



A Tangled Web

Chapter Nine

by CBlack

www.erofus.com

That evening, back at
the girls' apartment...


YOU KNOW, YOU
HAVEN'T SAID
ONE WORD ABOUT
GOING OUT TONIGHT!
DOES THAT MEAN
WE'RE ACTUALLY
STAYING IN FOR
A CHANGE?

YEAH, I GUESS
THE EXCITEMENT
AND ALLURE OF THE
FAST LANE HAS
STARTED WEARING
THIN!




UH-HUH! NO
ONE ELSE
WANTED TO COME
OUT AND PLAY,
DID THEY!

NO!
THE
WIMPS!



WELL, I KNOW
IT'S NOWHERE
NEAR AS EXCITING AS
YOU'D LIKE IT TO BE,
BUT **I** FOR ONE
REALLY APPRECIATE
THE DOWN TIME!



I'M *SORRY* IF I'VE
BEEN A LITTLE *CRAZY*
LATELY, BUT I THINK I
MIGHT *FINALLY* BE
GETTING IT OUT OF
MY SYSTEM!

HERE'S
YOUR TEA!

I HOPE
THAT'S *TRUE*,
HONEY, BECAUSE
FRANKLY YOU'RE
WEARING ME
OUT!

WELL, I
PROMISE
YOU'LL GET A
LOT OF REST
TONIGHT!



A few minutes later...

ALL RIGHT!
EVERYTHING'S GO
ON THIS END! SHE
SHOULD BE OUT
UNTIL MORNING! I'VE
ALSO TURNED HER
PHONE OFF AND
STASHED IT, JUST
IN CASE!

GOOD JOB, BABE!
I CALLED MITCHELL
EARLIER AND TOLD
HIM I OVERHEARD YOU
MAKING PLANS TO
MEET UP WITH THE
GUYS AT CLUB
PARADOX TONIGHT!
SO KEEP YOUR EYES
OUT FOR HIM!

HOW WILL I
KNOW WHAT HE
LOOKS LIKE ON
ADNS?

I JUST
SENT YOU
HIS PICTURE!



OOOO!
HUBBA HUBBA!
NO WONDER
CELIA HAS IT
BAD FOR HIM!

IT'S ALL UP TO
YOU FROM HERE
ON OUT! YOU
KNOW WHAT TO
DO, DON'T YOU,
BABE?



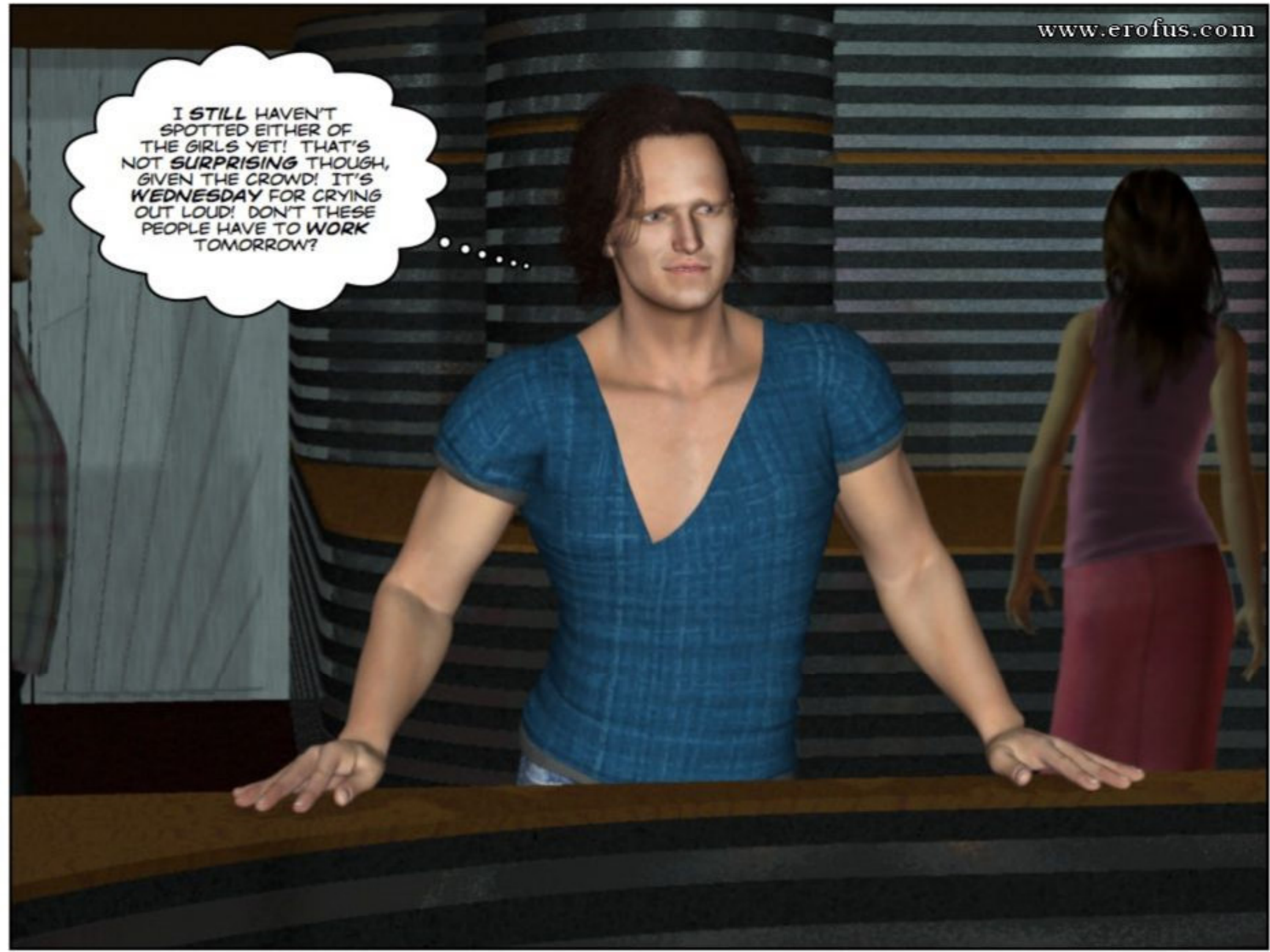
OH YEAH! I
KNOW *EXACTLY*
WHAT I HAVE
TO DO!



That night at
Club Paradox...

SO, THIS IS THE
PLACE ROBIN AND
CELIA HAVE BEEN
SPENDING THEIR
EVENINGS LATELY! IT'S
ALL I EXPECTED... AND
SO MUCH LESS!

I *STILL* HAVEN'T SPOTTED EITHER OF THE GIRLS YET! THAT'S NOT *SURPRISING* THOUGH, GIVEN THE CROWD! IT'S *WEDNESDAY* FOR CRYING OUT LOUD! DON'T THESE PEOPLE HAVE TO WORK TOMORROW?



A 3D rendered scene of a man with long dark hair and a blue patterned shirt standing in a club. He has a speech bubble above him. In the background, there are other people, including a man in a white shirt and a woman in a purple top. The background has a purple and blue striped pattern.

I'M
ASSUMING
THEY'RE HERE
SOMEWHERE! I
TRIED CALLING CELIA
EARLIER BUT ALL I GOT
WAS HER MESSAGE
SERVICE! MAYBE THEY'VE
BEEN HERE AND GONE
ALREADY! IF THAT'S
THE CASE, THEN I'M
WASTING MY
TIME!

I'LL GIVE IT A
FEW MORE
MINUTES, BUT IF I
DON'T SPOT THEM
SOON, I'M
LEAVING AND...!

OH, I'M SO
SORRY! I...!



THEN AGAIN,
NO I'M NOT!
HI THERE! I'M
ROBIN!

UMMM... HI!
I'M, UH... MITCH!
NICE TO MEET
YOU, ROBIN!

MY WORD!
SHE'S
PRACTICALLY
FALLING OUT
OF THAT
DRESS!



YOU TOO!
SO, YOU HERE
WITH ANYONE...
MITCH?

NO, BUT... I
WAS HOPING
TO MEET
SOMEONE
HERE!






WELL YOU *HAVE*,
HANDSOME... *ME!*
SO NOW WHAT?

HEH-HEH!
THAT'S NOT
EXACTLY WHAT I
MEANT! DON'T GET
ME WRONG! YOU'RE
AN *EXTREMELY*
LOVELY YOUNG
LADY!

WHY
THANK
YOU!

BUT, UMMM...
I WAS LOOKING
FOR SOMEONE IN
PARTICULAR!






OH! I SEE!
WELL, MAYBE I
CAN HELP YOU FIND
THIS *SOMEONE* IN
PARTICULAR! I
KNOW A LOT OF
PEOPLE HERE!

OH, I DON'T
THINK *YOU'D* KNOW
HER! SHE'S NOT A
REGULAR!



AND I AM?
HMPH! THAT
DOESN'T SOUND
VERY NICE WHEN
YOU PUT IT LIKE
THAT!

BUT I DIDN'T
MEAN...! I'M
SORRY, ROBIN!
CAN WE JUST
START OVER,
PLEASE?



WELL, OKAY!
HI, I'M ROBIN!

HI ROBIN! I'M
MITCH! ARE
YOU HERE WITH
ANYONE?

WELL I CAME
HERE WITH A
GIRLFRIEND, BUT I
LOST TRACK OF
HER ABOUT AN
HOUR AGO!



YOU... LOST
TRACK OF HER?
AREN'T YOU
WORRIED?

OH, NO... I KNOW
THE GUY SHE WAS
WITH! IF THEY'RE
NOT BACK IN A FEW
MINUTES, I WON'T
SEE HER 'TIL
MORNING!



M...MORNING?
WHY WOULD YOU
THINK THAT?

WELL IT'S
HARDLY THE
FIRST TIME SHE'S
DISAPPEARED WITH A
GUY... AND IT WON'T
BE HER LAST, I
GUARANTEE YOU
THAT!

MITCH? ARE YOU OKAY? YOU LOOK SO PALE ALL OF A SUDDEN! IS ANYTHING WRONG?

I JUST... I...!

CELIA LEFT? WITH SOME GUY? AGAIN?!




COME ON,
HONEY!
SOMETHING'S
OBVIOUSLY UPSET
YOU! TELL ME...
PLEASE! MAYBE
I CAN HELP!

WELL I... I JUST
SPOTTED MY FRIEND
I WAS MEETING! BUT
SHE WAS LEAVING
WITH SOMEONE
ELSE!

OH.. MITCH! I'M
SO SORRY! I
KNOW HOW MUCH
THAT CAN HURT...
BELIEVE ME! IS
THERE ANYTHING
I CAN DO?

THANK YOU,
ROBIN! THAT'S
KIND OF YOU,
BUT... I THINK IT'S
BEST THAT I
LEAVE!






UH-UH! NO WAY!
THE LAST THING
YOU NEED RIGHT NOW
IS TO BE ALONE...
WALLOWING IN
SELF-PITY!

MAYBE,
BUT...!

MAYBE
NOTHING! YOU
NEED TO STICK
AROUND HERE, HAVE
SOME FUN AND
FORGET ALL ABOUT
YOUR LITTLE SLUT
GIRLFRIEND!

WELL I
WOULDN'T
CALL HER...!






AND LUCKILY FOR YOU, YOU HAVE YOUR VERY OWN, *PERSONAL FUN GUIDE* RIGHT HERE IN FRONT OF YOU!

I APPRECIATE THE OFFER, ROBIN, BUT I *REALLY* DON'T...!

C'MON,
MITCH! WHAT
CAN IT HURT?
BESIDES, HOW CAN
YOU SAY NO TO
THIS FACE,
HMMMM?

SIGH!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
IT'S JUST NOT
IN ME TO SAY
NO TO YOU,
ROBIN!



HMMM... I'LL
KEEP **THAT** IN
MIND! LET'S GO
LOOSEN UP ON THE
DANCE FLOOR BEFORE
WE HIT THE BAR,
OKAY?

YOU'RE THE
"FUN GUIDE"!
YOU LEAD, I'LL
FOLLOW!

THAT'S
WHAT I'M
COUNTING
ON!

AND LET'S
SEE JUST
HOW FAR!












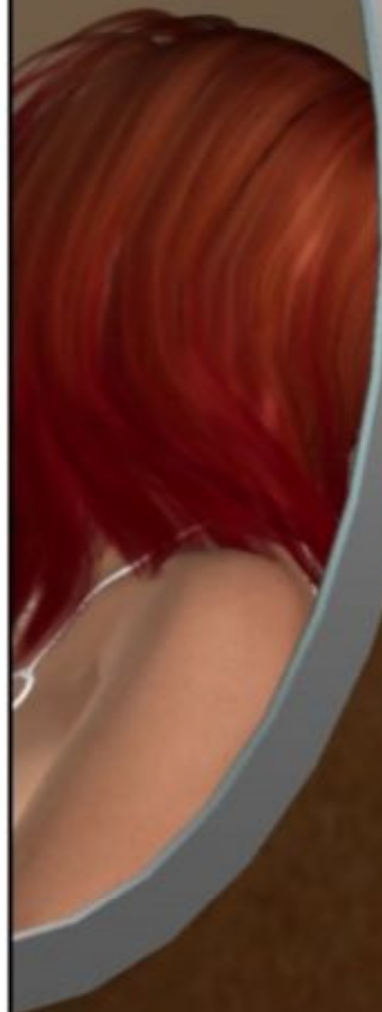
I'M GONNA
GO FRESHEN
UP! DON'T GO
ANYWHERE,
OKAY?

I'LL BE
RIGHT HERE!
PROMISE!



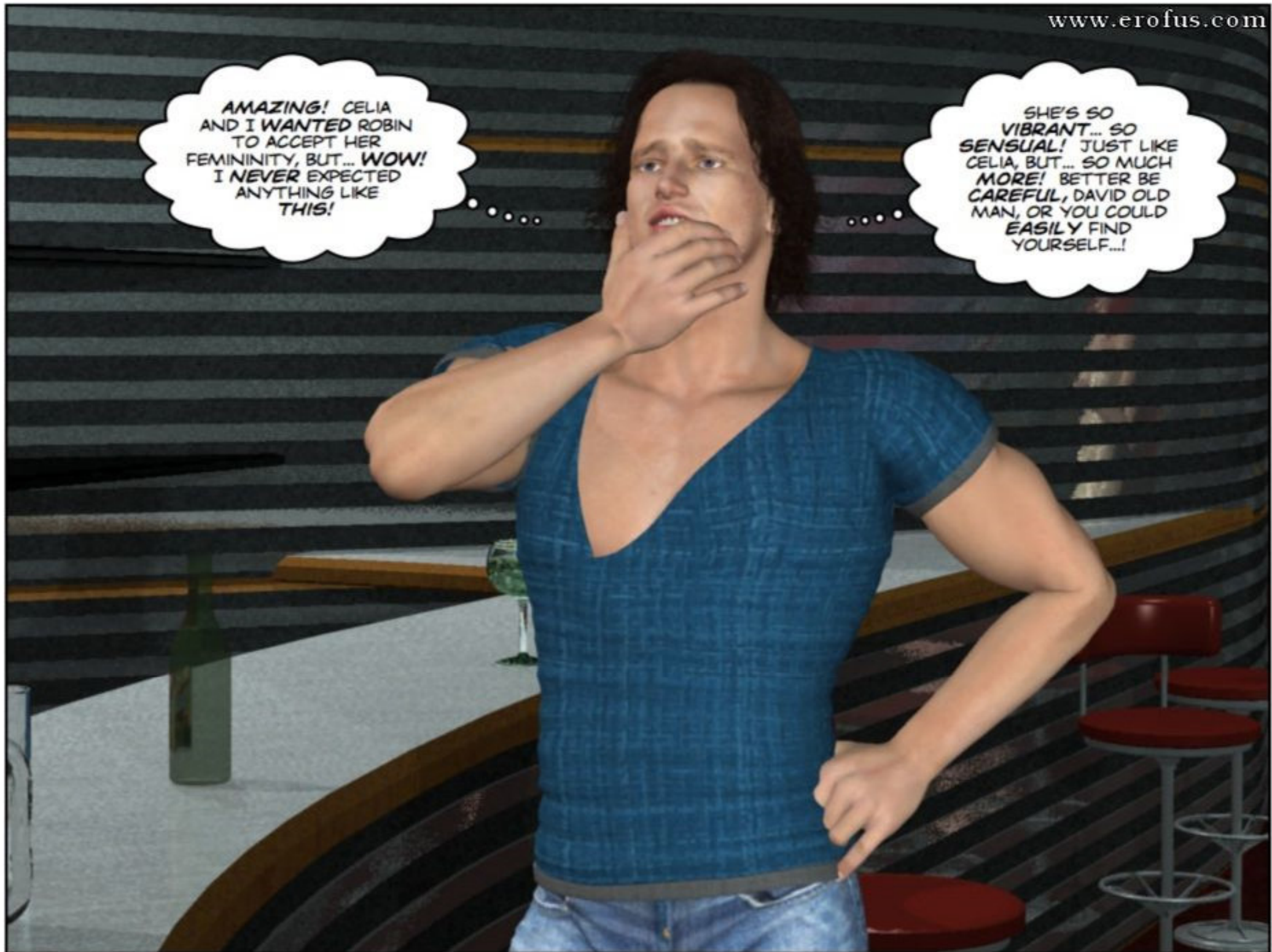
WELL BOSS...
I THINK I'VE
TOYED WITH
YOU LONG
ENOUGH!

SIMON GAVE ME
THIS *SPECIAL*
PERFUME TO WEAR AS A
LAST RESORT! GIVEN
ENOUGH TIME, I DON'T
THINK I'D *NEED* IT, BUT
I'M READY FOR SOME
ACTION... *NOW!*



**AMAZING! CELIA
AND I WANTED ROBIN
TO ACCEPT HER
FEMININITY, BUT... WOW!
I NEVER EXPECTED
ANYTHING LIKE
THIS!**

**SHE'S SO
VIBRANT... SO
SENSUAL! JUST LIKE
CELIA, BUT... SO MUCH
MORE! BETTER BE
CAREFUL, DAVID OLD
MAN, OR YOU COULD
EASILY FIND
YOURSELF...!**



MISS ME?

WHAT
SANE MAN
WOULDN'T?





***SNIFF!* IS THAT A NEW PERFUME I DETECT?**

**MM-HMM!
I WANTED YOU TO SMELL ME,
NOT THE CLUB!
YOU LIKE?**

IT'S...
INTOXICATING!

GOOD! THAT
MEANS IT'S
WORKING!
ANOTHER DANCE?
SOUNDS LIKE
THEY'VE SLOWED
IT DOWN A BIT!



JUST MY
SPEED! LEAD
ON!









HMMM!
SOMEONE'S
HEARTBEAT
SEEMS TO BE
RACING!



**ALMOST AS
FAST AS MINE!
SEE?**

**GOD!
SHE'S SO...
PERFECT!**

MY!
SOMETHING VERY
LARGE AND ALIVE
SEEMS TO BE DOWN
THERE! I HOPE
IT'S FRIENDLY!

FOR YOU...
EXTREMELY
FRIENDLY!

WHAT'S
HAPPENING TO
ME? I SHOULDN'T
BE DOING THIS, BUT...
I CAN'T HELP
MYSELF!





OOOOO!
I'VE **GOT** TO
HAVE YOU!

I KNOW,
BABY... I **KNOW!**
AND I KNOW
JUST THE
PLACE!



OH!!!
WHY HELLO
THERE BIG
FELLA!



OHHHH!
THAT'S IT, BABY!
RIGHT THERE...
RIGHT...!




JACKPOT!!



The next day...

SO HOW'D IT
GO LAST NIGHT?
DID IT ALL GO
ACCORDING TO
PLAN? IS HE A
BROKEN, JADED
MAN?



GOOD MORNING
TO YOU TOO,
BOSS! YES, I'M
FINE! THANKS
FOR ASKING!

YEAH, OKAY!
BLAH, BLAH,
BLAH! TELL ME!
DETAILS!

***SIGH!* FINE!**
YES, IT WENT **JUST**
LIKE WE'D PLANNED!
HE'S **CONVINCED** THAT
CELIA'S BOFFING
RANDOM STUDS FROM
THE CLUB! AND **YEAH,**
HE DIDN'T TAKE IT
WELL!

PISSED AS
HELL, HUH?



NO... MORE LIKE
DEVASTATED! HE
WAS HEARTBROKEN!
SEEING THE LOOK ON
HIS FACE MADE IT ALL A
LOT LESS ENJOYABLE
THAN I THOUGHT IT
WOULD BE!

WHATEVER!
SO, IS THAT
WHEN YOU TURNED
ON YOUR
CONSIDERABLE
CHARMS AND LED
HIM ASTRAY?






***SIGH!* YEAH!
THAT... THAT WAS
THE BEST PART! ADNS
OR NOT, I CAN
DEFINITELY SEE WHY
CELIA HAS THE HOTS FOR
HIM! THE WAY HE MADE
ME FEEL IN THOSE
FEW MINUTES...!**

***SIGH!* I CAN
ONLY IMAGINE
WHAT A WHOLE
NIGHT WITH HIM
WOULD BE LIKE!**


**AND NOT TO
BRAG OR
ANYTHING, BUT BY
THE TIME WE FINISHED,
I DOUBT HE COULD
REMEMBER HIS OWN
NAME, LET ALONE
CELIA'S!**



**I LOVE IT! DAVID
MUST BE TWISTED INTO
KNOTS FROM THE
COMBINED FEELINGS OF
JEALOUSY, LUST AND
GUILT!**

**YOU KNOW WHAT
WOULD PUT IT OVER
THE TOP? A QUICK OFFICE
BOFF WHERE CELIA
CATCHES YOU AND DAVID
TOGETHER! IT WOULD
GUARANTEE THAT HIS MIND
REMAINS TOTALLY MESSED
UP WHILE MY PARTNERS
FINALIZE EVERYTHING!
TALK ABOUT
PERFECT!**

**LOOK, I'VE HAD SOME
TIME TO THINK ABOUT
THIS AND I DON'T THINK
BREAKING THEM UP
COMPLETELY IS
NECESSARY!**



REALLY? YOU
DON'T, HUH? AND
WHY IS THAT,
PRAY TELL!

WE'VE
ALREADY DONE
ENOUGH TO KEEP
DAVID TOTALLY
DISTRACTED WHILE YOU
STEAL HIS COMPANY!
GOING ANY FURTHER IS
JUST... **CRUEL!** DON'T YOU
GET IT? HE AND CELIA
REALLY **DO** LOVE EACH
OTHER! I'VE **SEEN** IT...
AND I **ACCEPT** IT...
FOR **REAL**, THIS
TIME!

ISN'T IT
ENOUGH THAT
YOU'RE TAKING **DM**
INDUSTRIES FROM
HIM? AT **LEAST** LET
DAVID KEEP **CELIA!**
GIVEN TIME, I'M **SURE**
THEY'LL GET OVER
THIS...
INTERFERENCE
I'VE CAUSED!

HMMM... SOUNDS LIKE **SOMEONE** NEEDS ANOTHER UP CLOSE DOSE OF MY PATENTED "**SIMON SCENT**"!

YOU KNOW, I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW YOU'D FEEL THAT WAY! SHE WAS YOUR **WIFE**... FOR A LONG, LONG TIME AND YOU JUST WANT HER TO BE HAPPY... **REGARDLESS** OF HOW SHE **CHEATED** ON YOU!


SNIFF!
WELL **YEAH**, BUT...!



AND DAVID,
WELL... HE'S THE
GUY WHO GAVE YOU A
SECOND AND EVEN A
THIRD CHANCE, SO IT'S
NO WONDER YOU STILL
FEEL SOME LOYALTY
TO HIM... EVEN THOUGH
HE ESSENTIALLY
STOLE YOUR WIFE
FROM YOU!

YEAH, HE... HE
DID, I GUESS,
BUT...!





BUT YOU'RE NOT
FOOLING ANYONE! I
KNOW **EXACTLY** WHY
YOU'VE SUDDENLY
DEVELOPED A SOFT
SPOT... **ESPECIALLY**
FOR DAVID!

YOU'RE NOT THINKING
WITH YOUR **HEAD**, OR EVEN
YOUR **HEART**... YOU'RE
THINKING WITH YOUR **PUSSY!**
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF... HOW
GOOD HE FELT INSIDE YOU
AND HOW MUCH YOU'D
LOVE TO HAVE HIM
AGAIN!

MMMM...
HE DID FEEL
WONDERFUL!

AND IT **JUST** SO
HAPPENS, I HAVE SOME
DOCUMENTS I NEED
DELIVERED TO HIM! I'M **SURE**
A LITTLE VISIT FROM **YOU**
WOULD BRIGHTEN HIS DAY!
VIVID **REMEMBRANCES** OF
LAST NIGHT AND ALL
THAT!

HOW YOU
SMELLED, HOW
YOU **TASTED**... HOW
YOU **FELT**! HOW SOON
UNTIL HE COULD HAVE
YOU **THAT** WAY
AGAIN?


MMMMMM...
HAVE ANY
MORE OF THAT
PERFUME
AROUND?



A few minutes later...

ROBIN?
ARE YOU IN
HERE?



A 3D rendered woman with short reddish-brown hair and blue eyes, wearing a form-fitting green long-sleeved dress with a deep V-neckline. She is standing in an office setting, looking slightly to her left. In the background, there is a desk with a chair and a computer monitor. The wall has blue decorative elements. A speech bubble is positioned to her left, containing text.

DAMN! I'VE
BEEN TRYING TO
TALK TO HER **ALL**
WEEK, BUT SHE **NEVER**
SEEMS TO BE HERE IN THE
OUTER OFFICE AND SHE
HASN'T BEEN
RETURNING MY
CALLS!

IF WHAT
MAEVE AND I
FOUND OUT IS
TRUE, SIMON COULD
BE TRYING TO
LITERALLY **MESS WITH**
HER MIND! I'VE GOT
TO **WARN HER**
BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE!

EVERYTHING'S IN
PLACE! BY **THIS TIME**
TOMORROW, THE
TAKEOVER SHOULD
BE COMPLETE!

TAKEOVER?!

A woman with reddish-brown hair, wearing a green long-sleeved V-neck dress, stands in a room with wood-paneled walls. She is looking towards a dark wooden door. A speech bubble originates from the door, and a thought bubble is positioned below it.

DON'T WORRY!
MITCHELL IS NOW
OBSESSED WITH MY
OPERATIVE, AND WORK IS THE
LAST THING ON HIS MIND! I
GUARANTEE THAT THE OLD MAN
WILL REMAIN **COMPLETELY** IN
THE DARK REGARDING OUR
ACTIVITIES UNTIL IT'S **FAR**
TOO LATE!

OH MY GOD!
IS **CELIA**
WORKING WITH
SIMON?



BUT CAN YOU TRUST THIS OPERATIVE OF YOURS?

WITHOUT A DOUBT!
I ESSENTIALLY CREATED HER USING THE VERY SAME PROCESSES WE'LL SELL TO THE HIGHEST BIDDERS ONCE WE TAKE CONTROL OF THE COMPANY!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOU CREATED HER?

TO BE TRUTHFUL, IT ALL KIND OF FELL INTO MY LAP ONCE SHE, OR SHOULD I SAY "HE" AT THE TIME, STARTED THE BALL ROLLING!


I TOOK ONE DISGRUNTLED DATA-ANALYST WITH DUBIOUS ETHICS, APPLIED A HEALTHY DOSE OF THE NEW EXPERIMENTAL F-RHO-DT FORMULA AND THEN EXPOSED HER TO SEVERAL OF OUR NEW AEROSOL COMPOUNDS THAT ENSURE COMPLIANCE, LOYALTY AND A HOST OF OTHER ADVANTAGEOUS CHARACTERISTICS!

VOILA! MY VERY OWN MATA-HARI!



A man with short, wavy brown hair, wearing a bright yellow long-sleeved shirt, is sitting at a desk. He is holding a mobile phone to his ear with his left hand and has his right hand on a computer keyboard. A large black computer monitor is visible on the left side of the desk. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

I SENT YOU ALL THE
DATA ON HER, BUT I
GUESS YOU HAVEN'T HAD
TIME TO READ THROUGH IT
YET! BUT IF IT HELPS, I'M
SENDING YOU A QUICK
BEFORE AND AFTER
PICTURE OF MY NEW
ASSISTANT!



**REMARKABLE!
TRULY REMARKABLE!
I HAD NO IDEA THE NEW
F-RHO-DT COULD DO
SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
HOW LONG DID THIS
PROCESS TAKE?**

**THOSE PICTURES
WERE TAKEN TWO
WEEKS APART FROM ONE
ANOTHER, BUT THE PHYSICAL
TRANSFORMATION MOST
LIKELY OCCURRED OVER
THE COURSE OF A FEW
MINUTES!**

A man with short brown hair and blue eyes, wearing a bright yellow button-down shirt, is sitting at a desk. He is holding a black mobile phone to his ear with his right hand and has his left hand on a computer keyboard. He is looking towards the right side of the frame. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. There are two speech bubbles: one above the phone and one pointing to the computer monitor.

IF THAT'S THE
CASE, WE'RE GOING TO
MAKE MILLIONS... IF
NOT BILLIONS!

EXACTLY! AND NOW
THAT WE'VE
ACCUMULATED ENOUGH DM
STOCK, BY THIS TIME
TOMORROW, THE COMPANY
AND **EVERYTHING** IT
OWNS AND CONTROLS
WILL BE **OURS!**

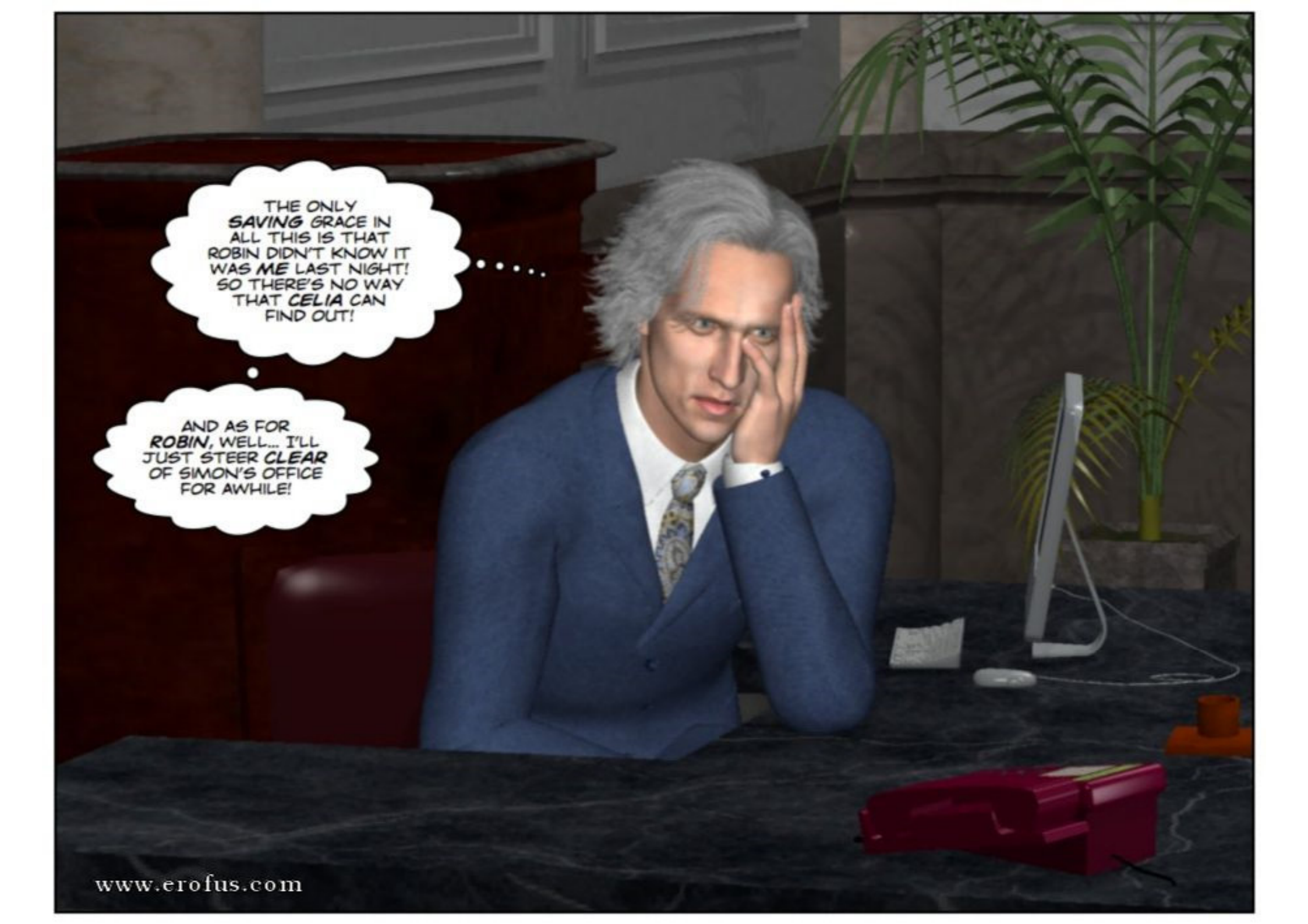


OH MY GOD!
IT'S NOT CELIA...
IT'S ROBIN! HE'S
ALREADY GOTTEN TO
HER! AND THEY'RE
TRYING TO TAKE DM
FROM DAVID! I'VE
GOT TO WARN
HIM!

And at that very moment...

HOW
COULD THINGS GO
FROM PERFECT TO
DISMAL SO QUICKLY AND
COMPLETELY? IT WAS
ALREADY BAD ENOUGH THAT
CELIA IS CHEATING ON ME,
BUT I HAD TO GO
COMPOUND THE PROBLEM
BY BEING UNFAITHFUL
MYSELF!

AND NOT
JUST WITH A
RANDOM WOMAN!
WITH HER
ROOMMATE! MY
GOD! WHAT WAS
I THINKING?



THE ONLY
SAVING GRACE IN
ALL THIS IS THAT
ROBIN DIDN'T KNOW IT
WAS ME LAST NIGHT!
SO THERE'S NO WAY
THAT CELIA CAN
FIND OUT!

AND AS FOR
ROBIN, WELL... I'LL
JUST STEER CLEAR
OF SIMON'S OFFICE
FOR AWHILE!

HI, MR.
MITCHELL! I
HOPE I'M NOT
INTERRUPTING
ANYTHING!


OH,
UH...ROBIN!
I'M, WELL...
A LITTLE
BUSY!



WELL, THIS WON'T TAKE A **MINUTE**, I PROMISE! MR. GREELEY JUST SENT ME DOWN BECAUSE HE NEEDS YOUR SIGNATURE ON A FEW THINGS!

OH WELL...OKAY! JUST **LEAVE** THEM HERE, THANK YOU!





ACTUALLY, HE
WANTED ME TO
WAIT FOR YOU TO
SIGN THEM AND BRING
THEM BACK! I GUESS
THEY'RE PRETTY
IMPORTANT! HOPE
YOU DON'T MIND!



NO... NO, OF COURSE NOT!
THIS'LL JUST TAKE ME A MINUTE THEN!

YOU SOUND
VERY *CHEERFUL*
TODAY, ROBIN!

OH... *YEAH!*
PROBABLY
BECAUSE I HAD
SUCH A
WONDERFUL
TIME LAST
NIGHT!




I... I'M
SORRY!
WHAT?!

LAST NIGHT!
I MET SOMEONE
AND HAD A VERY...
NICE TIME WITH
HIM!

OH DEAR! I DIDN'T
THINK... ARE YOU SAYING
YOU HAVE FEELINGS
FOR THIS... THIS
FELLOW?


DEFINITELY! HE'S
THE KIND OF GUY
WHO MAKES IT EASY
FOR ME TO BE THE
WOMAN I THINK I
WANT TO BE!





HE'S STRONG, SENSITIVE,
HANDSOME, AND **VERY...** WELL,
I'M SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO
HEAR ALL THE **DETAILS!**

OH, **THAT'S** OKAY,
ROBIN! I DON'T MIND! BUT
I CONFESS I HAVE SOME
CONCERNS! YOU'RE **NEW** TO
THIS, AND MEN CAN BE SO...
SO UNDERHANDED! HOW
MUCH DO YOU KNOW
ABOUT THE **YOUNG**
MAN?



NOT MUCH! JUST HIS *NAME!* BUT I HAVE THE *FEELING* THAT I'M GOING TO SEE HIM *AGAIN...* THIS *TINGLING* FEELING INSIDE ME!

DAVID, I
NEED TO
TALK TO
YOU! WE...!



OH! AM I INTERRUPTING ANYTHING?

NO! OF COURSE NOT, STACY! ROBIN HERE WAS JUST DROPPING OFF SOME PAPERS FOR ME TO SIGN! ISN'T THAT RIGHT, ROBIN?





UH-HUH!
WHATEVER YOU SAY,
MR. MITCHELL! WELL, I
THINK IT'S BEST I STOP
BY *LATER* TO PICK
THEM UP... IF THAT'S
OKAY WITH YOU!

SURE!
THAT'LL BE
FINE, ROBIN!



OKAY THEN!
BYE, MR.
MITCHELL! SEE
YA, STACY!

SO, WHAT
WAS GOING ON
IN HERE?

NOTHING!
NOTHING AT ALL!
JUST **BUSINESS**,
LIKE SHE SAID!


REALLY!
THAT'S **NOT**
WHAT IT LOOKED
LIKE TO ME!



SO WHAT IF IT
WASN'T? ROBIN'S AN
EXTREMELY ALLURING
YOUNG LADY! YOU
CERTAINLY CAN'T **BLAME** A
MAN FOR BEING
ATTRACTED TO HER!
ESPECIALLY
CONSIDERING...!

**CONSIDERING
WHAT?**





CONSIDERING THE
FACT THAT CELIA IS
PLAYING ME FOR A FOOL
AND JUMPING INTO THE
SACK WITH ANYONE
WHO'LL HAVE HER!

WHAT?!
YOU CAN'T BE
SERIOUS! WHO
TOLD YOU
THAT?

WELL...
**ROBIN DID
ACTUALLY!**

ROBIN DID?
YOU MEAN SHE
JUST **WALKED** IN
HERE AND **TOLD**
YOU THAT **CELIA**
WAS BEING
UNFAITHFUL?


WELL... **NOT** IN
SO MANY WORDS!
BUT SHE DID
INDIRECTLY GIVE ME
THAT INFORMATION...
ENOUGH FOR **SIMON**
AND ME TO FIGURE
OUT THE **REST!**




SIMON?! HE'S THE REASON I'M HERE, DAVID! I JUST OVERHEARD HIM TALKING TO SOMEONE ON THE PHONE ABOUT TAKING OVER YOUR COMPANY! AND HE'S BEEN USING ROBIN TO HELP HIM DO JUST THAT!

WHAT?! HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?





SIMON HAS INVESTORS
WHO'VE BEEN BUYING UP
CONTROLLING INTERESTS IN
YOUR STOCK! HE **OBVIOUSLY**
HAD ROBIN FEED YOU THAT **CRAP**
ABOUT CELIA TO KEEP YOU
DISTRACTED ENOUGH SO YOU
WOULDN'T NOTICE WHAT
WAS GOING ON!




MY GOD!
WHY WOULD
ROBIN DO SUCH
A THING?

I THINK SIMON
HAS BEEN
DRUGGING HER! I
HAVEN'T WORKED OUT
ALL THE DETAILS, BUT
REGARDLESS, WE'VE GOT
TO DO **SOMETHING** TO
STOP THIS BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE! THEY'RE
PLANNING ON VOTING
YOU OUT AT
TOMORROW'S
STOCKHOLDERS'
MEETING!

THAT DOESN'T
GIVE US MUCH TIME!
WE NEED TO CONTACT
AS MANY OF OUR
CURRENT STOCKHOLDERS
AS POSSIBLE AND SEE
WHERE THEIR **LOYALTIES**
ARE! THAT WILL GIVE US
A **BETTER** IDEA OF
WHAT WE'RE UP
AGAINST!

I'LL GET
STARTED
RIGHT AWAY!






BUT... WHAT
SHOULD WE DO
ABOUT *SIMON*...
AND *ROBIN*?

NOTHING WE CAN
DO RIGHT NOW!
LET'S CONCENTRATE
ON KEEPING THE
COMPANY *FIRST* AND
DEALING WITH *THEM*
LATER!

A man with long, wavy grey hair, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and patterned tie, is looking down at a smartphone in his hands. A thought bubble above him contains the text: "BUT FIRST... ONE VERY IMPORTANT PHONE CALL...!". The background is a dimly lit room with a dark wood panel and a white wall.

BUT FIRST...
ONE *VERY*
IMPORTANT
PHONE CALL...!



HELLO?
CELIA...?

And just outside David's office...

YOU
LOOK
FREAKED!
WHAT'S
UP?

WE'VE
UNDERESTIMATED
SIMON! HE HASN'T
JUST BEEN DRUGGING
ROBIN, HE'S BEEN
USING HER TO HELP
HIM TAKE OVER
THE COMPANY!



WHAT? HOW
THE HELL
COULD HE PULL
THAT OFF?

WALK WITH
ME AND I'LL
FILL YOU IN!






**HOLY
SHIT! THAT
IS SICK!
BRILLIANT...
BUT SICK!**

**WHAT I DON'T
GET IS WHY ROBIN
STILL SEEMS TO BE
UNDER SIMON'S
CONTROL! I JUST SAW
ROBIN IN DAVID'S OFFICE
AND SHE SEEMED AWFULLY
INTENT ON KEEPING HIM
DISTRACTED, IF YOU
KNOW WHAT I
MEAN!**

**BUT WHY? WE
REPLACED THE
CANDLE AT HER
DESK SEVERAL DAYS
AGO! DO YOU THINK
SIMON'S COLOGNE
COULD BE STRONG
ENOUGH ON ITS OWN
TO INFLUENCE HER
BEHAVIOR?**




MAYBE IT'S GOT
NOTHING TO DO
WITH SIMON! WE
SHOULD CONSIDER THE
POSSIBILITY THAT
ROBIN JUST LIKES
BEING A BAD GIRL!

WHAT?
HOW CAN
YOU SAY
THAT?

WELL, LOOK AT HER **TRACK RECORD!** SHE WASN'T THE MOST **ETHICAL** PERSON TO START WITH! I MEAN, **HACKING** INTO THE COMPANY COMPUTERS AND **STEALING** TOP SECRET MERCHANDISE... NOT ONCE, BUT **TWICE!**

C'MON! IS IT THAT HARD TO BELIEVE SHE'D TURN TO THE **DARK SIDE?**





WA... WAIT A
MINUTE! YOU...
YOU KNOW? YOU
KNOW ABOUT
ROBIN... AND
BOB...?

SAME PERSON...
YEAH, I KNOW! I
FIGURED IT OUT AFTER
HER FIRST DAY HERE! BOB
HAS ALWAYS HAD SOME
QUIRKY DESK HABITS AND
WHEN I NOTICED THAT
ROBIN HAD THE SAME
ONES, WELL... LET'S JUST
SAY I'M A MUCH BETTER
HACKER THAN HE
WAS!

BUT... YOU NEVER SAID ANYTHING!

NONE OF MY BUSINESS... AND I LIKED ROBIN A HELLVA LOT MORE THAN BOB! SO WHY CAUSE A STIR?





REALLY? IT WAS
JUST THAT EASY FOR
YOU TO ACCEPT?
SERIOUSLY?

IT'S THE
WAY I ROLL,
STACY!

SO, GETTING
BACK TO MORE
URGENT
MATTERS... HOW ARE
YOU PLANNING ON
STOPPING
SIMON?

DAVID AND I
ARE CONTACTING
ALL EXISTING
STICKHOLDERS AND
SEEING WHICH ONES
ARE **STILL LOYAL**
TO US!

YEAH... **THAT'LL** ONLY
HELP IF THEY'RE TELLING
YOU THE **TRUTH!** WHAT YOU
REALLY NEED IS A **HEAVY**
HITTER... SOMEONE YOU CAN
TRUST WITH SHITLOADS OF
CLOUT TO BUY OUT ENOUGH OF
THE SMALLER MEMBERS TO
ENSURE THE VOTE GOES
YOUR WAY!



KNOW
ANYONE LIKE
THAT?

SIGH! I
DO... BUT HE
MAY NOT BE
WILLING TO
HELP!

A LITTLE
"HISTORY",
HUH?




OH
MAEVE...
YOU HAVE
NO IDEA!

That evening, back
at the apartment...

HEY THERE!
HOW WAS
YOUR DAY?

OH, NOTHING
SPECIAL! SAME
OLD, SAME OLD!
YOU KNOW!





SORRY I DIDN'T
WAKE YOU BEFORE I
LEFT TODAY, BUT YOU
WERE SLEEPING SO
SOUNDLY, I FIGURED
YOU NEEDED IT!

YES, I MUST
HAVE! I HAVEN'T
CRASHED LIKE THAT
IN A LONG TIME!
SORRY IF I SPOILED OUR
GIRLS' NIGHT IN!
HOPE I DIDN'T
SNORE!


HMMM!
SOUNDS LIKE
SOMEONE'S ON A
FISHING TRIP! SHE'S
BOUND TO HEAR AT
LEAST SOME VERSION OF
LAST NIGHT, IF SHE
HASN'T ALREADY, SO I
GUESS NOW'S A GOOD
TIME AS ANY TO
COVER MY
ASS!



ACTUALLY... TO
BE TRUTHFUL... I
WENT OUT SHORTLY
AFTER YOU FELL ASLEEP!
I KNOW I WASN'T
SUPPOSED TO GO ALONE,
BUT... I GUESS MY
IMPULSIVE NATURE
GOT THE BEST OF
ME!

YOU... YOU
WENT OUT?
ALONE?





SHE
ADMITS GOING
OUT! I DIDN'T
EXPECT THAT AT ALL!
BUT HOW MUCH OF
LAST NIGHT WILL
SHE ADMIT TO?
I WONDER?

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WELL, INITIALLY... BUT
I MET UP WITH A **GIRL**
WE MET AT THE CLUB THE
OTHER NIGHT... **CANDY!** YOU
REMEMBER HER... **BLONDE,**
DYNAMITE FIGURE... IN
FACT, SHE KINDA LOOKS
LIKE YOU.. FROM A
DISTANCE AT LEAST!




WE'VE MET **LOT'S**
OF PEOPLE AT THAT
PLACE! I'M SURPRISED
YOU CAN REMEMBER
THEM ALL BECAUSE **I**
SURE CAN'T!

THAT'S
WHAT I WAS
COUNTING
ON!




SO, THIS
CANDY WAS
WITH YOU ALL
EVENING?

WELL... NOT
REALLY! SHE
HOOKED UP WITH
SOME GUY AND
LEFT AFTER
ABOUT AN
HOUR!



BUT IF IT
MAKES YOU FEEL
ANY BETTER, I
WASN'T ALONE
FOR LONG!

THAT'S
WHAT I'M
AFRAID OF!



IT ALL MAKES
SENSE NOW! **SIMON**
HAD DAVID SO WORKED UP
AND **SUSPICIOUS** THAT HE
MISTOOK **CANDY** FOR ME LAST
NIGHT! HE SOUNDED SO
APOLOGETIC WHEN HE
CALLED EARLIER AND TOLD
ME **EVERYTHING!**

THE POOR MAN
MUST HAVE BEEN
DEVASTATED WHEN
HE LEFT THAT CLUB
IMMEDIATELY AFTER
WATCHING WHAT HE
THOUGHT WAS ME
CHEATING ON
HIM!

IT
ALSO MEANS
HE'S **WRONG** ABOUT
ROBIN! SHE HASN'T BEEN
A **KNOWING** PART IN ANY
OF THIS! SHE MUST HAVE
TOLD HIM ABOUT HER
AFTER-HOURS LIFE AND
THEN HE USED IT TO
INCRIMINATE
ME!

THAT MAN
IS SUCH A
SLIME! HE'S
TOTALLY
MANIPULATED
ROBIN... AND THE
REST OF US AS
WELL!



I SHOULD
WARN HER
ABOUT HER **SLEAZY**
BOSS, BUT I DON'T
DARE! IF ROBIN
SUDDENLY STARTS
ACTING **DIFFERENTLY**
TOMORROW, SIMON
MIGHT REALIZE THAT
WE **KNOW** WHAT
HE'S UP TO!

EITHER WAY,
AFTER TOMORROW,
IT WON'T MAKE
ANY DIFFERENCE!



SO, I
SUPPOSE NOW
YOU WANT TO
GRILL ME ABOUT
THE **GUY** I MET
LAST NIGHT,
AND...!





WHOA!
WHAT'S THAT
FOR?

NO
REASON,
REALLY!

I'M JUST SO
GLAD YOU'RE
HAPPY AND THAT
OUR LIVES ARE
WORKING OUT
SO WELL!






ME TOO,
CELIA! ME
TOO!

The next day, on the way
to the stockholders'
meeting...

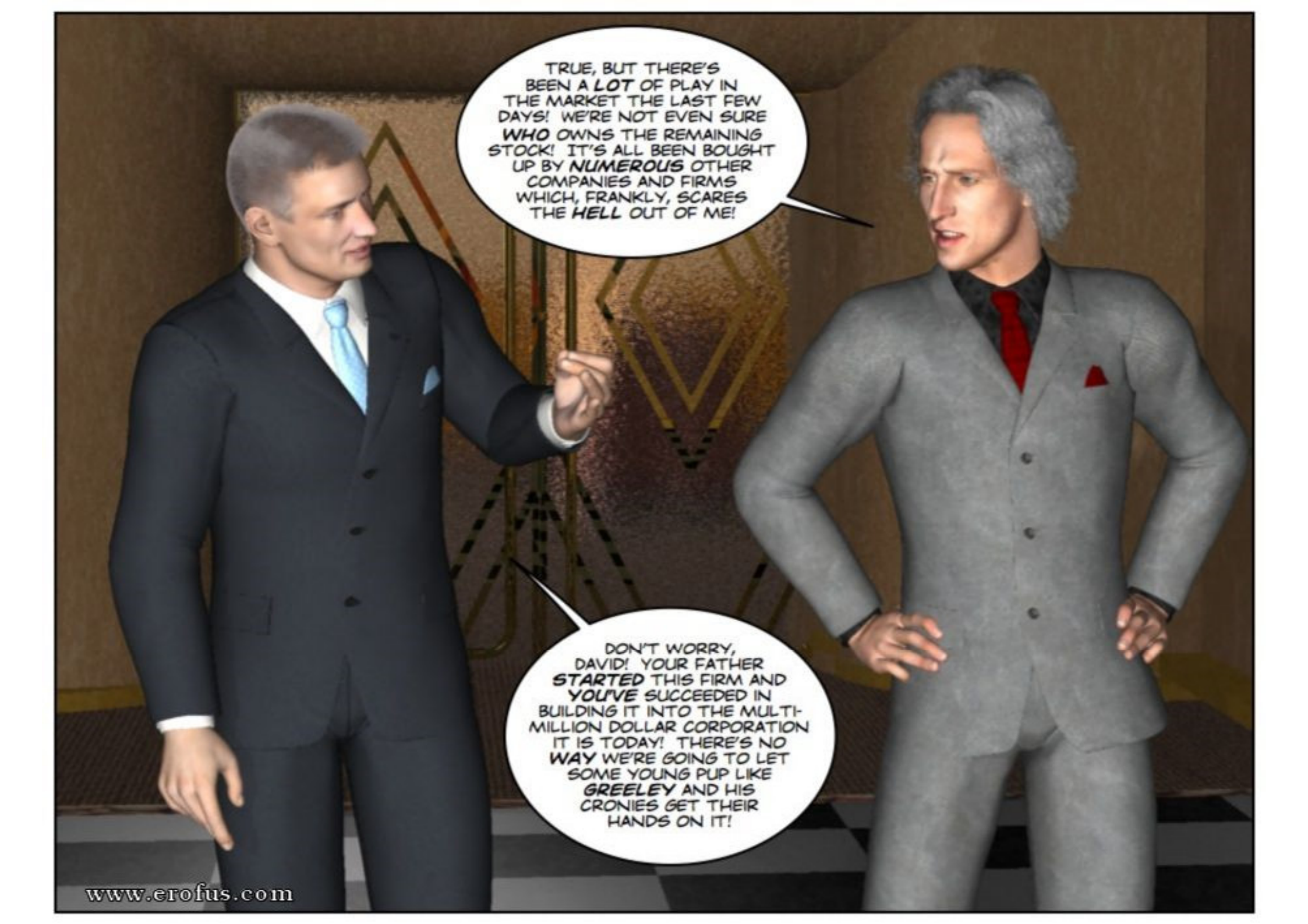
STEVEN! GOOD
TO SEE YOU OLD
FRIEND! YOU HAVE
NO IDEA HOW **MUCH**
THIS MEANS TO ME...
AND THE
COMPANY!

THINK
NOTHING
OF IT, DAVID!
IT'S MY
PLEASURE!





BETWEEN
JUST THE TWO
OF US, WE
CONTROL 49% OF
THE VOTING SHARES
IN THIS FIRM! THE
CHANCES OF ALL
THE REMAINING 51%
VOTING AGAINST
US IS PRETTY
DAMN SLIM!



TRUE, BUT THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF PLAY IN THE MARKET THE LAST FEW DAYS! WE'RE NOT EVEN SURE WHO OWNS THE REMAINING STOCK! IT'S ALL BEEN BOUGHT UP BY NUMEROUS OTHER COMPANIES AND FIRMS WHICH, FRANKLY, SCARES THE HELL OUT OF ME!

DON'T WORRY, DAVID! YOUR FATHER STARTED THIS FIRM AND YOU'VE SUCCEEDED IN BUILDING IT INTO THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CORPORATION IT IS TODAY! THERE'S NO WAY WE'RE GOING TO LET SOME YOUNG PUP LIKE GREELEY AND HIS CRONIES GET THEIR HANDS ON IT!

THANKS,
STEVEN! THAT
MEANS A LOT!
SHALL WE?






GOOD
AFTERNOON,
MR. MITCHELL...
AND MR.
CHAMBERS, I
BELIEVE!

HELLO ROBIN!
IS EVERYONE
HERE ALREADY?

ALMOST,
BUT YOU CAN
FOLLOW ME
ON IN IF YOU
LIKE!





I'LL SAY *ONE*
THING FOR
GREELEY, HE DOES
KNOW HOW TO PICK
A *SECRETARY!*

YOU HAVE
NO IDEA,
STEVEN!

DAVID!
AND STEVEN!
NICE OF YOU TO
JOIN US! HAVE A
SEAT, WON'T
YOU? WE'RE
JUST ABOUT
TO BEGIN!


SINCE WHEN DO
STOCKHOLDERS'
MEETINGS TAKE PLACE IN
YOUR OFFICE, SIMON? DID I
MISS A MEMO OR
SOMETHING?





OH, YOU'VE MISSED
OUT ON *QUITE* A BIT
LATELY, DAVID! THE REASON
WE'RE MEETING *HERE* IS
BECAUSE *I* HAVE THE PROXIES
FOR A *SIGNIFICANT*
PERCENTAGE OF THE
VOTING STOCK IN YOUR
COMPANY!

MR. ALAN
PERKINS HERE
HOLDS THE PROXIES
FOR *ALL OTHER SHARES*
NOT CONTROLLED BY YOU
OR STEVEN! AND NOW
THAT WE'RE ALL HERE,
LET'S GET STARTED,
SHALL WE!



I BELIEVE OUR *FIRST* ORDER OF BUSINESS SHOULD BE TO VOTE ON A *NEW CEO!* SORRY DAVID, BUT IT'S TIME FOR SOME NEW, *YOUNG BLOOD* AT THE *TOP* OF THIS COMPANY!

I *SECOND* THAT MOTION!

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**PASSES! ANY
NOMINATIONS FOR
NEW CEO?**

**I NOMINATE
SIMON GREELEY
AS NEW CEO!**

**AND I'LL
SECOND
THAT MOTION!
THANK YOU,
ALAN!**

**DO YOU
REALLY THINK
YOU'RE GOING TO
GET AWAY WITH
THIS, SIMON?**






OH, I ALREADY HAVE,
DAVID! YOU SEE, ALAN
REPRESENTS 30% OF THE
VOTING STOCK AND I REPRESENT
21%, SO TOGETHER WE JUST
ELECTED ME THE NEW CEO OF
DM INDUSTRIES... A NAME I
WILL SOON BE CHANGING!

I DUNNO, GREELEY! IT'S BEEN CALLED DM INDUSTRIES SINCE DON MITCHELL STARTED THE COMPANY, AND I'D SURE HATE TO SEE IT CHANGED... REGARDLESS OF WHAT I THOUGHT OF THAT S.O.B.!

HARLEY?

COMSTOCK?
HE'S THE LAST
PERSON I EVER
EXPECTED TO
SEE HERE!



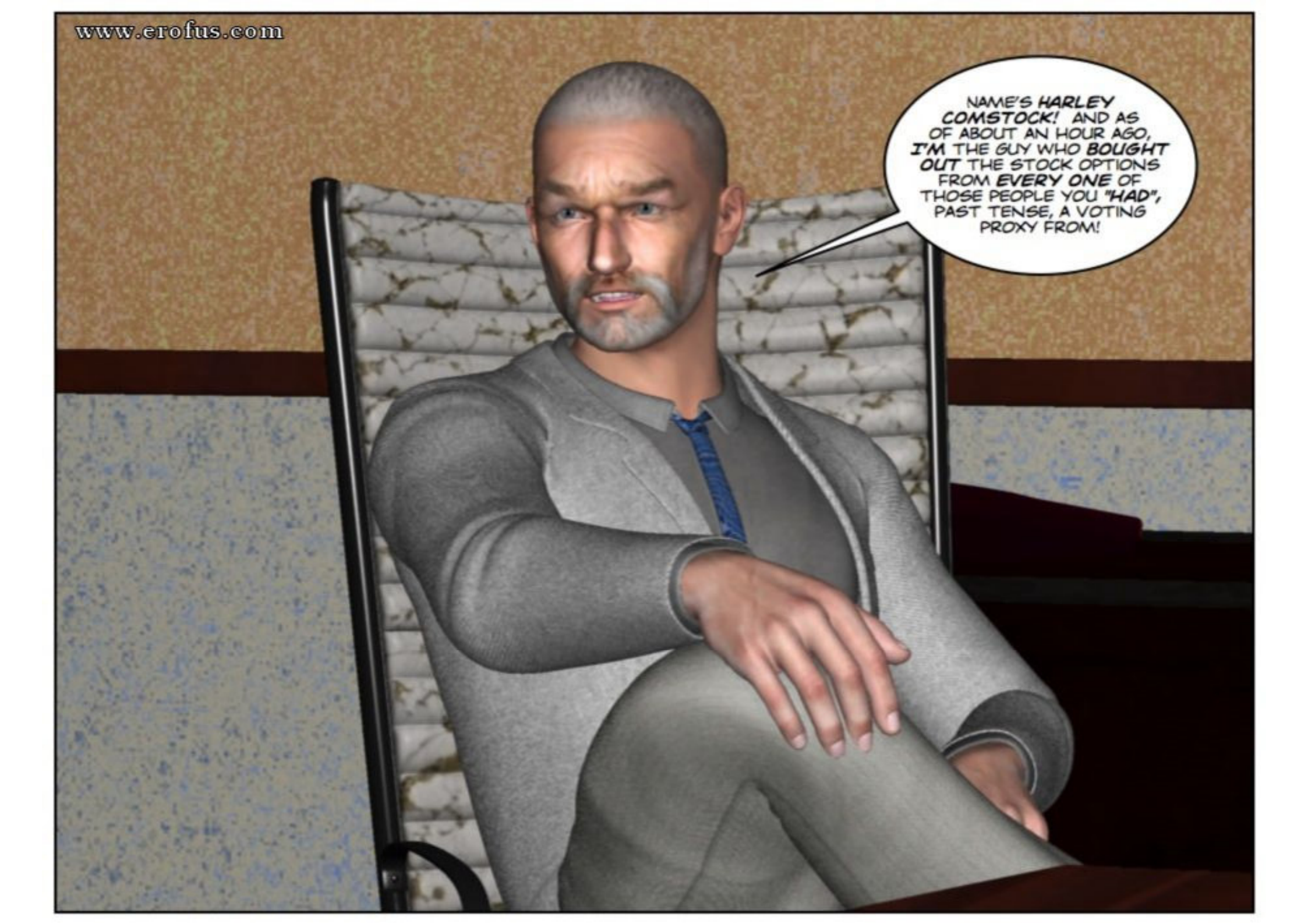


LOOK! I DON'T KNOW WHO THE HELL YOU ARE, BUT THIS MEETING IS LIMITED TO STOCKHOLDERS AND THEIR AGENTS ONLY! SO, IF YOU DON'T MIND...!

NOT AT ALL, YOUNG FELLA! I'LL JUST HAVE A SEAT RIGHT HERE BY THIS PRETTY LITTLE THING WHILE YOU EXCUSE YOURSELF TO WHEREVER IT IS SNIPPY YOUNG PUPS LIKE YOU GO RIGHT BEFORE THEY'RE FIRED!



ME?! I'M NOT
GOING ANYWHERE,
YOU OLD GOAT!
JUST WHO THE HELL
DO YOU THINK YOU
ARE, ANYWAY?

A 3D rendered character, Harley Comstock, is shown from the waist up, sitting in a black chair with a white and grey patterned backrest. He has short, light-colored hair, a goatee, and is wearing a grey suit jacket over a blue shirt. He is looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. A speech bubble is positioned to his right, containing text. The background is a simple wall with a brown and white pattern.

NAME'S HARLEY
COMSTOCK! AND AS
OF ABOUT AN HOUR AGO,
I'M THE GUY WHO BOUGHT
OUT THE STOCK OPTIONS
FROM EVERY ONE OF
THOSE PEOPLE YOU "HAD",
PAST TENSE, A VOTING
PROXY FROM!

WASN'T *CHEAP*
EITHER! *GREEDY*
BASTARDS! PROBABLY
HAVE TO SELL ONE OF MY
JETS... MAYBE TWO...
TO PAY FOR IT!



THAT... THAT'S
NOT POSSIBLE!

WELL, ACCORDING
TO THAT LITTLE
DOCUMENT FROM THE
S.E.C., IT'S NOT ONLY
POSSIBLE... IT'S A DONE
DEAL! AND SINCE BETWEEN
US, DAVID AND I OWN 52%
OF THE VOTING STOCK, THE
ONLY PERSON GOING
ANYWHERE IS YOU
YOUNG FELLA!

SECURITY'S
ON THE WAY UP,
IN CASE YOU NEED
ANY HELP WITH
YOUR THINGS,
SIMON!

IT
WASN'T
JUST ME!
THERE WERE
OTHERS
INVOLVED!
THEY...!

CONSIDERING
WHAT YOU JUST
TRIED TO PULL AND
YOUR LACK OF
CREDIBILITY, I THINK
THE BEST THING FOR
YOU TO DO RIGHT NOW,
GREELEY, IS TO JUST
LEAVE... BEFORE IT
GETS ANY WORSE
FOR YOU!



BUT...!










WELL, MY *CLIENTS*
MAY NOT BE TOO
PLEASED WITH THE
OUTCOME OF THIS MEETING,
BUT THAT'S NEITHER HERE
NOR THERE AS FAR AS *I'M*
CONCERNED!
CONGRATULATIONS, MR.
MITCHELL! AND HAVE A
NICE DAY!

THANK YOU,
MR. PERKINS!
YOU TOO!



OH SHIT! IT'S
JUST A MATTER OF
TIME BEFORE SIMON
IMPLICATES *ME* IN ALL
THIS! THERE'S GOT TO
BE A WAY I CAN
COVER MY ASS!

YOU OKAY,
ROBIN?

I... I DON'T
KNOW!
EVERYTHING JUST
HAPPENED SO
FAST... I'M SO
CONFUSED! AND
WHAT SIMON
DID... I... I
THINK I...!

IT'S OKAY,
HONEY! I KNOW!
WE ALL KNOW! IT
WASN'T YOUR
FAULT!



IT... IT'S
NOT?

NO! MAEVE AND
I CAN **PROVE**
THAT SIMON WAS
DRUGGING YOU IN
ORDER TO GET YOU
TO HELP HIM!





DRUGGED?! IS THAT WHY I GAVE INTO SIMON SO EASILY?

DRUGGING ME? HOW?

THE DESK CANDLE HE GAVE YOU FOR A START! AND THAT HORRIFIC COLOGNE WAS LACED WITH PHEROMONES AND GOD KNOWS WHAT ELSE! MAEVE AND I BOTH NOTICED THE EFFECTS AFTER A VERY SHORT EXPOSURE, SO WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE THE NUMBER IT DID ON YOU!

WILL... WILL I BE OKAY?

NOW THAT
SIMON'S GONE,
THE EFFECTS
SHOULD WEAR OFF
PRETTY SOON! I'LL
TALK TO DAVID AND SEE
THAT YOU GET A FEW
DAYS OFF! THAT'LL ALSO
GIVE US TIME TO
REASSIGN YOU SINCE
YOUR BOSS NO
LONGER WORKS
HERE! SOUND
OKAY?


SO
THAT'S WHY
I'VE BEEN DOING
THESE HORRIBLE
THINGS... TO CELIA...
TO DAVID! HERE I
THOUGHT I WAS
MANIPULATING HIM,
BUT SIMON WAS
MANIPULATING
ME ALL
ALONG!






IT SOUNDS GREAT, STACY! I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU ON MY SIDE!

WITHOUT YOUR HELP I'D STILL BE UNDER HIS CONTROL AND WHO KNOWS WHAT I'D BE DOING FOR HIM NEXT!



IF... IF YOU
DON'T MIND,
AFTER EVERYTHING
THAT JUST
HAPPENED, I THINK I
NEED TO GO FIND
SOMEPLACE *QUIET*...
AND HAVE A GOOD
LONG CRY!



THANK
GOD IT'S OVER!
I'M FREE OF HIM AND
ALL THOSE HORRIBLE,
HORRIBLE THINGS HE HAD
ME DOING TO CELIA AND DAVID!
I TRULY THOUGHT I WAS
ENJOYING IT WHILE I WAS
DOING THEM, BUT NOW I
SEE... IT WAS THE DRUGS
THAT MADE ME FEEL
THAT WAY!


MAYBE
THAT'S WHY I
TOLD HIM IT WAS
ENOUGH! I KNEW IT
WAS WRONG, BECAUSE
I AM A GOOD
PERSON AFTER
ALL!

**EEEK!
WHAT
THE...?!**



I KNEW YOU'D
COME LOOKING FOR
ME, BABE! LET'S YOU
AND ME **BLOW** THIS
PLACE AND SET UP OUR
OWN COMPANY! WITH
MY **BRAINS** AND YOUR
BOD, WE'LL BE ON TOP
IN NO TIME!
WADDYA SAY?

ARE YOU
INSANE? EVEN IF
THE **S.E.C.** DOESN'T
THROW THE BOOK AT
YOU, THERE'S NO WAY IN
HELL I'D COME WITH
YOU! STACY TOLD ME
HOW YOU GOT ME TO DO
ALL THOSE **AWFUL**
THINGS! IS IT **TRUE**,
BIG MAN? HAVE YOU
BEEN **DRUGGING**
ME ALL THIS
TIME?



SNORT!
DRUGGING YOU?
YEAH, **SURE...** I USED A
FEW THINGS TO GET YOU
NICE AND **HORNY**, SO I
COULD GET INTO YOUR
PANTIES! BUT THAT'S ALL
THAT STUFF IS DESIGNED
TO DO! EVERYTHING
ELSE? THAT'S ON
YOU, **BABE!**


NO! YOU'RE
LYING!
EVERYTHING I DID
WAS BECAUSE OF YOU
AND THE **DRUGS!** YOU
GOT ME TO DO
THINGS I NEVER,
EVER WOULD HAVE
DONE IN MY
RIGHT MIND!

BUT I'M IN MY
RIGHT MIND **NOW,**
AND IF YOU DON'T
LET ME **GO** I'M
GOING TO **SCREAM**
AT THE TOP OF MY
LUNGS FOR
SECURITY!

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IT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO, BABE! BUT YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING... **EVERYTHING** YOU ARE AND EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT IS BECAUSE OF ME, AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!

NO! I'M NOT LIKE YOU... I'M NOT **SNEAKY** AND **MANIPULATIVE!** I CAN'T BELIEVE I EVER THOUGHT YOU WERE A **DECENT** PERSON... AND **TRUSTED** YOU!





YOU SHOULD BE
THANKING ME! I
BROUGHT TO LIFE THE
WOMAN YOU WERE
DESTINED TO BECOME...
A VIBRANT VIXEN WHO
EMBRACES LIFE... AND
LOVES A GOOD
FUCK!

SPEAKING
OF WHICH....

WHAT?!
YOU CAN'T
BE SERIOUS?
I...!



DO WE NEED TO
ADD HARASSMENT
TO THE CHARGES
AGAINST YOU,
GREELEY?



OH, MR.
CHAMBERS!
THANK GOD YOU'RE
HERE! HE... HE
SURPRISED ME,
AND I... I...!

YOU WERE
TOLD TO
LEAVE, GREELEY!
I STRONGLY
SUGGEST YOU DO
THAT, IF YOU
KNOW WHAT'S
GOOD FOR
YOU!

I... I DON'T
KNOW WHAT I'D
HAVE DONE IF YOU
HADN'T COME BY,
MR. CHAMBERS!
THANK YOU!

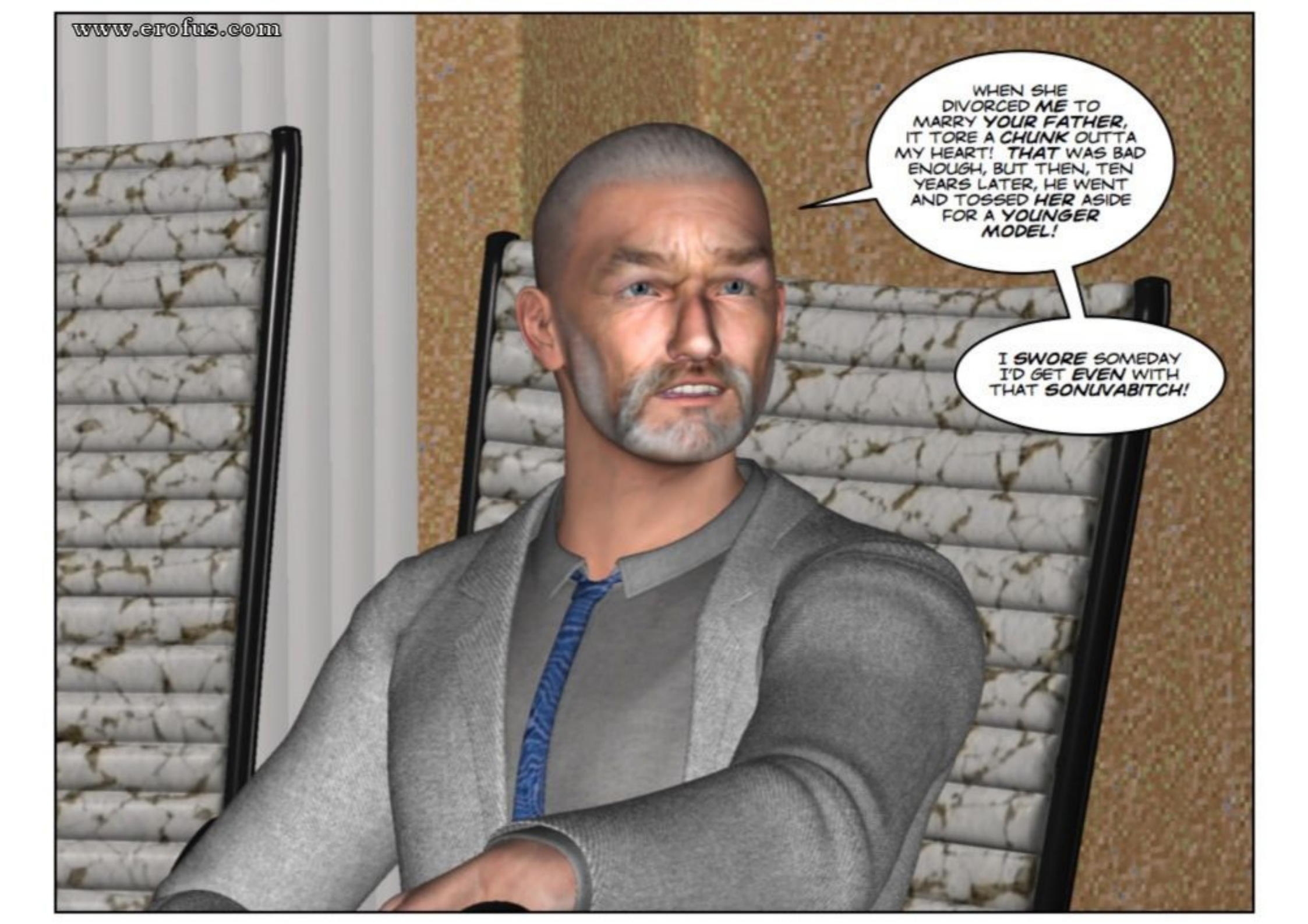
IT'S ALL
RIGHT, ROBIN!
EVERYTHING'S
GOING TO BE JUST
FINE! AND
PLEASE, CALL
ME STEVEN!



Meanwhile, back
in the office...

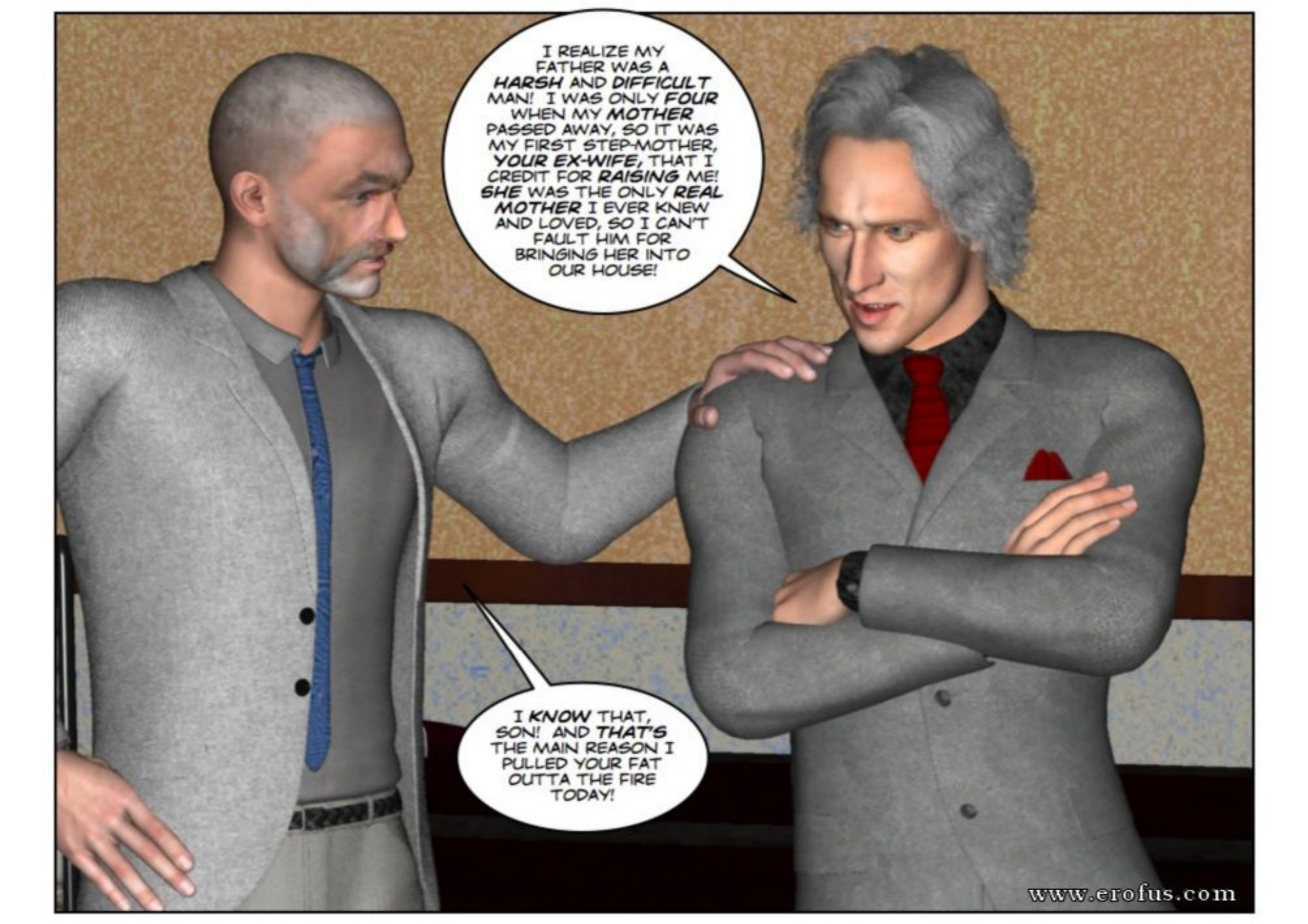
HARLEY! NEEDLESS TO
SAY, I'M **FLABBERGASTED!**
YOU **SAVED** MY COMPANY! **HOW**
DID YOU KNOW WHAT WAS GOING
ON? AND MORE IMPORTANTLY,
WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS,
CONSIDERING...?

CONSIDERING THE
WAY THAT **SLIMY**
OLD MAN OF YOURS,
GOD REST HIS SOUL,
STOLE MY WIFE FROM ME
ALL THOSE YEARS AGO?
WELL, IT SURE AS HELL
WASN'T MY **FIRST**
CHOICE, **THAT'S** FOR
DAMN SURE!



WHEN SHE
DIVORCED ME TO
MARRY YOUR FATHER,
IT TORE A **CHUNK** OUTTA
MY HEART! THAT WAS BAD
ENOUGH, BUT THEN, TEN
YEARS LATER, HE WENT
AND TOSSED HER ASIDE
FOR A **YOUNGER**
MODEL!

I **SWORE** SOMEDAY
I'D GET **EVEN** WITH
THAT **SONLIVABITCH!**



I REALIZE MY FATHER WAS A HARSH AND DIFFICULT MAN! I WAS ONLY FOUR WHEN MY MOTHER PASSED AWAY, SO IT WAS MY FIRST STEP-MOTHER, YOUR EX-WIFE, THAT I CREDIT FOR RAISING ME! SHE WAS THE ONLY REAL MOTHER I EVER KNEW AND LOVED, SO I CAN'T FAULT HIM FOR BRINGING HER INTO OUR HOUSE!

I KNOW THAT, SON! AND THAT'S THE MAIN REASON I PULLED YOUR FAT OUTTA THE FIRE TODAY!

I KNEW THAT YOU **PERSONALLY** LOOKED AFTER HER ALL THESE YEARS, BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL LAST NIGHT THAT I LEARNED JUST **HOW MUCH!**


YOU... YOU TALKED TO HER?

HOW THE **HELL** YOU THINK I **LEARNED** ABOUT ALL THIS BROUHA? SHE SHOWED UP AT MY **OFFICE** LAST NIGHT! SURPRISED THE **HELL** OUTTA ME WHEN MY SECRETARY TOLD ME **WHO** WAS WAITING TO SEE ME!

I'M STILL
AMAZED YOU
AGREED TO SEE
ME!


AND IMAGINE MY
SURPRISE WHEN **SHE**
WALKS IN... LOOKING AS
YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL AS
THE DAY I **MARRIED** HER!
FOR A MOMENT... **JUST A**
MOMENT... I **TRULY**
THOUGHT I WAS BACK ON
OUR WEDDING DAY! **THAT**
WAS **MORE** THAN ENOUGH
FOR ME TO DO
WHATEVER SHE
ASKED OF ME!





AND YOU DON'T
KNOW HOW *MUCH* THIS
MEANS TO ME, HARLEY!
AFTER WHAT *I* DID... YOU
STILL AGREED TO HELP!
THANK YOU!

I'M JUST GLAD
YOU'RE *HAPPY* AND
HEALTHY, DARLIN'!
THAT'S ALL I EVER
WANTED FOR YOU!



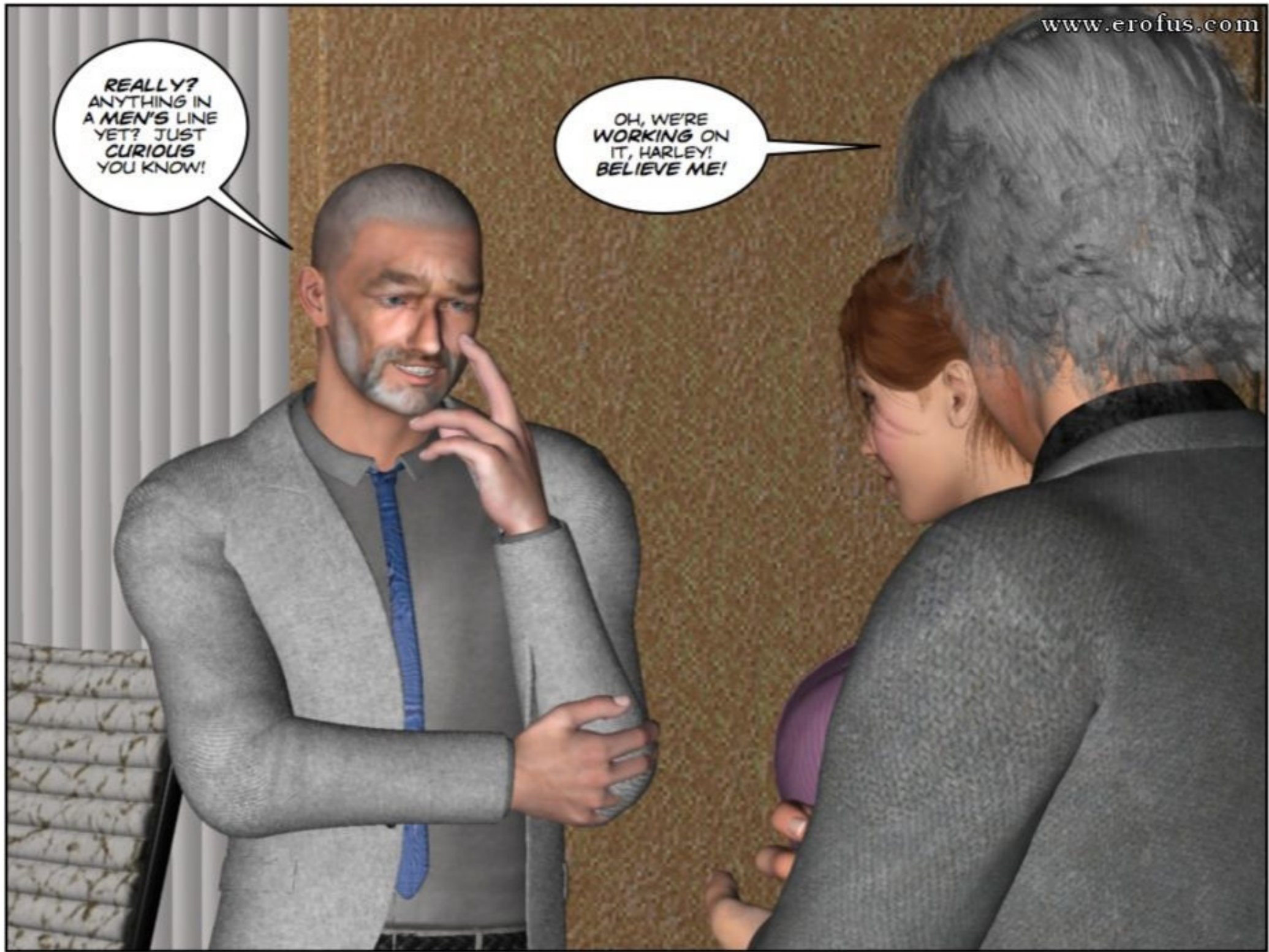
SO... SHE TELLS ME
YOU DID THIS FOR HER...
MADE HER **YOUNG**
AGAIN! THAT TRUE?

YES! STACY
WAS THE **FIRST**
PERSON I THOUGHT OF
WHEN WE DEVELOPED THE
F-RHO-DT AND SHE
JUMPED AT THE
CHANCE!

OF COURSE,
THE **EARLY**
FORMULA JUST
MADE WOMEN
YOUNG AGAIN, BUT
WE'VE **IMPROVED**
ON IT QUITE A
BIT SINCE
THEN!

REALLY?
ANYTHING IN
A MEN'S LINE
YET? JUST
CURIOUS
YOU KNOW!


OH, WE'RE
WORKING ON
IT, HARLEY!
BELIEVE ME!



WELL HELL,
WHY DON'T YOU
GIVE ME A TOUR OF
THE PLACE SINCE I'M
NOW A MAJOR
STOCKHOLDER! THEN
I'LL SPRING FOR
DINNER AND DRINKS
TO SEAL THE DEAL
OFFICIALLY!

SOUNDS
GREAT,
HARLEY!





AND I
SINCERELY
HOPE YOU'LL
JOIN US, WON'T
YOU STACY?



I... I'D LIKE
THAT VERY
MUCH,
HARLEY!

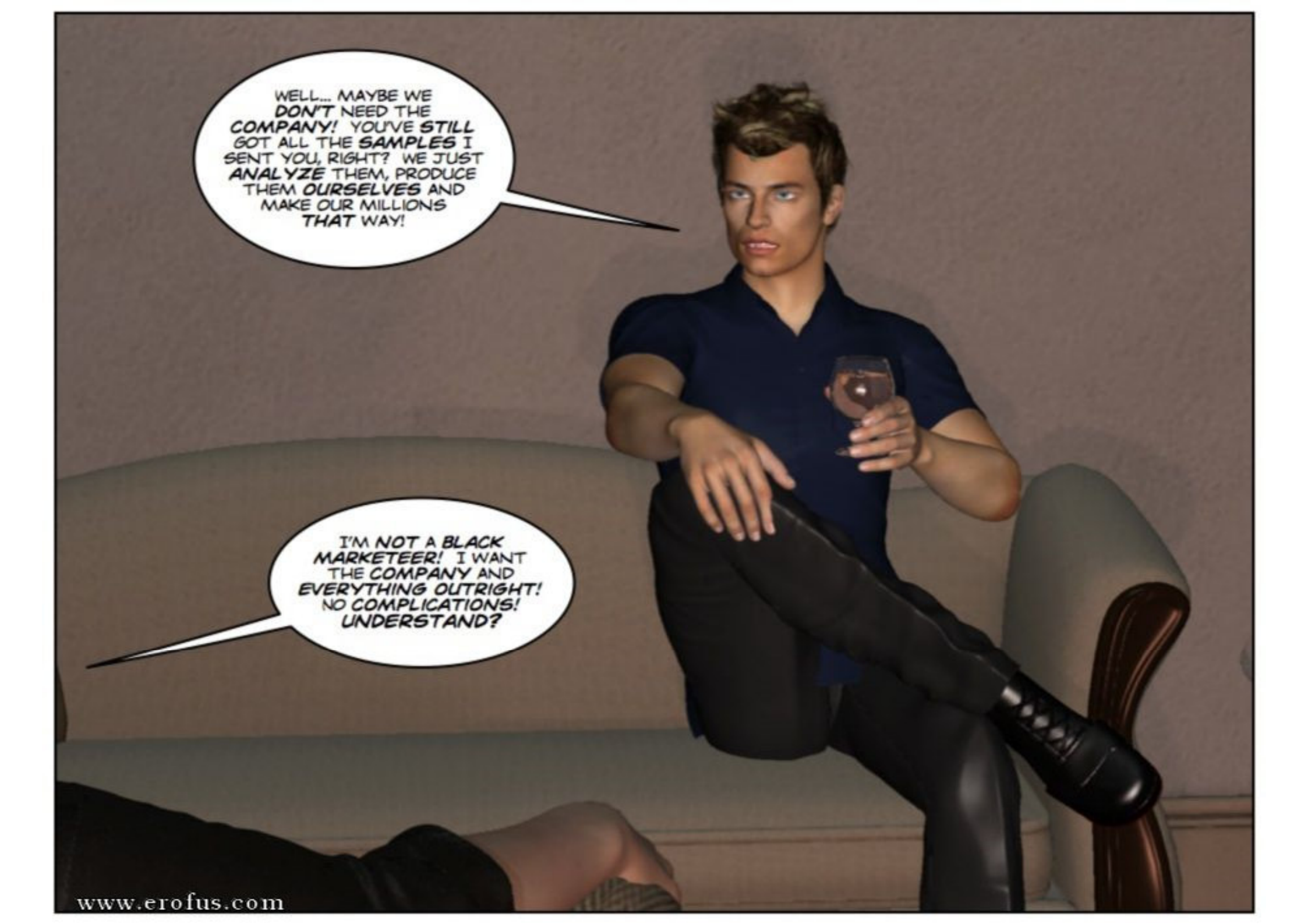


The next day, a little
fireside chat amongst
co-conspirators...

LOOK, I
UNDERSTAND
YOU'RE UPSET! THE
PLAN SHOULD'VE
WORKED! HOW WAS
ANYONE TO KNOW
SOMEONE LIKE
COMSTOCK WOULD
SWOOP IN AND BUY OUT
MY INVESTORS? IT
MUST'VE COST HIM
A FORTUNE!


IT WAS YOUR
JOB TO KNOW!
YOU WERE
SLOPPY!

DO YOU REALIZE
HOW MUCH THIS
COST ME? I STILL
WANT THAT
COMPANY!




WELL... MAYBE WE
DON'T NEED THE
COMPANY! YOU'VE STILL
GOT ALL THE SAMPLES I
SENT YOU, RIGHT? WE JUST
ANALYZE THEM, PRODUCE
THEM OURSELVES AND
MAKE OUR MILLIONS
THAT WAY!

I'M NOT A BLACK
MARKETEER! I WANT
THE COMPANY AND
EVERYTHING OUTRIGHT!
NO COMPLICATIONS!
UNDERSTAND?



YEAH, I GET IT!
LOOK, ALL I NEED TO DO IS
GET CLOSE TO ROBIN AGAIN!
SHE'S A TRAMP AT HEART,
TRUST ME! ALL SHE NEEDS IS A
LITTLE CONVINCING AND
SHE'LL BE ON MY TEAM AGAIN!
WE'LL BE IN BUSINESS
AGAIN, AND...!

ARE YOU
DREAMING?
THERE'S NO WAY
YOU'D BE ABLE TO GET
ANYWHERE CLOSE TO HER!
NO, WE NEED TO GO A
DIFFERENT ROUTE! ONE
IN WHICH THE SERVICES
OF SIMON GREELEY
WILL NO LONGER
BE NEEDED!

A man with short, wavy brown hair and blue eyes, wearing a dark blue polo shirt, stands on the left side of the frame. He is gesturing with his right hand towards the other man. The second man is seen from the back, sitting in a dark leather chair. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**ARE YOU OUT
OF YOUR MIND?
I PUT THIS WHOLE
THING TOGETHER FOR
YOU! HOW THE HELL
CAN YOU DO IT
WITHOUT ME?**

**OH, I STILL
PLAN ON USING
YOU! BUT IN A
VERY DIFFERENT
CAPACITY... AS
YOU'RE ABOUT
TO DISCOVER!**





OH NO!
YOU
DIDN'T...?!

AGHHHHHHH!




A young man with dark, curly hair and blue eyes is shown from the chest up, wearing a black, shiny latex outfit. He is leaning forward, with his right hand covering his mouth as if in shock or embarrassment. The background is a simple room with a grey wall and a white door. A speech bubble is positioned above him, containing text.

YOU... YOU
CAN'T DO
THIS! I...
I...!

AMAZING!
UNTIL NOW, I
NEVER TRULY
BELIEVED WHAT
YOU TOLD ME
ABOUT YOUR
"ASSISTANT"!





BUT NOW
THAT I'VE
ACTUALLY SEEN
IT HAPPEN, I CAN
ONLY SAY...
"WOW!"




WHY... WHY
DID YOU DO
THIS TO ME?



**SIMON
GREELEY WAS NO
LONGER OF ANY USE
TO ME... IN FACT, HE
WAS A LIABILITY! BUT
LIKE THIS, YOU CAN STILL
BE VERY USEFUL! YOU
MAY THINK IT'S
EXTREME, BUT LIKE
I SAID...**

A man with short, dark hair and a serious expression is sitting in a chair. He is wearing a black, long-sleeved button-down shirt. He is looking towards a woman whose back is to the camera. The woman has long, dark hair and is wearing a dark blue top. They are in a room with a fireplace in the background. The fire is bright orange and yellow. The man's hands are resting on his lap. A speech bubble is coming from the man.

**I WANT THAT
COMPANY! NO
MATTER WHAT IT
TAKES!**



NOW QUIT
WHINING AND GET
YOURSELF CLEANED UP!
WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK
TO DO TO GET YOU
READY FOR YOUR NEW
ASSIGNMENT!