

the
Beautiful
game



FOOTBALL, THE BEAUTIFUL GAME. IT'S PLAYED AND LOVED THE WORLD OVER. THE PLAYERS ARE IDOLIZED. THEY ARE TREATED LIKE DEMI-GODS. THEY SOMETIMES END UP BELIEVING IT TOO.



WELL MY JOB IS TO REMIND THEM THAT THEY'RE NOT IMMORTAL... NOT YET. THEY'RE MORTAL. YOU CUT THEM, THEY BLEED... THEY BRUISE... THEY BREAK BONES. WHEN THAT HAPPENS IT IS MY JOB TO LOOK AFTER THEM. MY NAME IS CLAUDIA, I AM A MEDIC.

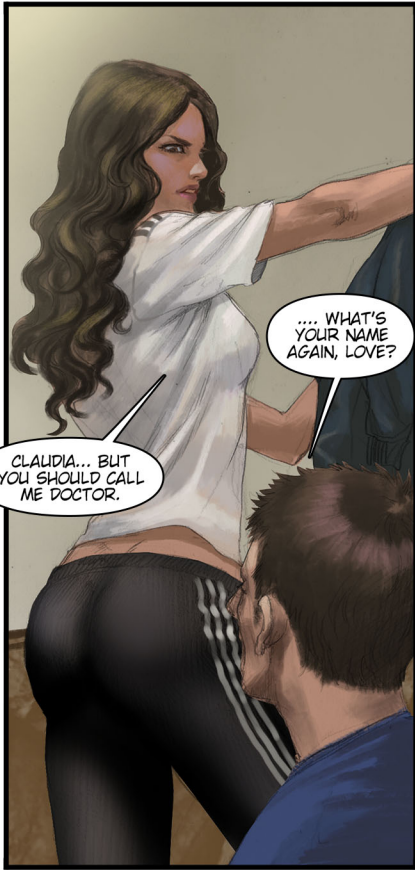


EXCUSE ME.



JOE KELLY, CENTRAL DEFENDER, CLUB CAPTAIN... HELLO, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

S'NOT GOOD FOR ME. I'D RATHER BE RID OF THIS NIGGLING INJURY.



... WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN, LOVE?

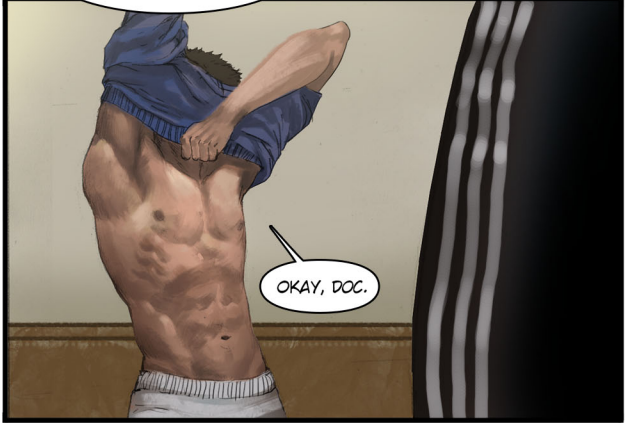
CLAUDIA... BUT YOU SHOULD CALL ME DOCTOR.



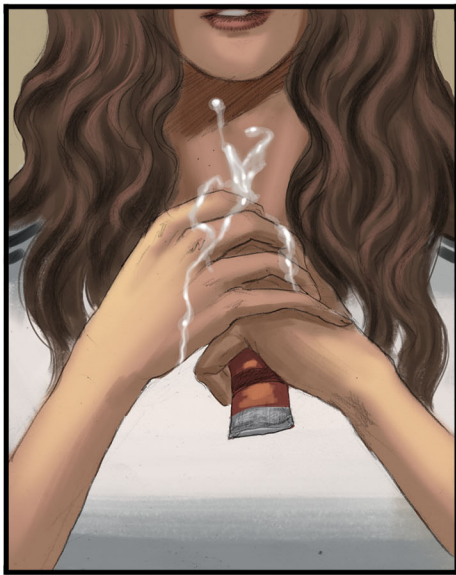
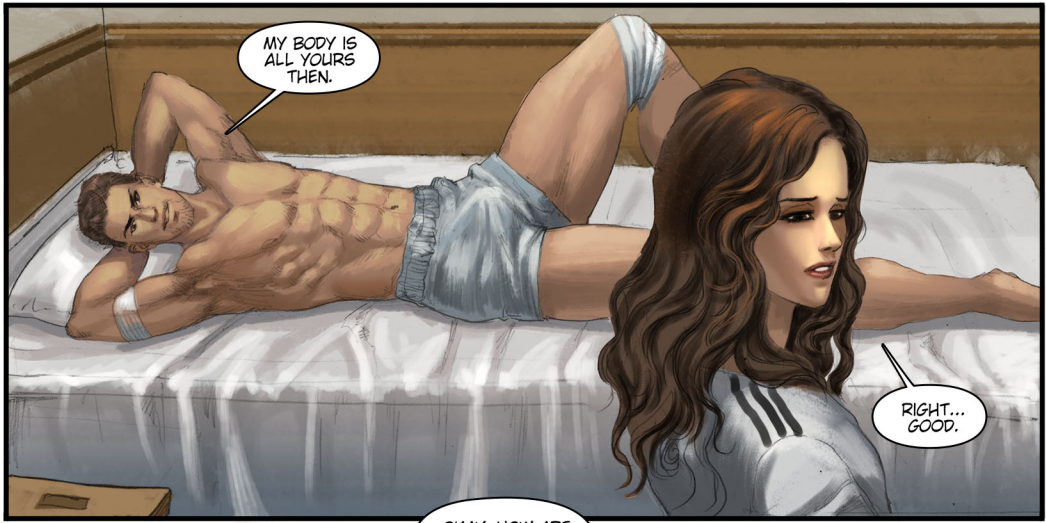
AND WHILE WE'RE IN MY DOCTOR'S SURGERY I WILL BE CONFISCATING YOUR CELL PHONE, MR KELLY.

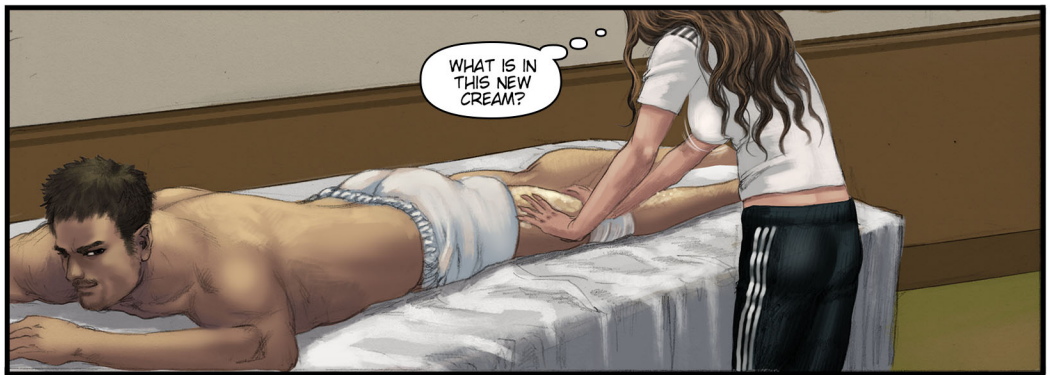
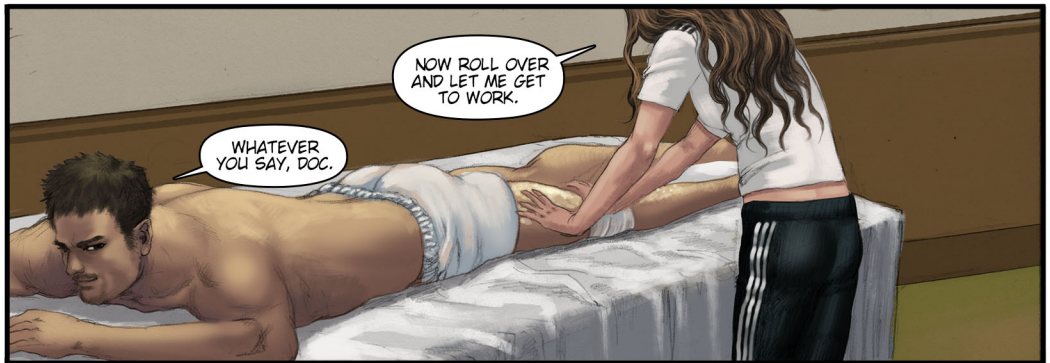
WHY?

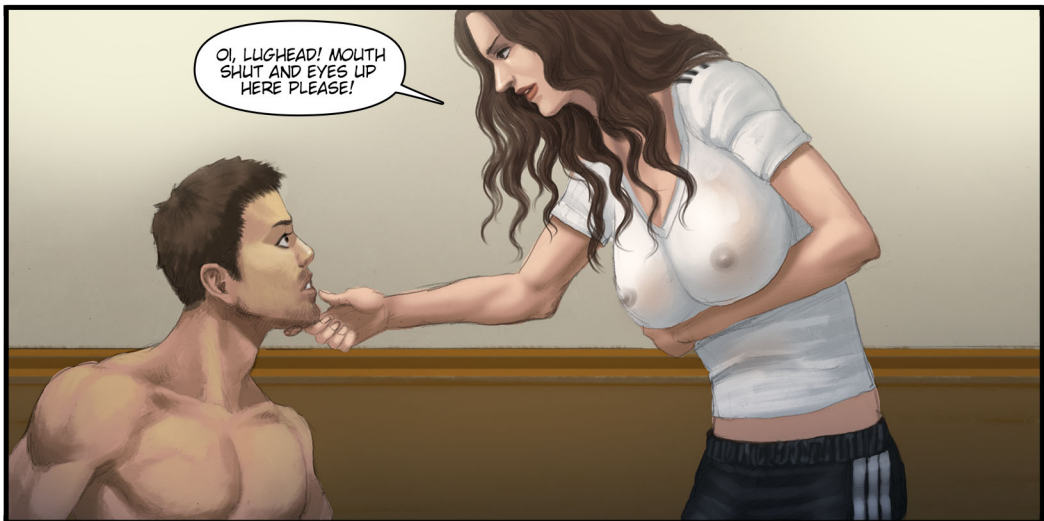
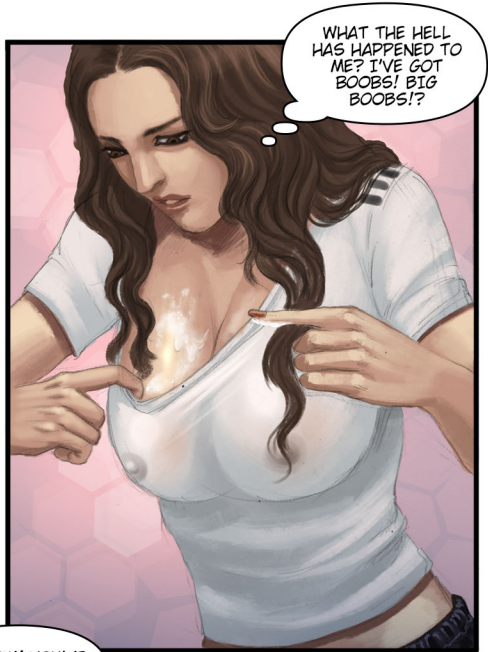
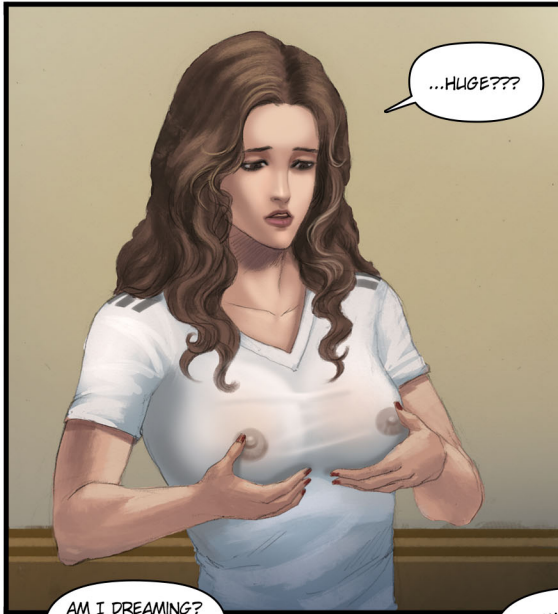
I WANT YOUR FULL ATTENTION WHILE WE ASSESS YOUR INJURY. I DON'T WANT YOU TWEETING... OR SEXTING... OR WHATEVER ELSE IT IS YOU FOOTBALLERS DO WITH YOUR PHONES THESE DAYS.

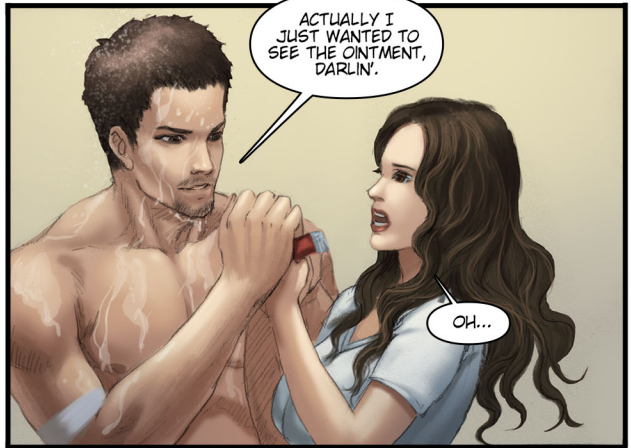


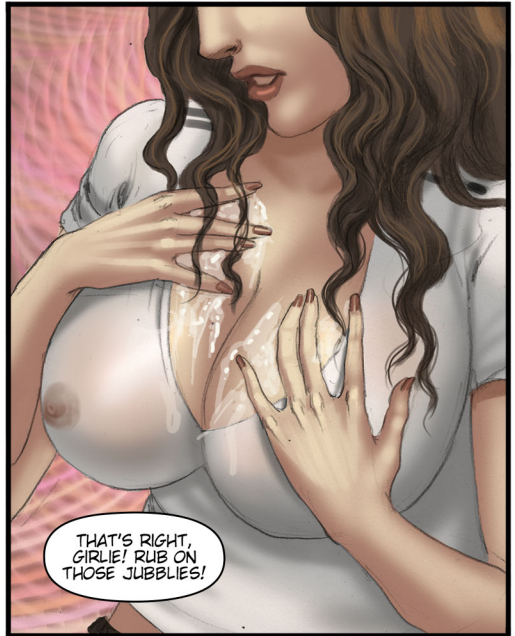
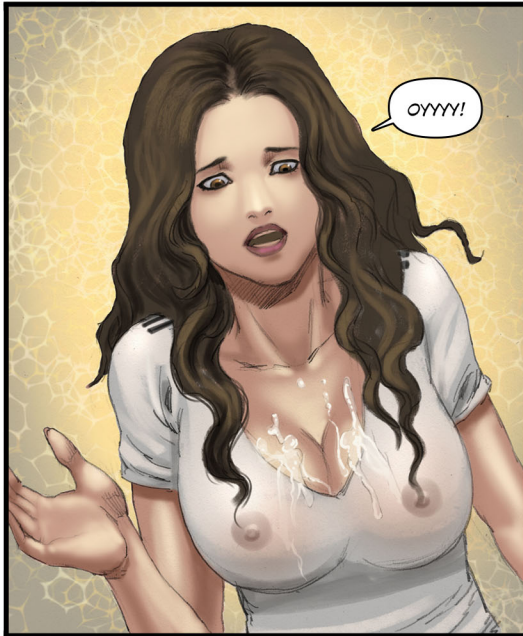
OKAY, DOC.













I'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS SHIRT BEFORE... OH NO... NOT AGAIN!

OH NO! MY SHIRT!

THAT'S SACRILEGE, BUT I LOVE IT.

JOE JR. SEEMS TO LIKE YOUR NEW LOOK

YOU DIRTBAG PERVERT, JOE KELLY! DON'T JUST STAND THERE GAWPING SHAMELESSLY AT ME. HELP ME TO COVER MYSELF UP!



AT LEAST MY COAT STILL FITS ME... JUST ABOUT.



HUFF. HUFF ...LITTLE... BIT... SNUG.



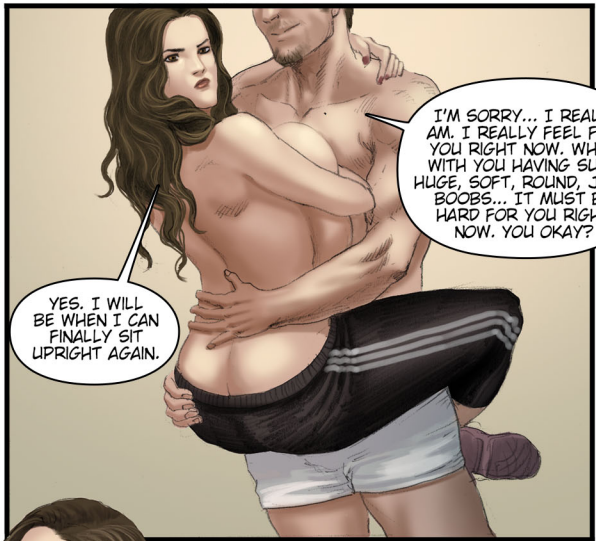
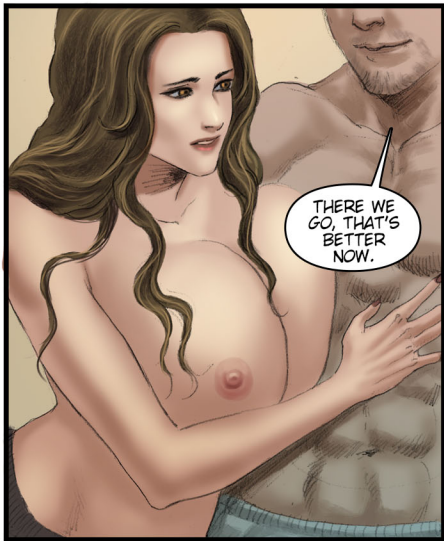
WHEW. THERE WE GO

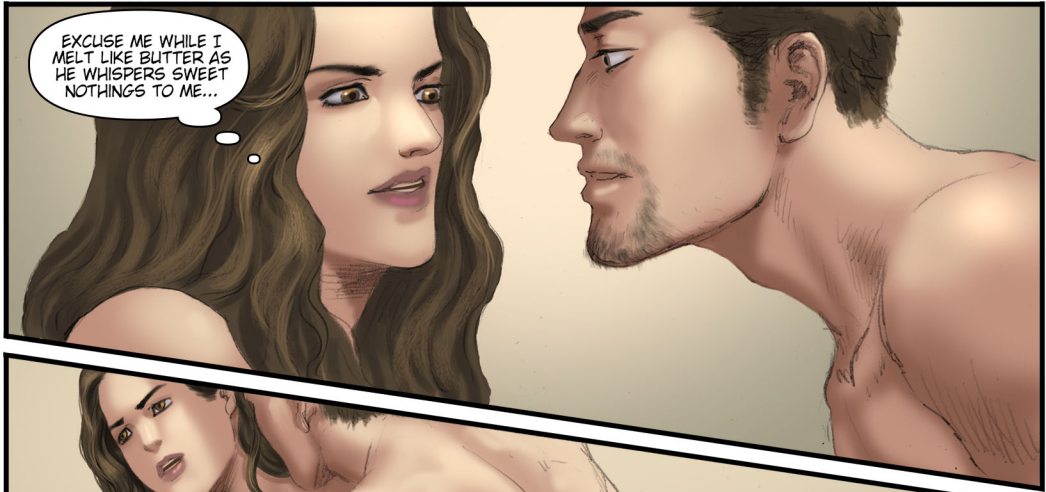


OH YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!!

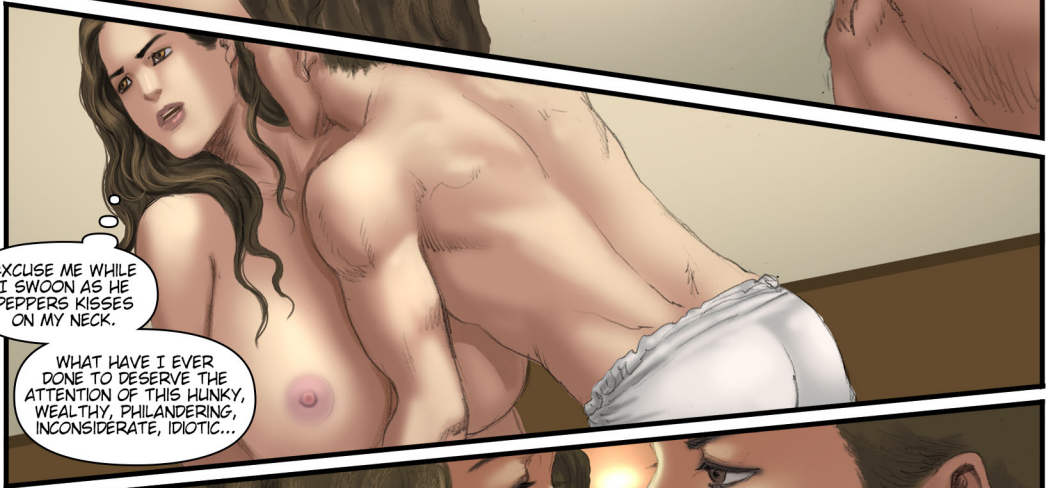
I THINK YOU SPOKE TOO SOON, BABE...







EXCUSE ME WHILE I MELT LIKE BUTTER AS HE WHISPERS SWEET NOTHINGS TO ME...



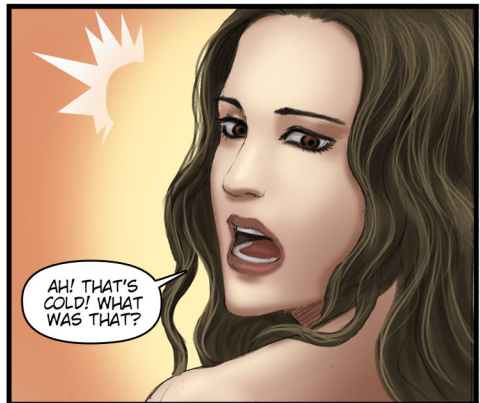
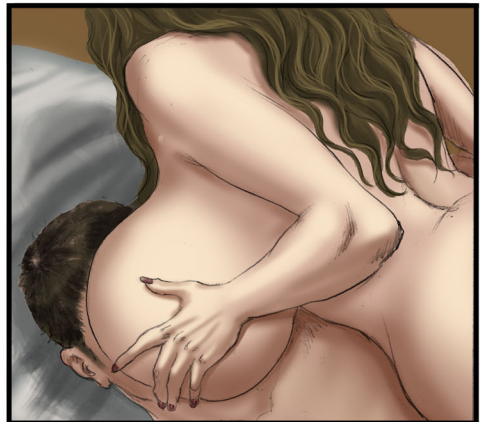
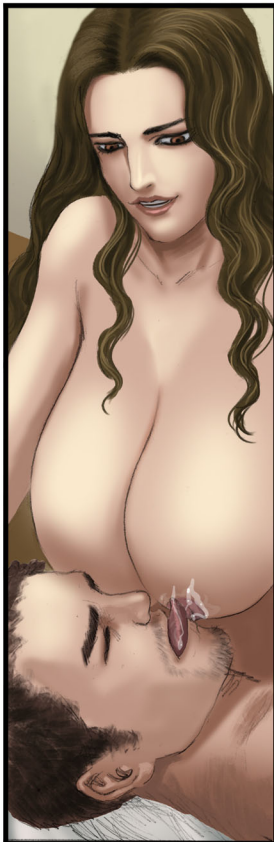
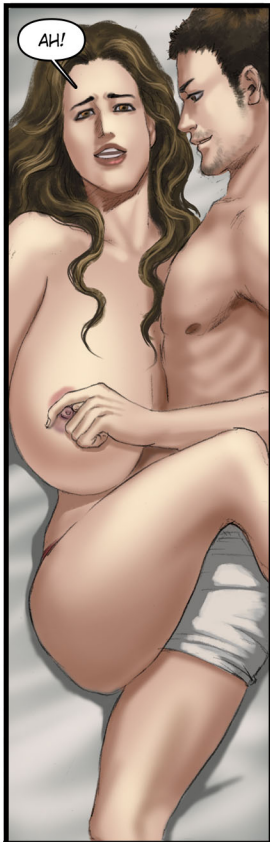
EXCUSE ME WHILE I SWOON AS HE PEPPERS KISSES ON MY NECK.

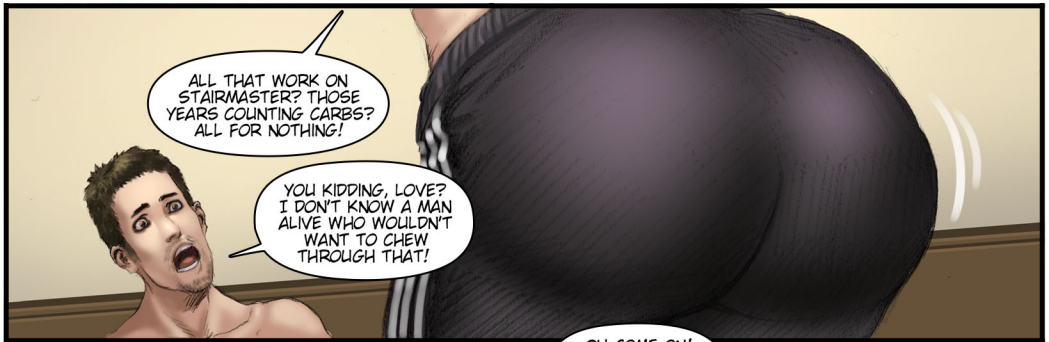
WHAT HAVE I EVER DONE TO DESERVE THE ATTENTION OF THIS HUNKY, WEALTHY, PHILANDERING, INCONSIDERATE, IDIOTIC...

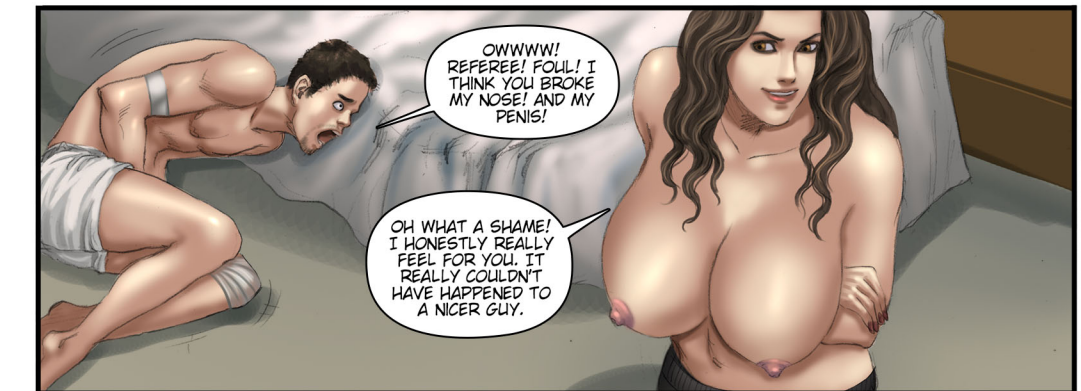


...OH... FUCK IT.

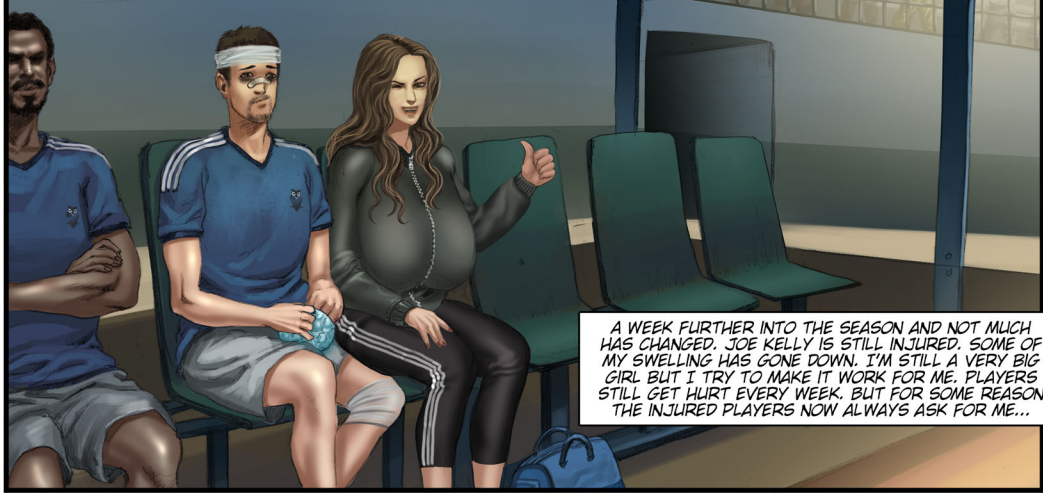








1 WEEK LATER



A WEEK FURTHER INTO THE SEASON AND NOT MUCH HAS CHANGED. JOE KELLY IS STILL INJURED. SOME OF MY SWELLING HAS GONE DOWN. I'M STILL A VERY BIG GIRL BUT I TRY TO MAKE IT WORK FOR ME. PLAYERS STILL GET HURT EVERY WEEK. BUT FOR SOME REASON THE INJURED PLAYERS NOW ALWAYS ASK FOR ME...