

NEXT DAY...



CLARA, I'M LEAVING!



ALRIGHT, AND JUST MAKE SURE YOU DON'T COME BACK BEFORE 7 PM.





HUH, WHY?

DIDN'T I TELL YOU SOMEONE IS COMING TODAY, AND I DON'T WANT ANYONE HERE?

OH, RIGHT, YOUR SECRET GUESTS. FINE, I WON'T SHOW UP BEFORE 7.



I HAVE TO MAKE SURE  
YOU SPEND MORE AND MORE  
TIME WITH JACK.

THUD



LET'S CHECK ON KEN NOW.



SHE'S SEARCHING FOR IT EVERYWHERE IN THE OFFICE. IT MUST BE REALLY IMPORTANT TO HER...



NO, IF THERE IS SOMETHING LIKE THAT... SHE WOULDN'T HAVE ANY REASON TO HIDE ABOUT IT.

WHAT IF IT'S FROM SOMEONE SPECIAL? IS SHE... SEEING SOMEONE...

GUESS, I'M JUST OVERTHINKING. IT'S PROBABLY JUST A REGULAR RING.

BZZZ...

BZZZZ...





CLARA'S CALLING... MAYBE I SHOULD ASK HER ABOUT THIS RING. IF IT'S SOMETHING SPECIAL, SHE DEFINITELY KNOWS ABOUT IT.

CLARA  
Message  
Decline  
Accept



I KNOW, RIGHT? THOUGHT I'D GIVE YOU A CALL BEFORE YOU COMPLETELY FORGOT YOUR OLD FRIEND.

HEY, CLARA! IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

HAHA, NO, IT'S JUST THAT WORK KEEPS ME SO BUSY I BARELY GET TIME TO TALK TO ANYONE. BUT, YOU ACTUALLY CALLED AT THE PERFECT TIME, UM... I WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT SOMETHING.

OKAY, BUT BEFORE THAT, I'M KIND OF CURIOUS... HOW'S EVERYTHING GOING IN BETWEEN YOU AND EMMA?



HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

OH, DON'T ACT DUMB.  
YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW?



ALL THAT STUFF YOU'VE DONE  
FOR HER--FROM HELPING WITH HER SISTER'S  
ADMISSION TO HER JOB. YOU FEEL MORE THAN  
JUST A FRIEND FOR HER, DON'T YOU?

I-I... IT'S NOT WHAT  
YOU'RE THINKING...

OH, REALLY? MY BAD, I GUESS I'VE GOT A WILD IMAGINATION. HAHA, FORGET EVERYTHING I JUST SAID!

SO, WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO ASK?

THERE'S NO POINT IN HIDING IT ANYMORE. SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY GOING ON IN EMMA'S LIFE THAT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT.

SHE'S HER CLOSE FRIEND, IF I OPEN UP ABOUT HOW I FEEL, MAYBE SHE'LL HELP ME UNDERSTAND EMMA BETTER.

LI-UH, CLARA, YOU'RE RIGHT... I... I REALLY LIKE EMMA...



OF COURSE, YOU DO. I JUST WANTED YOU TO ADMIT IT SO I CAN USE YOU TO MY ADVANTAGE.

OH, I KNEW IT. BUT YOU HAVEN'T EXPRESSED YOUR FEELINGS TO EMMA YET, RIGHT? OTHERWISE, SHE WOULD HAVE ALREADY TOLD ME.

HUH, WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?

NO, I HAVEN'T... I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THE RIGHT TIME, BUT NOW I FEEL LIKE THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE IN HER LIFE.

I DON'T KNOW... EVERY TIME I TRY TO HAVE A DEEP CONVERSATION WITH HER, SHE ACTS LIKE SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING OR LYING... AND YESTERDAY, I FOUND A RING ON HER DESK TOO.

I THINK IT'S REALLY SPECIAL TO HER... SHE'S BEEN ASKING EVERYONE IN THE OFFICE IF ANYONE'S SEEN IT, AND HERE I AM, KEEPING IT LIKE AN IDIOT. I SHOULD JUST GIVE IT BACK TO HER.

HA, WHAT A TIMING! IT MUST BE THE SAME RING MIA GAVE HER. HMM, IT WOULD BE BETTER IF HE DOESN'T GIVE IT BACK.



I THINK I KNOW ABOUT THAT RING.  
IT'S FROM HER EX-BOYFRIEND.


I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE SHE'S TRYING  
TO GET RID OF IT BUT JUST CAN'T. YOU  
KNOW HOW HARD IT IS FOR A GIRL TO MOVE  
ON SOMETIMES. IT'S BETTER IF YOU  
DON'T GIVE IT BACK TO HER.

COME ON, DON'T YOU SEE?  
MAYBE IT'S A SIGN THAT YOU FOUND THIS  
RING, AND NOW YOU WANT TO RETURN IT, WHICH  
KEEPS REMINDING HER OF HER EX. DON'T YOU  
WANT HER TO FORGET ABOUT HIM?

FROM HER EX-BOYFRIEND?  
THEN WHY IS SHE STILL KEEPING IT?

BUT IT'S WRONG. WHAT  
IF SHE FINDS OUT THAT I  
HAVE THIS??

YES, I DO.



OH, EMMA, HOW COULD YOU LOSE MIA'S PRECIOUS GIFT...

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'LL SAY WHEN SHE ASKS ABOUT IT!

POOR MIA... SHE MUST BE BUSY DOING HER ASSIGNMENT RIGHT NOW. I SHOULDN'T HAVE LIED TO HER ABOUT SOMEONE COMING OVER TODAY.

I'M GETTING BORED ALREADY... MMM, I THINK I SHOULD CALL HIM TODAY.

FROM TOMORROW? BUT WHAT ABOUT MY FOOTBALL PRACTICE?

I PROMISE I WON'T DO IT AGAIN... PLEASE. AND BESIDES, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY MARKS COUNT FOR EXAMS TOO!

DIDN'T I WARN YOU THAT IF YOU GET LOW MARKS IN YOUR EXAMS, THEN FORGET ABOUT FOOTBALL... ALSO, MR. CLARK INFORMED ME THAT YOU'VE BEEN SKIPPING CLASSES TO GO TO FOOTBALL PRACTICE.

OKAY, BUT ON A FEW CONDITIONS...

YOU WON'T SKIP CLASSES FOR FOOTBALL, AND AFTER SCHOOL, YOU CAN ONLY GO TO PRACTICE FOR ONE HOUR. AFTER THAT, YOU NEED TO COME STRAIGHT TO THE OFFICE.

HMM, FINE... FOR NOW, AT LEAST TWO TO THREE DAYS A WEEK. UNDERSTAND?

DO I HAVE TO COME TO THE OFFICE EVERY DAY? PLEASE, WHAT WOULD I EVEN DO THERE?

UGH, FINE.

**~DING**

**~DONG**

GO AND CHECK WHO IT IS.

MUST BE MIA. SHE TEXTED EARLIER  
SAYING WE CAN'T DO THE ASSIGNMENT  
AT HER PLACE, SO SHE'LL COME  
OVER HERE INSTEAD.





OH HEY, YOU CAME EARLY...

YEAH, I THOUGHT IF I COME EARLIER, WE'D HAVE MORE TIME TO WORK ON THE ASSIGNMENT. DID YOU SEARCH ALL THE TOPICS I TEXTED YOU?



SERIOUSLY? ARGH, LET'S NOT WASTE MUCH TIME NOW...

UH, NO... I JUST GOT BACK FROM SCHOOL A LITTLE WHILE AGO. YOU KNOW MY FOOTBALL PRACTICE RUNS LATE. SEE, I'M STILL IN MY TRACKSUIT, DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO CHANGE.

WHO IS SHE?

SHE'S MIA, MY CLASSMATE.  
THE TEACHER GAVE US AN ASSIGNMENT  
TO WORK ON TOGETHER. THAT'S WHY  
SHE'S HERE.

AND YOU KNOW EMMA,  
RIGHT? FROM THE OTHER BRANCH?  
WELL, SHE IS HER SISTER.

OH, HELLO! IT'S NICE TO  
MEET YOU. I JUST MET YOUR  
SISTER YESTERDAY...

HELLO, MA'AM.



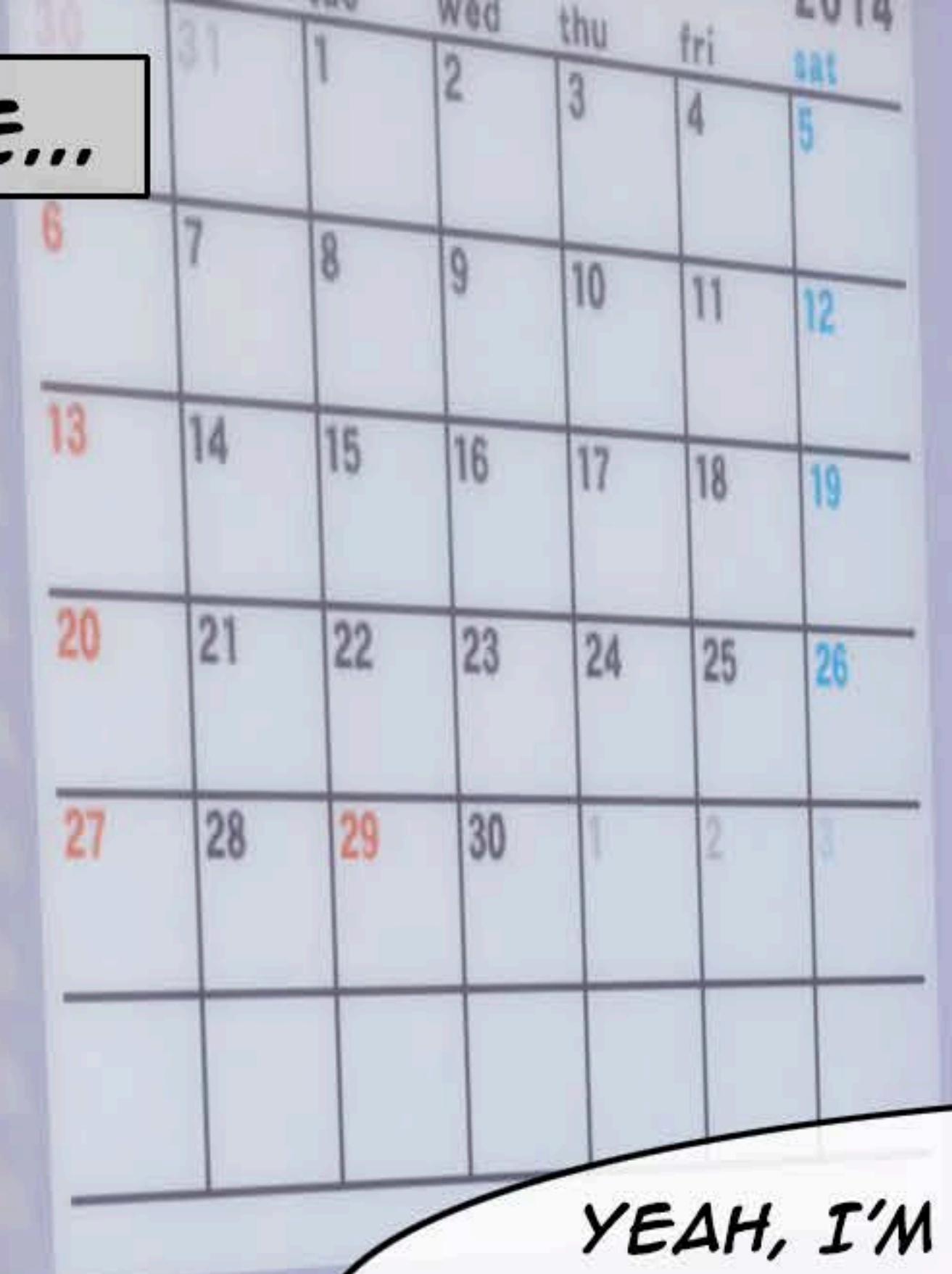
YOU TWO REALLY DON'T LOOK ALIKE. YOUR FEATURES ARE QUITE DIFFERENT. I'M JUST CURIOUS--ARE YOU BOTH REALLY BIOLOGICAL SISTERS?



UH... Y-YES, WE ARE...

HAHA, OBVIOUSLY! DON'T MIND ME...  
I JUST HAVE THIS HABIT OF NOTICING  
EVERY SMALL DETAILS.

MEANWHILE...



YEAH, I'M SURE. I REMEMBER PUTTING IT ON THE DESK YESTERDAY WHILE WE WERE TALKING, BUT I FORGOT TO TAKE IT WITH ME.



ARE YOU SURE YOU LEFT IT HERE?



OH GOD,  
WHERE COULD IT BE?!

HEY, DON'T STRESS,  
WE'LL FIND IT.

FIND WHAT? DID YOU  
GUYS LOSE SOMETHING?

4 April

sun	mon	tue	wed
30	31	1	2
6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30

4月予定表

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
水	木	金	土	日	月	火	水	木	金	土	日	月	火	水
夏期限定グッズ打合せ				新商品企画会議	新人研修会		海外販促戦略会議	定例企画会議			月例役員会議		月末営業	



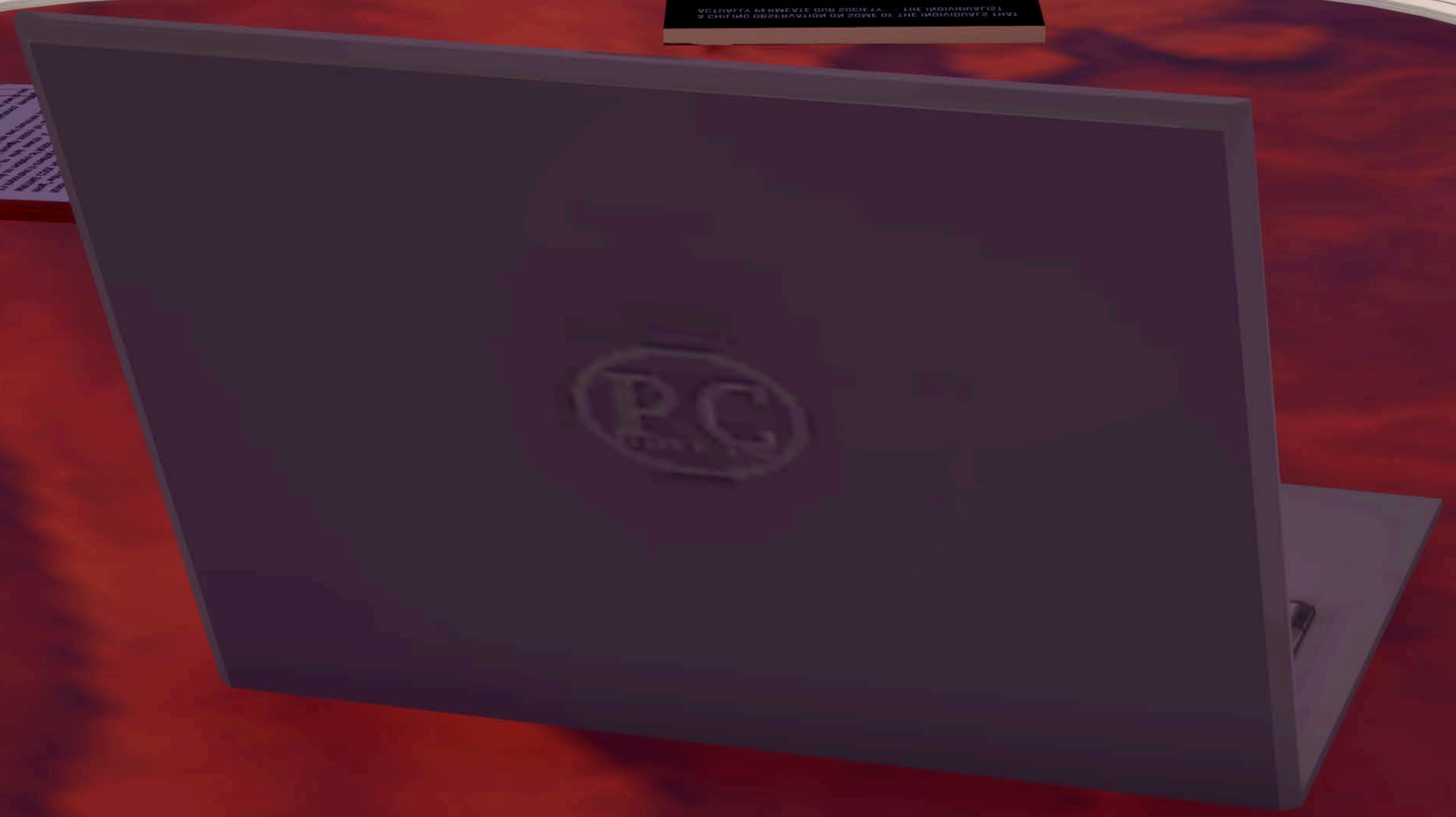
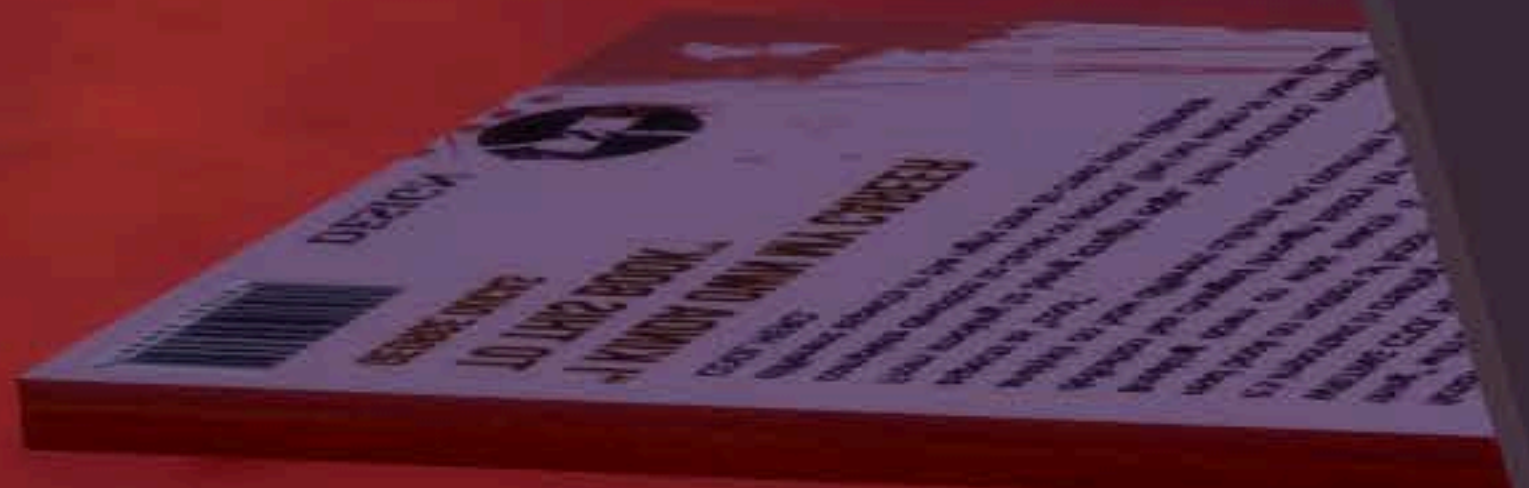
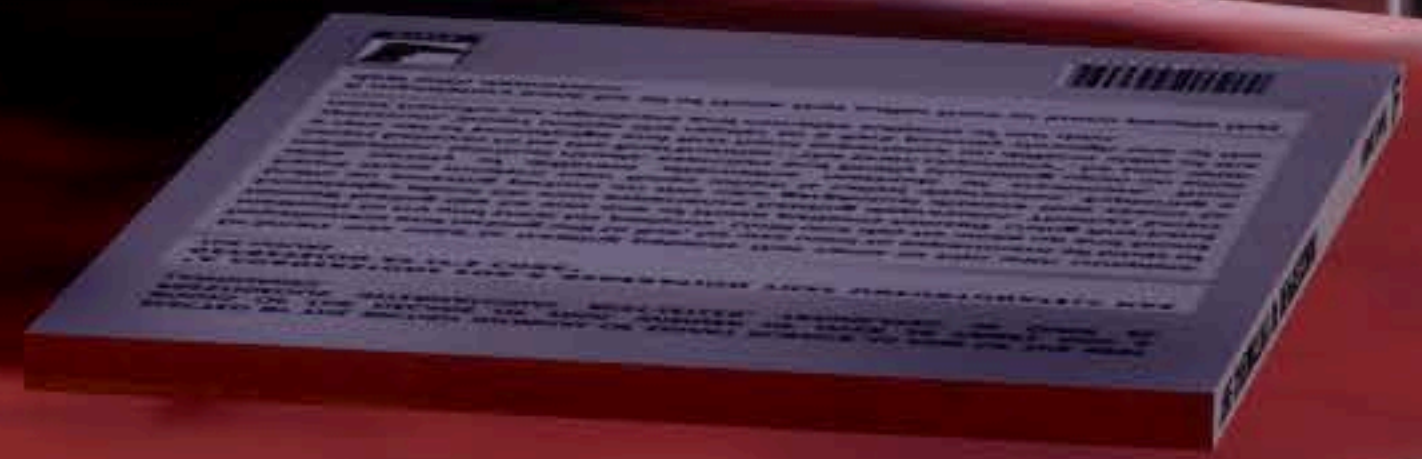
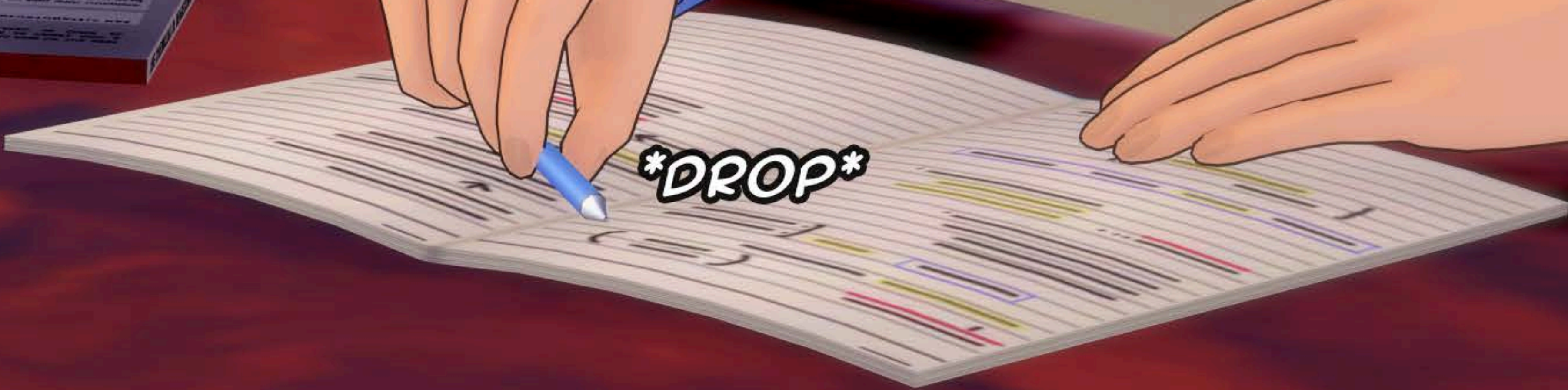
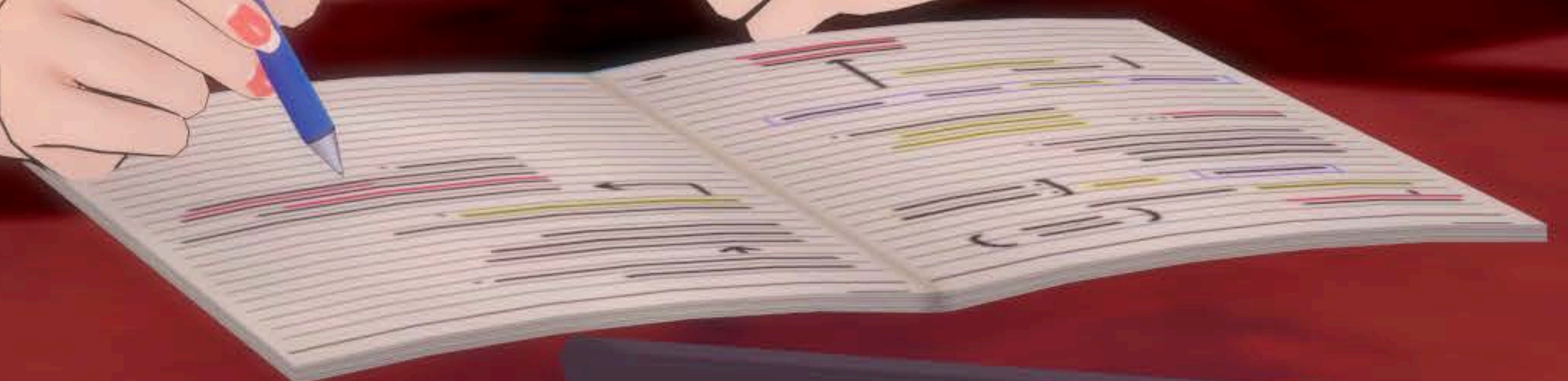
ACTUALLY, EMMA FORGOT  
HER RING HERE YESTERDAY, BUT  
NOW SHE CAN'T FIND IT...

OH, SEEMS LIKE THAT RING IS  
REALLY IMPORTANT TO HER. SHE LOOKS  
SO STRESSED TRYING TO FIND IT..

UM, IT'S JUST ONE  
OF MY FAVORITE RINGS.

AHH, DONT WORRY, I'LL ASK THE  
CLEANING STAFF IF THEY'VE SEEN IT.  
MAYBE THEY PICKED IT UP WHILE  
TIDYING UP.

4	A
sun	
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WHY DID YOU STOP?

WE HAVEN'T EVEN FINISHED  
HALF THE WORK, AND WE HAVE  
TO SUBMIT THIS ASSIGNMENT  
TOMORROW.

YOU'RE SUCH A LAZY ASS!

YOU ARE SO CRUEL...  
YOU DIDN'T EVEN LET ME CHANGE  
MY CLOTHES! WE'VE BEEN WRITING  
FOR AN HOUR STRAIGHT, I'M  
EXHAUSTED NOW.

I KNOW... THE DAY'S NOT  
OVER. LET'S TAKE A SHORT BREAK  
BEFORE WE CONTINUE AGAIN.

YEAH, CALL ME  
WHATEVER YOU WANT.



WHERE ARE YOU GOING NOW?

NO, I'M FINE. I'LL JUST JUST FINISH MY PART OF WORK AND THEN LEAVE.

I'M GOING TO GRAB SOMETHING TO DRINK. DO YOU WANT ANYTHING?

COME ON, AREN'T YOU TIRED FROM WRITING TOO? JUST TAKE A BREAK. A FIVE MINUTE GAP WON'T HURT.



WISH SOMEONE ELSE WOULD  
FINISH MY PART OF WORK.

FUCK, OBVIOUSLY, I'M TIRED  
TOO. I JUST DON'T WANT TO STAY  
HERE ANY LONGER.

HMM, I CAN JUST ASK HIM TO DO MY PART TOO. I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO SOME ACTING. HE WON'T BE ABLE TO SAY NO...

YEAH, AND HOW COULD A BOY DENY DOING A FAVOR, ESPECIALLY WHEN A GIRL ASKS NICELY..



THANKS... WAIT, MY HEAD...

HERE, HAVE THIS! THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED A LITTLE REFRESHMENT.

UGH, NO... MY HEAD.  
IT'S STARTING TO ACHE.

NO, I DON'T WANT ANY  
MEDICINE. I THINK I'LL FEEL  
BETTER IF I JUST GO HOME  
AND REST FOR A BIT.

IT'S ALRIGHT... I'LL CALL  
HER MYSELF. CAN YOU JUST  
DO ME ONE FAVOR?

HUH, WHAT HAPPENED?  
ARE YOU OKAY?

DRINK THIS JUICE, IT MIGHT  
HELP. DO YOU WANT ME TO BRING  
YOU SOME MEDICINE?

UH, ALRIGHT. DO YOU WANT  
ME TO DROP YOU HOME OR  
SHOULD I CALL CLARA?

YEAH, WHAT IS IT?



CAN YOU PLEASE COMPLETE  
THE WHOLE ASSIGNMENT BY  
TOMORROW?

MR. CLARK WOULD BE  
ANGRY AND THINK WE'RE JUST  
MAKING EXCUSES.

ALL BY MYSELF? BUT THAT'S A LOT.  
WE CAN JUST ASK THE TEACHER FOR  
AN EXTRA TIME TOMORROW AND FINISH  
IT TOGETHER LATER...



PLEASE JACK,  
CAN'T YOU DO THIS FOR ME?



ALRIGHT, I'LL DO IT...  
J-JUST DON'T MAKE THIS FACE...



THANKS! I KNEW  
YOU WOULDN'T DENY.

OKAY, I'LL GET GOING  
NOW. DO YOUR BEST! SEE  
YOU TOMORROW!

A woman with dark hair, wearing a yellow hoodie with a white hood, white pants, and white sandals with floral patterns, is sitting on a green train seat. She has a red bag slung over her shoulder and is holding a white cup. She has a thoughtful expression. To her left, a black silhouette of a person is sitting on the same seat. The train interior has grey walls and a grey floor with a yellow mat near the door.

WOW, THAT WAS SO EASY!

I SHOULD'VE JUST DONE THIS  
OVER THE PHONE... THEN I WOULDN'T  
HAVE HAD TO GO TO HIS PLACE IN  
THE FIRST PLACE.

SHOULD I GO TO AUNT'S PLACE? IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST VISITED HER.

BUT IT'S STILL ONLY 5 PM, AND CLARA SAID NOT TO COME BACK BEFORE 7.

HMM, BUT THE CURIOSITY IS KILLING ME! WHO'S CLARA MEETING, AND WHY DOESN'T SHE WANT ANYONE AROUND?



WHEN I WAS TALKING ABOUT THE ASSIGNMENT, CLARA JUST BROUGHT THAT UP OUT OF NOWHERE. WAS SHE LYING TO ME?

I GUESS I COULD JUST HEAD HOME WITHOUT TELLING HER AND FIND OUT FOR MYSELF.

SOMETIME LATER...



SO SHE REALLY WAS LYING...  
THERE'S NO ONE HERE, NOT EVEN HER.



HUH, I THINK I HEARD  
SOMETHING FROM THE BEDROOM...  
IS SHE IN THERE...

**\*UNLOCK\***

IT WAS MY PHONE. IT  
SLIPPED FROM MY HAND.

WELL, YOU DON'T INVITE ME OVER  
AS MUCH THESE DAYS, SO I THOUGHT I'D MAKE  
A LITTLE VIDEO FOR MYSELF... SOMETHING TO  
WATCH LATER WHENEVER I MISS THIS.

WHAT'S THAT?

HUH? YOU WERE USING  
YOUR PHONE WHILE DOING  
THIS?

DON'T WORRY, YOU HAVE  
ENOUGH TIME TODAY. YOU CAN  
DO IT IN THE NEXT ROUND.





WHO IS SHE?

OH! I-I'M SORRY... I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALONE IN HERE.

IT'S... IT'S OKAY, I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING. I'M JUST... GOING OUTSIDE NOW. YOU GUYS CONTINUE!

**GRRRR...**

TO BE CONTINUED...