

¿Carlos, has perdido la cabeza?!

I just spoke with Martin, and he says that you abruptly quit your job and didn't even give a two-week notice!

I was being serious, Dad. Everything Martin just told you is true.

But it's not what you think it is, I promise.

Not what I think?! You just quit your job and made everyone else's job more difficult!



¿En que estabas pensando, Carlos?

I know that you've enjoyed being a free spirit since college, but this is going way too far.

Since your mother left, I've worked very hard to support you and give you a good life.

I even got you this job, but you seem hellbent on undoing all that hard work.

God, this is just another gut punch after what just happened with Martin.

But all I have to do is stall him until sunset.



I swear that I have an explanation, Dad.

It's just that... it's difficult to explain without sounding crazy.

So it's better if I just show you.

What do you mean "show me"?

Wait, something's happening to your arms! Why are they getting smaller?!

Oh good, it's starting. I was wondering if I'd timed that right.

"It's starting"? What does that mean?!

And what happened to your chest? We need to call a hospital, now!



It's alright, Dad. Believe it or not, I'm going to be just fine.

Just fine?! Look at you! You're withering away!

What if I told you this isn't -the first time this has happened to me?

Your face! Even your voice is changing! What is going on here?!



I promise that this is really happening. I'm turning into a woman, Dad.

You can't be serious... can you? I must be hallucinating all this. Or dreaming.

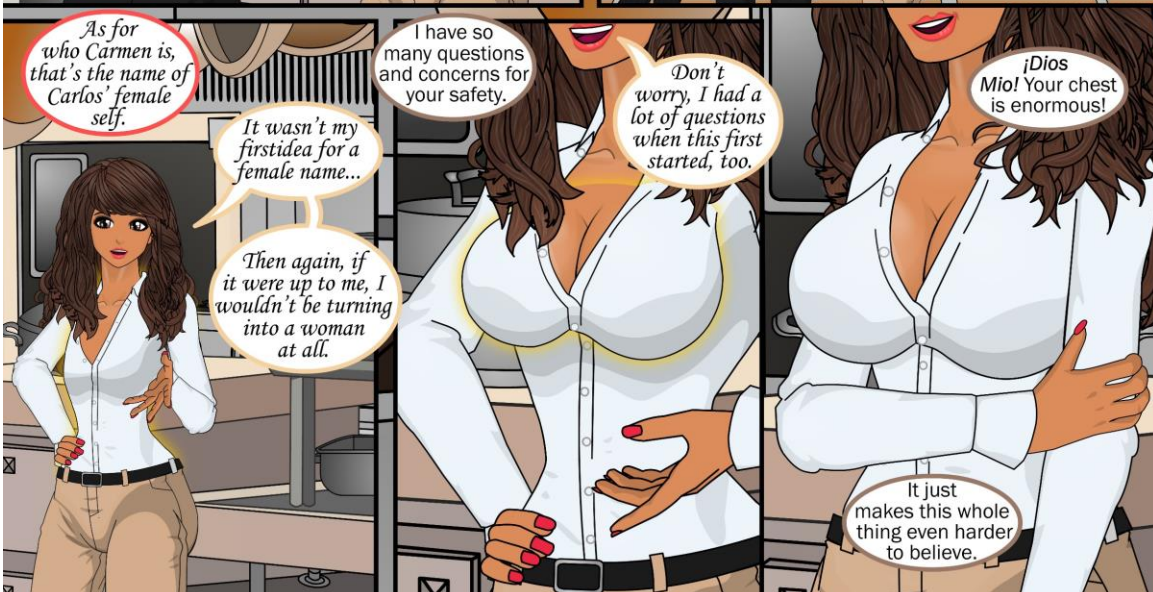
As difficult as this is to believe, you're not dreaming, Mr. Rivera.

Carlos has been changing into Carmen for the last couple nights, and he has no control over it.

You know about this too, Gabriella? And who is this Carmen?

I came clean to Gabby about everything yesterday when I changed in front of her, like I am with you right now.

Trust me, Carlos isn't in any danger.



As for who Carmen is, that's the name of Carlos' female self.

It wasn't my first idea for a female name...

Then again, if it were up to me, I wouldn't be turning into a woman at all.

I have so many questions and concerns for your safety.

Don't worry, I had a lot of questions when this first started, too.

¡Dios Mio! Your chest is enormous!

It just makes this whole thing even harder to believe.



I'd feel a lot better about what I'm seeing if I got some answers.

Like why Carlos is turning into Carmen in the first place?

I can help with that. It turns out that Carlos' ex-girlfriend, Alana, is a witch.



She put an actual curse on Carlos the other day.

Now, he'll turn into a woman at sunset, and turn back into Carlos at dawn.



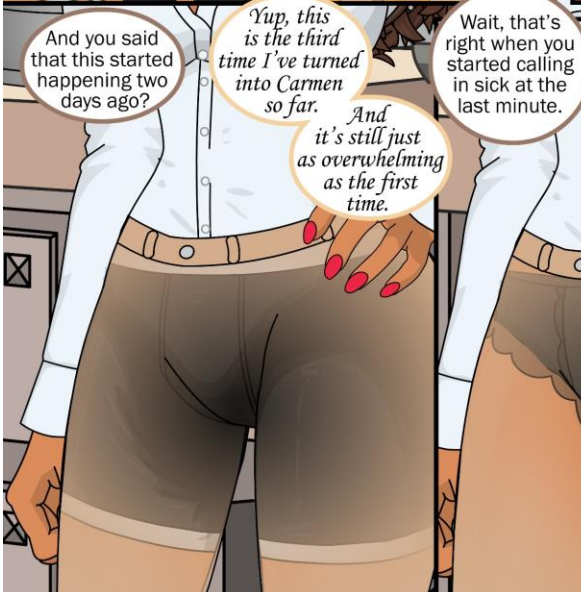
Alana did this to you? I thought she was a nice girl.

According to her, this is my punishment for cheating on her.



Gabby and I talked to her this morning, and she finally explained everything.

Dad doesn't need to know about me cheating on Alana with eight different women, or precisely how I can remove this curse.

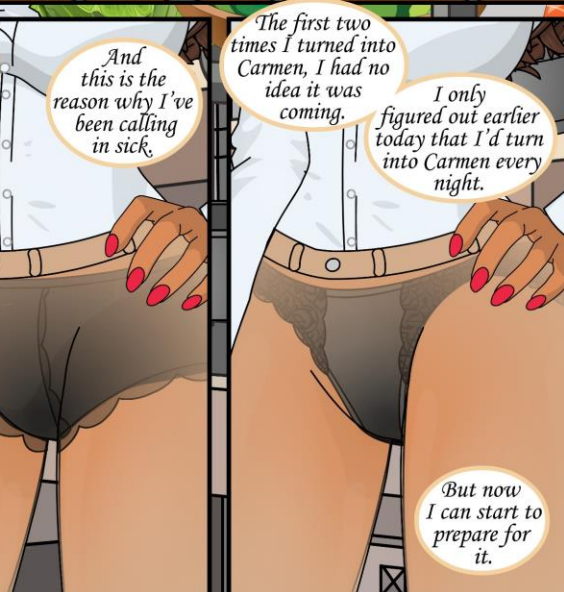


And you said that this started happening two days ago?

Yup, this is the third time I've turned into Carmen so far.

And it's still just as overwhelming as the first time.

Wait, that's right when you started calling in sick at the last minute.



And this is the reason why I've been calling in sick.

The first two times I turned into Carmen, I had no idea it was coming.

I only figured out earlier today that I'd turn into Carmen every night.

But now I can start to prepare for it.



I can't believe what I'm seeing. Your face looks so different, but similar at the same time.

You look like the daughter I never had.

Trust me, this takes some getting used to. I'm honestly still adjusting, too.

So wait, does anyone else know about what's happening to you?

Nope. Besides you and me, no one else knows the truth.



And honestly, I'd like to keep it to just the three of us for now.

You guys are the only ones I know who wouldn't treat me differently as a chick.

I appreciate that you felt you had to tell me all this.

And given what you're going through, I want you to feel comfortable above all else.

So if keeping your secret will make you feel at ease, then I promise not to tell another soul.

But I do have one more question: Is this also why you quit your job?



Absolutely. I love working here at the Eclipse, and normally would never quit.

But if I can't be myself at night anymore, then I can't work at a night club as a bartender.

At least, not as Carlos.

I'm not sure what you mean.

Gabby and I have come up with a plan, and we need your help.

If this goes right, then I'll get my job as a bartender back, I'll just work here as Carmen, instead.



I'd like to hear about this plan of yours first.

When I told Martin that I quit, I mentioned that my cousin Carmen could replace me.

I told Martin a little bit about her: that she just moved to Miami from Puerto Rico, and that she's looking for a job.

So you lied to Martin about all this?

Sometimes a lie is better than the truth. Especially when the truth is unbelievable.

Besides, if I had told Martin the truth, then he would have told the entire staff about me turning into a woman.

And the last thing I need is for Aaron to give me more shit than he already does.

Alright... But let's not make lying a habit, okay?

We'll see. Anyway, after I mentioned Carmen, Martin seemed interested.

He's willing to interview me as Carmen, but only if you vouch for me.

So please, Dad. I know I'm asking you to lie to your boss, but it's the only way I'll get rehired.

I really love this job. I don't want to lose it, and I'm willing to work here as Carmen.

Well, this is all a lot to take in at once. It's a little overwhelming just to see you like this.

But I can tell this matters a lot to you.

So of course I'll help, Son. You can always count on me for support.



Really? You'll actually help me?!

I might not fully understand what's happening to you, and it pains me that I can't stop you from changing into a woman.

But being there for you when you need help is the least I can do.

Because whether you're a man or a woman, I'll always be your father.

Oh, thank you so much, Dad! You're the best!

But uh... as great of a father as you are, while I'm Carmen, we'll need to pretend like you're not my dad.

Remember, Carmen is supposed to be your niece.

I guess that means I'll have to start calling you Uncle Diego when I'm like this.

Right... That is going to take some getting used to.

I can fill you in on the specifics while we head to Martin's office.

We have to hurry and do this interview before the club opens up.

Are you sure you don't want to join us for the interview, Gabby?

Thanks, but I've got more work to do here before we open. Now, go nail that interview!

I definitely will! See you soon.

I can tell that Dad is a bit uncomfortable about lying to Martin. He's always hated lying in general.

So I'm really surprised that he's onboard with my plan.

I guess he really does love me. I'll have to make sure to not disappoint him again.



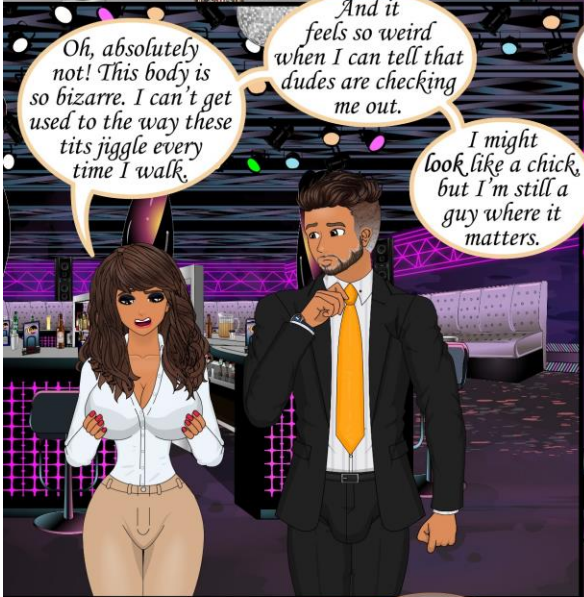
So you... I mean, Carmen has three years of experience as a bartender?

Yup, I'll tell Martin that she worked at one of the biggest bars in San Juan.

I guess that could work. Do I call you Carlos or Carmen while you're like this?

In public, you'll have to call me Carmen.

That's not quite what I meant. I mean which do you prefer? Do you... like being a woman?



Oh, absolutely not! This body is so bizarre. I can't get used to the way these tits jiggle every time I walk.

And it feels so weird when I can tell that dudes are checking me out.

I might look like a chick, but I'm still a guy where it matters.

Yeah, you're definitely still acting like my son. I wonder... are you really alright with being a female bartender?

Of course. Why wouldn't I be alright with that?



Customers are going to act differently around you when you're like this.

And you just said that you're uncomfortable with the way men check you out as Carmen.

You might get a lot of guys hitting on you and trying to get your number.



I appreciate the concern, Dad, but I've got that under control.

Guys hit on Gabby and Hope all the time, but they never go out with any of them.

I'll just try to act like them around the customers, and I'll be fine.

How different could it be?



I'm just concerned about your mental well-being, Son.

I'd hate for you to get unnecessarily stressed out over this.

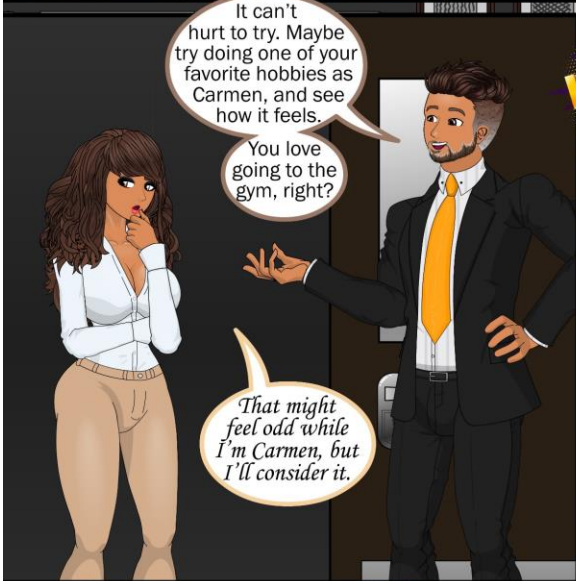
Thanks for looking out for me. I'm just not sure what to do to reduce that stress.



I do have one suggestion: Try to have some fun as Carmen.

It doesn't have to be all doom and gloom, does it?

I suppose that's one way to approach it. It just doesn't seem like I could have fun in such a different body.



It can't hurt to try. Maybe try doing one of your favorite hobbies as Carmen, and see how it feels.

You love going to the gym, right?

That might feel odd while I'm Carmen, but I'll consider it.



**KNOCK!**  
**KNOCK!**

Yes, who is it?

It's Diego, sir. I have my niece with me, and she'd like to see you.

Of course, come on in, you two.



Thank you for seeing us, Martin. I'd like to introduce you to my niece, Carmen Rivera.

It's a pleasure to meet you, Martin. My uncle and cousin have told me so many great things about you.

It's nice to meet you as well, Carmen.



You know, Carlos spoke very highly of you. But he forgot to mention how lovely you are.

Thank you, Martin. It's nice to feel appreciated.

Anyway, Carlos told me there was a job opening here, and I'd love to help out.



Your cousin would be right. We're short staffed on bartenders at the moment.

I've been told that you have some experience in that field?

It's true, Martin. She has years of experience. I hear the bar she worked at is rather similar to the Eclipse.

I just moved from San Juan to Miami last week, I've always wanted to try living in America.

Yes, sir. I was a bartender at the largest bar in San Juan for three years.



And since I know I'm damn good at mixing drinks and making customers feel welcome, I wanted to put my talents to work.

What made you choose the Eclipse over other clubs in the area?

My cousin and Uncle Diego swear that this the best club in Miami.

And that you were a very kind and understanding boss.

Also, if it helps, I can start working here right away. I'd even be willing to start tonight.



And you say she's a hard worker, Diego?

Absolutely, sir. She's one of the hardest workers I know.

Ask anything of her, and she'll give it her all. You won't regret hiring her.

Hmm... You certainly sound like you'd be a good hire, Carmen.

But I'd like to see you in action before I do anything else.

Would you mind joining me at our bar and making a drink for me?

I'd be happy to!



*This is such a nice bar you've got, here. And you've got a good selection of drinks to choose from, too.*

Take all the time you need to familiarize yourself with where things are.

If you don't know where something is, just ask, and I'll happily tell you.

*That's alright, sir. I've got this under control. Now, what can I get you?*

I admire the confidence. I think I'll have a Bloody Mary, please.

One Bloody Mary, coming right up!



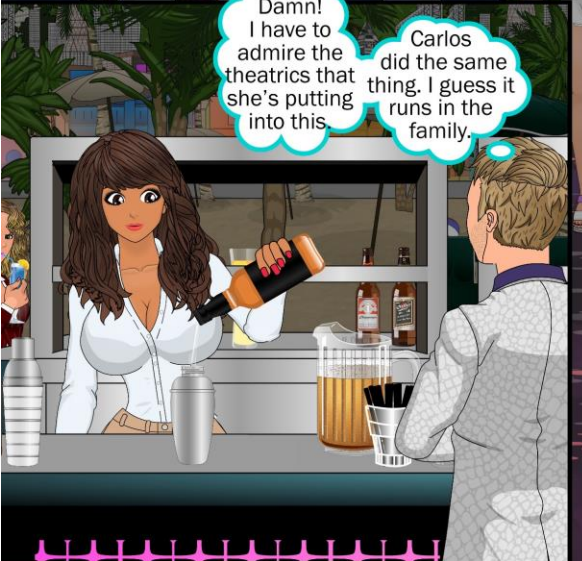
Heh, I see what Martin is trying to do. He wants me to trip up.

On paper, a Bloody Mary is a simple drink. But it's also simple to screw it up.

A good Bloody Mary should cover a range of tastes. Sweet, salty, savory, but not bitter.

So I'll just have to make an exceptional one for him.

The trick is to use real tomato juice, mixed with lots of ice and inexpensive vodka.



Damn! I have to admire the theatrics that she's putting into this.

Carlos did the same thing. I guess it runs in the family.

You know, I'm actually most impressed that you know where everything is behind the bar. Considering you've never been here before, that's wild to me.

*Oh, uh... Carlos taught me how a lot of things at the Eclipse work.*





To be honest, I've been training with Carlos a lot over the last week, I hope you don't mind.

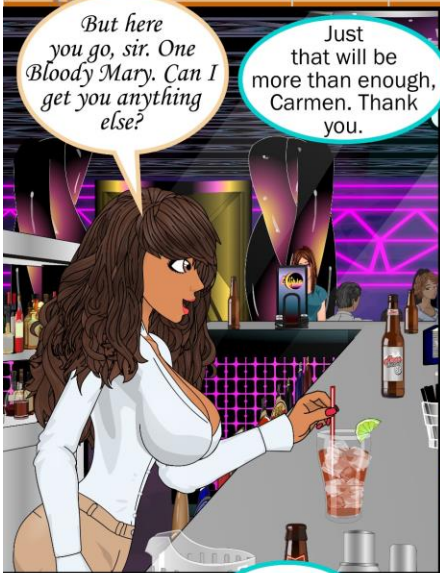
That's more than alright. It makes it easier for training.

You're definitely acing the theatrical aspect, too.



I think you'll find that I ace every aspect, sir. I pride myself on that.

But of course, if there's anything you want me to fix or improve upon, I'm always happy to make adjustments.



But here you go, sir. One Bloody Mary. Can I get you anything else?

Just that will be more than enough, Carmen. Thank you.



Come on! I hope that I mixed that well enough.



Wow, that is a damn good drink, Carmen.

I must admit that you've impressed me with your skills and experience.

Thank you, Martin. Does that mean I get the job?



Normally, I'd think it over and get back to you in a few days.

But considering we're understaffed after your cousin abruptly left, I'll make an exception.

Welcome to the Eclipse, Carmen.



Seriously? I got the job? I promise that I won't let you down.

Thank you so much, Martin. And since you said that you'd be willing to work tonight, I intend to take you up on that offer.



You can count on me now, Martin.

I really hope I can. Your cousin Carlos wasn't always the best employee.

But since you impressed me so much, I'm willing to take a shot on you. Hopefully, you work out better than your cousin.



We'll need to do a few things before you start tonight, though.

Beginning with getting you a work uniform.

Gabby! Can you come out here?! I'd like to introduce you to someone!



Hey, Martin. What's up?

Gabby, I'd like you to meet our newest bartender.

Carmen, this is Gabby, one of our-

Actually, sir, Gabby and I have already met.



Yeah, Carmen and I have been getting to know each other pretty well over the last day or so.

Oh, well then that makes this easier for everyone.

Anyway, Carmen will be working in Carlos' place at the bar tonight.



I'll go up to my office to get the paperwork for Carmen to sign.

In the meantime, can you take Carmen to the backroom and get her a work uniform?

Can do, boss. Come on, Carmen.

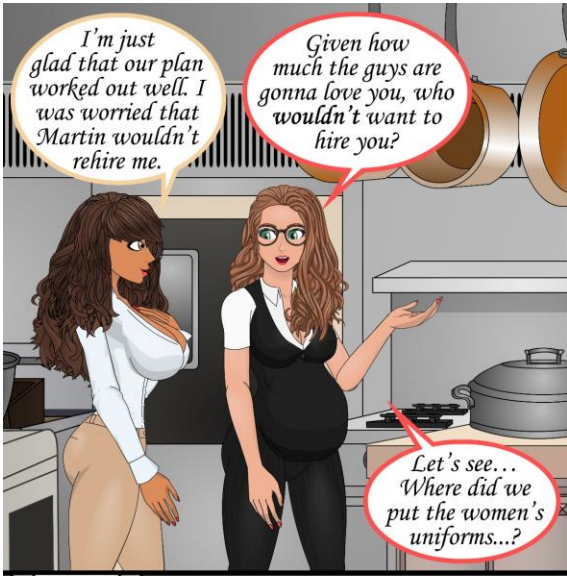


Nice going back there. Especially when he asked how you knew where everything was.

You were watching the whole time?

Duh. I'm not gonna miss being there for you, dude.

Congrats on getting your job back, by the way.



I'm just glad that our plan worked out well. I was worried that Martin wouldn't rehire me.

Given how much the guys are gonna love you, who wouldn't want to hire you?

Let's see... Where did we put the women's uniforms...?



Right, here we go. Hmm... with your waist, you'll probably need a small top and small pants.

And even then, they might be a big snug.

Great, is there a locker room where I can change?



I'm afraid not. But you're free to change in the female staff bathroom.

Ugh... I was dreading having to go into the women's bathroom.

But I guess it was bound to happen sooner or later.



Take all the time you need in there. And if you need a different sized uniform, just ask.

Thanks, but the sooner I get this over with, the better.

This uniform looks like it'll fit me just fine.



And hey, for what it's worth, I really am glad that you got rehired.

I know how much working here means to you and your dad, so I'm happy this transformation thing didn't mess that up.



I appreciate that, but this transformation stuff is messing up a lot of other things.

After just three nights as Carmen, it feels like my life has been turned upside down.



Don't get me wrong, I'm glad that I can still work here.

But the way Martin berated me when I quit is going to stick with me for a long time.

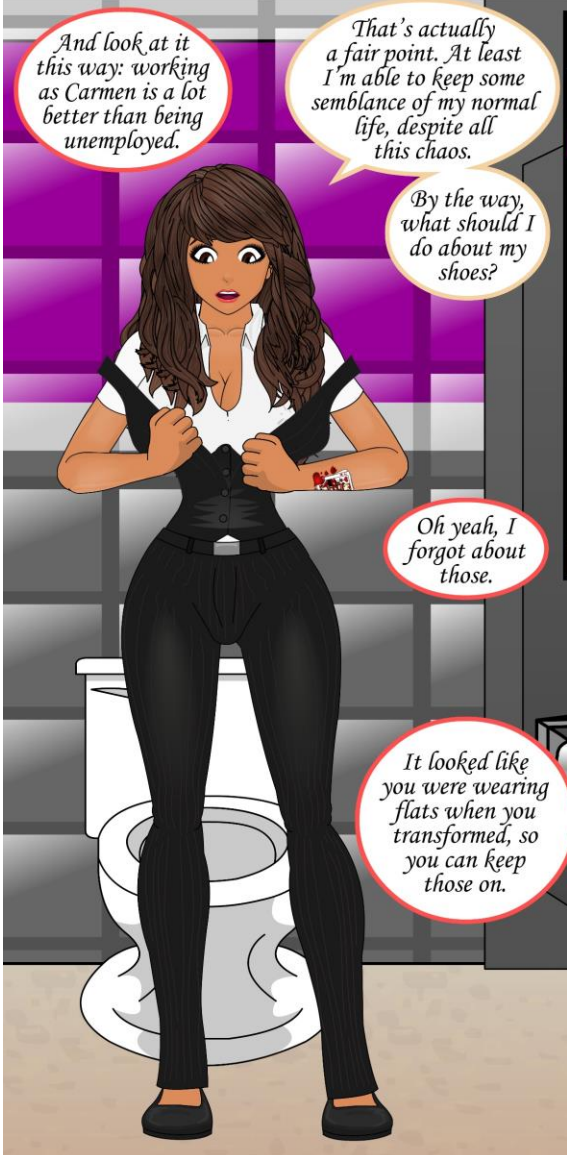
And now it feels like this female persona is taking over my life.



I guess it just feels messed up that Carmen has a job, but Carlos doesn't.

I see what you mean, but what other choice do you have right now?

Plus, whether you work as Carlos or Carmen, the money is all going to the same place.



And look at it this way: working as Carmen is a lot better than being unemployed.

That's actually a fair point. At least I'm able to keep some semblance of my normal life, despite all this chaos.

By the way, what should I do about my shoes?

Oh yeah, I forgot about those.

It looked like you were wearing flats when you transformed, so you can keep those on.



Alright, how do I look in this?

Not bad. You look like a true Eclipse girl. How does it feel?

Uhh... it feels tighter than I expected. Especially around the breasts and ass.



Well that's to be expected.

They don't make these uniforms to fit porn star measurements.

I'm a bit surprised that your girls didn't make that blouse just burst.