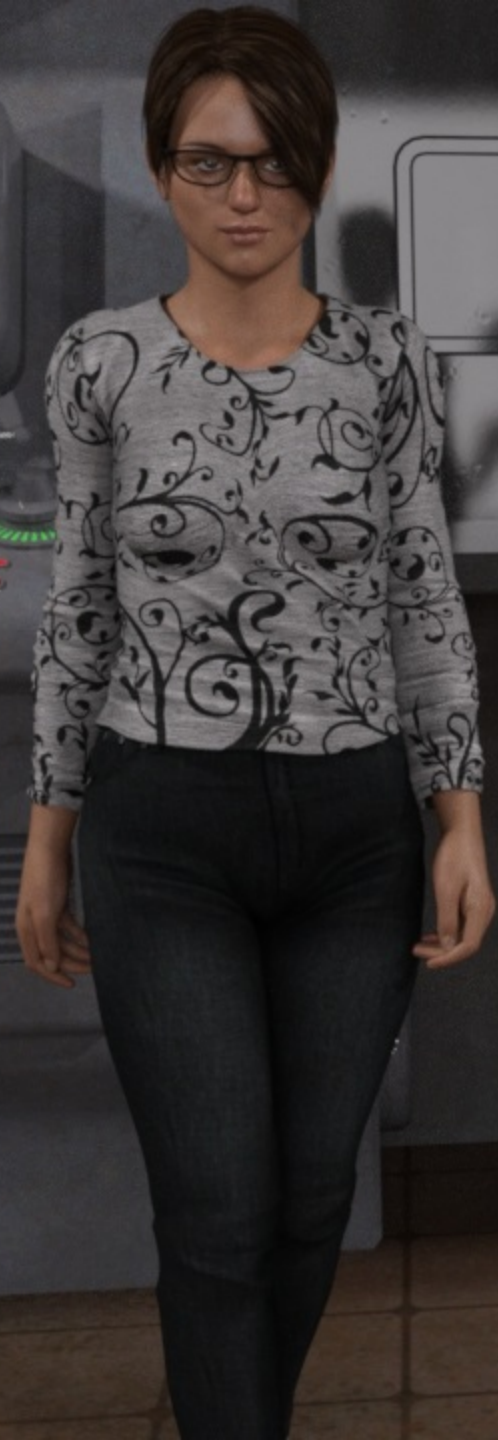
*What's
happening
to me?!*



Calculating subject physiologic age ...

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 11y 5 m



Hafta get outta here!



*Daaaaa
aaaa!!*




HeIIIIIIIIp!!

What in the
world ...


Lauren?






*We hafta
leave!!*

*Lauren! Whatever
is the matter?*

A young girl with brown hair and bangs, wearing a white short-sleeved shirt with a blue and white striped tie and a dark blue jumper dress, stands in the center with a shocked expression. She has her arms outstretched. To her left is a person with long brown hair seen from behind, wearing a dark blue sweater. To her right is a person with long black hair seen from behind, wearing a purple top with a black lace back. The background is a tiled floor and a wall with a door.

*What's the
matter?!
Look at me!!*


Calm down ...



...and tell me
what's wrong.

You look the
same to me,
Shrimp.


What?!



I don't look the same!! I'm a little kid!!

And ...


And I'm supposed to be a grown up! You're my daughter and she's my husband!!

A scene from a video game featuring two female characters in a futuristic, industrial environment. The character on the left has long black hair and is wearing a pink top. The character on the right has long brown hair and is wearing a black top. They are both looking towards the camera. In the background, there are various pieces of equipment, including a control panel with a 'CAUTION' sign and a screen displaying 'Analysis mode ready'.

*Haha ...I'm
your what?*

*Do I look like
anyone's
husband to you?*

No ...but ...



I think you're
just *over tired*.
You need *a nap*.

B ...but *I know I*
was a *grown up* ...

Analysis mode ready


Analysis:

DNA structure:

Subject physiologic age:


Well *I* know you get
cranky when you
don't have *a nap*.

Pwease ...you ...you hafta
wisten to me ...

A woman with long black hair and a purple top is talking to a young girl with curly brown hair and a blue top. The woman is on the left, and the girl is on the right. They are in a room with a tiled floor and some equipment in the background. The woman is looking at the girl, and the girl is looking back at her. The woman's mouth is open as if she is speaking. The girl's mouth is also open, and she appears to be responding. There are two speech bubbles: one on the left containing the woman's dialogue and one on the right containing the girl's dialogue.

Mommy's going to put you down for *your nap* now, Sweetie.

But Mommy ...



*That's
Mommy's
little baby ...*


Ma ma ...

Does Baby need *her*
didee changed?

No ...you're nice
and dry.

Didee?

pat pat




C'mon Princess ...
sleepy time.

suck suck

Mommy ...
Dana ...

I'm trapped as a baby ...
what am I gonna do?!



*She's so precious.
I wanna have a
baby someday.*

*I'm sure you will. Nighty
night Little One.*

*How can I get out
of this? *yawn**



I can't even talk ...
not a baby ... so
sweepy ...




...Dana ... *not* my ...my ...



Mom?


Uhhhh ...huh?

A woman with dark, wavy hair is lying in bed, looking down with a distressed expression. She is wearing a white tank top with green trim. The bed has a teal and white polka-dot patterned sheet. A window with sheer curtains is visible in the background, showing a glimpse of trees and a blue sky. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the image.

Are you ok?

Uhhhh ...


*Oh God ...it was
only a dream.*



You were *shouting*
in *your sleep*.

Uh ...*Dana*? S'ok ...
had a *nightmare* is
all.


Must have been
a *bad one*.



It was so *strange* ...
everything was different.
We were at *Nancy's lab*
and ...



...ohmyGod ...it wasn't a dream, was it?! You're a grown woman!




Yeah. *Remember?*

I do *now*. How
is *your father?*

She's still
sleeping.

He's still a
teenage girl?

Yeah. Nancy
said she's 16.



That's right.

*Do you ...
remember
anything else?*

*It's all jumbled ...
but ... I've changed
too, haven't I?*


*Yes Mom ... you have.
You're younger ...
younger than me.*



Mom?

Younger
than you ...






...so it's all true.

*...I'm sure Nancy ...
maybe it's ... maybe
it's temporary.
Mom?*



I know ...

It *might not* be temporary ... we have to prepare for that. I look like I did in *high school* ...

A woman with long dark hair is standing in a room, looking at her reflection in a large mirror. She is wearing a white tank top with a green owl graphic and white patterned underwear with a green waistband. The room has a wooden dresser on the left and a window with a black metal railing. The floor is tiled.

*You're not a child.
When I was 16 I
wasn't a child.*


*...when I was
16 years old.
I'm a child ...*

*Yes, you were ...
and I am ...*

I guess I am.

...and you're a woman. You're the *only adult* in our family now.

Your father and I are in *no condition* to run things around here. We'll be too busy with *school*. *That* responsibility will have to be yours. Do you think you can *do that*?



Until you're
yourself again ...I
don't know ...

You're the only one who
can. I'll help you all *I can*.
So will Dad ...*Jessica*.

But ...


This is *your room* now.
Most of my clothes will *fit*
you. The keys to *both* of
the cars are *yours*. *Jessica*
and I will share *your room*.

Is that *really* what you want, Mom?

Yes. Jessica and I are your *little sisters* now. I guess that makes you an *orphan*.

But you're *not* my sisters.


Pretend that we are.



It's *easy*. You know, when I was *your mother*, no matter how *big* you got, I *always* thought of you as *my little girl*.

I don't know
if *I can* ...


Is *that* why you would treat me like *a kid*? Even when I got to *high school*?



You want me to think of you as *a child*?


I couldn't *help it*. So ... *don't* think of me as *your Mom* ... or even as *16* ... but as *a child*. That should help.

Do you think *you can*?



I ...*can try* ...Laurie. I'm going to take a *shower* and *get dressed* ...

...why don't you go to *your* room and wake up Jessie? I'll make you *breakfast*.




Ok Dana. What are we gonna do today?

Sure!


I thought maybe we would go to the community pool. Sound good?

Yes!! The pool!!



They *love*
me there!


Nobody loves you
anywhere.



A lot *you* know! *Sure* they do!

You really have *no grasp* on reality, *do you?*

Who needs *that?* Reality's *over-rated.*



Besides, I just know everyone can't wait for me to stir the pot!

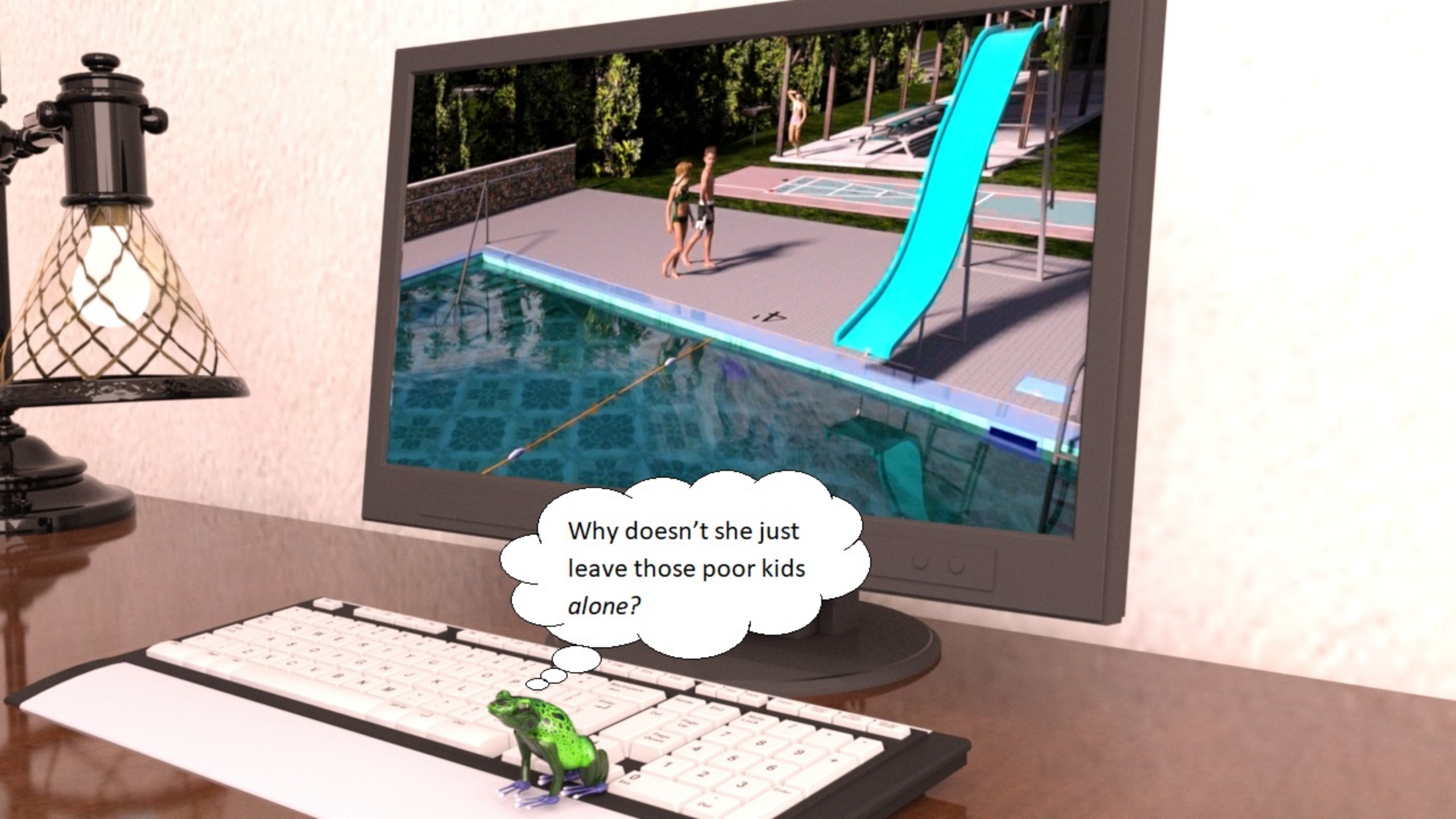
The pot doesn't need stirring!

Bye!

pop

Wait! Dammit,
where did she go?





Why doesn't she just
leave those poor kids
alone?



Maybe she *finally*
will for once.

To be continued ...