

# PERFORM UNDER PRESSURE



Writer: ERed

Artwork: WantedWaifus

## PERFORM UNDER PRESSURE 2

Dating can be rough at the best of times, never mind if you have a career that society considers "demeaning".

Selma and Haley have had their share of heartbreaks, but maybe things will turn out differently this time?

It all depends on how Selma's date reacts when (or if) he finds out that his heartthrob's day job is as a human balloon!



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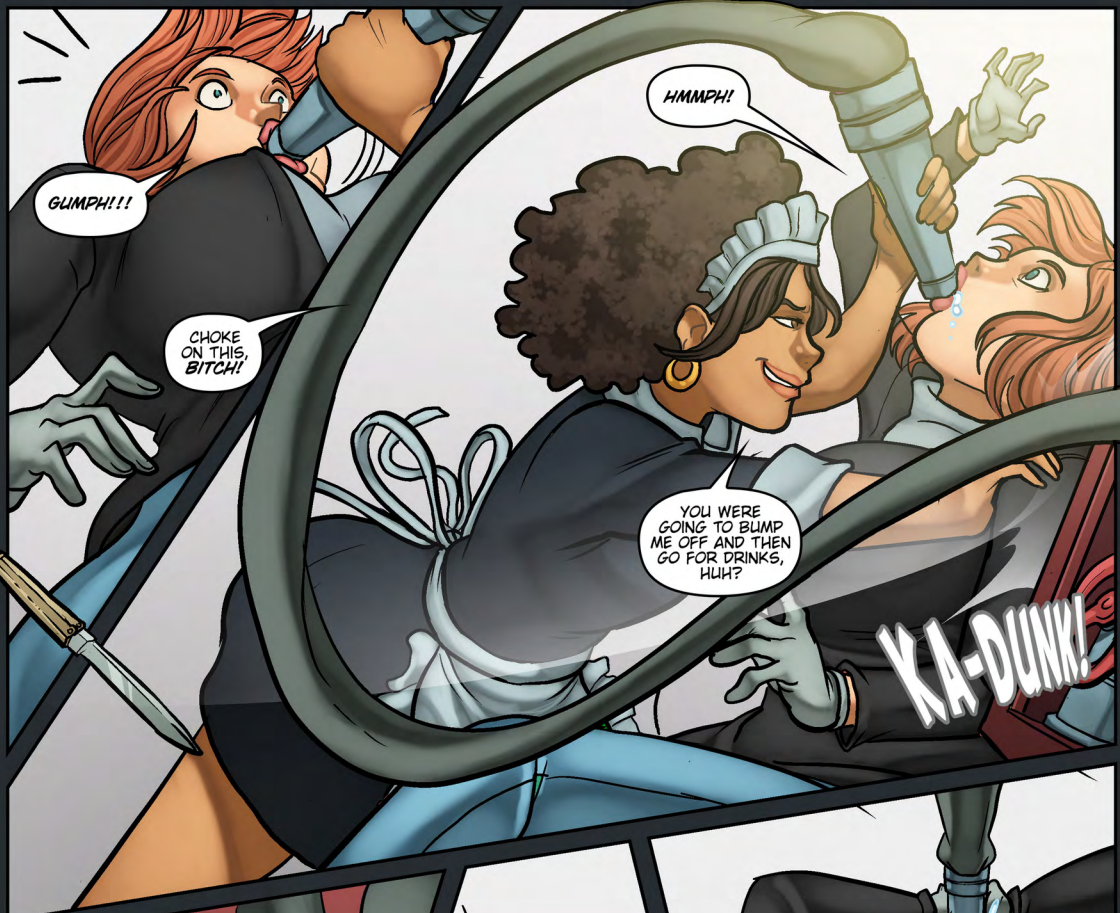
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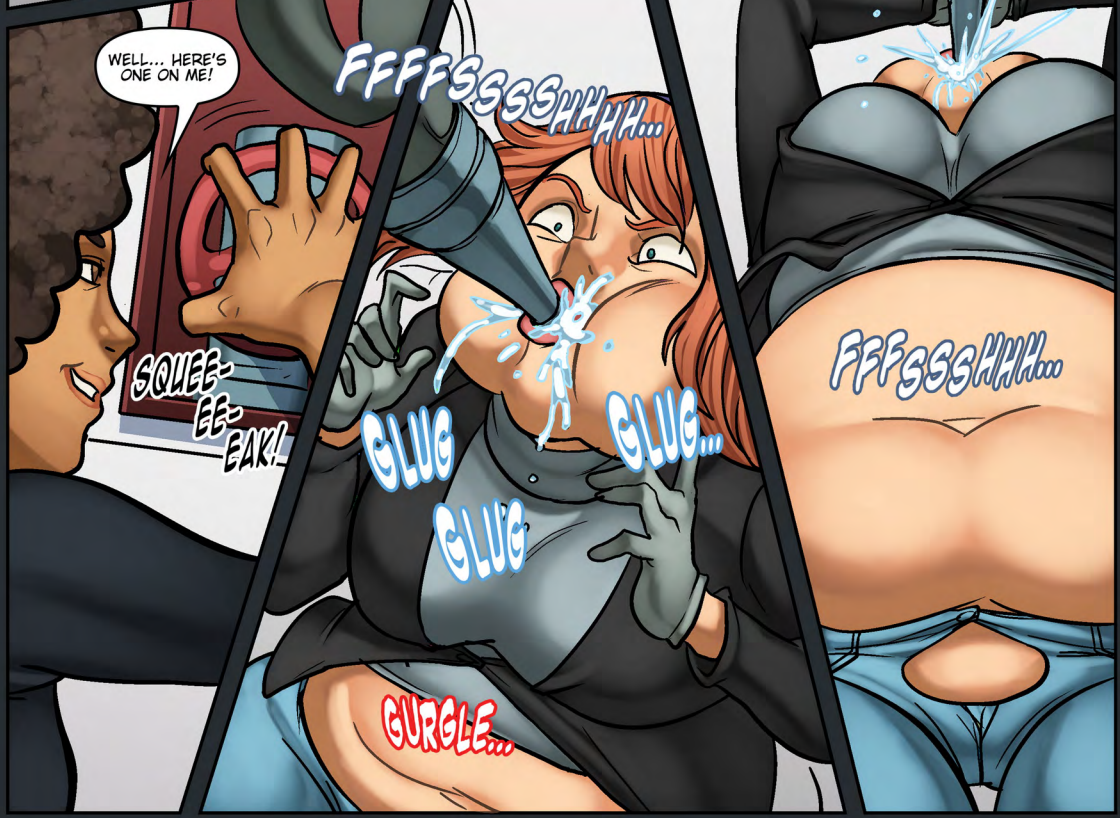
GUMPH!!!

CHOKE ON THIS, BITCH!

HMMPH!

YOU WERE GOING TO BUMP ME OFF AND THEN GO FOR DRINKS, HUH?

KA-DUNK!



WELL... HERE'S ONE ON ME!

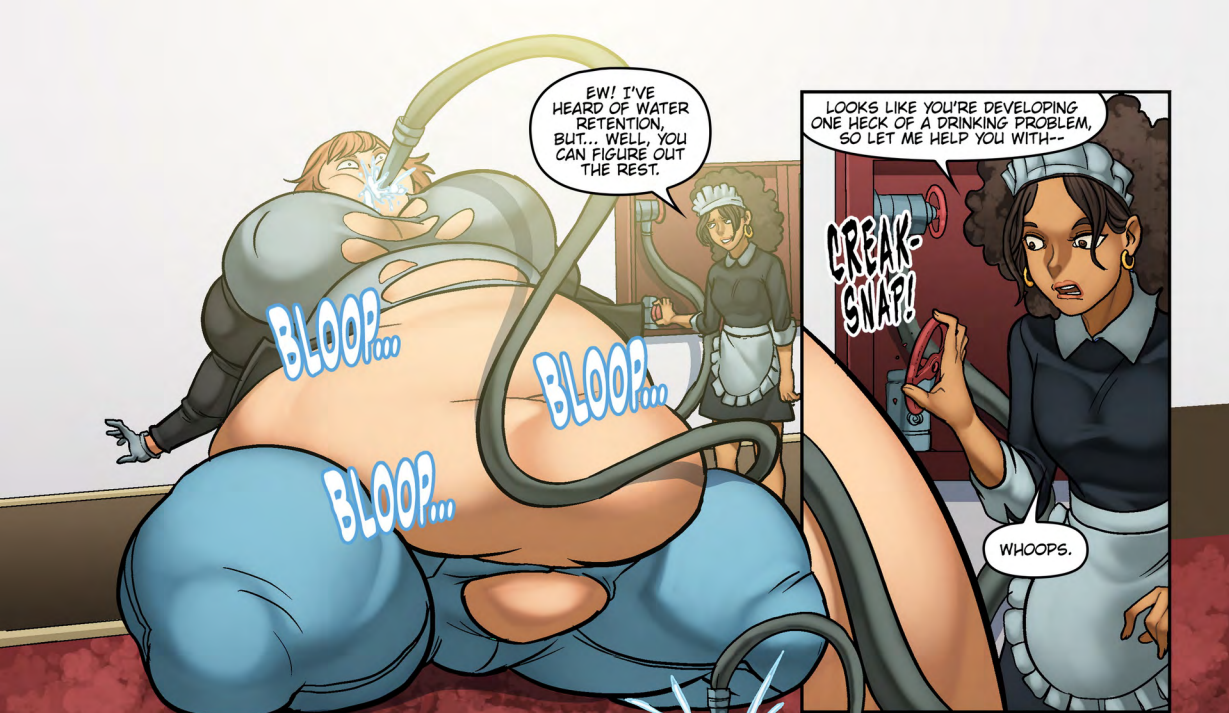
FFFFSSSSHHH...

SQUEE-EE-BAK!

GLUG GLUG...  
GLUG

GURGLE...

FFFFSSSSHHH...



EW! I'VE HEARD OF WATER RETENTION, BUT... WELL, YOU CAN FIGURE OUT THE REST.

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE DEVELOPING ONE HECK OF A DRINKING PROBLEM, SO LET ME HELP YOU WITH--

CREAK-SNAP!

WHOOOPS.

BLOOP...

BLOOP...

BLOOP...



UH, I SURE HOPE YOU HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM IN THERE.

FFRRSSSSSHHHH...

POP!

AT LEAST ENOUGH FOR ME TO GET OUT OF THE BLAST RADIUS!



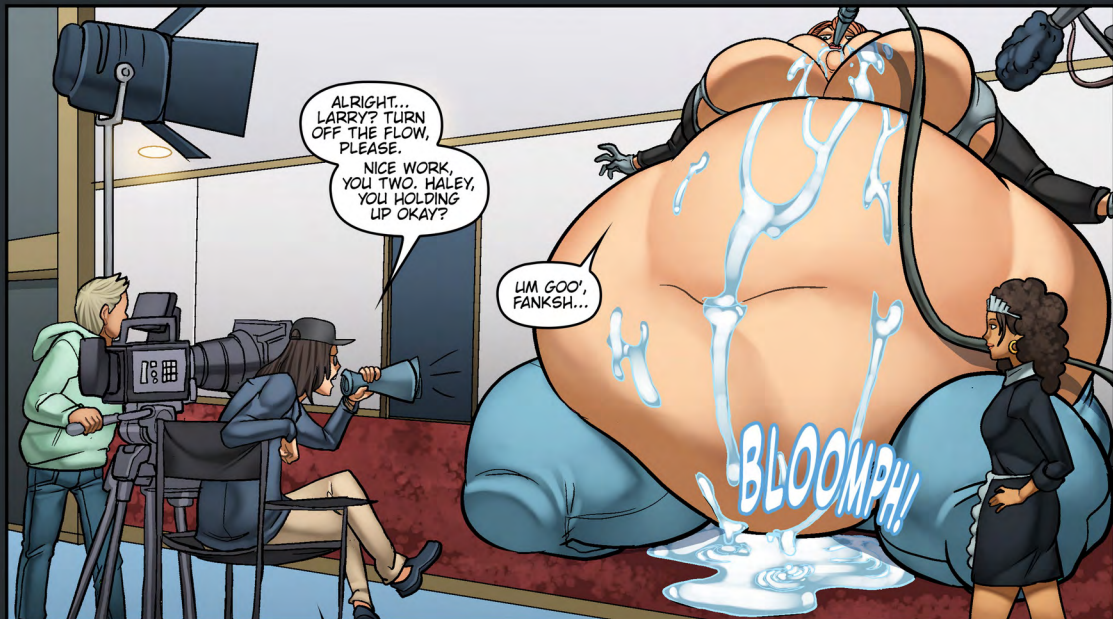
CREE-EE-EE-EE

SHRRIP!

WELL, SORRY TO POP OFF, BUT I'VE PLACES TO BE. BUH-BYE, BIG GIRL! IT'S BEEN SWELL!

EE-EE-EE-EE-AAA-K!!!

AND... POP!



ALRIGHT... LARRY? TURN OFF THE FLOW, PLEASE.  
NICE WORK, YOU TWO, HALEY, YOU HOLDING UP OKAY?

LIM GOO', FANKSH...

BLOOMPH!

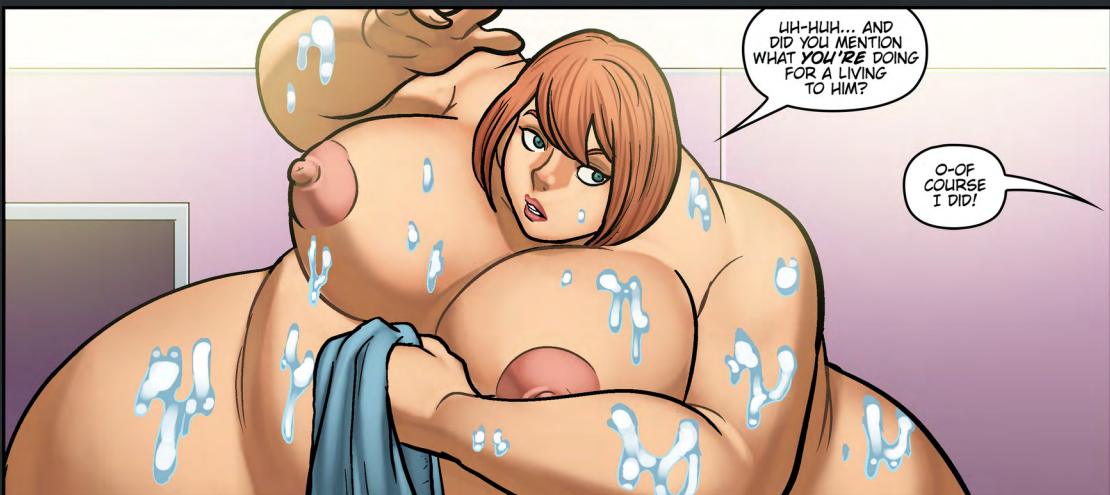
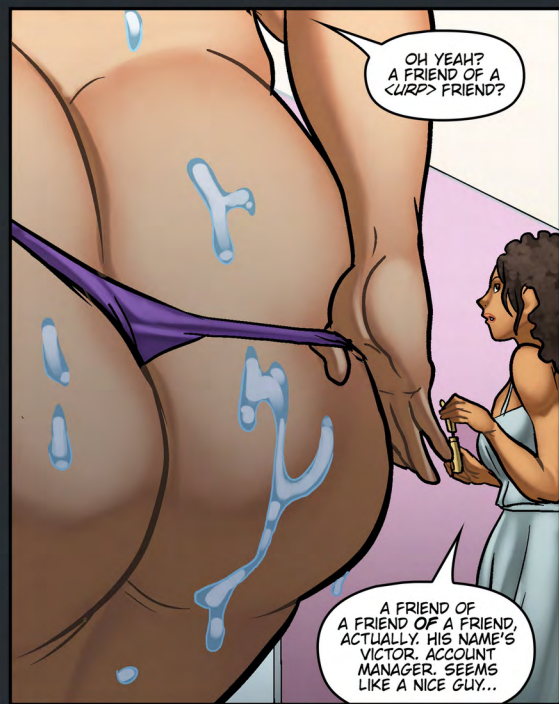


THEN THAT'S A WRAP! WE'LL FINISH THE BEDROOM INTERIORS TOMORROW, GOT IT?

SEE YOU IN A BIT, HALEY.

YEAH <HIC> SEE YOU <URP> IN A BIT...



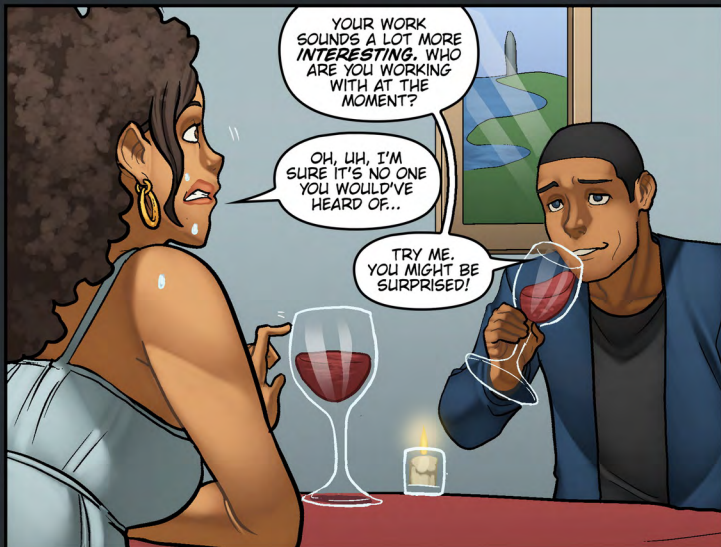






SO, IT'S GOOD MONEY, BUT MONEY ONLY GETS YOU SO FAR, RIGHT?

I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT TAKING SOME NIGHT CLASSES, JUST SO I CAN TRY OUT SOME THINGS THAT MIGHT BE MORE FULFILLING...



YOUR WORK SOUNDS A LOT MORE INTERESTING. WHO ARE YOU WORKING WITH AT THE MOMENT?

OH, UH, I'M SURE IT'S NO ONE YOU WOULD'VE HEARD OF...

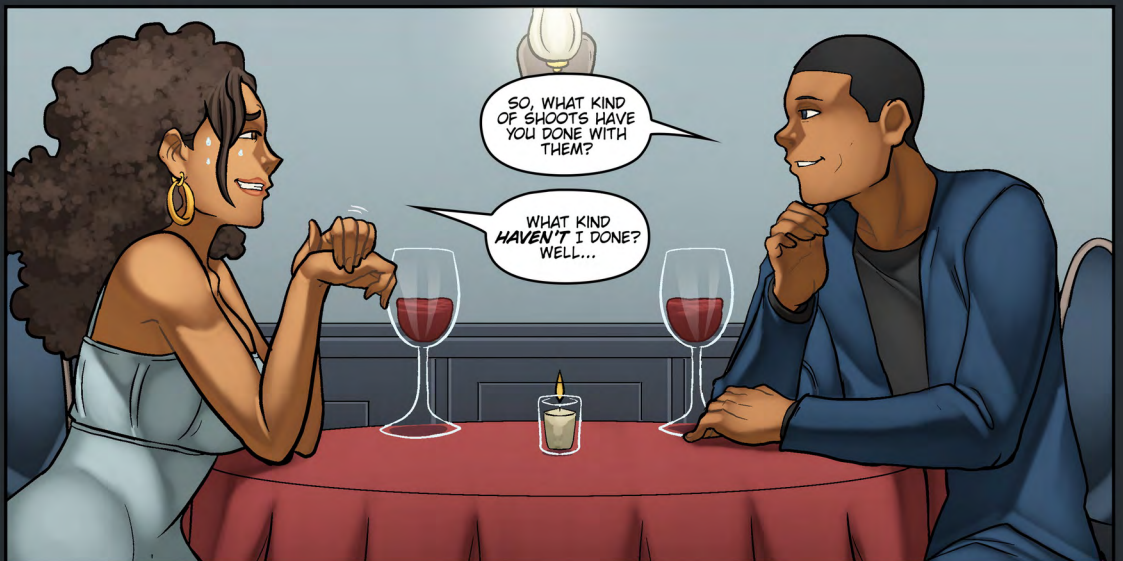
TRY ME. YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED!



JUST SAY ANYTHING. THROW SOMETHING OUT THERE!

ER, WELL, MOST RECENTLY I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH "PEPPER" MAGAZINE, IF YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH THEM.

IT RINGS A BELL...



SO, WHAT KIND OF SHOOT'S HAVE YOU DONE WITH THEM?

WHAT KIND HAVEN'T I DONE? WELL...



"I'VE DONE SWIMSUITS..."

"BUSINESS WEAR..."

"LINGERIE..."

"GYM WEAR..."

DANG, YOU'RE A BUSY GIRL.

MM-HMM!  
IT'S A TOUGH OLD BUSINESS.

DID YOU SAY IT WAS "PEPPER" YOU WERE WITH? NOW I REMEMBER...

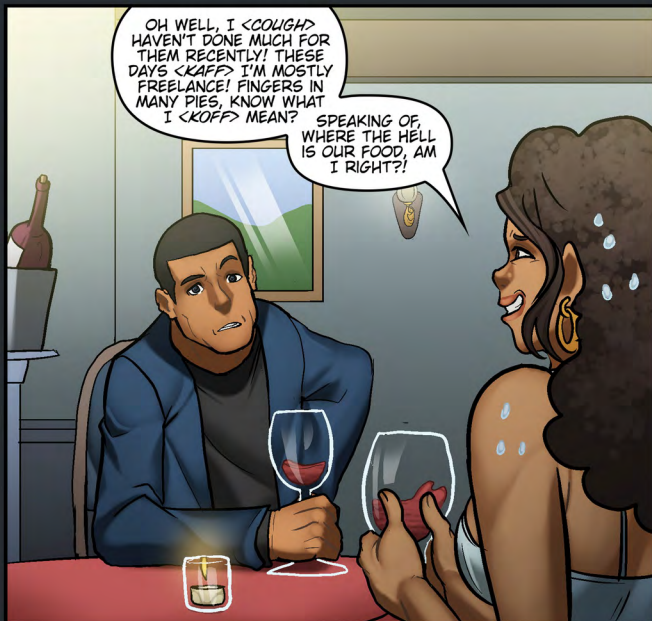


MY SISTER READS THAT ONE ALL THE TIME. I ASKED IF SHE RECOGNIZED YOU.

SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T.

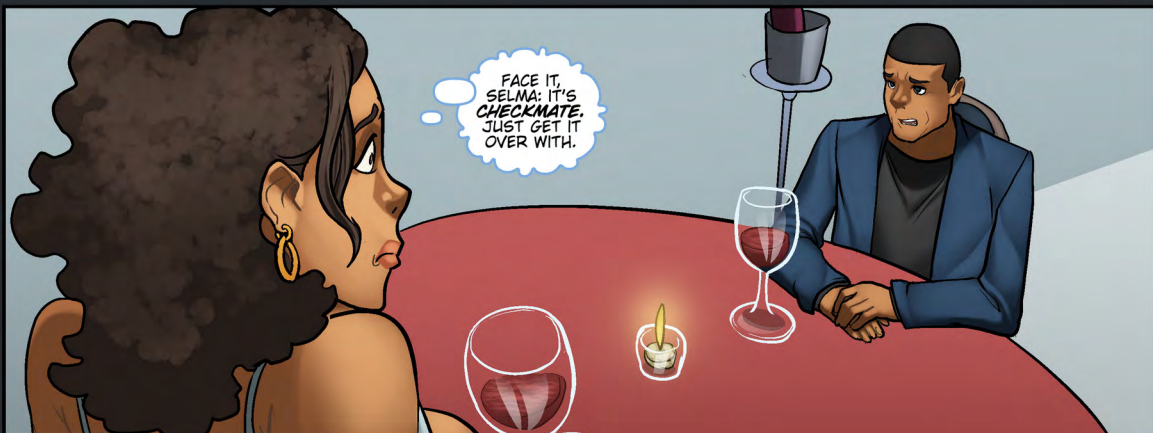
SHIT SHIT SHIT SHIT SHIT SHIT-

PPPHHT!!!



OH WELL, I <KOFF> HAVEN'T DONE MUCH FOR THEM RECENTLY! THESE DAYS <KRAFF> I'M MOSTLY FREELANCE! FINGERS IN MANY PIES, KNOW WHAT I <KOFF> MEAN?

SPEAKING OF, WHERE THE HELL IS OUR FOOD, AM I RIGHT?!

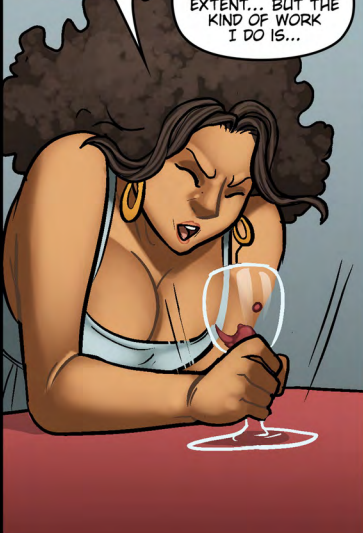


FACE IT, SELMA: IT'S CHECKMATE. JUST GET IT OVER WITH.



I'M SORRY, VICTOR, BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN TOTALLY HONEST ABOUT THIS.

I MEAN, I AM A MODEL TO SOME EXTENT... BUT THE KIND OF WORK I DO IS...



...IT'S OF A MORE... LEWD PERSUASION.



BASICALLY, IF THEY WERE TO PRINT WHAT I DO IN A MAGAZINE...

...YOU'D HAVE TO BUY IT FROM **BEHIND** THE COUNTER.

I SEE...



THAT'S PUT A DAMPER ON DINNER, HUH?

N-NO, OF COURSE NOT! THIS ISN'T THE 1950S! THAT SORT OF THING ISN'T ANYTHING TO BE **ASHAMED** OF.



YOU MEAN THAT?

OF COURSE. I'D LIKE TO THINK I'M PRETTY OPEN-MINDED.

...THEN AGAIN, DON'T WE ALL?



THAT'S NICE TO KNOW. MOST PEOPLE TREAT ME LIKE I'M RADIOACTIVE AFTER THEY HEAR THAT!

PLEASE, I'VE WORKED IN INSURANCE. IF ANYONE AT THIS TABLE HAS THE MORAL HIGH-GROUND...



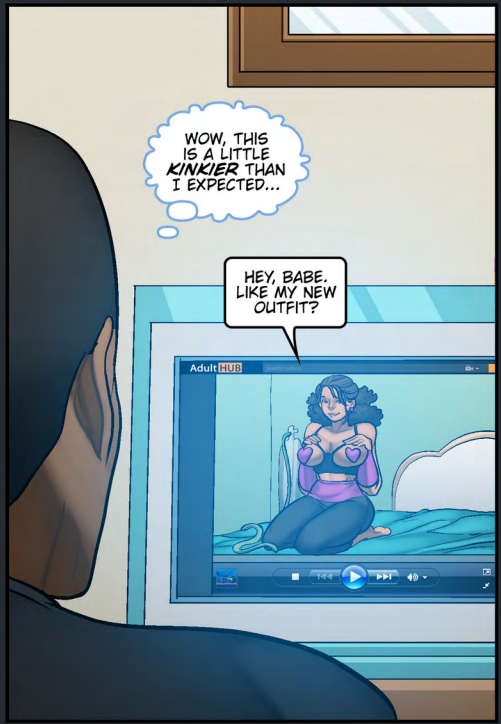
Hey, Haley!  
Just finished dinner.  
I let the cat out of the bag, but we sorted it out. Had a good time after that.



I didn't get into specifics, but he seemed pretty cool with it overall.

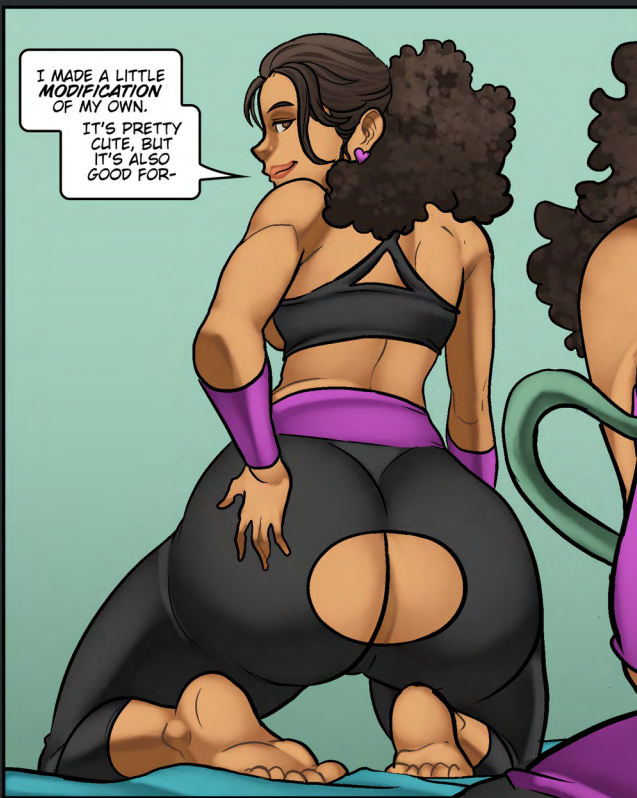
MY BRAIN IS TELLING ME THIS IS A **BAD** IDEA, BUT ONE LITTLE LOOK COULDN'T HURT... RIGHT?

MOST OF THIS STUFF SEEMS TO BE PAY-WALLED... AH, THERE'S A "SAMPLER" HERE!



WOW, THIS IS A LITTLE **KINKIER** THAN I EXPECTED...

HEY, BABE. LIKE MY NEW OUTFIT?



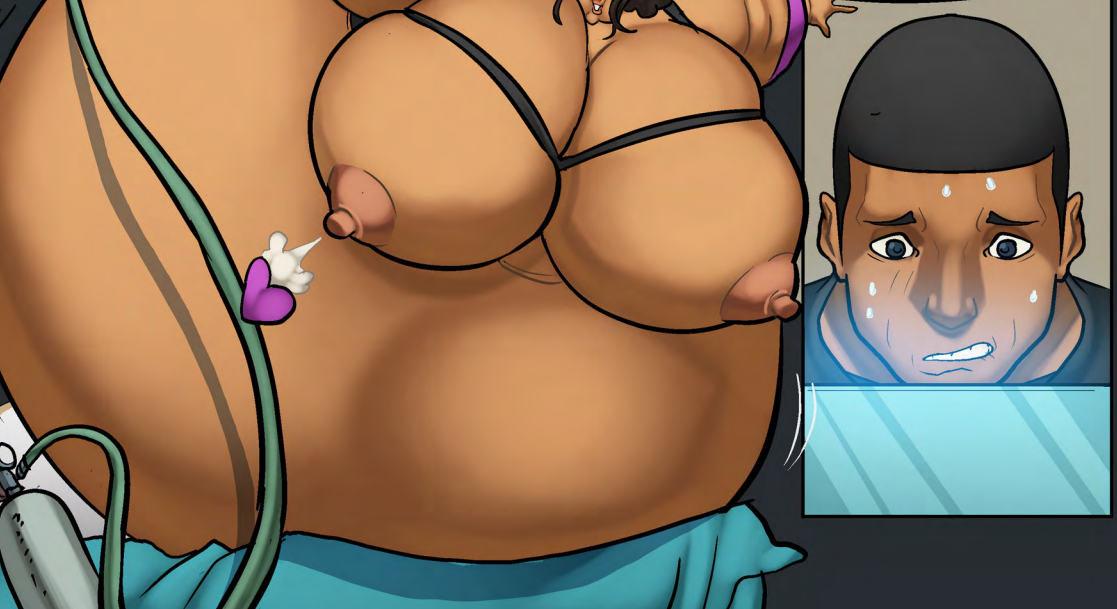
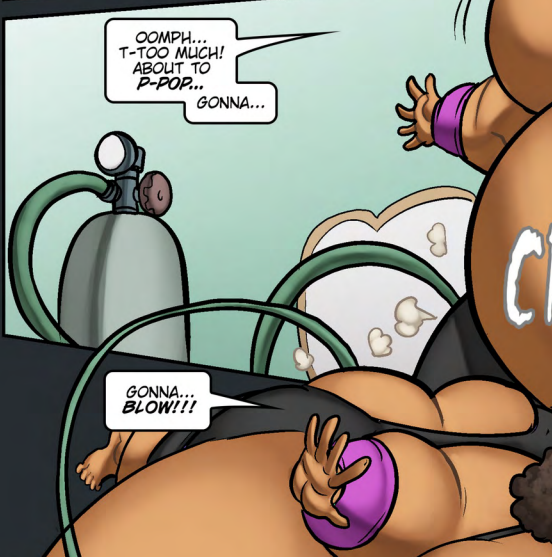
I MADE A LITTLE **MODIFICATION** OF MY OWN.

IT'S PRETTY CUTE, BUT IT'S ALSO GOOD FOR-



-EASE OF ACCESS!

**SNAP!**





YOU'RE ENJOYING THIS, AREN'T YOU, YOU GROSS LITTLE WEIRDO?  
 DON'T TRY AND HIDE IT; IT MAKES YOU LOOK MORE PATHETIC THAN YOU ALREADY ARE.

FSST  
 FSST  
 FSST...



I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LIKE SEEING WOMEN BLOW UP BIGGER AND BIGGER UNTIL THEY BURST...  
 SUCH A CHILDISH FANTASY. MEN LIKE YOU NEVER LEARNED HOW TO ACT YOUR AGE, HUH?

PHHHT!

FWOOSSSHHH!



IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT? WANT ME TO GO POP LIKE A PARTY BALLOON?  
 LOOKS TO ME LIKE YOU'LL "POP" LONG BEFORE I DO!

FSST  
 FSST...



I'VE HALF A MIND TO CRAM THIS DOWN YOUR GULLET AND SEE HOW MUCH YOU LIKE IT.  
 HAVING YOUR GUTS PUMPED FULL OF AIR UNTIL YOU'RE A BLOATED, USELESS BLIMP OF A MAN...

PHHHT!

FFFWSSSSSHHHH!!!

SQUEEAAK!

SQUEEAAK!





COME ON, IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS NOW, SELMA. IF HE WAS GOING TO CALL, HE'D CALL.

I KNOW, I KNOW. I TRIED MESSAGING HIM MYSELF, AND IT SAYS HE'S READ IT, BUT...



SO HE GOT COLD FEET. IT'S NOT LIKE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IT'S HAPPENED TO EITHER OF US.

I THOUGHT I WAS GETTING SOMEWHERE THIS TIME...

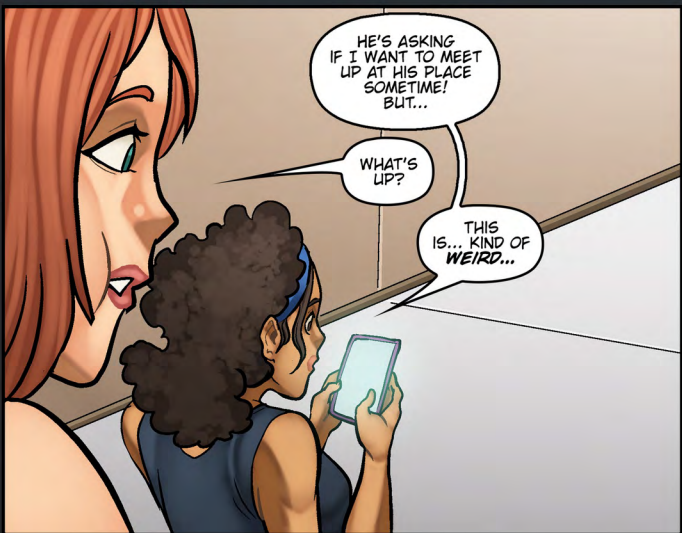
LOOK, THIS WASN'T THE BE-ALL, END-ALL. CONSIDER IT PRACTICE FOR NEXT TIME.



PLENTY MORE FISH IN THE SEA, AND IF YOU NEED ANY MORE PLATITUDES, THEN--

WAIT, HE JUST MESSAGED ME!

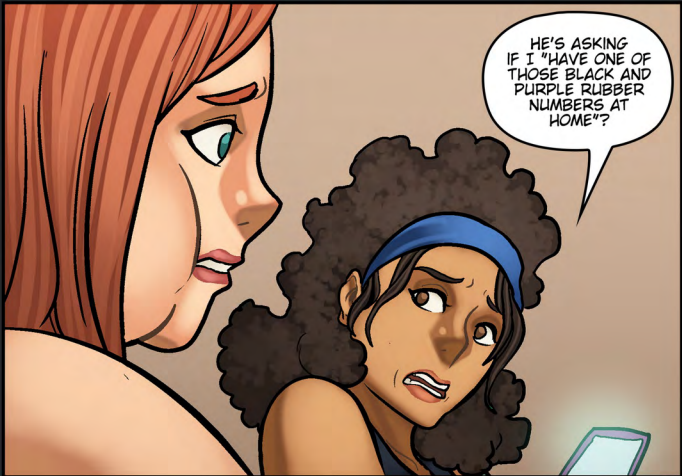
WH-WHAT?!  
ALRIGHT, NEVER LISTEN TO ME AGAIN, I GUESS!



HE'S ASKING IF I WANT TO MEET UP AT HIS PLACE SOMETIME! BUT...

WHAT'S UP?

THIS IS... KIND OF WEIRD...



HE'S ASKING IF I "HAVE ONE OF THOSE BLACK AND PURPLE RUBBER NUMBERS AT HOME"?

THE END?

CHECK OUT SOME  
PREVIEW PAGES FROM OUR  
UPCOMING COMIC LINEUP!



# HELIUM

AUTHOR:  
ROLLING THUNDER

ARTIST:  
EMMANUEL XERX JAVIER

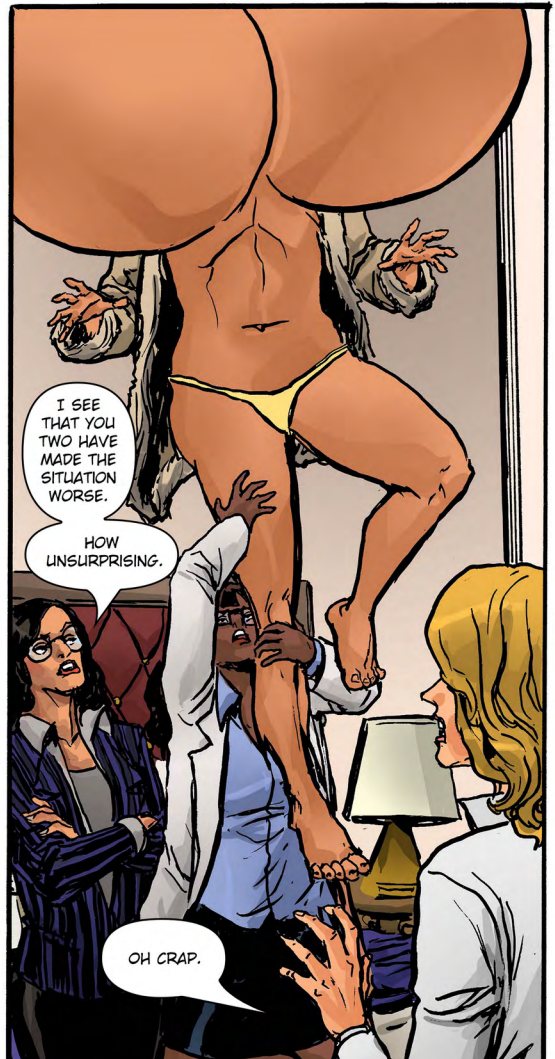


MY  
BREASTS!



I'M...  
FLOATING?

OH NO!  
THAT'S NOT  
SUPPOSED  
TO HAPPEN!



I SEE  
THAT YOU  
HAVE  
MADE THE  
SITUATION  
WORSE.

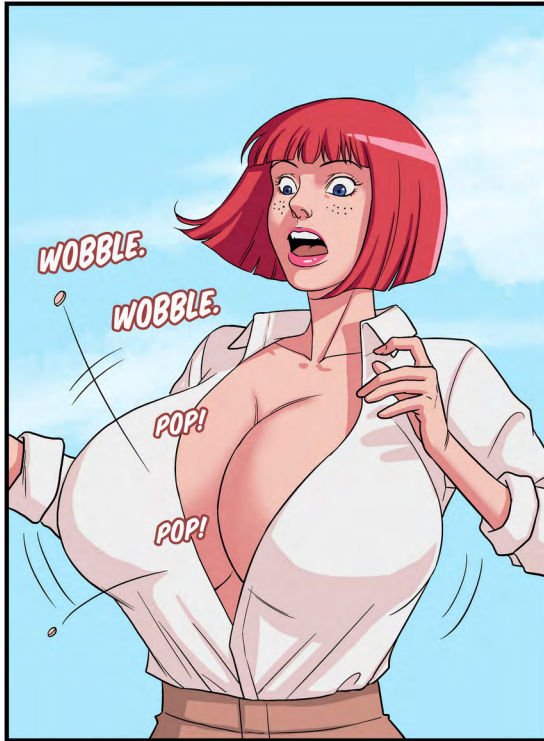
HOW  
UNSURPRISING.

OH CRAP.

# HEX SIGNS

AUTHOR:  
MAC ROME

ARTIST:  
YUAN (STUDIO ARIETA)



MADAME MORGANA'S PARLOR  
OF  
**WITCHCRAFT AND MAGIC**

AUTHOR:  
ROGUE INFLATOR

ARTIST:  
WANTEDWAIFUS



# BLUE DYSTOPIA

AUTHOR:  
ROGUE INFLATOR

ARTIST:  
LWJ (SEDNA STUDIO)

I'M NOT GOING TO STOP UNTIL YOU TELL ME WHERE SHE IS!

SHE RAN OFF, ALL RIGHT? THAT'S ALL I KNOW!

THERE HAS TO BE MORE TO IT THAN THAT. WHERE EXACTLY DID SHE RUN OFF TO? IF YOU DON'T START TALKING SOON, YOUR ASS MIGHT CONSUME THE WHOLE CITY!

WHERE I CAN FIND HER?!

PLEASE! NO MORE! I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING! AMANDA WAS TASKED TO GO UNDERCOVER AS A SCIENTIST. SHE DISCOVERED CRUEL EXPERIMENTS THAT WERE BEING CONDUCTED ON UNWILLING TEST SUBJECTS, INCLUDING A YOUNG GIRL WITH UNUSUAL POWERS.



THAT'S WHERE WE HAVE OUR RESISTANCE STRONGHOLD!

THAT GIRL IS THE ASSET! WITH OUR HELP, AMANDA WAS ABLE TO BUST HER OUT. BY NOW THEY'LL BE OUTSIDE THE CITY WALLS AND MAKING A RUN FOR BLACKRIDGE CITY!

BLACKRIDGE, HUH? WHY THERE?

OH? THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU JOIN THEM? I THOUGHT YOU WERE PART OF THE TEAM...

I CHICKENED OUT, ALL RIGHT?! YOU'VE SEEN WHAT'S BEHIND THOSE WALLS! I DIDN'T WANT TO BLOW UP AND GET INFECTED!

SO MUCH FOR FIGHTING FOR YOUR CAUSE.

