
3
SPLINTERED CELLS
A SHAPESHIFTER AND SLIME STORY
CREATED BY NEXY
WRITTEN BY NEXY & ALEX HOPPER
EDITED BY SWISHSTREAM
NEXYCOMICS.COM

RECOMMENDED READING

IF YOU WANT THINGS TO MAKE SENSE!








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OKAY, I THINK WE'RE FINALLY IN A GOOD SPOT...
JESUS NED, DID YOU TRY AND HIT EVERY BUMP?
SOME OF US ARE TRYING TO HEAL FROM A RECENT ASS-KICKING!


S-SORRY... I WAS FOCUSED ON SPEED AND NOT... SAFETY. THAT BAD?
I CAN CONFIDENTLY SAY THAT MY AUNT TRAINS THE BEST. EVEN IF IT WAS A LITERAL MIRROR MATCH...
NGH!... THAT STUNT AT THE UNIVERSITY WAS A LITTLE TOO CLOSE FOR MY LIKING!


WELL YOU MIGHT WANNA PERK UP, BECAUSE SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'RE ABOUT TO GO THROUGH ANOTHER ROUND OF SHIT WITH OUR LUCK!
GOD, NED... YOU'RE USUALLY THE POSITIVE ONE.


COLLECTIVE H.Q.
JESUS CHRIST...
OVERCOMPENSATING MUCH??
THE COLLECTIVE AREN'T LIKE THE NOMADIC WANDERERS... THEY LIKE TO BUILD BIG AND HIDE IN PLAIN SIGHT.
I'M NOT SURE YOU COULD GET MUCH MORE 'IN SIGHT'!!


ARE YOU SURE WE SHOULDN'T TAKE A BREAK? LICK OUR WOUNDS AND ALL THAT?
HELENA IS STILL BACK AT THE UNIVERSITY, SO WE'VE GOTTA TAKE ADVANTAGE.
I'M SURE SHE'LL HEAD BACK HERE AND RAISE THE ALARM, MEANING SOON SECURITY WILL BE EVEN TIGHTER AND I'M NOT SURE WE'D GET ANOTHER CHANCE AS GOOD AS THIS.


PLUS... THERE'S NO WAY I'M LETTING YOU LICK ME, SICKO!
BOOP!
HMPH
YOU KNOW, I THINK YOU MAKE JOKES WHEN YOU'RE NERVOUS.


...AHEH...
WHAT'S THERE TO BE NERVOUS ABOUT??
I'M JUST BREAKING INTO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE COLLECTIVE SHIFTER CLAN THAT RUNS ENTIRE CORPORATIONS AND HAS TIES WITH BIG GOVERNMENT.
OH, AND THEIR LEADER IS MY POWER CRAZY AUNT WHO TRIED TO KILL ME THIS MORNING!


...Okay. I'll let you have your humor.
Thank you.
Maybe you should take the shiny sword for EXTRA protection?


I WOULD LOVE TO... BUT IT WON'T EXACTLY GO WITH MY DISGUISE.
YOU KEEP IT, AND USE IT TO CUT DOWN ANYONE WHO TRIES TO ENTER THAT ISN'T ME, OKAY?
GIGGLE
NOW WHO'S NERVOUS?
JUST USE YOUR BEST JUDGMENT.
RIGHT... EASIER SAID THAN DONE WITH THIS MANY SHIFTERS ON SITE WHO CAN LOOK LIKE ANYONE!
SHOULD WE HAVE A SAFEWORD?...


WOW!...
THIS IS SO COOL.
THEY MADE SOME PROPER CYBERPUNK SHIT!
IT IS COOL WHEN THE POINTY END ISN'T IN YOUR FACE!


So this facility... the data says it's a modelling agency?
The C-Collective has their fingers in a LOT of pies...


YOU W-WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY MODELS ARE SECRETLY SSSHIFTERS...
AAHHH...
OR H-HOW MANY HAVE EVEN SOLD OFF THEIR OWN LIKENESS TO THE C-COLLECTIVE.


I-If you follow someone on Only F-Fans or a Cam Girl... ProOOOBably a shifter.
T-Those in the Collective have entire sSpreadsheets dedicated to w-which girl they are meant to be on each site...
played very... close to my chest.
PANT w...
NOOORBL
NOOOMPH


You shifters and your subterfuge.
At this point it wouldn't surprise me if you have a MECH disguised as a BUILDING!
You mean Lord Shiftatron?


JESUS!
NAOMI, A LITTLE WARNING NEXT TIME!!
WE BOTH KNOW YOU WEREN'T LISTENING TO ME ANYWAY.


SHUFFLE
IT'S GOOD TO SEE MY AUNT'S HAIR PINS FUNCTION THE SAME AS MY CHOKER AT LEAST!
WE CAN'T REALLY... LIKE EVERYTHING A SHIFTER 'CREATES', IT'S JUST A FAÇADE.
SO WE CAN SHIFT METAL, BUT ONLY IN LOOKS.
THAT'S WHY SHIFTING A KNIFE WOULD BE USELESS, IT'D BE MADE OF ME! ABOUT AS GOOD AS POKING YOU WITH MY FINGER...
BUT WAIT... YOU WERE ABLE TO SHIFT HER RING THERE?...
I THOUGHT SHIFTERS COULDN'T MAKE METAL?


UGH...
I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY MORE SHIFTS I HAVE IN ME THOUGH...
ALL THAT BATTLE DAMAGE TAKES A LOT OF E-ENERGY TO COVER UP! I REALLY NEED A REST.
THIS SHIFT INTO HELENA ACTUALLY HURT.


WELL THAT'S OKAY, COS THIS MISSION IS GOING TO GO SMOOTHLY, ISN'T IT?
WOW, YOU CHANGED YOUR TUNE QUICK!
I'M BEING POSITIVE LIKE YOU SAID!


WAIT, WHAT ABOUT YOUR CHOKER?
YOU USED TO BE PART OF THE COLLECTIVE, THEY'LL KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
DAMN... YOU'RE RIGHT.
I, UHHH... YEAH IT'S JUST IT'S... YOU'RE RIGHT.
MY CHOKER.


I'VE NEVER GONE ON A MISSION WITHOUT MY PENDANT... WHAT IF I NEED IT?
WELL... YOU'RE USING HELENA'S HAIRPINS IF YOU NEED TO SHIFT?
YEAH, BUT... MY PENDANT HAS ALL MY STUFF STORED IN IT.
ALL THE PRESETS, THE FORMS...
SIGH...
IT'S GOT ME IN IT.


...We're not talking about shifting anymore, are we?...
It's just... These past couple days... I've had to change a LOT.
I've been a pawn in everyone else's game...
My clan discarded me like a used tissue...
My only family stabbed me in the back MULTIPLE times...
My only friend used me as a bargaining chip-


-AND NOW THAT FRIEND IS GONNA BE BY YOUR SIDE AS WE SHOW THEM HOW MUCH DAMAGE A PAWN CAN DO.
...YEAH. LET'S PROMOTE THIS 'PAWN' INTO A QUEEN.
YOU RADIATE, NAOMI! YOU ARE MUCH MORE THAN THAT PENDANT.
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU LOOK LIKE OR WHAT JEWELLERY YOU'RE WEARING, I CAN ALWAYS TELL IT'S NAOMI UNDER THERE.
I THINK ITS TIME FOR YOU TO TAKE SOME PIECES.
CLENCH


I DO RADIATE, DON'T I?
NOBODY PUTS BABY IN THE CORNER!
YEAH YOU DO! YOU SHINE THROUGH ANY BOX SOMEONE TRIES TO PUT YOU IN.
EXACTLY. NOW JUST ONE LAST HEIST AND YOU CAN TAKE ALL THE TIME YOU NEED TO WORK THINGS OUT.


FOR NOW, MY CHOKER IS SAFE IN THIS GIANT POCKET DIMENSION OF CLEAVAGE... IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.
SIMPLE AS THAT, ISN'T IT?
SIMPLE AS THAT.
COMPANY


ALMOST FORGOT THE REWARD FOR ALL MY RISKS!
THE CASE IS FINALLY IN THE RIGHT HANDS.
AND YOUR PRIZE BRIEFCASE, COMPLETE WITH A SHINY SHIFTER ROCK, HELENA!
NOW GIMME THE LOWDOWN OF THIS PLACE SO I KNOW WHAT WE'RE GETTING INTO.

Their headquarters have four separate entrances between these two buildings... along with some... secret ones.
This is so they can have several business fronts running at once.
Some entrances are for the general unknowing public... Normies and the like. And others are for the people 'in the know'.


AS YOU SAID, OUR ENTRANCE WILL BE THE MODELLING AGENCY.
THIS IS WHERE THE SCREENED MODELS COME TO SIGN THE FINAL PAPERS TO SELL THEIR IDENTITY... AND LEARN THE SECRET OF WHAT KIND OF HORNET'S NEST THEY JUST STEPPED INTO.
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Getting Power to the People
G3G8018


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Getting Power
to the People


THERE YOU ARE.
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WOOOW...
DOWN, BOY.
SO THESE MODELS... ARE THEY SHIFTERS?


No, not these women.
Being honest with you Ned... They'll have received some form of letter from 'The Collective' after proving their worth as an ordinary model at their agency for a while.
After THIS interview they'll choose to sell their identity to them and quit being in the public eye... though the PUBLIC will never notice.


They are persuaded through honey-dipped words and quick and easy money.
The Collective already have data on ALL of the girls on how best to win them over.
Who do you think those social media companies sell YOUR data to?
Creepy...
And you were surprised when your Mum said they were up to no good?...
SIGH...
She wasn't exactly a 'gospel of truth', Ned. I just know the contracts are pretty... appealing.


-AND IF YOU STICK TO THE CONTRACT THEN YOU WON'T NEED TO SEE US AGAIN, OKAY?
O-OKAY...
GOOD GIRL.
THANK YOU FOR SIGNING, AND HAVE A NICE NEW LIFE! I'LL MAKE SURE TO ENJOY EVERY CLAUSE...
DING!
IF THEY REFUSE THE OFFER, WELL... THE COLLECTIVE DON'T TAKE 'NO' FOR AN ANSWER.
IT'S A LOT OF MONEY IF THE MODELS PLAY THEIR CARDS RIGHT, THOUGH!


B L 1 2 3 4 5
I CAN'T REALLY BLAME THEM ONCE YOU SEE THE AMOUNT OF ZEROS ON THE CHEQUE... AND THE PROMISE OF A QUIET LIFE ISN'T SO BAD.
REALLY?... THEY LOOKING FOR MALE MODELS?
ONLY ATTRACTIVE ONES, NED...
RUDE.


B L 1 2 3 4 5
NOW SHUSH, AUNTIE'S WORKING!
AHEM...


JUST WHERE THE HELL DID MY TARGET TAKE ME??
I ASSUME SHE USED THIS ENTRANCE... VERY MUCH NOT WHAT I WAS EXPECTING.
UNLESS SHE 'CHANGED' INTO SOMEONE ELSE ALREADY... HOW DO I KNOW??


PROBABLY BEST TO AVOID CIVVIES UNTIL I GET MY BEARINGS.
...THAT'S IF THEY ARE CIVILIANS!
-I JUST WASN'T EXPECTING YOU IS A-
-DO I NEED YOUR PERMISSION TO ENTER MY BUILDING, DARLING?
N-NOT WHAT I MEANT MA'AM! I JUST- WELL-


WHAT'S WITH ALL THESE... WOMEN AROUND? CLEARLY THIS PLACE ATTRACTS A... CERTAIN TYPE.
I WONDER IF THESE GIRLS ARE SHAPESHIFTING FREAKS LIKE THAT NAOMI!


UGH...
WHAT?...
YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY, GOLDEN DRAGON?


YEAH, THOUGHT NOT.
I GUESS "I" DON'T LOOK LIKE THE USUAL TYPE OF WOMEN WHO COME THROUGH HERE.
THAT PROBABLY MEANS I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO MUCH FURTHER WITHOUT MAKING A SCENE...
HMPH...


WELL, WHAT WOULD INFILTRATION BE WITHOUT USING VENTS!
MAYBE GOING "SLIME MODE" MIGHT JUST GET ME WHERE I NEED TO GO?
I MIGHT NEED TO MAKE A DISTRA-

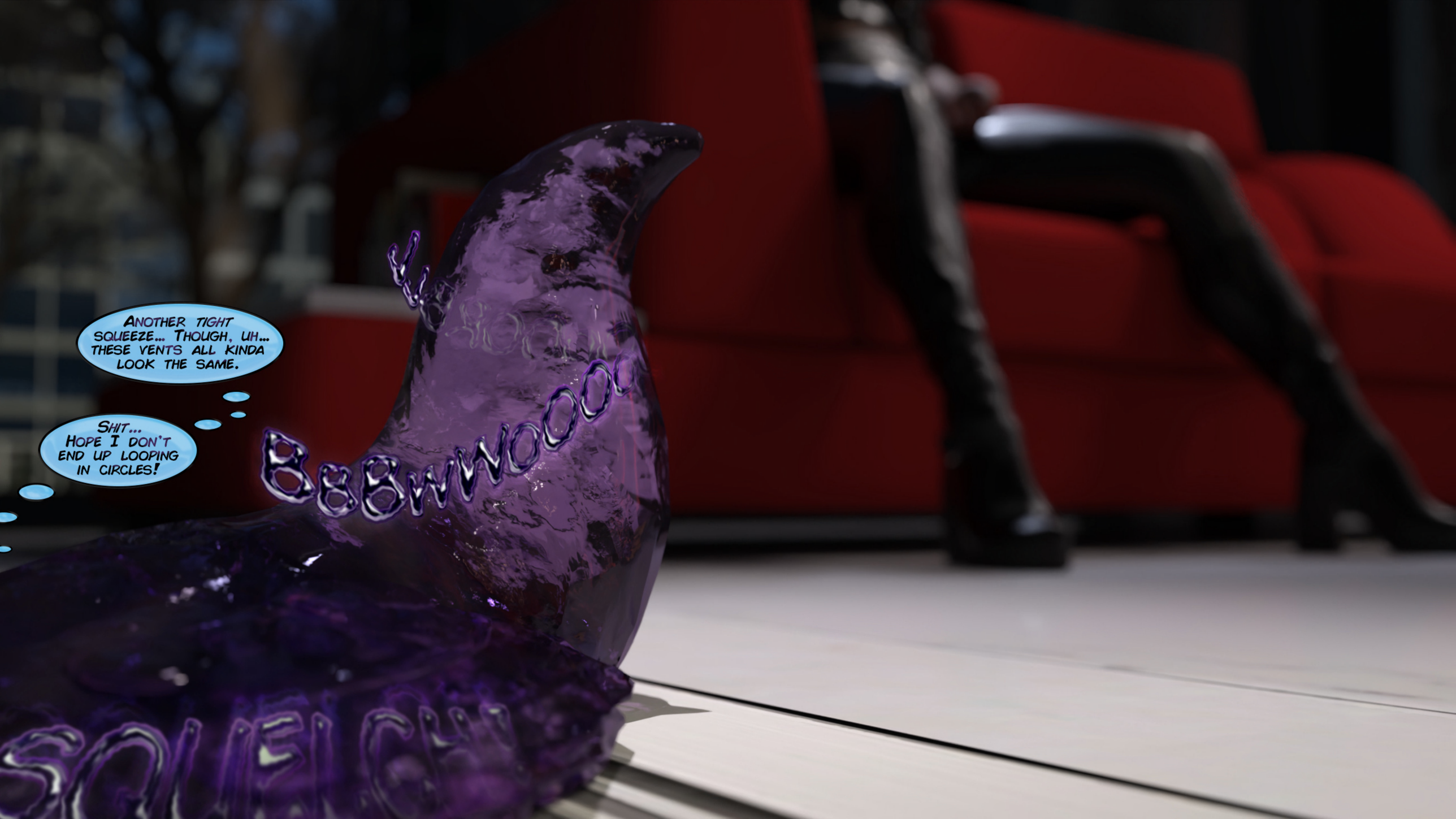

PERFECT.
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?!?!
Y-YES OF COURSE, IT'S J-JUST... IT'S P-PROTOC-
THEN STOP ASKING SUCH STUPID QUESTIONS AND UNLOCK THE LOWER LEVEL!!
RECEPTION


FOCUS...
REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE, LINDA...


HHOOOOW


SCHMOOOORP
SCHMOOOORP
OOOOHhhh... GOOD STRETCH.
THANKS FOR THE RIDE BIKER BABE, I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE!


I... I APOLOGISE PROFU-
SAVE IT, INTERN.
PRAY THAT I DON'T DEMOTE YOU FOR THIS.


ANOTHER TIGHT SQUEEZE... THOUGH, UH... THESE VENTS ALL KINDA LOOK THE SAME.
SHIT... HOPE I DON'T END UP LOOPING IN CIRCLES!
BBBWWOOO
SQUELCH


I never thought I'd be so thankful that Aunt Helena is a total "Karen".
I'm sorry desk lady, it was for a good cause.
I'm sure she'll be fine once the REAL Helena returns.
I'm not so sure since she just broke protocol... The Collective don't take that lightly.
Oh... Right. As you said, it's for the greater good.
The greater good.
Uyork


ADMINISTRATION
COORDINATOR
HAVE YOU GOT THE FLOOR PLAN UP?
YEP, GOT IT. WHAT DO YOU NEED?
I NEED YOU TO TAKE CONTROL OF THIS ELEVATOR AND MARK IT OUT OF SERVICE.
I WANT TO MAKE SURE THIS EXIT IS KEPT OPEN FOR ME IN CASE THINGS GO SOUTH.


You got it!
Though at you said earlier, there are a bunch of OTHER entrances...
ONE locked down looks like a fault, but ALL locked down looks like an attack.
Gotcha. The Collective REALLY love the whole 'hidden facility' thing, don't they?
They could rival Doctor Evil!


ADMINISTRATION
SECURITY OFFICE
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM SHIFTERS? HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT IS LITERALLY IN OUR DNA!
TRUE... DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING AT LEAST? THIS PLACE IS A LOT BIGGER ON THE INSIDE...


THE COLLECTIVE ARE SIZE QUEENS.
NOT USED TO 'BIG THINGS' ARE YOU, NED?
HEY! WATCH IT, MISSY. SAVE THE SNARK FOR YOUR NEW SUBORDINATES!
GIGGLE OH I AM! WHO DO YOU THINK WEARS THE PANTS IN OUR PARTNERSH-


M-Misses Helena??
GASP!


SHIT...
YOU CAN DO THIS, NAOMI.
IT MAY NOT BE PLEASANT, BUT IT NEEDS TO BE DONE.
QUEEN-BITCH ENERGY RUNS THROUGH YOUR VERY VEINS!


WHO ELSE WOULD I BE?
DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE STUPID QUESTIONS??


YES, UH... SORRY, MA'AM!
IT'S JUST THAT LAST I HEARD YOU WERE AT THE UNIVERSITY FOR A BUDGET REVIEW, AND I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU BACK SO SOON...
WHAT WAS HER NAME... I THINK IT'S FLORENCE?... SHE HAS SO MANY LAP-DOGS IT'S HARD TO KEEP TRACK!


YES, WELL THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR MORE CUTS, FLORENCE... ESPECIALLY IF PEOPLE START THINKING ABOVE THEIR STATION.
I-I... YES MA'AM, I UNDERSTAND.
I WASN'T TRYING TO SUGGEST ANYTHING, I WAS JUST CONFUSED.
NOT HARD TO DO, IT SEEMS... NOW I HAVE IMPORTANT THINGS TO TEND TO.


Report?... What have you been up to, Aunt Helena? Something useful?
Hmmm...
Umm, Ma'am...
Not to i-interrupt again... but would you like to hear my report from the hospital?
OSE


DID I HEAR HOSPITAL?...
YOU REALLY LIKE TESTING MY PATIENCE, DON'T YOU?
I-I THOUGHT-


OF COURSE I DO, FLORENCE.
I WAS JUST WAITING FOR YOU TO TAKE SOME INITIATIVE.
O-OF COURSE!

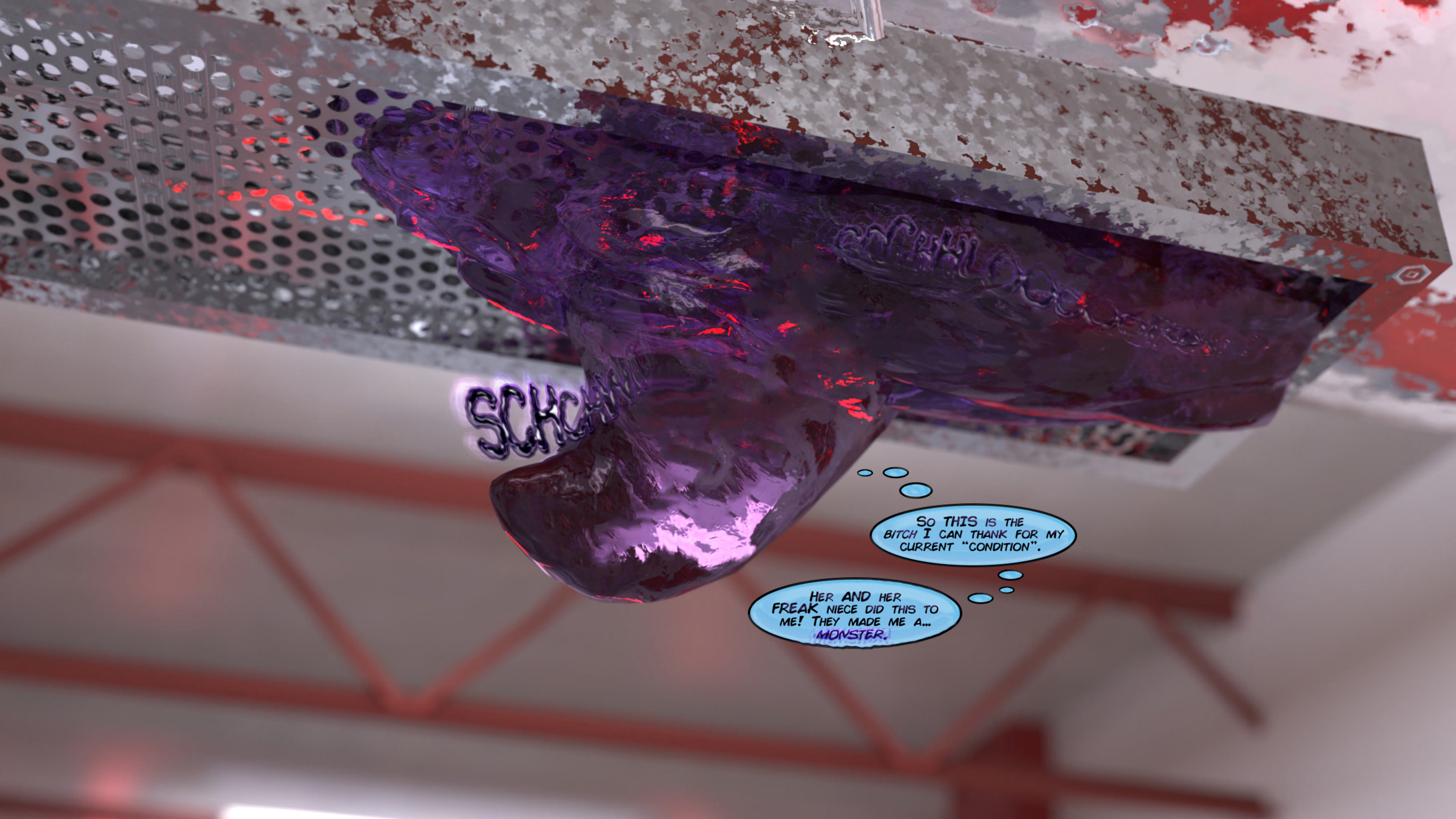

AFTER THE FIASCO AT THE EQUIPMENT TESTING FACILITY, I'VE "TIED UP" ALL THE LOOSE ENDS I CAN.
EVERYONE THERE SO FAR HAS EITHER BEEN COMPENSATED OR... SILENCED AS YOU ASKED.
GOOD... GOOD.
EQUIPMENT TESTING FACILITY? MUST BE THAT FIRST PLACE I INFILTRATED THAT HAD THE POWER ARMOUR AND LAB FULL OF WEIRD SLIMY VIALS.


THE ONLY THING IS, UH...
I S-STILL HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TRACK DOWN LINDA YAMADA OR AGENT NAOMI.
I-IT'S STILL MY TOP PRIORITY THOUGH HELENA! I REALLY WILL FIND THEM.
SPIT IT OUT.


COURAIL
HELENA?... SO THIS IS WHO FLORENCE WAS TALKING TO ON THE PHONE!!
SOMEONE THIS ARROGANT MUST BE IN CHARGE.


YES, WELL... I'M SURE YOU WOULD TRY.
BUT FOR MY NIECE NAOMI, YOU CAN OFFICIALLY CALL OFF ANY SEARCHES FOR HER.
A-AND THAT FREAK THAT DID THIS TO ME IS HER NIECE??


MA'AM?... YOU WERE VERY CLEAR THAT THIS WAS TOP PRI-
I... I WILL NOT FAIL TO BRING IN LINDA... YOU HAVE MY WORD.
-YES. AND I'VE COMPLETED THAT MISSION MYSELF.
I CAUGHT HER AND MY FOUL SISTER TRYING TO BREAK INTO THE UNIVERSITY.
DOING YOUR JOB YET AGAIN AREN'T I, FLORENCE?
SEE THAT YOU DO. WE NEED TO CLEAN UP ALL LOOSE ENDS.
OR YOU WILL BE ON THAT SAME LIST.


SCHCHA
So THIS is the BITCH I can thank for my current "condition".
Her AND her FREAK niece did this to me! They made me a... MONSTER.


SCHK
THEY ARE JUST TRYING TO COVER THEIR ASSES...
THEY COULDN'T... GIVE A FUCK ABOUT ME!!


ADMINISTRATION
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
OF COURSE.


PHEW... CLOSE CALL!
YOU DID GOOD THOUGH! SOUNDS LIKE YOU MIGHT'VE STOPPED THE SEARCH?
YEAH... ONLY UNTIL THE REAL HELENA FINDS OUT... BUT I THINK I BOUGHT US TIME.


SPLAT


GLUG!
BAWWW




GLURP?
GURK!?


UH!?


GWURGLUGK!?




LET'S DO THIS.


...HUH
H-HEY... BITCH!


WHAT
DID YOU JUST S-


GYAHH!
BWOMP
GR!

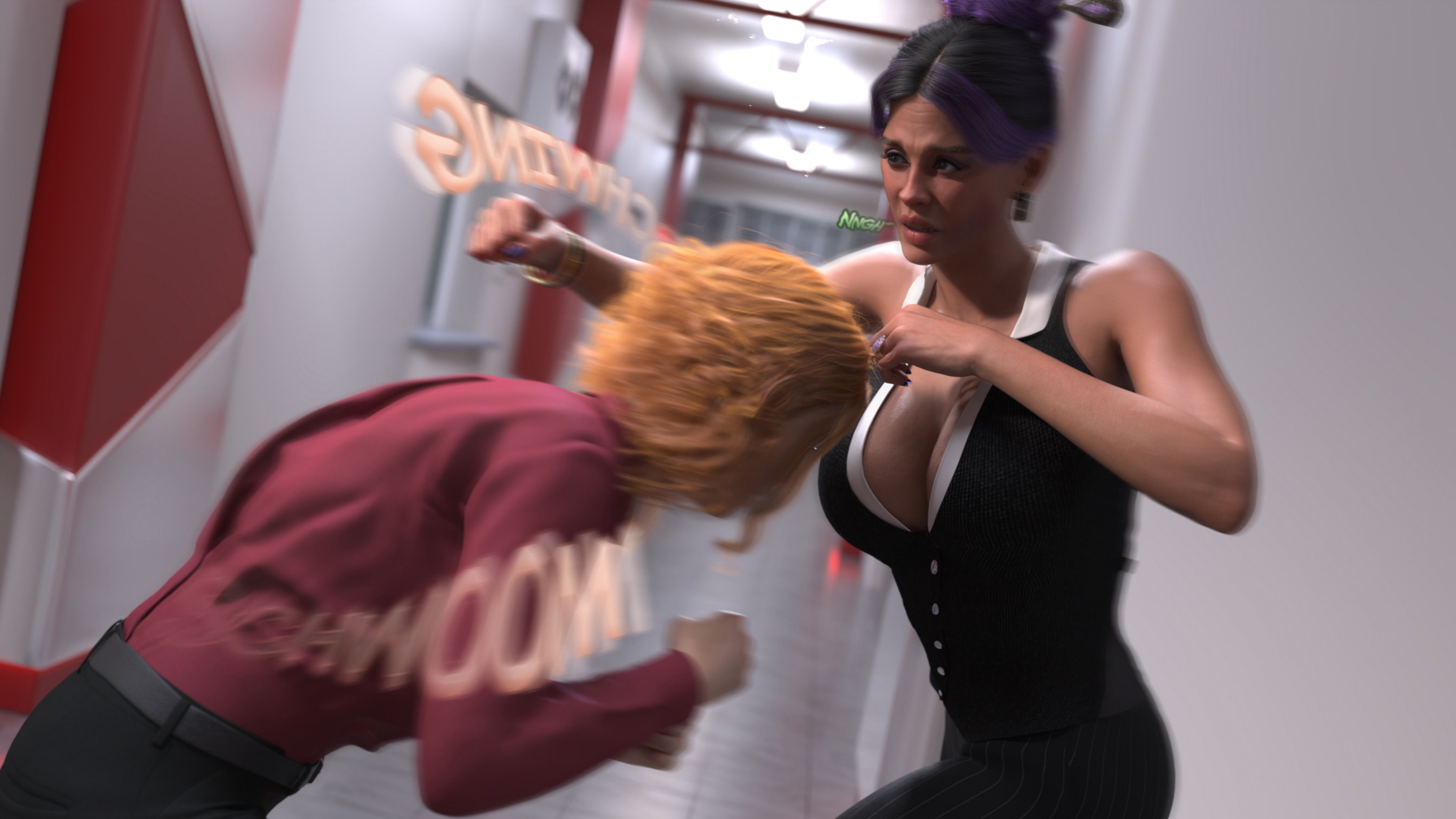

SMACK
SLAMMING


NAOMI?
WHAT'S HAPPENING??
UGGH...
HELL IF I KNOW... O-OUCH.


WH-WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, FLORENCE??
R-REALLY?? COS I'M NOT!
TIME FOR THIS 'UNDERLING' TO TAKE CHARGE...
OH I'M GONNA ENJOY THIS.


L-LOOK, I KNOW I CAN BE A BITCH.
BUT HOW ABOUT YOU PUNCH ME LATER?... L-LIKE THE NEXT TIME WE MEET?



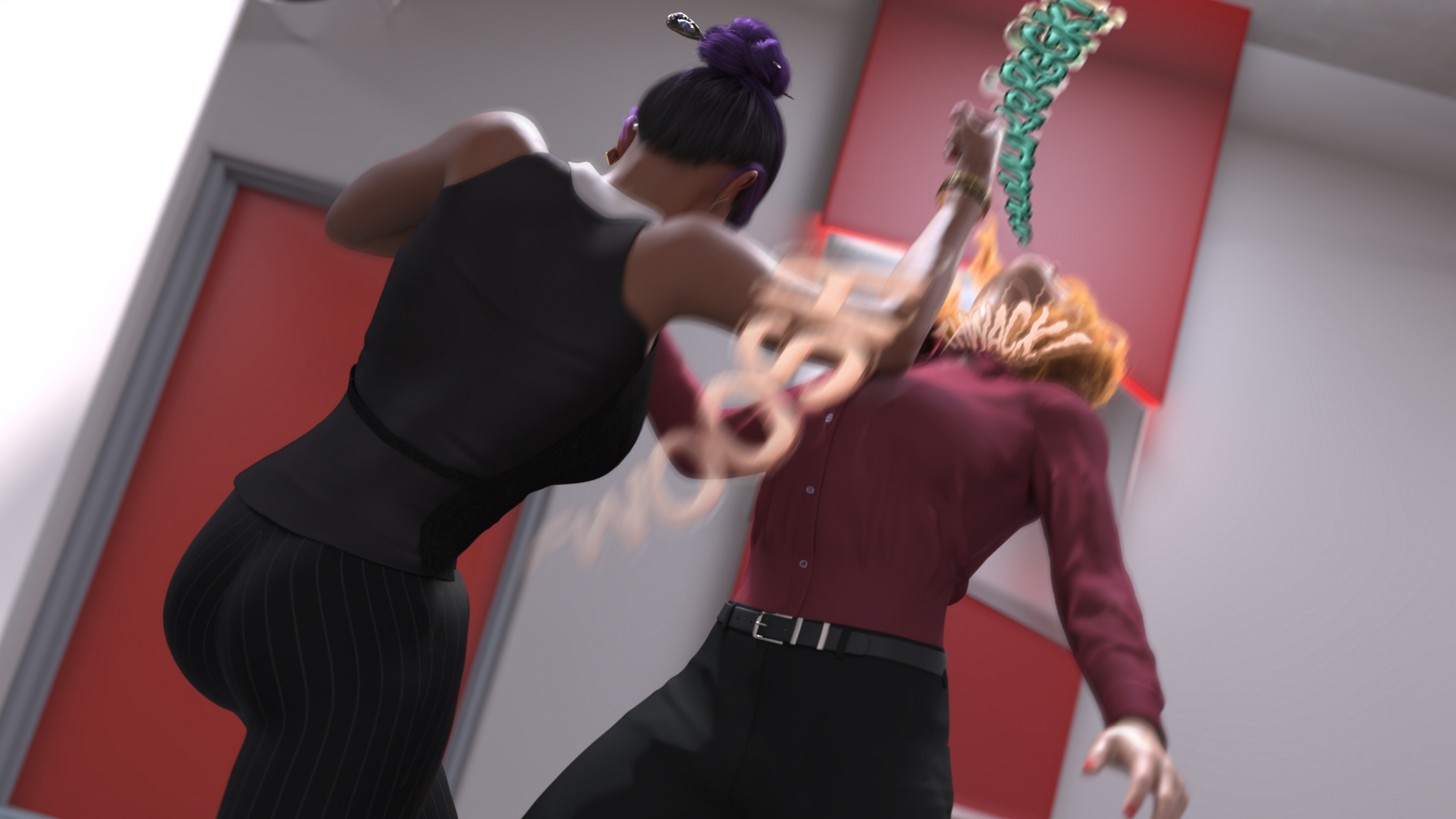



GAAAHH!
THUMP!


ERGHH...
Y-YOU MADE YOUR POINT!!
BUMP
DAMN THIS BODY!
IT'S NOT BUILT FOR FIGHTING!!


OH, I HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED.
PANT...
PANT...


DON'T TOUCH THE DO.


SMACK!


SH... SHE'S GONE CRAZY! N-NO TIME TO... FUCK I'M NOT GONNA LAST LONG LIKE THIS!
I STRUGGLED ENOUGH JUST TO SHIFT INTO HELENA'S F-FORM...
THESE DAMN INJURIES... I'M RUNNING OUT OF JUICE!
HUURF...
PANT...


THAT PENDANT... THAT'S FROM THE FREAK!
I-IF I'M MAKING IT COUNT... I'M TRUSTING A FIGHTING FORM I KNOW.
COME ON...

ARGH!!


...no!


I REMEMBER THAT PENDANT.
I'M NOT LETTING YOU PULL THE SAME SHIT THAT SHE D-


UUURHH!!!


THAT'S HOW THAT FEELS, BITCH!!


HELENA ISN'T BUILT FOR FIGHTING, BUT I CAN'T SHIFT BACK TO MYSELF OR MY COVER AND MISSION WILL BE BLOWN!
PLEASE LET THERE BE A BETTER FIGHTING BODY SAVED IN HELENA'S HAIR PINS...
NO TIME TO SEARCH, JUST GOTTA... S-SHIFT!
NGNHH...


TTTIME TO FI-


-FUCK-?-!


GODDAMNIT.
HOW AM I EVEN RELATED TO THESE SEX-CRAZED DEVIANTS??
SIGH


OH YEAH... YOU SHIFTERS CAN DO THAT.
IT'S THIS ISN'T IT?... I WONDER... HOW DO I-
"YOU SHIF-"


GASP!
SHIT.


PANT
OOOOHHH...


NNGHH...
SLURP
JUICE
AAAAHH...
SQUIRT


WOW... THAT FELT GOOOOD... IT FEELS GREAT TO BE A FREAK, HUH?...
I DONT EVEN NEED POWER ARMOUR!!


OH SHIT!
I NEED TO GET BIGGER TOO-
C'MON HAIRPINS, M-MAKE ME BIGGER!!


HHHAAAAA


ARE YOU SERIOUS??
ARE ALL YOUR MODS LIKE THIS, HELENA??
NOW I KNOW HOW YOU MAKE BUSINESS DEALS!


THIS ISN'T MUD WRESTLING, HELENA.
WHUH—


GRRRRRRRR!
SECURITY OFFICE


I CAN'T TAKE ANY M-MORE SHIFTING CHANCES...


GOTTA MAKE THIS BODY WORK!!
CLENCH
RRMMPH!!


YOU PICKED THE WRONG FORM FOR THIS.
PANT...
I KNOW! I KNO-

AAAA


UUUGH



NGN
HHH!
CLANG!


J-JUST... LET ME...
SQUISH YOU!!
PANTS?
D-DESPERATE TIMESSS AND ALL T-THAT!
FUCK!!

SHH!


STOP


AHHOOO-
HUFF...
HUFF!


SHIT... NOT BOTH PINS!


THAT WAS A DIRTY-
YANK!


GASP!


...YOU?!!!
UNGH!


THE FREAK!?!
IS THIS SOME SORT OF TWISTED GAME YOU AND YOUR AUNT COOKED UP??
L-LOOK, PANT... FLORENCE, WE CAN WORK SSOMETHING OUT!
IF YOU WANNA DESERT THE COLLECTIVE, I-I CAN HELP YOU MAKE THAT HAPPEN!


YOU FORCED ME TO DESERT MY POST ONCE ALREADY...
AFTER YOU TRIED TO KILL ME!
GGRK!
K-KILL YOU? FFFLORENCE I


--AAAHHKK!!!
YOU WON ROUND ONE... BUT I WON ROUND TWO, FREAK.
I'M NOT THAT DOCILE LITTLE FLORENCE... I'M SOMETHING... DIFFERENT.


GCKKKKK...
GETTING DEJA-VU! BUT THIS TIME I FEEL... BETTER.
CARE TO SEE WHAT YOU CREATED LAST TIME WE DID THIS?...


HHNGGK!
AAAG!


HNNGH?!


PANT
PANT
GRRRRRRRRRR


MMPH!
SLURP


UURRP!!
GAAAAOOO


I-IT FEELS LIKE I'M DROWNING! C-CAN'T BBBR- GET A GGGGRIP...
WHAT IS TH-THIS SSSSLUUUK STUFF? W-WHAT IS SHE?
GLOOR.D
-GAK!!!


GLUP
GLUGK!!
SMACK
SMACK
SMACK
SMACK


COORDINATOR


NAOMI? SIT-REP!
NAOMI!
PANT
W-WHAT-
PANT


ABORT. YOU NEED TO ABORT THE MISSION!
N-NED... TTTHERE'S... SHE... GGGGET OU-


THEY'RE COMING!
GET THE HELL OUTTA THERE!!
SLURP!!


OOOOH...
I'VE BEEN DREAMING ABOUT THIS MOMENT...
SLURP
SLURP


THE DAY
I TAKE SOMETHING
FROM YOU.


NOW LET ME DIG AROUND IN HERE...
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST TRY TO ERASE YOU... IF I CAN DO THAT!
LET'S PRESS DEEPER INTO THIS LITTLE FREAK'S MIND...
...HHMMMM... WHAT DOES THIS BUTTON DO?


AAAUGHKK!!!


HAHHH...
TOO FAR...
I WASN'T READY FOR THAT, BUT... NO MORE RESISTANCE FROM HER AT LEAST!
I CAN STILL FEEL HER HERE... LET'S TRY PULLING A DIFFERENT STRING.

HHUUURGGKK!


B-BETTER... THAT'S BETTER... HER BODY IS WORKING AGAIN!
PANT...
PANT
I DIDN'T THINK SHE'D BE THAT EASY TO BREAK... THOUGH IT IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE TRIED TO BREAK YOU FROM THE INSIDE!


ALTHOUGH... HELLO NEW VOICE!
MAYBE I SHOULD KEEP YOU INSTEAD?
I COULD DO A LOT WITH A FIT LITTLE BODY LIKE THIS... AND ALL THOSE LOVELY 'SHIFTER PERKS.'
SHE RUINED MY LIFE, SO MAYBE SHE CAN HELP REPAY ME BY TRADING HERS.


WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU ON ABOUT NAOMI??
DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID??
HUH?


U-uhh Negative. Say again your last, over?
What?... Why are you talking so weird?
How hard did she hit you on the head??
He doesn't know radio procedure... must be a Civilian?


ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?... CAN YOU MOVE?
I WONDER... ARE THESE TWO "TOGETHER?"
THAT'S A FUN THOUGHT... I CAN FEEL THOSE YUMMY SLIMY URGES COMING BACK...
OH... I'M OKAY ALL OVER.
BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WORE THIS KIND OF TIGHT LEATHER!
NAOMI!
NOT THE TIME FOR BEDROOM TALK!!
COORDINATOR


WHY'S THAT, UHHH... F-FRIEND?
YOU GETTING JEALOUS OR SOMETHING?
JEALOUS?...
YEEAAAH... COS WE'RE... PARTNERS OF COURSE?...


COURSE WE'RE PARTNERS, THAT'S WHY I'M TRYING TO HELP YOU RIGHT NOW!!
I KNEW IT! THIS LITTLE SLUT IS FUCKING THIS GUY!!
OHHH... THE SLIMY IDEAS ARE FORMING...
GGGRRRRR
MAYBE I CAN STEAL HIM TOO?... SCORE MYSELF A COSY EXFIL OUT OF HERE?
HELP ME?... YOU CAN HELP ME GET OUT OF THIS TIGHT SPYSUIT WHEN I GET BACK!
I'LL MAKE IT EVEN MORE FUN TO TAKE OFF BY USING SOME OF MY... BOUNCIER FORMS.


NAOMI!
I NEED YOU TO LISTEN. GET YOUR SHIT TOGETHER!
OH RELAAAX, I'M JUST HAVING A LITTLE FU-
-I DON'T CARE!!
THEY'RE RIGHT TH-


GRAAAAH!!




SORRY...
SO... SORRY...
WHAT...
WHA- WAS...
D-DID I
JUST HEAR...
HER?...
HER... THOUGHTS?


I-IN ME... WWWHAT'S HAPPENING?!!
HELP...
T-THERE IT WAS AGAIN!
WW-WHAT IF I... I CAN... F-FOLLOW THAT VOICE...


HNNGAH!




MMMMMMMPH!!






W-WOAH... THAT WAS... INTENSE.
SSSHE DIDN'T... THIS W-WASN'T...
THERE'S MORE THAN I... DIDN'T REALISE.


You SURELY have a secure room SOMEWHERE?!
Uhhh... We'll make one, ma'am!
Chain her to a wall if you have to, just MAKE SURE she doesn't leave.
I've got a VERY special call to make.
Uuuu


You clocked her good!
Should we call medical to check her out?
Nah, this just makes our jobs easier!


CAN YOU STILL FIGHT, SOLDIER?
W-WHAT... WHO... GAAAAH... NOT DEEEAD?
NO, BUT WE'RE ABOUT TO BE IF YOU DON'T ANSWER ME!
CAN. YOU. FIGHT??
I-I THINK SO...
GOOD. I'LL GET FRONT, YOU GET BACK.


C-Crap, is she coming to?!
Don't worry, I've secured her shifting metal.
And just look at her, she's been through a meat grinder! She can barely move.
NGHH...
GGRRR


SHE'S MOVING!!
I'M TRYING, SHE'S-
WELL HOLD HER TIGHTER!


HOLD HER AR-


GASP!


HELLO
SPLOOSH!!!


W-WHHUH?
PAINT
PAINT




NNG!


RMMPH!!


WOOOP!




G-GIVE IN!!
WWWHAT ARE YOU??
ABOUT TO BE YOU!!


N-NOT... GONNA...
HAPPEN!
W-WHA-


BLEGH!


GAH!
N-NO NO
WAI-


SMACK!!!
NICE TRY, GOOP.
WE'VE TRAINED AGAINST HOPPERS!!
W-WHAT THE HELL IS A HOPPER??


N-NED! I'M BACK IN THE HOT SEAT.
SO GOOD TO HEAR YOUR VOICE!
I'VE RE-SECURED THE PACKAGE, HOW MANY EXITS ARE STILL OPEN?
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO YOU??
CLASP!


It's... complicated.
There's more to this than you know.
Well I'll make it simpler.
If you don't extract RIGHT NOW, you may NEVER leave that place.
It won't be long until they find out I'm in the system!
I know, I know... FUCK
GRRRRRRR!








JESUS... THIS IS THE WEIRDEST FEW DAYS OF MY LIFE.
AT LEAST I HAVE MY CHOKER BACK IN CASE THINGS GET... FREAKIER.


GWWOOOOUURRRRU
GRRRRU
HI...
IT'S, UH... LINDA, R-RIGHT?...
...IS THAT A YES?... S-SORRY I CAN'T-

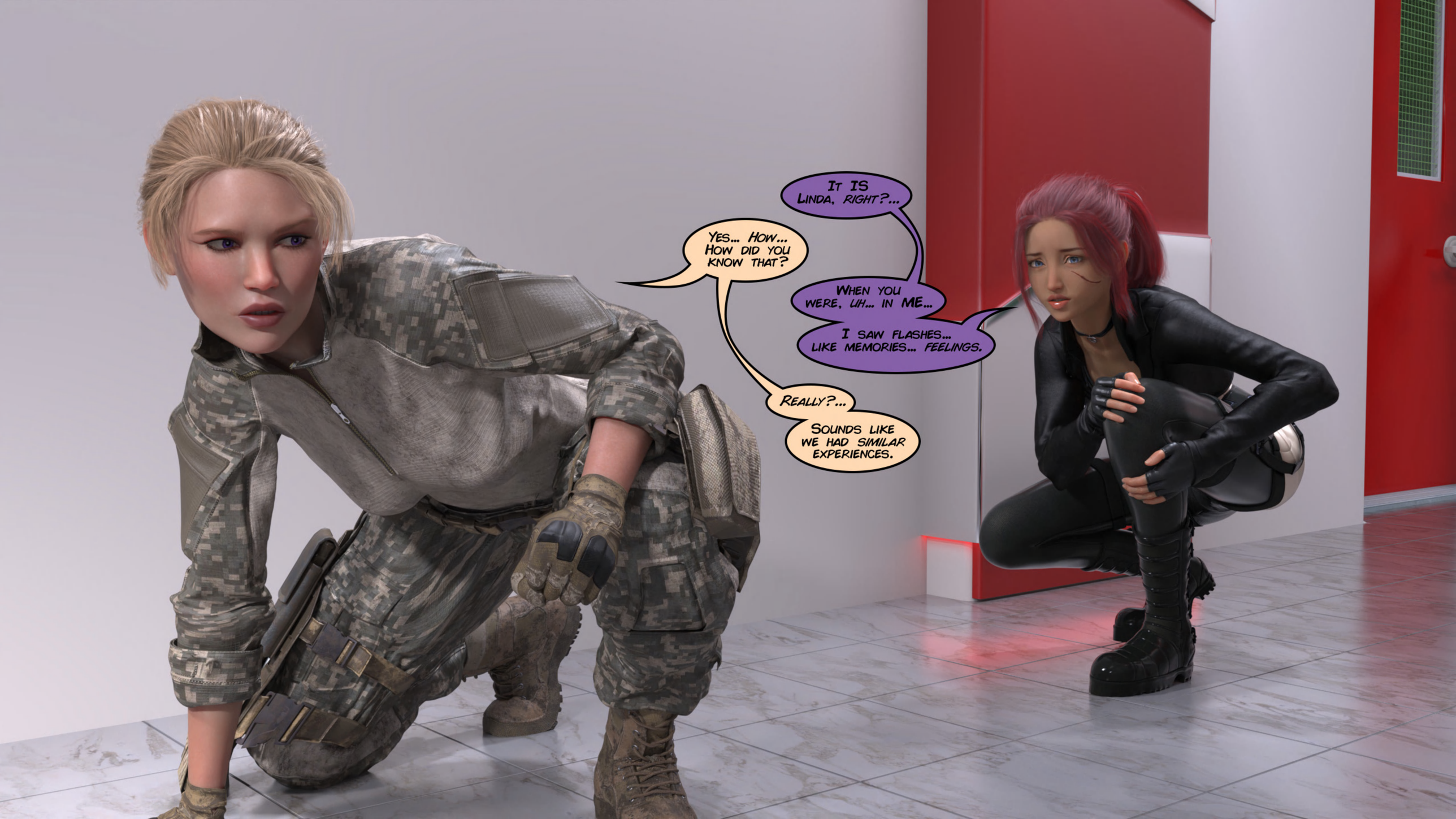

GGWOOUR...
GGGRRGLLL!




IS... IS THAT WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?...
S-SHE'S... IT'S SO...


...FUUUUCK...
...AND NOW IT'S THE MOST HAUNTING FEW DAYS OF MY LIFE.
GRRUUUU


...Ouch.
Y-yeah... And thanks to YOU it's ONLY when I'm using someone else's b-buh... b-body.
And annoyingly THIS one now has a THUMPING headache.
Oh, you CAN speak!
Ah... right... I'm sorry about that.


IT IS LINDA, RIGHT?...
YES... HOW... HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT?
WHEN YOU WERE, UH... IN ME...
I SAW FLASHES... LIKE MEMORIES... FEELINGS.
REALLY?...
SOUNDS LIKE WE HAD SIMILAR EXPERIENCES.


LISTEN, I'M SORRY THAT WHAT I DID IN THAT LAB-
-SAVE IT NAOMI, I KNOW.
I DID SOME... 'DIGGING' OF MY OWN. I KNOW YOU WERE BEING A "GOOD SOLDIER" AND FOLLOWING YOUR ORDERS.
THAT'S ALL I'VE ASKED MY FELLOW SOLDIERS TO DO, AND ALL I'VE DONE MY WHOLE LIFE.
...BUT I CAN'T JUST FORGIVE YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO ME.
THOSE PUNCHES BACK THERE FELT... GOOD.
PAK
Y-YUHUH...


However, my hands are JUST as dirty for the sake of "orders"... and that dirt doesn't wash off.
I feel like my anger has been... misdirected.
I've had to adapt to my "new resources", and now I know I'm not the ONLY one having to rethink my life.
I saw what you've been doing SINCE the 'mistake', and...


I WANT IN.
CLICK
CLICK


ON YOUR FEET, SOLIDER!
WE'VE GOT A MISSION TO FINISH.
NO SOLDIER LEFT BEHIND.
GET UP
MY ADRENALINE... IS WEARING OFF... I-I'M FEELING-
HUFF
PUFF


NAOMI, CAN YOU HEAR ME? BECAUSE I CAN HEAR YOU! WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT?
HEH...
TO PUT IT IN YOUR WORDS, I THINK A NEW CHARACTER JUST JOINED OUR PARTY.
FUCK YEAH!
CLASP!


This is Ned in my ear by the way, he's my guy in the chair.
Yeah, uhhh... we met.
...a story for another time.
You did?...
We did?...
Okayy... Let's go then, Captain!


THESE ARCHIVES SHOULD KEEP HIM HIDDEN FOR NOW.
THEY DON'T CHECK THESE?
HUFF!
THEY DO, BUT WE WON'T NEED LONG... AND IT BEATS THE HALLWAY!

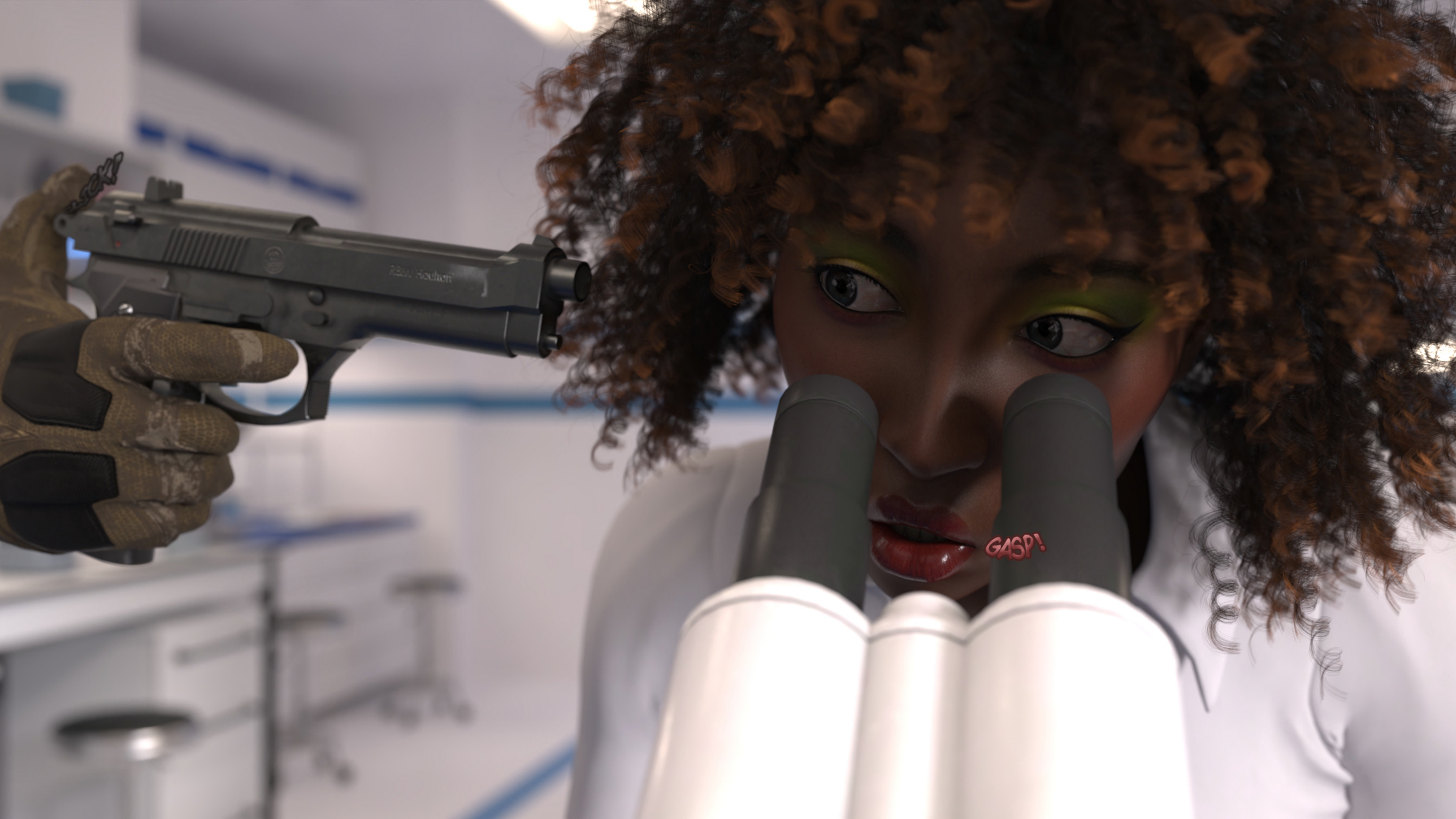

I ASSUME THIS ROCK HERE YOU'VE BEEN CHASING IS IMPORTANT?
SHIFTER ORE?... WHY BRING IT HERE?
THAT'S MORE THAN JUST A ROCK... THAT'S SHIFTER ORE.
'COS THIS IS WHERE THE CRUCIBLE IS.


THE CRUCIBLE
NAOMI, I HATE TO BE A NAGGER, BUT... REMEMBER THE WHOLE 'YOU GOTTA LEAVE NOW' THING??
NED, IT'S NOW OR NEVER. AFTER THIS, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GET BACK HERE.
WELL THEY'VE STARTED BREAKING DOWN THOSE SYSTEM ROADBLOCKS I PUT IN PLACE. I'M LOSING CONTROL HERE!
NOTED, WE'RE GOING AS FAST AS WE CAN.


HAND SCANNER... HAVE YOU GOT CLEARANCE?
N-NOPE... BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES!
WHY EVEN BOTHER HAVING THIS IN A BUILDING FULL OF SHIFTING FREAKS?
BECAUSE NOT EVERYONE HERE IS A SHIFTER.
WOOSA


A fair few 'Normies' work for The Collective too.
Ned used to for example, as well as the Security staff you're, uh... wearing.
Even still only SELECT shifters are allowed in here.
And if any Shifter WAS found impersonating Helena, well...
Let's just say there would be one more Normie added to that list.
ACKNOWLEDGED ENTRY
IDENTITY CONFIRMED
BEEP!


MMMHMM


GASP!


STAY QUIET.


THIS IS IT!
I JUST PUT THE SHIFTER ORE IN HERE, AND THEN...
UHHH... DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE THIS, NED?
IF THERE'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS, IT ISN'T ON THE SERVERS I CAN SEE!
DAMN...


YOU.
HOW DO YOU WORK THAT THING?
MY CLEARANCE IS RIGHT HERE IN MY HAND.
YOU... Y-YOU DON'T HAVE CLEARANCE TO-


I-I'M SORRY... I CAN'T!
I-I'D RATHER TTTHAT THAN WHAT HELENA WILL DO TO ME!
I THINK YOU CAN.
DAMN... I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT.


I GOT THE ORE IN, BUT... I NEED A CODE TO START IT?
WELL... THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER WAY I CAN THINK OF GETTING THAT INFORMATION... I DIG IT OUT.
TELL ME, LAB RAT... HAVE YOU ALSO TRAINED AGAINST 'HOPPERS'?
I-I, UH... I DON'T HAVE MY 'PUBLIC STATUS' QUALIFICATION YET, SO I HAVEN'T STARTED THE TRA
-PERFECT.


HERE.
IN CASE ANYTHING GOES WRONG.
WAIT... YOU'RE GOING TO DO THE THING YOU DID TO ME?...
BUT OPENING MY MIND MEANT I COULD SEE YOURS TOO!


DO YOU HAVE A BETTER IDEA?
WE'RE ON THE CLOCK, REMEMBER.
I DON'T, BUT-
-BUT WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU-


YOU READY, EGG-HEAD?
R-READY?... FOR WH-


GASP!
BBBBWAAAG!




GGGLLUUUURRRGG


uuuu


SOCIALISM

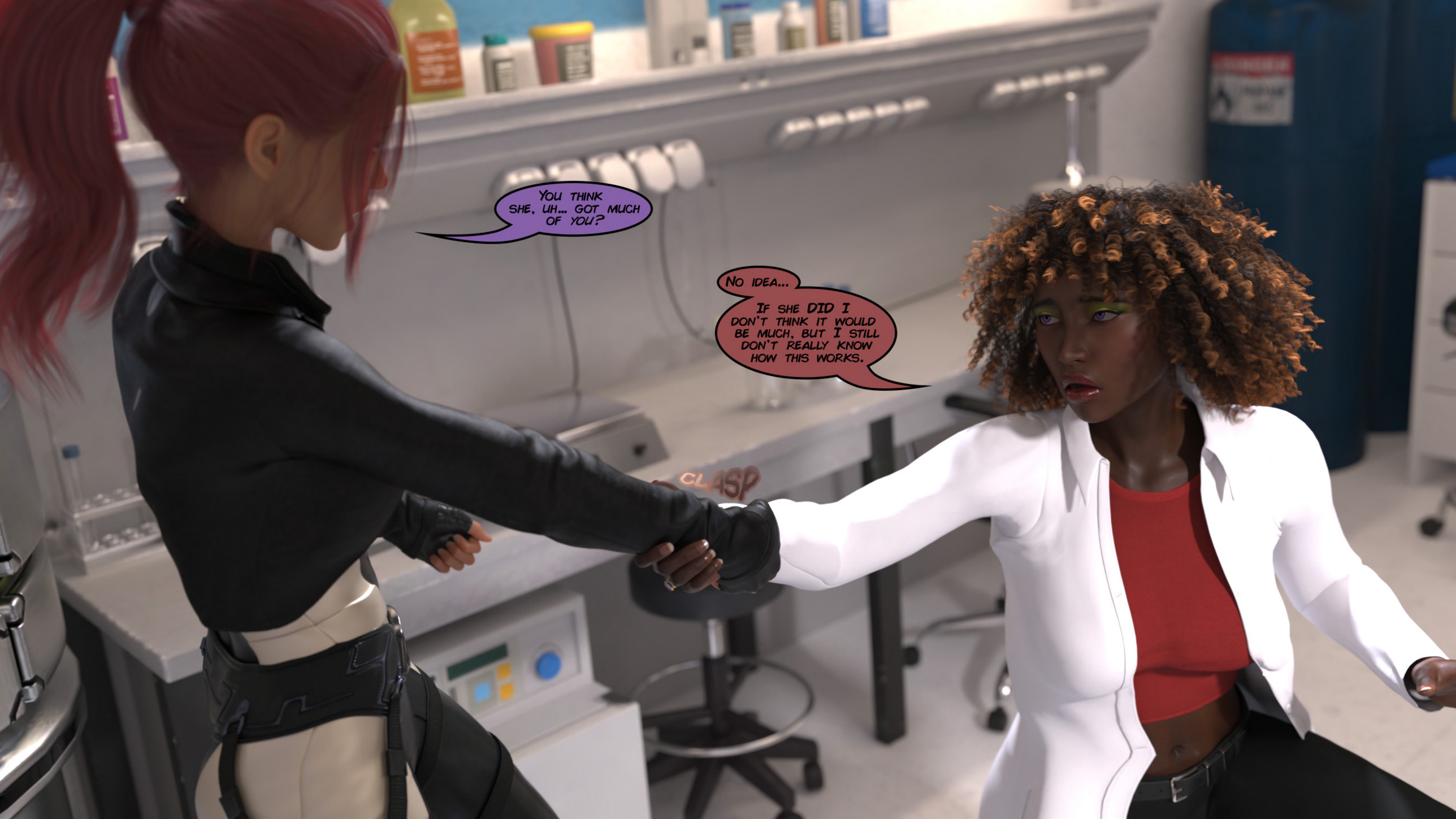

G-GOT HER!... I-I THINK-
G-GOING DDDEEPER...


LINDA?...
SHE'S FFIGHTING B-BACK!
J-JUST LET MEEE IN!
DON'T YOU DARE LOSE YOURSELF IN THERE!
GRRRR!!
GRAAAAH!!


ROGER THAT!
GOT IT!
T-THREE FIVE
S-SIX FFFOUR!!!


OKAY... IT'LL TAKE A MOMENT TO SMELT, BUT THEN WE CAN G-T-F-O.
BEEP?
BEEP...
CLAC
BOOP
BOOP!


YOU OKAY?...
Y-YEAH... ALMOST PASSED OUT, BUT I'M GOOD.
I ONLY WENT AS DEEP AS I NEEDED TO FIND THE CODE...
SHE USES IT A LOT, SO I WASN'T... SEARCHING FAR.


You think she, uh... got much of you?
No idea...
If she DID I don't think it would be much, but I still don't really know how this works.
CLASP


ALTHOUGH... THE H-HARDEST PART IS FIGHTING THESE WEIRD, UHHH... FEELINGS.
FEELINGS?
FEELINGS LIKE... THOUGHTS?... U-URGES?... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE IT...


There's just these... new slimy urges I get...
Unnf...
Like I'm chasing a s-shiver?... So many places to squirm into...
Mmmmmmmmph...
TtThey invade my mind... m-make me... FEEL really good things...


...AHEH...
BACK IN THE ROOM, LINDA... LOOK AT ME.
Y-YEAH?...
FUNNILY ENOUGH I DO KNOW THAT KIND OF FEELING... I GET THEM WHEN I SHAPESHIFT.
YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T NOTICE BACK IN FLORENCE WITH ALL THE... ACTION.
O-OH I... YOU DO TOO?
I THINK ALL OF US DO... JUST SOME ARE MORE PRACTICED AT KEEPING THEM AT BAY.


LINDA...
LINDA...!!!
PRAAAACTICED?...
MAYBE YOU COULD GIVE ME SOME... PRIVATE LESSONS?...
SCHLICK
I COULD USE THIS BODY... OR MAYBE TRY OUT THIS LOVELY RING IF YOU LIKE THE LOOK OF SOMEONE ELSE?...
I WAS IN YOUR MIND AFTER ALL...
GRROOOGGH...
O-OR MAYBE YOU COULD LET ME SLIP BACK INSIDE YOU FOR SOME "SOLO" SESSIO-


THIS ISN'T THAT KIND OF STORY, CAPTAIN... SAVE IT FOR YOUR SOLO VENTURES.
HAAAAAA-


G-Got it!... Sorry...
Pain seems to snap me out of it pretty quick!
Yeah, I know it does... Trust me.
Most shifters would probably have taken you up on that offer... especially my oversexed Mother.
So if you want to keep your head on mission, you're going to have to find OTHER ways of keeping those intrusive thoughts at bay.


MAKES ME WONDER THOUGH... THAT VIAL OF SLIME THAT MADE YOU LIKE THIS...
DOES THIS MEAN IT'S GOT SOME SORT OF SHIFTER STUFF IN IT?...
BECAUSE WE HAVE THESE SAME 'URGES'?...
WELL... YOU SEEM TO HAVE A VERSION OF OUR SHIFTING ABILITY IN YOUR SLIME FORM... WAS THAT WHAT THEY WERE DOING WITH THE SHIFTER ORE IN THE LAB?


But what about the...'possession' ability?... Some bi-product?
That part is new to me...
This guard I fought earlier resisted me and called me a "hopper".
Could whatever THAT is be in the mix here?...
That DOES ring a bell, but I'm not sure where from...
I think what's happened to you Linda, may just be a piece of a very shady puzzle.


BEEP BEEP!
WHRRRRR
FINALLY!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHY THIS SMELTER BY THE WAY?
YOU COULD HAVE BOUGHT A SMELTER FROM THE HARDWARE STORE.


SHIFTER ORE IS STABLE ON ITS OWN, BUT INCREDIBLY UNSTABLE WHEN YOU TRY TO CHANGE ITS STATE OF MATTER.
THE EFFECT IS SO STRONG THAT IT CAN BE FELT THROUGH OTHER SHIFTER METALS IN THE AREA NEAR IT!


And because of that... you need a VERY precise machine to do it safely... THIS machine.
But now that the ore's refined, I can take it with us to make NEW shifter jewellery.
Okay... How many machines like this ARE there?
There's only one other that I know of, and my uhhh... The 'Red Witch' has that one.


WHY'S THAT?
WELL... IF YOU REALLY WANT TO MAKE THIS MISSION COUNT...
THOSE CANISTERS IN THE CORNER ARE FILLED WITH PROPANE.
OOH... I LIKE YOUR STYLE, LINDA!
YOU PREP THE EXPLOSIVE, I'LL GET THE GUARD TO A SAFE DISTANCE.
DANGER
PROPANE GAS


Propane Gas
NED, DO YOU STILL HAVE CONTROL OF ANY EXITS?
I'VE ONLY GOT ONE LEFT NAOMI, BUT IT'S A TIGHT SQUEEZE FOR TWO PEOPLE...
IT'S THE AIR VENT IN THE CORRIDOR JUST OUTSIDE THE LAB.
DAMN... I HATE CRAWLING THROUGH AIR VENTS!


AIR VENT?... THAT'S NO PROBLEM.
FOR TWO OF US?...
IT ONLY NEEDS TO BE FOR ONE OF US...
OH NO... NOT DOING THAT AGAIN!
NOT INSIDE YOU... I HAVE A BETTER IDEA.


I'M FEELING... NOSTALGIC.
FOR?...
POWER ARMOUR.
YOU?... YOU MEAN... CAN YOU EVEN DO THAT?
WANNA FIND OUT?
HEH, FUCK YEAH!


THE CRUCIBLE


WON'T BE LONG, NED!
LINDA IS ACTUALLY MAKING THESE VENTS EASIER TO GET THROUGH.
ROGER THAT, NAOMI!
I'M IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT, READY TO GTFO.


TOO BAD SHE COULDN'T TAKE THESE WITH HER... PROBABLY WOULD HAVE MADE THINGS EASIER!


I WONDER HOW THEY WORK?
THEY SEEM TO HAVE THEIR OWN POWER SOURCE...
IS IT ONE-SIZE FITS ALL?
CLASH


OOOH COOL...
I FEEL LIKE A POWER RANGER!
HOW DO THEY ACTUALLY TURN ON?
IS THERE LIKE A HIDDEN SWITCH, OR IS IT MORE INTUITIVE?
MAYBE IF I TRY FLEXING MY FOREAR-


AHAHEHEEE!
SWEEEEET.
WRRR
MMMMMMMMM


HELENA?!


FUCKFUCKSHITFUCK!
NAOMI, YOU BETTER MAKE IT FAST!
ONCE HELENA FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS MESS, THEY'LL CLOSE DOWN THE VENT AS WELL, AND NAOMI WILL BE STU-


GAH!


-Calm down, I made it in time!
I've got it all sorted, you'll see.
Gotta have more faith in me, Ned...
Oh thank GOD Naomi, you scared the SHIT out of me!
HELENA just rocked up, so I was w-worried they'd-


PLAYING WITH SOME TOYS, EH?
YEAH, THEY DEFINITELY MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE A REAL HERO!
THE COLLECTIVE SURE HAS ALL THE GOOD STUFF.
WHA-? OH, YEAH.
JUST SEEING HOW THEY WORKED... CAN'T LET YOU HAVE ALL THE FUN!


But... The gauntlets aren't as much fun on the receiving end.
I don't doubt it!
Although I haven't seen them in action yet, I've read up on the specs from the University files I was able to pull...
They've got some serious juice flowing through these circuits!

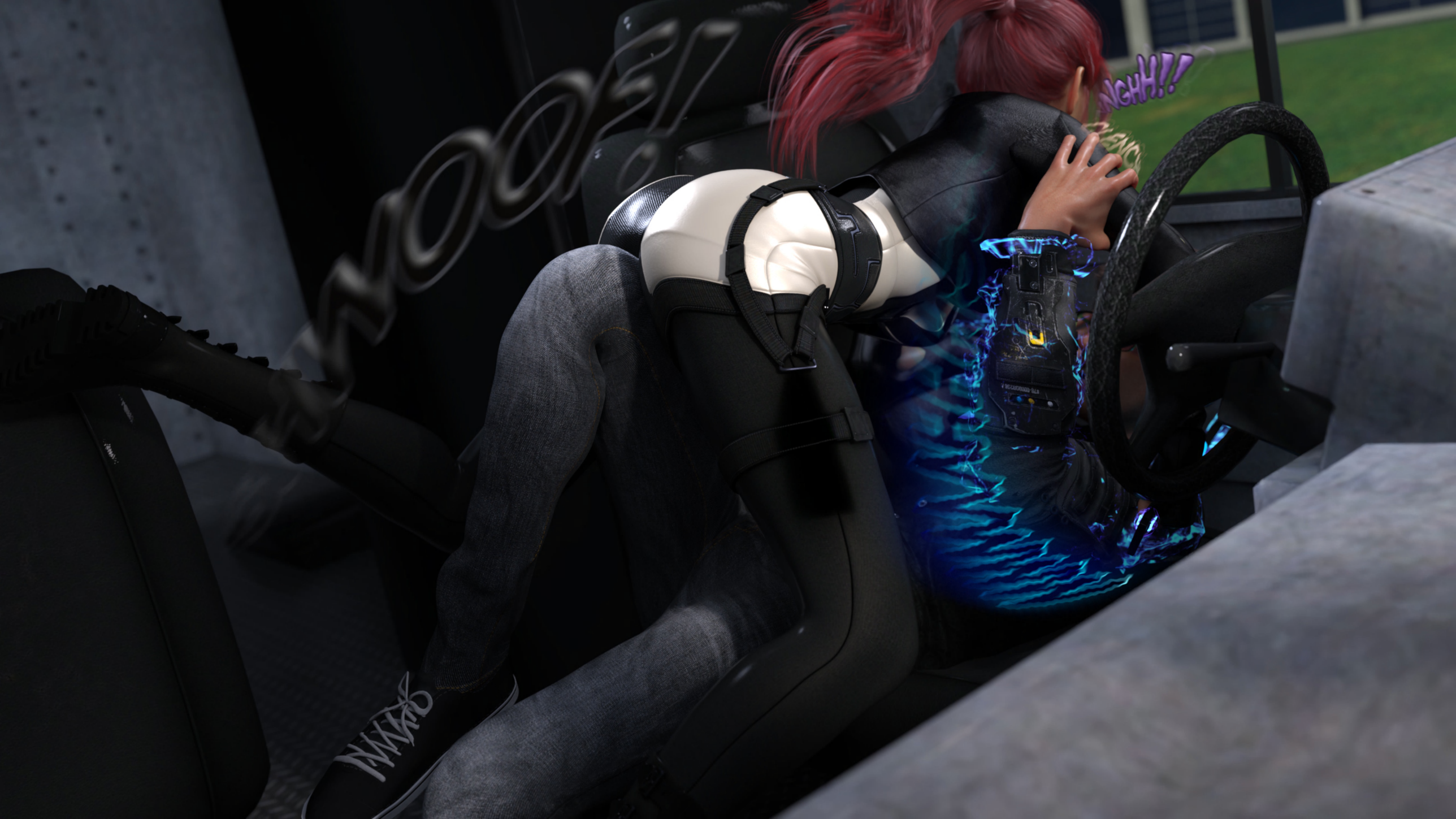

I CAN LOOK AT THEM CLOSER LATER THOUGH, MIGHT BE ABLE TO TRY AND REVERSE-ENGINEER IT OR SOMETHING, I DUNNO.
FIRST STEP IS GETTING THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
9037G


WAIT... WHERE'S LINDA?
LINDA?... LINDA YAMADA?
YEAH, WASN'T SHE... "WITH YOU"?


LINDA WAS WITH ME?... WOW. LUCKY ME.
WELL THEN... I'M GOING TO HAVE TO DEAL WITH LINDA LATER.
...NAOMI?... WHY ARE YO-


!!gasp!!


Y-YOU'RE NOT-
NO SHIT, SHERLOCK!
BUT I'LL SOON BE YOU AND NAOMI WILL BE NONE THE WI-


NGHH!!




PANT!
NOT GONNA MAKE IT THAT EASY!
PANT...
GHHRRR...


WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, NORMIE?!
I'LL CUT YOU DOWN TO SIZE!!


GH!
SRUFF!!


YOU'RE NO FIGHTER, NED!
GIVE. UP.


MUUURK!
Mooooo


GGGRR...
HAHAHA
YOU THINK SOME FUCKING NORMIE COULD BEAT A SHIFTER??


TTTHIS
N-NORMIE-


GEC
ELECTRIC COMPANY
Getting Power to the People
WE'RE COMING UP TO THE VAN NED, START IT U-




I JUST KICKED
YOUR SHIFTER
ASS!!!
Getting Power
to the People


W-WOW... HEY NED!
OH... HI N-NAOMI... I HOPE?


YEAH, IT'S UH... IT'S ME.
YEAH, IT'S UH... IT'S ME.
AND THIS PURPLE STUFF IS, UHH... LINDA. I'LL EXPLAIN AFTER.
YOU HAVE SOME SHIFTER TROUBLES?
YEAH... "YOUR" RETURN WAS QUITE THE CLOSE SHAVE!
Getting Power
to the

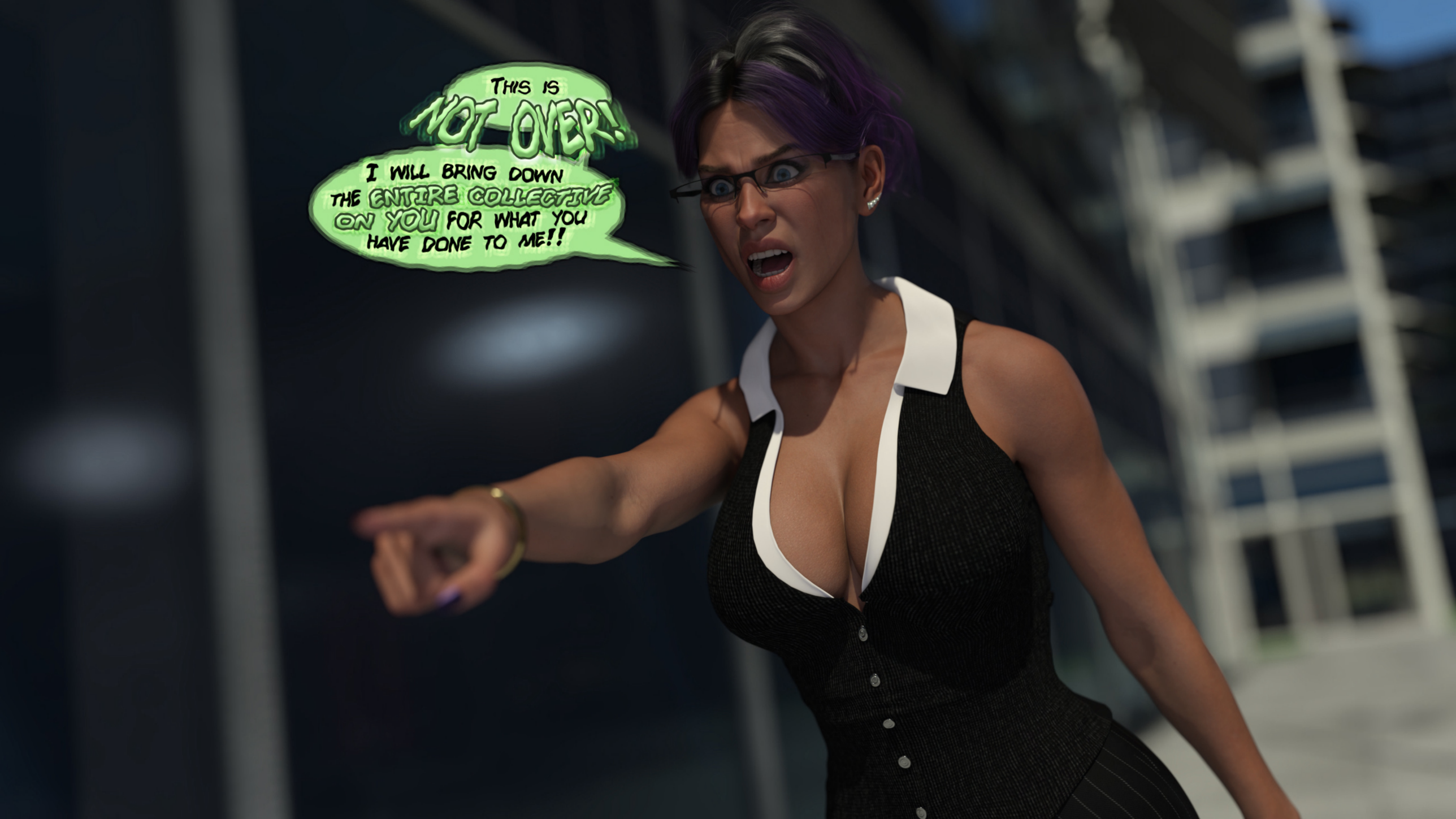

I THINK HELENA AND ASTRID NOTICED THE VAN WHEN THEY ARRIVED.
OF COURSE... THIS IS STILL THE VAN THEY GAVE US TO DO THE FIRST MISSION THAT KICKED ALL THIS MESS OFF!
WE'VE GOTTA REMEMBER TO SCRUB IT FOR TRACKERS AND BUGS IF WE WANT TO KEEPING USING IT.
ALREADY GOT ONE PEST OUT...
URGH...


WOAH!
THAT IS LINDA??
IT'S OKAY! IT'S JUST LINDA.
YEAH... LONG STORY. YOU GET USED TO IT!... KINDA.
GEC
LECTRIC COMPANY


Not her, Linda... She's been through enough.
GGGRAGRRR!
I'm not in the business of kidnapping, we're better than that.
I didn't disown the clans to just start acting like them.


ASTRID... I HOPE ONE DAY YOU REALISE WHAT THE COLLECTIVE HAS DONE TO YOU... TO US.
IF THAT DAY EVER ARRIVES... COME AND FIND ME.
I HOPE IT NEVER COMES TO THAT.
H-HNNG...
O-OVER M-MY DEAD BODY.

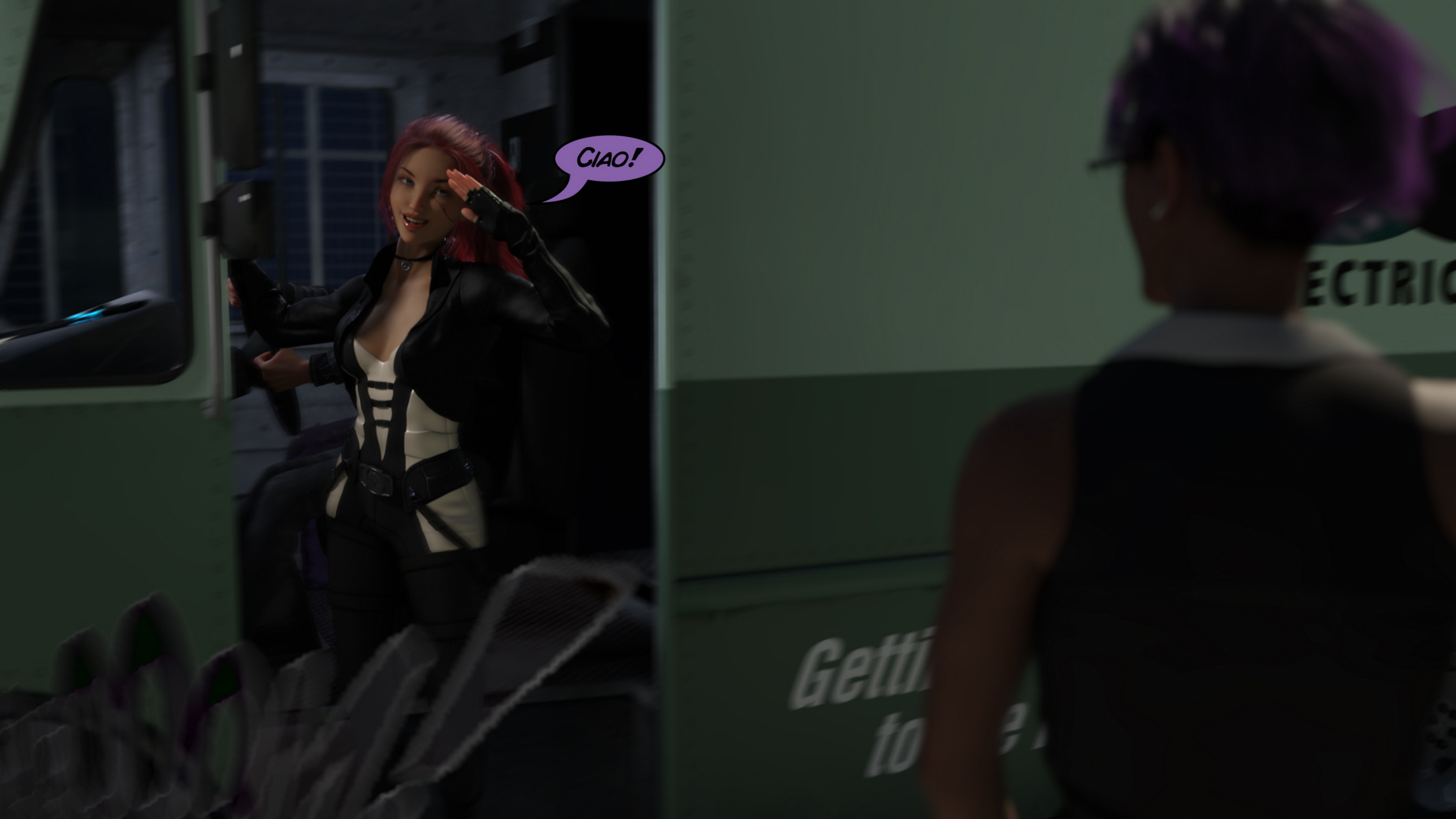

NAOMI!!


THIS IS NOT OVER!
I WILL BRING DOWN THE ENTIRE COLLECTIVE ON YOU FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO ME!!


DON'T BE SO DRAMATIC, HELENA...
ALL I DID TODAY WAS 'RETURN THE FAVOUR' FOR ALL THE YEARS OF TORMENT YOU PUT ME THROUGH.
AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, WE'RE NOW SQUARE AND WE CAN CALL TRUCE.
BUT IF YOU'RE GONNA THREATEN ME WITH "ALL YOUR POWER"...


THEN YOU CAN GO FUCK YOURSELF.


MY ADVICE IS TO TAKE THE LOSS AND MOVE ON.
BUT IF YOU WANT A WAR... I'M READY FOR YOU.
...WE'RE READY FOR YOU.
THE CHOICE IS YOURS, HELENA.


CIAO!


NGHNN...
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT H-HAPPENED HELENA. I-
PANT
TSK
WHAT HAPPENED IS YOU FAILED ASTRID... AND NOT FOR THE FIRST TIME.


HHHUFF...
I-I'M SORRY HELENA, I-I-
YOU WILL BE... AND YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE.
THERE ARE A LOT OF SHIFTERS WHO OWE ME SOME ANSWERS AFTER THIS... HURDLE.


G E C
ELECTRIC COMPANY


So... Where to?
Good question... Linda, what do you think?
Gwwwaarble...
Good point, let's do it.


WAIT... YOU CAN UNDERSTAND HER?
LINDA? GOD NO.
BUT SHE DID REMIND ME WE'VE GOT TO SORT OUT SOMETHING FOR HER.
RIIIIGHT... AND HOW DO WE DO THAT?
WWWWRRRB.


First... We sleep.
It's been... a long day.
After some rest... I think we find out what a 'hopper' is and see if they have any ideas.
Sure uh... any ideas on how we find one of those?
We might not like it... But I think I know someone who might.


THE THING IS... I'M NOT SURE MY MUM WILL BE EXACTLY CHUFFED TO SEE US AGAIN.
OH... RIGHT.
GWWWARG?
MY MOTHER AND I AREN'T EXACTLY ON... SPEAKING TERMS.
I MEAN YOU SAW IT TODAY... FAMILY IS COMPLICATED.


But don't worry, you're a part of THIS team now and WE look out for each other.
If we have to suffer the spooky "Red Witch" and her terryfying wrath once again, then that's what we're going to do... together.
Bump it.


LET'S KICK SOME ASS.
BUMP!



SPLINTERED CELLS

A SHAPESHIFTER AND SLIME STORY

NAOMI'S EPIC JOURNEY IS FINALLY COMPLETE!

THE FIRST SPLINTERED CELLS STARTED JUST OVER FOUR YEARS AGO, CAN YOU BELIEVE? WHO KNEW IT WAS GOING TO BLOSSOM INTO SOMETHING THIS BIG... I SURE DIDN'T!

A BIG THANK YOU TO SWISHSTREAM FOR SWISHING THE HELL OUT OF THIS COMIC WITH ALL THE EDITS AND EFFECTS, AND TO ALEX HOPPER FOR BIG-BRAINING THE DRAFT SCRIPT FOR THIS FANTASTIC JOURNEY!

AND THE BIGGEST THANKS TO ALL YOU FANTASTIC SUPPORTERS OUT THERE TO MAKE THIS DREAM TEAM POSSIBLE, THIS TRILOGY STARTED FOUR YEARS AGO AND IT WOULD NOT HAVE MADE IT TO THIS END WITHOUT ALL OF YOU ♥

SEE YOU IN THE NEXT ADVENTURE!
MUCH LOVE,
NEXY XX

NEXYCOMICS.COM

