

# BOUNTIES

CHAPTER I

ASTRALBOT3D







WALK





WELCOME TO THE  
LION'S BLOOD.


THE ONE AND ONLY  
BEST TAVERN IN THE  
KINGDOM.



A woman with short blonde hair and blue eyes stands in the center of the frame, wearing a highly detailed, dark-colored armor with gold-colored decorative elements. The armor includes a breastplate, shoulder pauldrons, gauntlets, and greaves, all featuring fleur-de-lis motifs. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned to her upper left, containing the text "HELLO BARBARA." The background is a warm, golden-brown wall with a repeating pattern of rectangular panels, possibly a stone or wood wall. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the textures of the armor and the background.


HELLO  
BARBARA.



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a yellow long-sleeved blouse and a brown corset over a white skirt, stands with her hands on her hips. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. A speech bubble is positioned above her head. The background features a wall with intricate carvings and a patterned rug. In the foreground, a table with a red and black patterned cloth holds a lit candle and a blue bottle. The scene is dimly lit, with the candle providing a warm glow.

IT IS YOU!  
WHAT BRINGS  
YOU IN HERE  
TODAY ANNE?



A woman with short blonde hair, wearing ornate grey and gold armor, is seated at a table covered with a red and black patterned cloth. She is looking down at something on the table. In the foreground, the back of a person's head with long dark hair is visible, looking towards the woman. The background is a dimly lit room with a blue bottle and a dark figure on a shelf.

I JUST CAME IN TO  
CHECK IF YOU HEARD  
ANYTHING HAPPENING  
AROUND TOWN.





WELL...

...I HEAR RUMORS OF  
A SORCERESS.





AH... YES, I HEARD  
ABOUT A SORCERESS  
PERFORMING FORBIDDEN  
MAGIC.





IT COULD BE CLARA?


YES, THE THRONE HAS ALWAYS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF MAGIC.

THAT IS PROBABLY WHY CLARA HAS BEEN PERFORMING FORBIDDEN MAGIC. SHE'S FINDING WAYS TO FIGHT THE CORRUPTION IN THE THRONE.

CLARA?

THE THRONE WILL NEVER CHANGE.





SHE IS CRAZY.  
FIGHTING AGAINST  
THE THRONE IS  
IMPOSSIBLE.

ITS CLARA. SHE  
WILL FIND WHATEVER  
MEANS TO GET HER  
WAY.





I HATE THE  
THRONE AS MUCH  
AS SHE DOES.

WE USED TO  
FIGHT TOGETHER  
DURING THE HOLY  
WAR.

ALL THAT WAS FOR  
NOTHING WHEN THE ROYAL  
BLOODLINES APPOINTED  
THAT ENTITLED QUEEN.



A woman with short blonde hair, wearing intricate dark armor with gold accents, stands in a dimly lit room with stone walls and a large chandelier. She is looking towards the left. A large white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned to her left, containing three lines of text. The room features a patterned rug in the foreground and various objects on shelves in the background.

WAIT...

EVEN THOUGH I'VE  
PLEDGE MY SWORD TO  
THE THRONE. MY LOYALTY  
IS ALWAYS IN THE LIGHT  
OF JUSTICE.

I MAY BE ABLE  
TO AID CLARA.






AND HOW DO  
YOU THINK THAT  
IS POSSIBLE?


THE THRONE  
HAS EARS IN  
MANY PLACES.



A woman with blonde hair, wearing ornate dark armor with gold fleur-de-lis patterns, is shown from the waist up. She has a speech bubble above her head. The background is a dimly lit, warm-toned interior with stone walls and a glowing light source in the distance.

I KNOW THAT.  
SINCE I AM WITH  
THE ROYAL KNIGHTS,  
I HAVE ACCESS TO  
INFORMATION THAT  
COULD HELP  
CLARA.



A woman with blonde hair, wearing highly detailed, ornate armor with gold and silver elements, is shown from a high angle. She is looking down at the floor. The floor is made of large, square stone tiles. To her right is a large, patterned rug with a red border and a central design of repeating geometric shapes in red, black, and gold. A speech bubble is positioned above her head, containing text.

I AM WELL  
AWARE OF THE  
DANGERS REBELLING  
AGAINST THE THRONE,  
BUT THIS LAND NEEDS  
A NEW RULER.





IT IS A  
DANGEROUS  
QUEST...

BUT IF ANYONE  
CAN CHANGE THE  
WAY THINGS ARE...

...YOU TWO  
MAY HAVE A  
CHANCE.






BARBARA.  
YOUR TAVERN  
SEEMS TO BE  
QUITE EMPTY  
TODAY.


IT IS EARLY IN  
THE MORNING.  
PEOPLE WILL BE  
COMING SOON.



A woman with blonde hair, wearing intricate dark armor with gold accents, is kneeling on a red and black patterned rug. She is looking towards the right side of the frame. The background is a dimly lit room with stone walls and a small fire in the distance. A speech bubble is positioned above her head.

I TRUST THAT  
YOU WILL KEEP  
THIS BETWEEN  
US.





YES, YOU  
JUST NEED TO  
BE CAREFUL  
OF WHAT  
YOU DO.




A woman with blonde hair, wearing detailed medieval-style armor, stands in a dimly lit room. She has her hand near her face in a thoughtful or listening pose. The room is filled with warm, golden light from numerous candles. In the background, there is a table with more candles and some bottles. A large, ornate chandelier hangs from the ceiling. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and historical. Two comic-style speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing text.

I WILL BE  
CAREFUL.

I AM OFF TO  
MEET WITH CLARA  
AND SEE WHAT HER  
PLANS ARE.



A woman with blonde hair and a gold headband stands in a medieval-style tavern. She is wearing a yellow long-sleeved blouse under a brown corset with buttons, and a white skirt. She has her arms outstretched. The background features ornate wood paneling and large wooden barrels. In the foreground, a table with a red and black patterned cloth is visible. Two speech bubbles are positioned to her right.

THE LION'S  
BLOOD WILL  
ALWAYS BE A  
SAFE PLACE  
FOR US TO  
TALK.


I WILL SEE  
WHAT OTHER  
WHISPERS GO  
AROUND MY  
TAVERN.





PLUS, MY  
TAVERN IS  
WARM...





...AND I  
PROVIDE THE  
BEST WINE  
AND ALE.



A medieval-themed scene set in a dimly lit room. On the left, a knight in ornate plate armor and a dark blue cloak with gold fleur-de-lis patterns stands looking towards the right. In the center, a long table is covered with a red and black patterned cloth and holds a single lit candle in a brass holder. On the right, a woman with blonde hair, wearing a yellow long-sleeved top and a brown bodice, holds a large blue bottle. A speech bubble from her contains the text. In the background, a large white vase sits on a table, and a patterned stool is visible in the foreground.

WOULD YOU LIKE  
TO HAVE A BOTTLE  
BEFORE YOU GO  
ANNE?





IT IS THE  
FINEST WINE  
I'VE EVER  
MADE.

IT IS SWEET AND  
STRONG AS IF THE  
WINE CAME FROM  
THE BLOOD OF A  
LION.





PERHAPS  
ANOTHER TIME  
BARBARA.

I HAVE A TASK I  
MUST COMPLETE  
BEFORE I ALLOW  
MYSELF TO GET  
DRUNK.





OKAY.  
ANOTHER  
TIME IT IS.





FAREWELL  
BARBARA.





FAREWELL  
ANNE.

BE SAFE.





WELCOME  
TO...





...THE LION'S  
BLOOD.











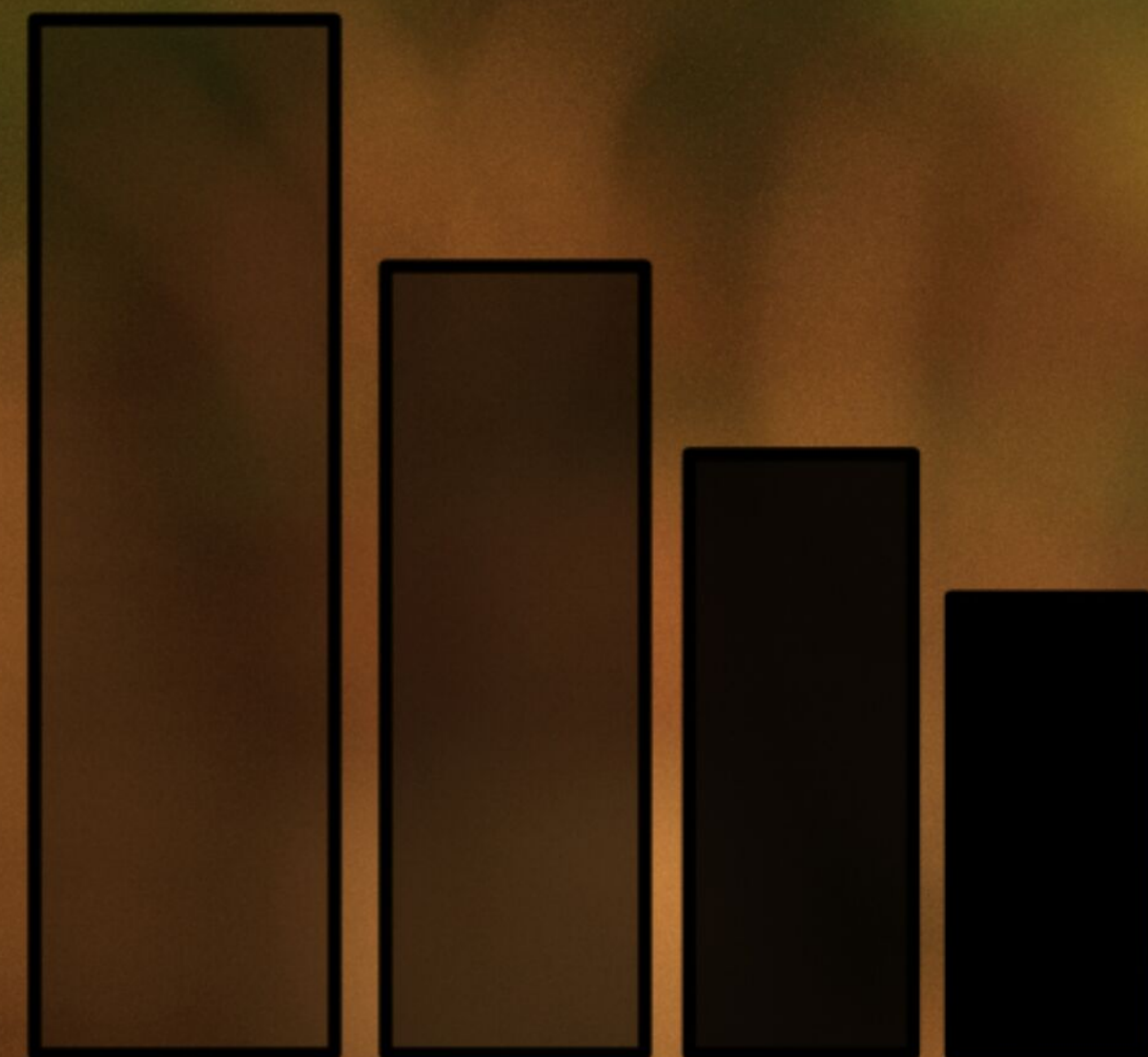






WHO  
WAS  
THAT?

THAT MAN'S  
EYES...












CLARA, I'M  
BACK.





OH NO!





WHAT  
HAPPENED?











A cinematic scene set in a grand, dimly lit cathedral. A man with dark, curly hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, stands and looks down at a person lying on a surface in the foreground. The person is wearing a dark top and a long, flowing purple skirt. The background features ornate stone arches, stained glass windows, and several lit candles, creating a somber and dramatic atmosphere.

IS THIS  
CLARA?





NO WAY...



A man in a grey coat is kneeling on a stone floor, looking down at a woman lying on her back. The woman is wearing a purple bikini and high heels. She has her arms raised and a pained expression. The floor is made of large stone tiles, and there is a circular stone pattern around the woman. In the background, there is a brick wall and a doorway with a candle.

NO MATTER  
HOW I LOOK  
AT THIS...

...EVERYTHING  
RESEMBLES  
CLARA.



A man with dark hair, wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt, is leaning over a woman lying on a stone floor. He is touching her waist with his right hand. The woman, Clara, is wearing a dark purple bikini top and bottom with gold lace trim, and gold high-heeled sandals. She is lying on her back, looking up at the man. The floor is made of large, dark stone tiles with circular patterns. A speech bubble is above the man's head.

CLARA'S  
SKIN STILL  
FEELS  
WARM.



A man with dark, curly hair, wearing a white robe with a dark belt, is kneeling on a circular stone floor. He is looking down at a woman lying on her back. The woman has long, dark, wavy hair and is wearing a dark, strapless dress with a long, flowing train. She is lying on a circular stone floor with intricate carvings. The background is a dimly lit cathedral with stained glass windows and candelabras.

OH CLARA!  
HOW DID THIS  
HAPPEN?

I'M STILL JUST  
AN APPRENTICE.

THERE MUST  
BE SOMETHING  
I CAN DO.







A cinematic scene set in a cathedral. A man with dark, curly hair and a light grey long-sleeved shirt is looking down at a woman's hands. The woman's hands are clasped together and are glowing with a warm, golden light. She is wearing a dark, patterned dress. The background features a large, colorful stained glass window on the left and the stone architecture of the cathedral interior.

HER HANDS ARE  
LIKE CLOTH.

SHE FEELS  
WARM SO THERE  
IS STILL LIFE.







A cinematic scene set in a large, dimly lit cathedral. A man with dark, curly hair and a white long-sleeved shirt with a black lace-up detail at the neck stands over a person lying face down on the floor. The man's expression is one of concern and determination. The background features a vaulted stone ceiling, arched windows, and a large, colorful stained glass window on the right. The lighting is warm and low, creating a somber atmosphere.

ONE OF HER  
SPELLS MUST  
HAVE GONE  
WRONG.

I WILL FIND A  
WAY TO FIX THIS  
CLARA.

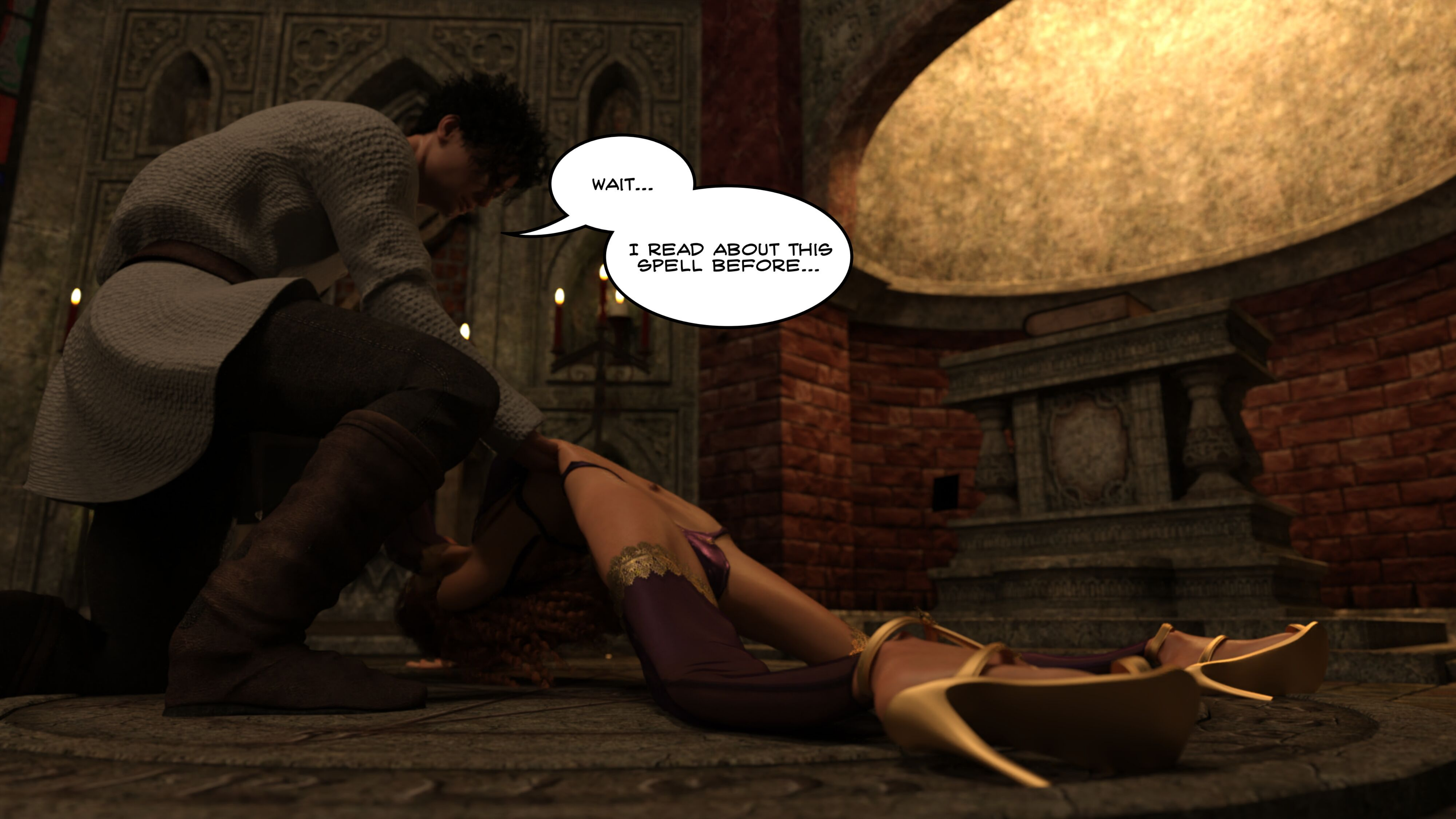












WAIT...

I READ ABOUT THIS  
SPELL BEFORE...

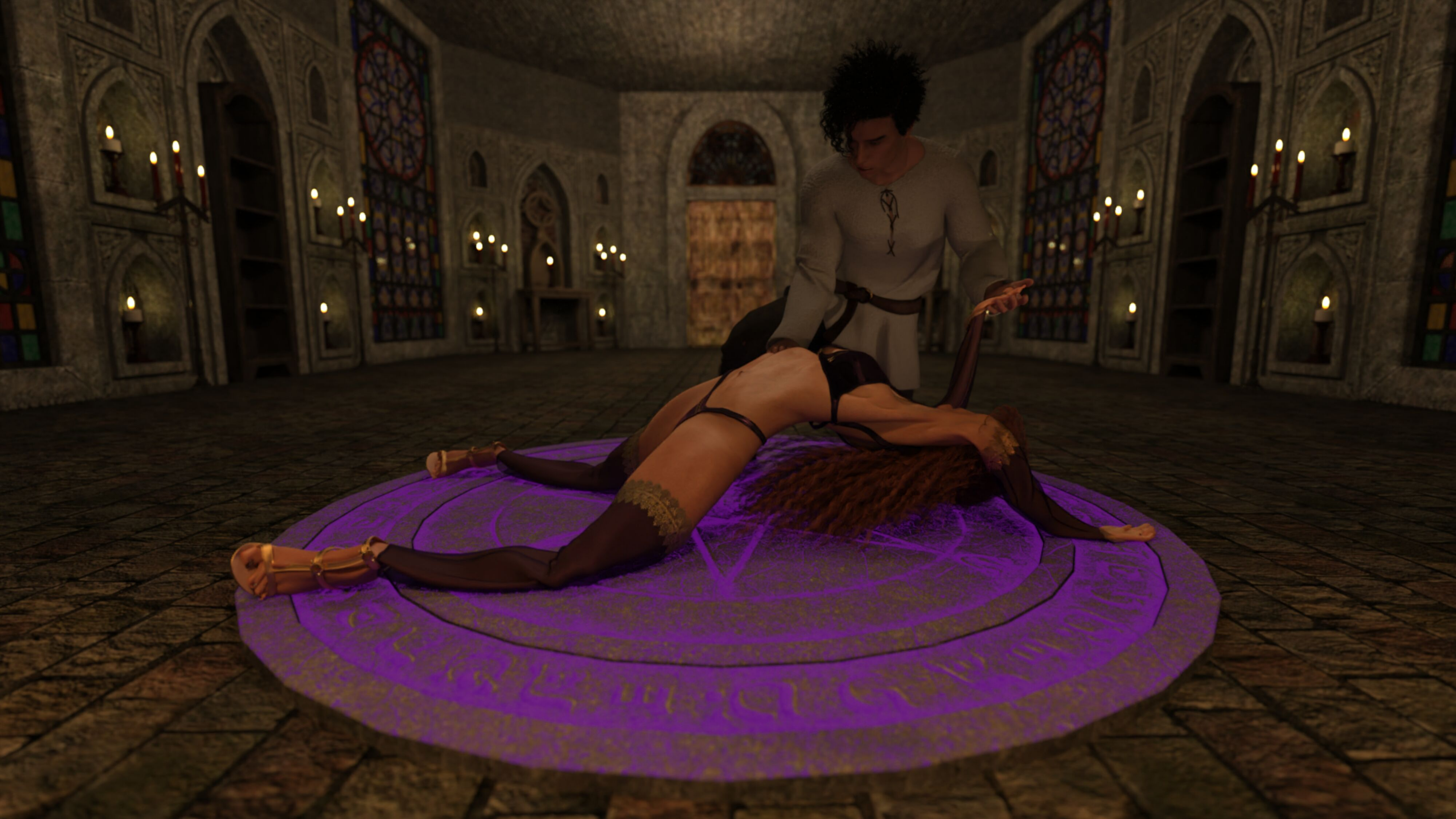




OH  
NO!

I CAN'T  
MOVE MY  
BODY.











CLARA'S BODY  
IS FILLING BACK  
WITH LIFE.











I SEE NOW...

...THE SPELL WAS INCOMPLETE.



WHOA. I'M  
LIGHT AS A  
FEATHER.







I MUST BE  
THE SECOND  
KEY OF THE  
SPELL.

I CAN'T DO  
ANYTHING TO  
STOP THIS  
NOW...

THE SPELL MUST  
FINISH BEFORE I  
CAN DO ANYTHING  
TO HELP CLARA.





CLARA!

CAN YOU  
HEAR ME?

DON'T WORRY!  
ONCE THE SPELL IS  
COMPLETE, I WILL  
FIND A WAY TO  
REVERSE THIS!





THIS IS  
FRUSTRATING NOT  
BEING ABLE TO  
DO ANYTHING.

ALL I CAN DO  
IS WAIT FOR THIS  
SPELL TO BE  
OVER.





HUH? MY  
ARMS ARE  
SPREADING!











A man with dark, curly hair is shown from the chest up, looking directly at the camera with a pained expression. His hands are pressed against his temples. Behind him is a large, bright blue circular light that creates a strong lens flare effect. The background is dark and textured, possibly stone or brick.

ARGHHH!!!

CLARA'S LEGS  
ARE MERGING  
WITH MINE.

IT FEELS LIKE THEY  
ARE BEING CRUSHED  
AND STUFFED INTO A  
PAIR OF BOOTS.













UGHH...  
THE PAIN  
IS SLOWLY  
FADING  
AWAY.















THE PAIN IN MY  
LOWER BODY IS  
GONE.

THIS IS A  
FOREIGN  
FEELING.













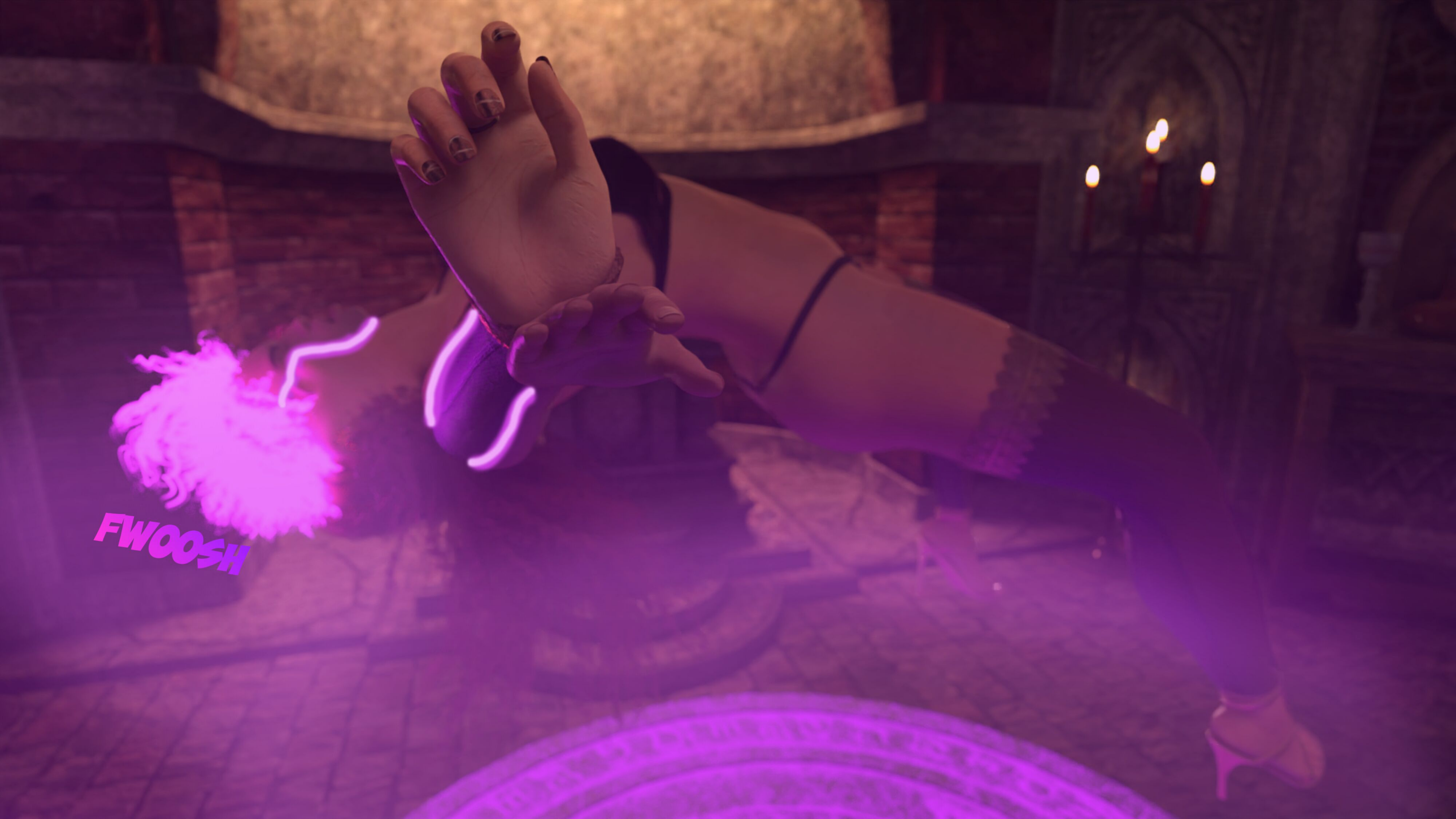
GAAAAAH  
HHHHHH!!!!





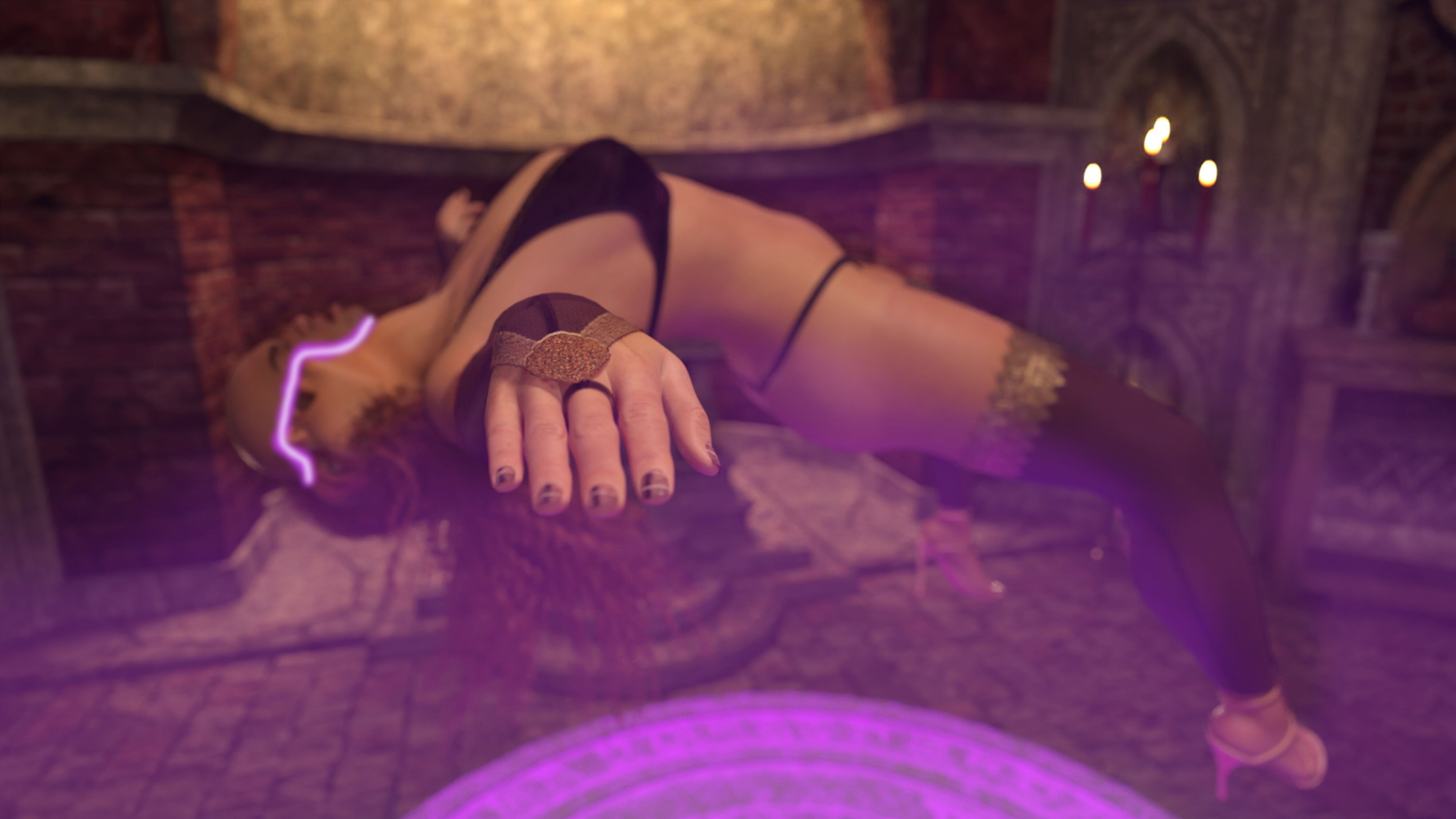






**FWOOSH**













MY FACE IS  
MELTING TO FIT  
CLARA'S FACE.





AHH  
HHHHH  
HH

MY VOICE HAS  
CHANGED TO A  
HIGHER TONE.









NGHHH...





MMM...









AM I  
CLARA  
NOW?

THIS  
FACE...

...MY  
HANDS.

THE SPELL IS  
COMPLETE. NOW  
I NEED TO FIND A  
WAY TO REVERSE  
THIS AND BRING  
BACK CLARA.



A woman with voluminous, curly red hair and face paint (a vertical line down the center of her face and horizontal lines across her eyes) is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a dark purple, strapless bra with gold-colored details. Her hands are raised to her chest, with fingers spread. She has dark nail polish and large, ornate gold rings on her fingers. The background is a dark, textured wall with some faint, illegible markings. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the left and one on the right.

I AM WEARING  
CLARA'S BODY NOW.  
I KNOW I SHOULDN'T  
BE TOUCHING  
HER...

...BUT A  
WOMAN'S  
BODY HAVE  
URGES...





...FEELINGS  
THAT MEN WILL  
NEVER KNOW.



A woman with blonde hair, wearing ornate dark armor with gold accents and a black cape, stands in a dimly lit cathedral. She is looking towards the right. The background features a large wooden door on the left, a stone wall with arched niches containing candles in the center, and a colorful stained glass window on the right. The floor is made of dark stone tiles.

HELLO  
CLARA, I  
CAME BY  
TO--



A female knight with short blonde hair, wearing detailed dark grey plate armor with gold accents, stands in a dimly lit medieval interior. She has a surprised expression, with wide eyes and an open mouth. The background features stone walls, a tapestry, and a candelabra with lit candles.

--OHH  
UHH...

I DIDN'T KNOW  
YOU WERE...

I SHOULD HAVE  
KNOCKED BEFORE  
I ENTERED.









WAIT!

THIS ISN'T WHAT  
IT SEEMS. I CAN  
EXPLAIN.

TO BE CONTINUED...