

House of Dreams Redux

Part 3

Areg5

CRYO-FREEZE
CHAMB

A-12

SEPARTECH INC.

KNOCK
KNOCK... ARE YOU
READY, JON?

GULP...
I... I GUESS.





HERE WE
GO...

NOW, THERE'S NOTHING TO BE
WORRIED ABOUT. I JUST HAVE TO
GIVE YOU A BRIEF EXAM...

...TO SEE IF YOU HAVE
ANY LINGERING SIGNS OF
PHYSIOLOGIC MATURITY.

HM... YOU DON'T HAFTA
WASTE YOUR TIME. I CAN
TELL YOU, I DON'T.

SHE DIDN'T SAY
ANYTHING ABOUT MY
CLOTHES? SHE HAS TO
NOTICE THEM!

HE'S OF AVERAGE
HEIGHT AND WEIGHT FOR A
TEN YEAR OLD BOY.

SO I
SEE...

SHE DOESN'T LOOK
SHOCKED OR ANYTHING. MAYBE
A LOT OF BOYS WEAR GIRL
CLOTHES. WHO KNEW?



A woman with short brown hair and black-rimmed glasses is speaking to another woman with long, wavy grey hair. They are in a medical setting with blue curtains and metal poles. The woman with glasses is wearing a dark red lace top, and the woman with grey hair is wearing a yellow knit top.

I PROMISE THIS WILL ONLY TAKE
A MINUTE, SWEETIE. FIRST, I WANT
YOU TO HOLD YOUR HANDS HIGH IN THE
AIR.

REACH AS HIGH AS
YOU CAN.



LIKE THIS?

NOTED, DOCTOR.

JUST LIKE THAT! GOOD BOY!
HE HAS NO AXILLARY HAIR.



TELL ME IF
THIS HURTS...

LOOKS LIKE
SOMEONE'S A LITTLE
TICKLISH.

GIGGLE...
IT DOESN'T.

M... MAYBE
A LITTLE...

NO
TENDERNESS OR
ADENOPATHY.

YES,
DOCTOR.





WE'RE ALMOST
DONE. I NEED FOR YOU
TO LIE DOWN FOR ME,
OKAY?

OKAY.



I NEED TO SEE IF YOU
HAVE ANY *SECONDARY*
SEXUAL CHARACTERISTICS,
JON.

WHAT... WHAT
DOES THAT
MEAN?

IT WON'T HURT. I NEED TO EXAMINE YOUR BOY PARTS. JON. I'M GOING TO SLIDE DOWN YOUR PANTIES, AND YOU'LL FEEL MY HAND.

I APOLOGIZE IF MY HAND'S A LITTLE COLD. ARE YOU READY?

GULP...
UH HUH...

GOOD. NO PUBIC
HAIR... TESTES ARE
DESCENDED...

NOTED.

TH... THAT
FEELS WEIRD...

BY HIS SIZE AND LACK OF SECONDARY SEXUAL CHARACTERISTICS, I'D SAY TANNER ONE.

TANNER ONE, DOCTOR. DO YOU HAVE AN ESTIMATED AGE?

WE'RE VERY CLOSE. I'D SAY BETWEEN 9.5 AND 10 YEARS.

THE SCAN WILL TELL US HOW CLOSE WE ARE.

TRUE. PLEASE ESCORT JON AND HIS FAMILY TO THE LAB.

SHE'S NOT UPSET OR ANYTHING. IT'S LIKE SHE EXPECTED ME TO BE TEN YEARS OLD...

...EVEN THOUGH I WAS IN THE SIXTEEN YEAR OLD GROUP! THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON HERE.

AT LEAST SHE DIDN'T GIVE ME THE BUSINESS FOR WEARING PANTIES.

SOON...



**TRY TO STAND STILL,
SWEETIE. THIS WON'T
HURT.**

**THAT'S WHAT YOU
SAID THE LAST TIME... AND
IT HURT!**



CRYO-FREEZE
CHAMBER 1



THIS ISN'T GONNA MAKE
ME GET EVEN LITTLER,
RIGHT?

CRYO-FREEZE
CHAMBER 2





WE NEED TO
KNOW FOR YOUR NEW
BIRTH CERTIFICATE,
BABY.

DEFINITELY NOT, JON. THE
POD IS IN SCANNER MODE. IT
WILL GIVE US YOUR EXACT
AGE.

IT'LL BE OVER BEFORE
YOU'RE READY. HOLD YOUR
BREATH, PLEASE.



THAT'S
IT...

CRYO-FREEZE
CHAMBER 2



A-12

SEPAITECH INC.

ZZZZZZZ...



HOW LONG
DOES IT TAKE.

IT'S VERY
FAST. HERE IT IS
NOW...

A woman with long brown hair is looking at a computer monitor in a futuristic, grey, industrial-looking environment. The monitor displays several green-tinted data visualizations. On the left, there are circular radar-like graphs and a waveform. On the right, there is a text box with analysis results and a circuit board diagram below it. A keyboard is visible at the bottom of the frame.

*...PERFECT. THE
PROCESS HAS RUN IT'S
COURSE AND HAS HIT THE
EXPECTED TARGET.*

*JON IS A TEN YEAR
OLD BOY.*

Analysis mode
Process complete
Subject age
10 yrs