~~TOP SECRET~~ SECRET

Copy 2 of 2 copies each
of 3 pages series A

S.G.S.
Sudden Growth Syndrome

New York City Outbreak Report

Day 0

Photographs by Red Firedog
Documentation by Emma Gear

~~SECRET~~
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ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1954
AS AMENDED
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC REGRADING:
DOD DIR 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

Sec Def Cont Nr. X - _____











What a fucked up... day? Has it been a day? Longer? Shit. I don't even know that much. After the worst... experience of my life I find myself coming to in a hospital surrounded by plastic sheets. Not ten minutes later I see a group of figures bust into the room, put a bag on my head, and dragged me out of the warm bed and into a van.

Half an hour later I'm here. Alone in a room way too big with only a desk, a lamp, and a man in a hazmat suit standing across from me. Fuck me.

"How are you feeling?" He asks, as if he's trying to break the damn ice.

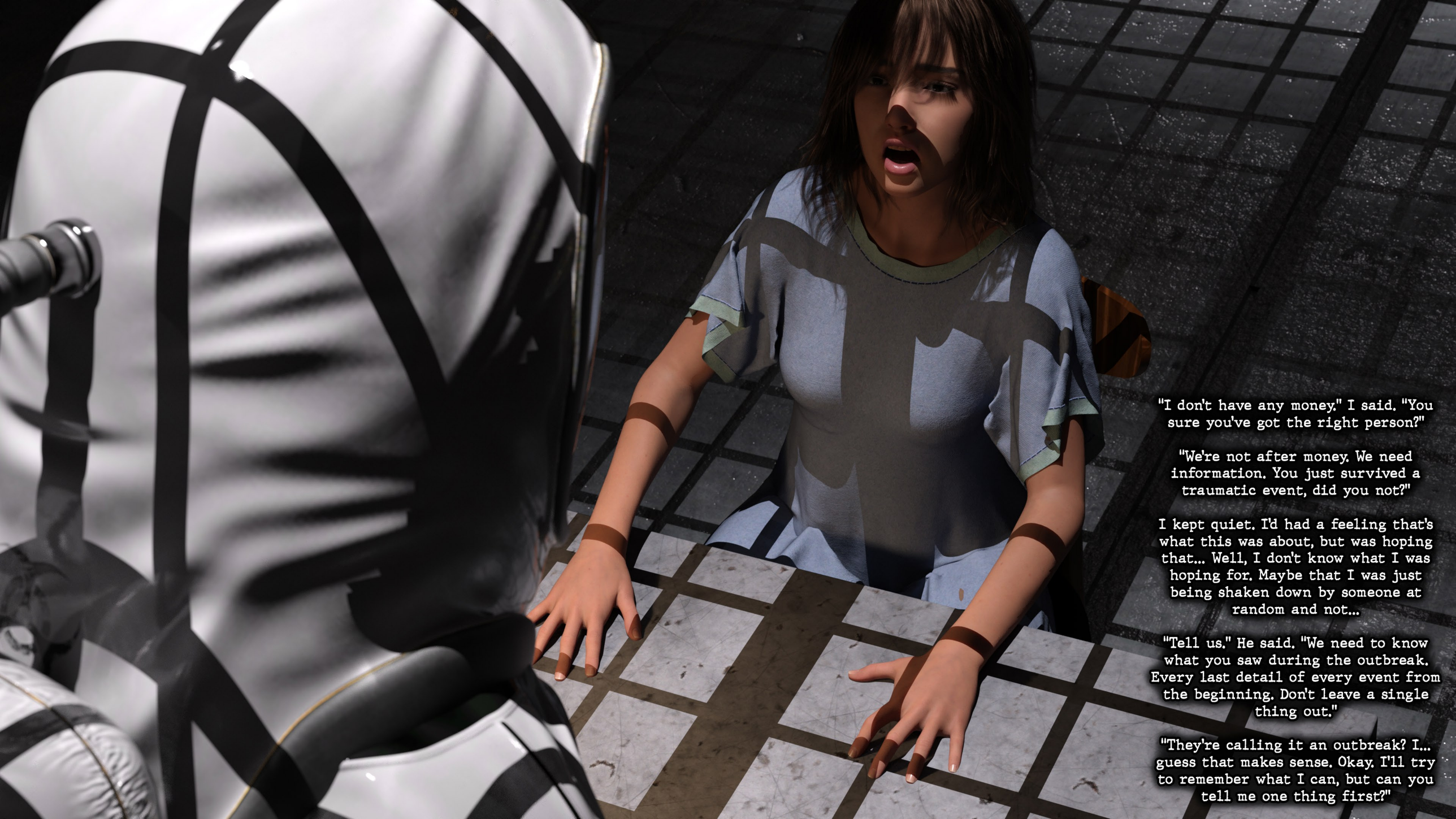
"Fine." I said, though it was only half-true. They weren't particularly gentle with how they handled me here, but this is the kind of scene you see in movies right before someone gets executed. I'd rather not be on anyone's bad side.

"How fine?" he asks, eyeing me up and down. "Anything out of the ordinary? Strange pains? A headache? Maybe-"

"Do you mind telling me where the fuck I am?"

"Negative." He said flatly. "That's not important. If you're not feeling out of the ordinary, then there are things we need from you."




"I don't have any money." I said. "You sure you've got the right person?"
"We're not after money. We need information. You just survived a traumatic event, did you not?"
I kept quiet. I'd had a feeling that's what this was about, but was hoping that... Well, I don't know what I was hoping for. Maybe that I was just being shaken down by someone at random and not...
"Tell us." He said. "We need to know what you saw during the outbreak. Every last detail of every event from the beginning. Don't leave a single thing out."
"They're calling it an outbreak? I... guess that makes sense. Okay. I'll try to remember what I can, but can you tell me one thing first?"



"Depends." He said sternly, leaning forward. "But you're wasting my time, so make it quick."

"What happened to the city? Last I saw it, it was..."

The man's brows furrowed, and leaned forward. In the dim light of the room the top of his suit cast a shadow over his face, making him look downright menacing as he sighed.

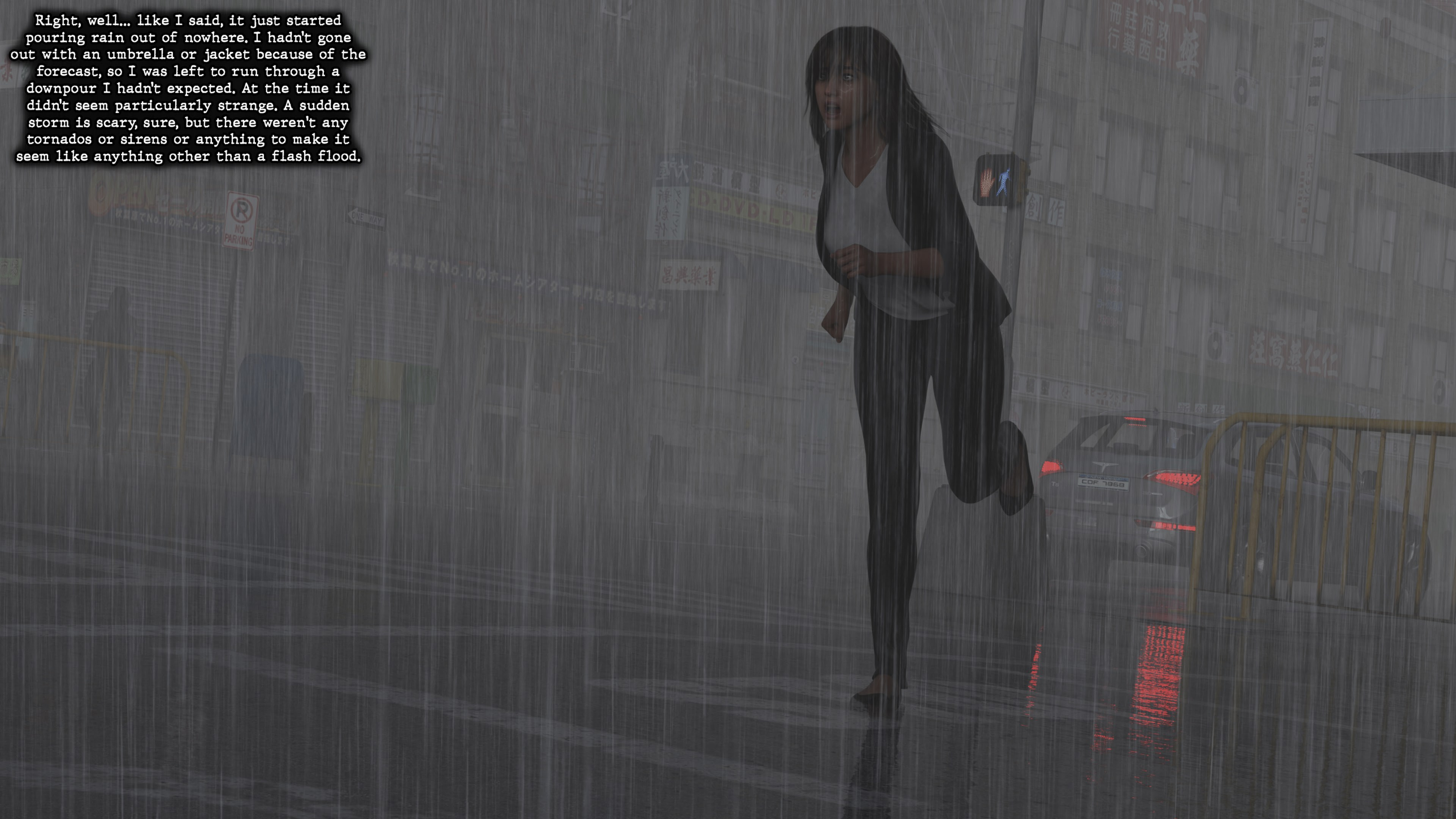
"It's gone." He said. "The city was utterly destroyed. We've estimated more than 95% of New York City's population was killed during the event. That's why it's so important we get detailed information from every survivor we can. If we can learn what caused this, we might be able to better mitigate the damage or prevent further outbreaks from occurring."


"Further outbreaks? Has it happened again? How many times? How long was I out-"
"We're getting away from the matter at hand. I'm not permitted to give you any more information that could bias your response, so the sooner you get to talking the sooner I can fill you in. Now if you could please proceed..."

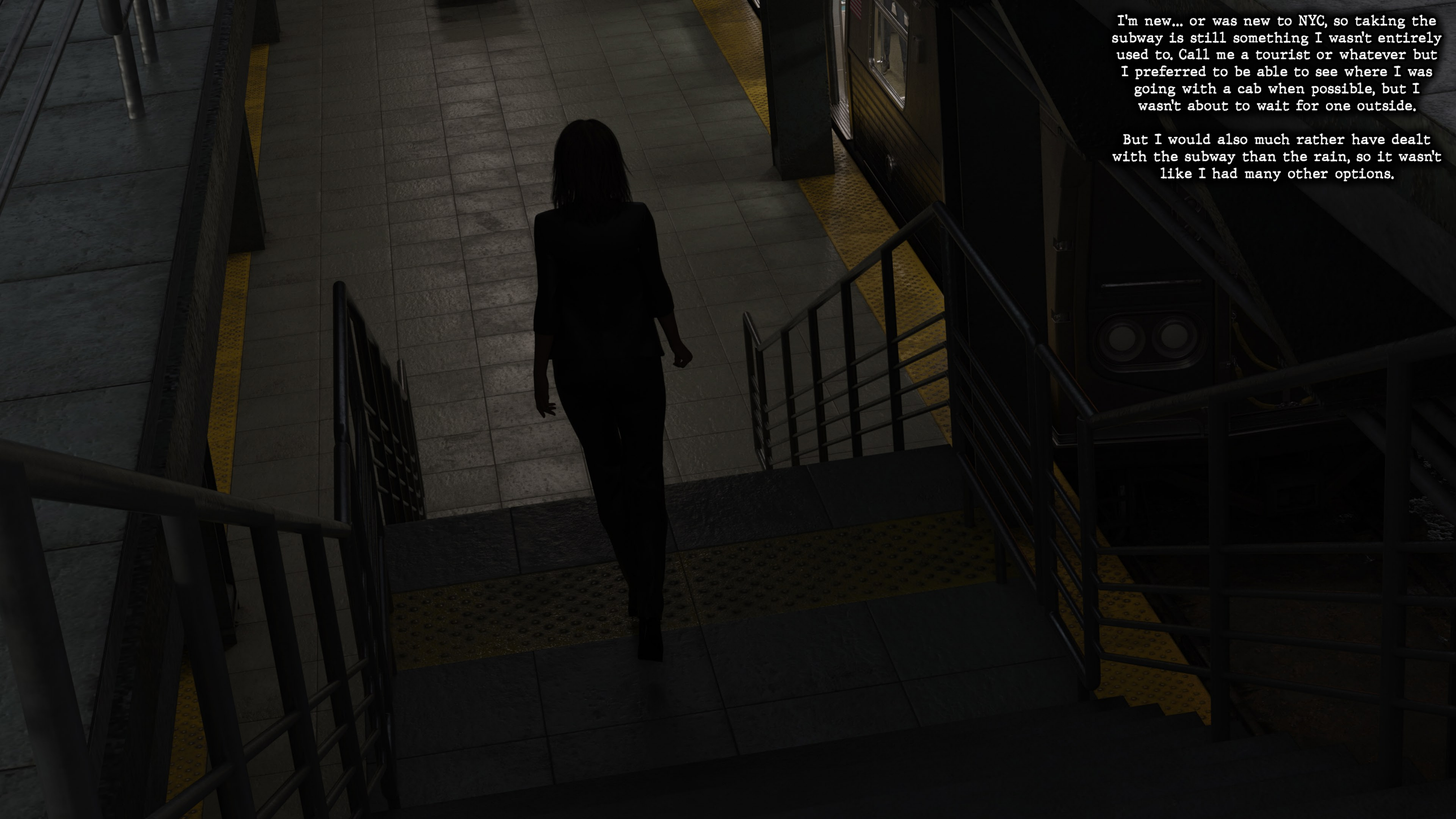

"Wait! Can you please just tell me one last thing? My girlfriend, Claire... Did she make it?"
The man's eye twitched for a moment, before he looked away. He cleared his throat, then leaned forward to glare at me once more.


"I already told you once that I can't divulge any extra information until you give your testimony. Tell me everything you know, and I do mean everything, then we can talk about the status of any loved ones... though I wouldn't get your hopes up."
"A simple yes or no is all I'm asking! Just-"
"Ma'am, you either tell me what I'm looking for, or you stay in this room until you're willing to talk. Speak up, and we'll keep you here for as short a period of time as possible."


"Okay, fine! I... A full report? Okay. Then I guess the first thing that seemed weird is..."
"Every detail." The man said, noting how I'd trailed off. "Even if it feels unimportant."
"Okay. Every detail." I repeated, before taking a deep breath. "Alright, well, the first thing that seemed kind of weird was... the weather. News said it was going to be a sunny day, and it had been... but it changed. And like, really, really fast too. I've never seen such a heavy storm roll in so fast out of nowhere."
"Keep going." The man said, taking a seat across from me. "Don't stop until you've said everything you have on your mind."

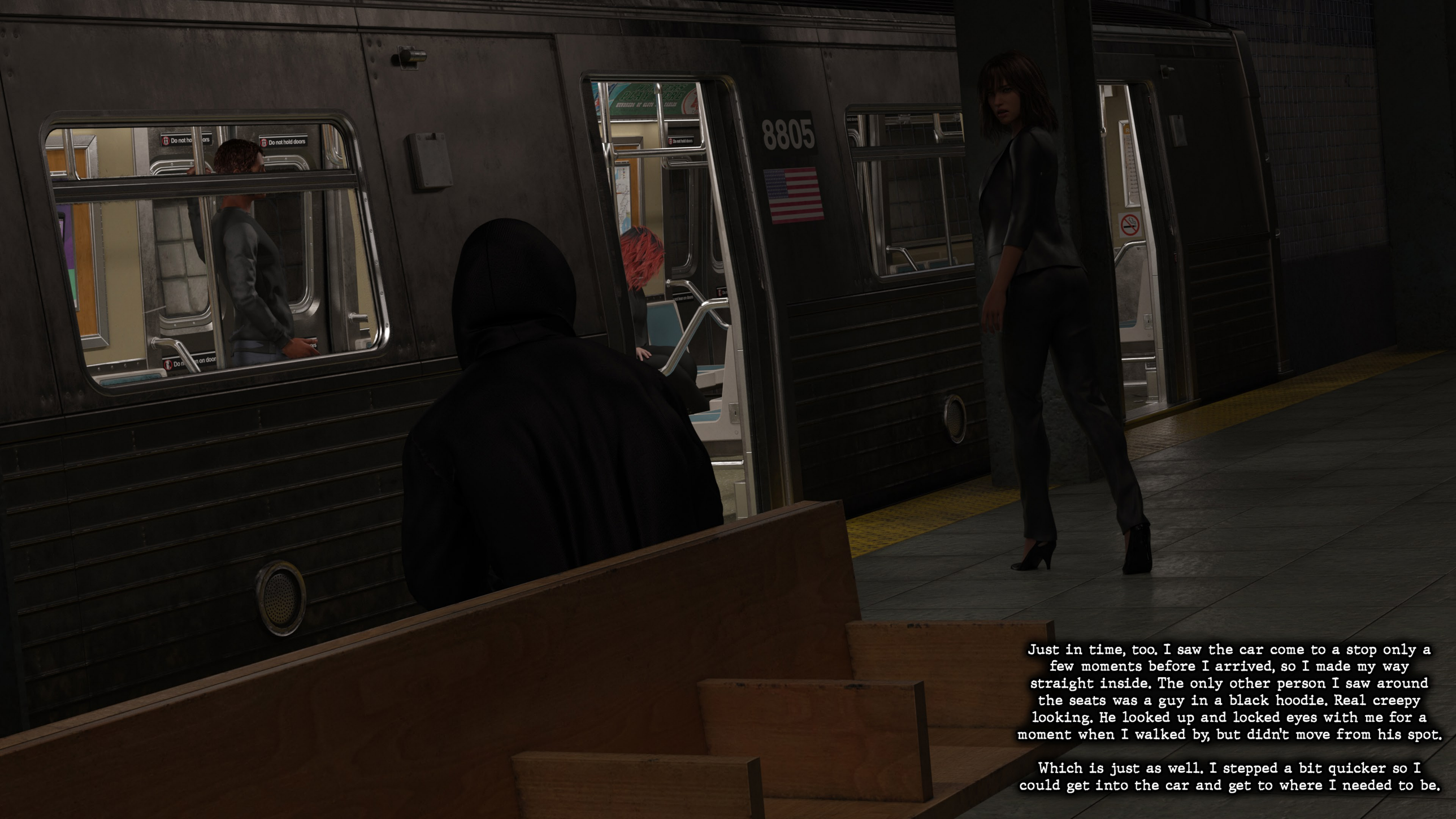

Right, well... like I said, it just started pouring rain out of nowhere. I hadn't gone out with an umbrella or jacket because of the forecast, so I was left to run through a downpour I hadn't expected. At the time it didn't seem particularly strange. A sudden storm is scary, sure, but there weren't any tornados or sirens or anything to make it seem like anything other than a flash flood.
NO PARKING
ONE WAY
CDF 7858


Not wanting to be stuck in a downpour the entire day I made my way over to the subway. I remember water pouring down the stairs as I did so, and hoping that the line was still operational the whole time. There weren't many people down there, which was a little strange all its own, but I figured everyone had just stayed inside until the storm passed.
Juic
42 S



I'm new... or was new to NYC, so taking the subway is still something I wasn't entirely used to. Call me a tourist or whatever but I preferred to be able to see where I was going with a cab when possible, but I wasn't about to wait for one outside.

But I would also much rather have dealt with the subway than the rain, so it wasn't like I had many other options.



Just in time, too. I saw the car come to a stop only a few moments before I arrived, so I made my way straight inside. The only other person I saw around the seats was a guy in a black hoodie. Real creepy looking. He looked up and locked eyes with me for a moment when I walked by, but didn't move from his spot.

Which is just as well. I stepped a bit quicker so I could get into the car and get to where I needed to be.


Some might say
texts a month is cr
We like crazy.
Thankfully, things were a little less eerie inside. Everything there seemed pretty normal. The lights were on, there were open seats, and a few more people around to make the scene less creepy.
That didn't last though.


"Hey!" A complete stranger said, while he smiled super wide at me. "Is it raining outside, or are you just happy to see me?"
"It's raining."
"Well why don't you take a seat, lady? There's plenty of seats all around here!"
It wasn't the first time I'd been hit on since I started living here, and I'd learned pretty quickly not to try and upset anyone who looks like they would be capable of causing a scene.



"No thanks." I said, smiling gently at him. "I have some work to do, so I'll sit somewhere else."

His smile began to fade almost immediately. "Are you sure?" He said, his confidence shaken. "I don't mind! You can just-"

"Sorry!" I said, beginning to hurry away to sit in a seat further down.


"Fine!" He said, raising his voice as I tried to move quickly. "You can go fuck yourself! I swear women say they want a nice guy, and then they act like this! Christ! If I wasn't..."
I... kind of tuned him out after that. I could tell he was still shouting, but I wanted no part in his delusions and he didn't look like he was going to try anything physical, so I didn't bother paying him any mind after that.
Do not hold doors
INVEST BIG, DREAM BIGGER
Transit Map


Do not hold doors
Do not lean on doors
Besides, there were... other things happening.
On my way to the back of the car I saw a woman sitting alone. I figured she'd gotten the same treatment I had so I started to walk past her, but she looked like she was... in pain. And as soon as I walked in front of her I realized she was trying to get my attention.


"You... please..." She begged between breathy gasps for air. "I'm... I hate to bother you, but I'm starving. I'm hungrier than I've ever been, and feel like I'm going to..."
"I... don't have any food, lady."
"Please!" She spat, before coughing. "I'm... I'll pay! I know I'm not some homeless vagrant, I promise. A snack bar, or something? I'll give you money! Just-"



"I'm... I'm sorry." I repeated, really feeling bad for her. "If I did I'd share."

Her gaze hardened as she settled on me... but said nothing. I really did feel bad, though. I remember at the time feeling bad enough to make a mental note to start carrying some snack crackers on me from now on. Something to help out the needy if this ever happens again.

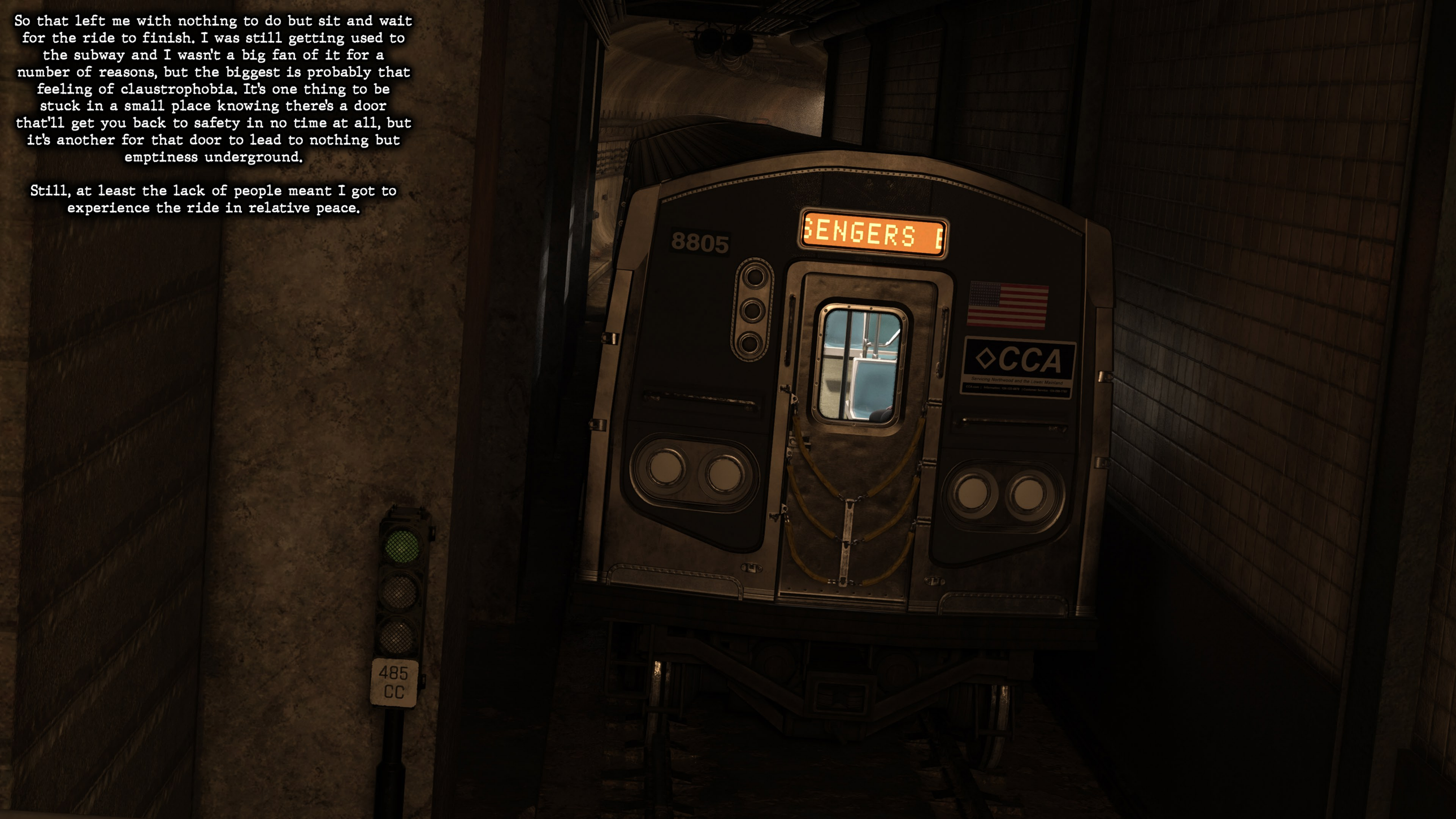

Don't know if I'll ever get that chance now.
Regardless, she didn't do much else beyond continue to hold onto her stomach and groan in discomfort. Still, the choice between sitting next to the other guy and this obviously-in-pain woman, wasn't a particularly difficult one. I took the moment to pull my phone out to see if I'd gotten any new messages since the hustle and bustle of boarding the subway had distracted me.
NOTICE SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR
New York City Transit
CCA
No Eating
No Drinking
No Smoking


I was pleased to see that I did have one! My girlfriend had texted me saying to call her. We talk a lot, so she usually makes a good point to tell me when she's off work to let me know she's free. I thought of sending her a text then and there, but decided I'd call her instead. Easier to take my mind off the... less than ideal soundscape around me right now.


Leaning back in my seat I called her and...
Nothing. Not even a lack of a response, but the call simply wasn't going through at all. I could have sworn that they'd installed Wi-Fi and networking capabilities on the subway recently, but for whatever reason I wasn't getting a signal.
Do not lean on doors

So that left me with nothing to do but sit and wait for the ride to finish. I was still getting used to the subway and I wasn't a big fan of it for a number of reasons, but the biggest is probably that feeling of claustrophobia. It's one thing to be stuck in a small place knowing there's a door that'll get you back to safety in no time at all, but it's another for that door to lead to nothing but emptiness underground.

Still, at least the lack of people meant I got to experience the ride in relative peace.




That might not have been for the best, though.
I had a strange feeling in the pit of my stomach. Something just felt... off about everything. I can't explain it any better than that. Maybe I was thinking of the weird guy I saw on the platform before getting on. Or the guy who is still grumbling to himself on the opposite side of the car. Or the woman in pain right next to me.
It just felt off. Like something horrible was going to happen, and this was as good as my day was going to get.


I had to calm myself down, remind myself of some simple truths. This train isn't going to go riding clear off a cliff and straight into hell. The subway has an immaculate safety record. Incidents do happen inside, but they're rare and the people nearby aren't likely to be the cause of any of them.
...None of it was working though. I can't help it. Stormy weather just made me feel anxious, so I was super grateful when my phone chimed in, letting me know a connection had been established.
8805
ERS EXPE
CCA
Servicing Northwood and the Lower Mainland


"Sofia?"
"Claire!" I said, happy that she responded almost immediately. At that moment I immediately felt at ease. On a strange day around strange people I had something to anchor me back to reality. To something comfortable.

"Sorry it took me so long to call," I admitted. "How are things?"

"As good as they can be considering that freak storm." She told me. "Did you see how fast it got dark? That was crazy!"

"Yeah. But at least you're home now, right?"

"Yeah... about that. Sorry, but I'm going to be a little bit late getting back home tonight. The person who was supposed to take over for me never showed up. It's slow, but I can't exactly leave even if there's not even any people around. Except for some strange lady who was acting real weird."

"Weird? Weird how?"

"I don't know. Weird. Tried calling the cops on her, but I only got a busy signal."




I remember the way she said that made me uneasy too. Not often a waitress has to actually call the cops on a customer.
"Must be something going around." I told her. "Let me ask you something, that lady you said was weird. Was she... hungry?"
"It's a restaurant, Sofia. Everyone's hungry."
"Not like that! I mean..."



Before I could finish my sentence I felt a shiver go down my spine. Like someone was coming closer to me, even though I was in a subway car? It didn't make sense, but when I looked to the side I saw the woman from earlier had stood up and was just... staring at me.

Like I said, I'm new to the subway though, and you get all kinds down there. I just kind of looked away, hoping she'd lose interest. I... think I told my girlfriend that I'd visit her since my stop just happened to be near where she worked, but I'm not even sure how much of that she got. The signal started to degrade again, so I wrapped up the call pretty quickly after that.


It was just as well, too. No sooner did I hang up the phone that I saw the woman take another step closer to me. Only she looked... tall? Taller than I thought she was, really. I guess she had been hunched over holding onto her stomach when I'd seen her a moment ago, but...
Her mouth opened abruptly. It looked like she wanted to say something. I looked back at her waiting for her to speak, but the heavy silence between us put me on edge.
"Can I help you?"



"...Tight." She grunted, though it looked like saying that had her in a bit of pain. It was only then that I noticed... her clothing. She wasn't wearing the coat I remembered her wearing a moment earlier, and I could see her underwear peeking out from her pants.

"I'm sorry, lady, but I don't have anything to eat." I told her again. "But I'll be stopping at a restaurant soon, if-

"My clothes." She said, biting her bottom lip. "They're too tight. I... I don't know why. Something's wrong with me. I'm... growing?"


"Growing?" I asked, feeling that creeping sense of dread return. "Like... you're pregnant? Or-"
"No." the woman said, before squinting her eyes shut. "I'm... bigger? Is that what's happening? I don't know. I can't explain it..."
"I'm... sorry to hear that." I told her, before clearing my throat. "I can call the police as soon as I get a signal again, but-"
She took another step forward, and I felt my blood turn to ice in my veins. She was acting really, really strange and if we got into a physical confrontation she looked like she'd kick my ass. I don't remember her being quite so imposing. It's almost as if she's...
...Bigger?


It didn't make any fucking sense. At least that's what I thought. I probably wouldn't have even made the connection if she hadn't said so herself, but as I looked at her I could see it now. Her head was really close to the ceiling! She couldn't actually be- SHHRRRRRRP
She gasped, and my eyes darted down as I watched her crop top gradually be ripped to shreds right in front of my eyes. She gasped in surprise and grabbed hold of her chest, but I'd seen that thing rip before she touched it. She wasn't doing it by hand. It looked as if her boobs were just growing right in front of me!
Somewhere New?
Storage options?
Storage
with Stories


"It's... TIGHT!" The woman yelled, before grabbing a double fistful of her top and pulling. With the rips already in the fabric the tortured garment was ripped to shreds in an instant, exposing both of her huge tits to the air while panting deeply.
There was no more denying it. She was fucking growing, and it seemed as if that was causing her a great deal of pain.
SPECIAL RATE
$49.99
SINGLE FANATIC
New?
options?


As her shirt was ripped apart and her boobs bounced free I tried to look around for someone to help, but it seemed like the only other guy on board hadn't even noticed her yet! I thought of trying to sneak away, but with how quickly she was growing that seemed like the furthest thing from safe!
CLANG
My eyes were drawn straight back up in an instant to see her head bang against the ceiling. She had to be close to eight feet by now! This shouldn't be possible!


I knew I should move, but I was frozen in place the more I watched her grow. It was like... it's hard to explain. When you see something that shouldn't be remotely possible, but yet it's happening right in front of you. I was still attending school! I knew my biology and physics! This... This can't be real!
But it was. And with every inch she grew, I could feel the scene grow even more dangerous.


The moans of pain around me grew louder, and something about hearing her make noise snapped me out of my stupor. I knew I had to get away, and it was just my luck that at that exact moment her eyes were closed while her hands were busy with her shirt.
That meant I had an opportunity to get away out of her sight! Her pants were tearing at the seams just like her shirt, but it wasn't like I had many other options available to me.


I tried to sneak away, but the combination of the subway still in movement and my own fear made my legs feel as if they were made from jelly. The second I stepped onto the floor I collapsed, and had a prime view of her feet... because they had completely dripped through her shoes! The rubber soles were being compressed as she groaned, and I could see she was too tall to stand up straight now.
She must have doubled in size... and I had no way of knowing when, or if she was going to stop.


A moan reverberated through the seats around me, and I made my move. I can't tell you if it was out of pain, or pleasure, but I didn't want to wait to find out. I slipped around the legs to get away... but she must have seen the blur of movement beneath her.
Her own legs turned to track me, and I knew I'd been spotted. Not that I was going to let that stop me, but having the attention of this giant growing nutcase wasn't going to make getting away from her any easier.


"You!" She growled in a tone that seemed almost inhuman. "Where are you going?! I didn't say you could fucking leave!"
She moved to reach for me, but in the process banged her head against the ceiling once more. The sound reverberated through the train, and I hoped that it would cause her to reconsider what she was doing... but she hardly seemed human anymore.
Rules of
- No destroying subway
- No littering or creating
- No smoking
- No drinking
- No


That was all I needed to hear. At that point I was convinced. My life was on the line, and I wasn't going to throw it away by letting this random woman get her hands on me. So I fucking ran for it.
It's not easy to run on a moving subway though. I'd only taken a few steps when I felt her presence close by, and I turned to see her reaching for me.


I hoped she would be disoriented by the bars, or the ceiling, or something that would make it so she wasn't able to get her hands on me. But I wasn't quite so lucky. Before I could take more than a few steps I felt a huge hand wrap around my forearm, and squeeze tight.
"I'm so HUNGRY!" The woman bellowed, raising her voice. "I want to have a taste of you!"
WINNERS PLAY HERE
HUNDREDS OF SLOTS
BULLS EYE CASINO
Moving Somewhere Ne
ed a storage option?
Do not hold doors
Do not hold doors


SAME NAME,
AME CLASSIC TASTE
FIZ
WIN
PLAY
HUNDREDS OF SLOTS
BULLS EYE
CASINO
Moving Somewhere New?
a storage option?
$49.99
Do not hold doors
Do not hold doors
I tried to pull away, but she effortlessly held me in place. I screamed for help, hoping that the guy on the other end would finally stop paying attention to his phone to notice me, but no such luck either. I tried to tear myself away from the giant woman's grip, but she only yanked me back, causing me to drop my phone in the process.



I tried asking why the only other guy here hadn't done anything about this yet. Yes I'd turned him down, but if he wanted to play the role of a tough, macho guy he had an opportunity to be my savior! But... nothing.

After getting turned down he must have put his headphones on and done god knows what. And in this car it was just the two of us. I could see bodies in other cars further down, but I can only assume they couldn't hear a thing through the train moving.


I worried that this was going to be the end for me. A feeling of dread that was only exacerbated when I felt long hair drape onto my shoulders. I looked up for a moment, and saw that the woman had continued to grow, and was now hitting her head on the ceiling even when on her knees.
"HELP ME!" I tried to call out once more... but all I got in response was having my wrist yanked down again. A harsh movement that threw my head back, so I was staring at the underside of the giant woman's face.


Her expression gradually softened, and I watched her tongue loll out from her mouth. She must have really been hungry, because I could see the glistening muscle practically dripping with saliva that fell onto my eyes, stinging them.
I tried to yell at her to stop, but at the same moment I felt something warm, wet, and thick splash onto my tongue. It felt violating to have this woman drool into my mouth, but if I was going to die here it's not like it would matter.


I coughed, sputtered, and tried to force the liquid out of my mouth, but I didn't get the chance to make any progress in that regard. As soon as I tried to pull away again I saw the woman open her mouth wide... and realized just how much she'd actually grown.
Her mouth opened, and her lips consumed most of my face. For a moment I feared she was trying to suffocate me in the most convoluted way possible, but it almost felt like she was trying to suck my face into her mouth entirely.



Then I remembered what she'd said. Everything I'd seen of her. She looked as if she was starving when I first saw her, and she asked to taste me. And the way she was acting I had a feeling I wasn't going to survive her definition of a taste.

Feeling her teeth sink into the bottom of my chin and her tongue soaking my hair put me into fight or flight mode. I reached up for anything I could grab hold of, and settled on her eyes, pushing hard onto them with everything I had in me.


It worked.
She howled in pain, and raised her head so she could rub the pain away. That also meant she let go of my hand, but I guess she was able to hear my feet hitting the floor to run away again, and grabbed me once again before I could get out of reach.
"LET ME GO!" I screamed at her, but she wasn't listening.
"I'm not done with you yet!" was all she said in response, and she pulled me back violently once again, loosening her grip so I fell hard onto the floor in the process.
Rules of Conduct


The floor was hard, and unforgiving. With the wind knocked out of me I'd hoped to have a moment to rest and recuperate from what I'd already been through, but the vibration from a footstep behind me told me reality wouldn't be so kind.
Grabbing onto the floor as tightly as I could, I pushed myself forward.


The floor shook. But in a way that was different from the natural vibrations of the subway moving that I was used to. It felt almost like a footstep, and I feared that the giant woman was going to bring her foot onto my back and snap my spine in two.
Looking back, I could see that she'd dropped onto her knees... but not because she was tired or to give me some time to rest.


No, she seemed like she was in pain again. Her angry growls had quieted into pained groans. She held onto her stomach again, cracking an eye open to look at me as she fought back against whatever pain was threatening to overwhelm her...
Before her eyes shot wide open.
WINNERS PLAY HERE
WINNERS PLAY HERE


In an instant she no longer seemed uncomfortable, or like she was having to endure a good deal of pain. She seemed more... confused I guess is the word. She looked down at her arms as she used the seats nearby for support, and it looked like she was crawling forward as she did so.


I realized a bit too late that she wasn't doing anything like that. No...
She was growing faster.
INVEST
WINNERS PLAY HERE
BULL'S EYE


In a matter of seconds she'd nearly doubled in size and was taking up most of the car around me, forcing me to the ground to get away. I scrambled back as quickly as I could, but I knew I had to pick up the pace before she went feral again.



I don't think I've ever jumped to my feet and run as fast as I did at that moment. I looked back to make sure I was actually going to get away this time, and was thankful to see that she was still trying to adjust to her newfound size rather than giving pursuit.

I couldn't tell how long it would last though, and I wasn't the only person in danger.


"What the- What the fuck's your problem?!"
The guy who I'd turned down may have been an asshole, but it's not like I wanted him to die over it. As soon as I was within range I ripped the headphones clear off his head, and he didn't seem particularly happy about it.
"You've got to get out of here! She's going to kill you!"
"What the fuck are you- Who? What's wrong with you lady?"


Do not hold doors
"SHE IS!" I shouted, slapping him on the shoulder then pointing behind me. "NOW GET MOVING! NOW!"
That was all I could do for him. If I stood there and explained anything else I'd be putting myself in danger, and... I mean I didn't want him to die, but I would prefer not to go out of my way to save him, either.
Regardless, he understood the mission as soon as he laid eyes on the giant woman taking up most of the car behind us.


I grabbed him by the wrist, and pulled him up so he could move faster. He ran after me, and I hoped that the two of us would be able to make it out... but the giant woman had grown so much bigger than I'd realized. I took a quick look back to make sure he was safe, only to watch as her massive hand came straight down onto his back and held him tightly.


"NO!" I cried out, but there wasn't anything I could do to stop what was happening. The huge hand wrapped around his waist, and pulled him up closer to her face. Her jaws opened wide and I remembered what she'd said about wanting to taste me.
I crossed my fingers, and hoped that she literally did only just mean a taste...
Some might say calling your best friend everyday is crazy.
We like crazy.
We think you'll like us too.
UPGRADE TO THE BEST NATIONWIDE CALLING PLAN $29
Austin
Laguna
Albert
Capitol
Bixby
PCCA
Do not hold doors
UPGRADE TO THE BEST NATIONWIDE



CRRRRRRRRRRUNCH

I was wrong.

Wasting no time her teeth came down, biting clean through his torso and ribs in one fell swoop. The gruesome scene was thankfully obscured a bit... but only by the massive amounts of the guy's insides that were now outside, and spraying in every direction.

Even now... the way he screamed when those teeth came over him...



I didn't have time to process what had just happened in the moment, though. If nothing else, it seemed like she would be distracted with him for a bit, so I could try and figure out how to open the door to the next car. I knew it was dangerous to do so and I'd never done it before, but a bit of rule breaking is the last thing I should be concerned about with a giant murderous psychopath behind me.



Thankfully, the locking mechanism wasn't particularly difficult to figure out. I pulled the door open and was immediately assaulted by the sounds of the subway echoing around the halls. I tried to move to the next car... only to stupidly realize that the door next to me was locked too!

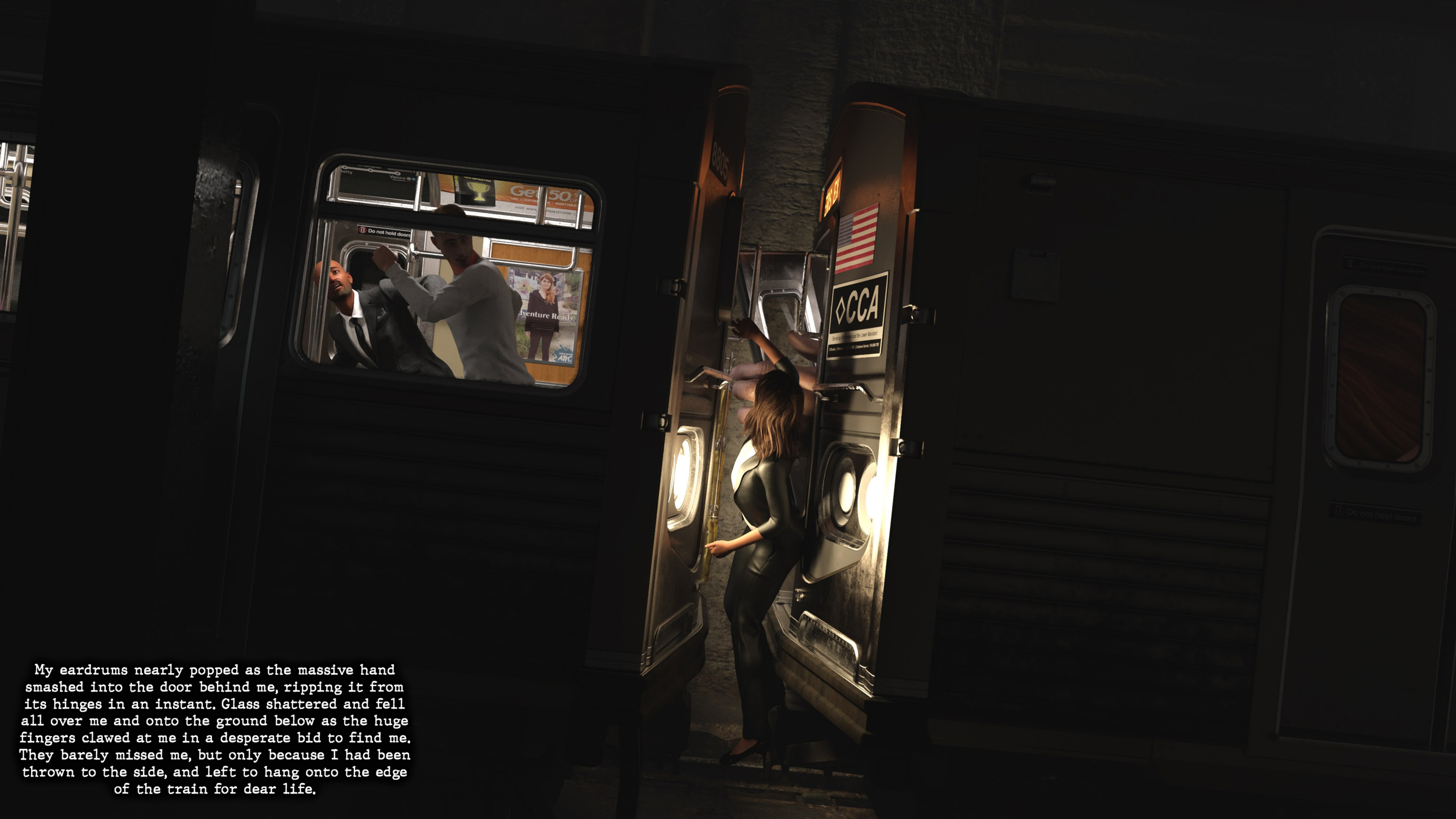
Stuck standing precariously between two cars I did the only thing I could in that situation.

I made a lot of fucking noise.


"OPEN UP! LET ME FUCKING IN!" I screamed, banging on the window so hard I worried it would break. The people on the other side jolted in surprise from my movement, but they seemed to recognize the fear that must have been all over my face and moved to do exactly that.
CCA
Rules of Conduct
For the safety and comfort of all customers riding the train, all riders must obey the rules. They're the law. Failure to pay the fare or violation of any other rule can result in an arrest, fine and/or ban.
No destroying subway property
No littering or creating unsanitary conditions
No smoking
No drinking alcoholic beverages
No panhandling or begging
No amplification devices on platforms
No more than one seat per person
No blocking free movement
No lying down
No unauthorized commerical activities
No entering tracks, tunnels, and non-public areas
No bulky items likely to inconvience others
No radio playing audible to other passengers
New York City Transit
No exit
Emergency only
Do not hold doors
Do not lean on doors


At least, that's what I thought. I could see them fiddle with the door for a moment, but they seemed to be concerned. I guess, looking back, they must have been terrified of me. Maybe they thought I was about to go crazy in their own cabin.
"I'M IN DANGER! OPEN THE DOOR!" I screamed, banging the window a few more times and hoping they'd be able to hear me.


"OPEN THE DOOR ALREADY!" I screamed at the people in front of me. They were scrambling to unlock the thing, but they couldn't quite get it.
A moment later, the cabin behind me started banging. I looked back to see that the giant woman was reaching out towards me.



My eardrums nearly popped as the massive hand smashed into the door behind me, ripping it from its hinges in an instant. Glass shattered and fell all over me and onto the ground below as the huge fingers clawed at me in a desperate bid to find me. They barely missed me, but only because I had been thrown to the side, and left to hang onto the edge of the train for dear life.



The hand surged forward again, and crumpled the door right next to me. I hoped that she wouldn't manage to grab hold of me, and the sound of twisting steel made me fear that the door could no longer be opened at all!

Except... that metal wasn't from the door. I felt the hand slide past me for a moment, before the presence behind me faded. Looking back, I could see that all of her movements must have caused the trains to separate for emergencies, and I was still lucky enough to be hanging onto the car in front.



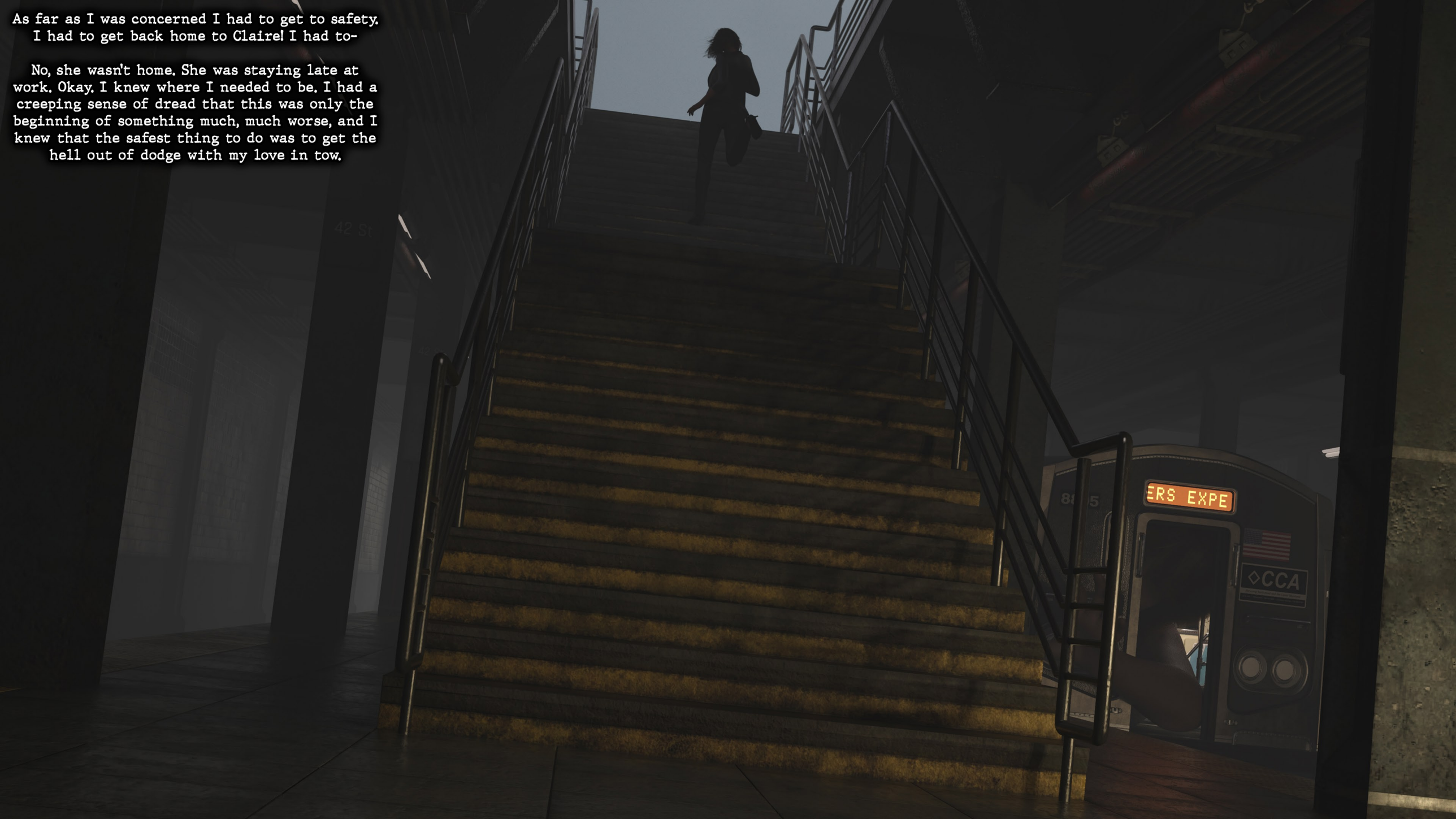
I didn't have much to be grateful over, though. I'd hoped I'd be able to hang out here for a dozen miles, but it was only a couple hundred feet before the squealing of a train coming to a stop pierced my ears.

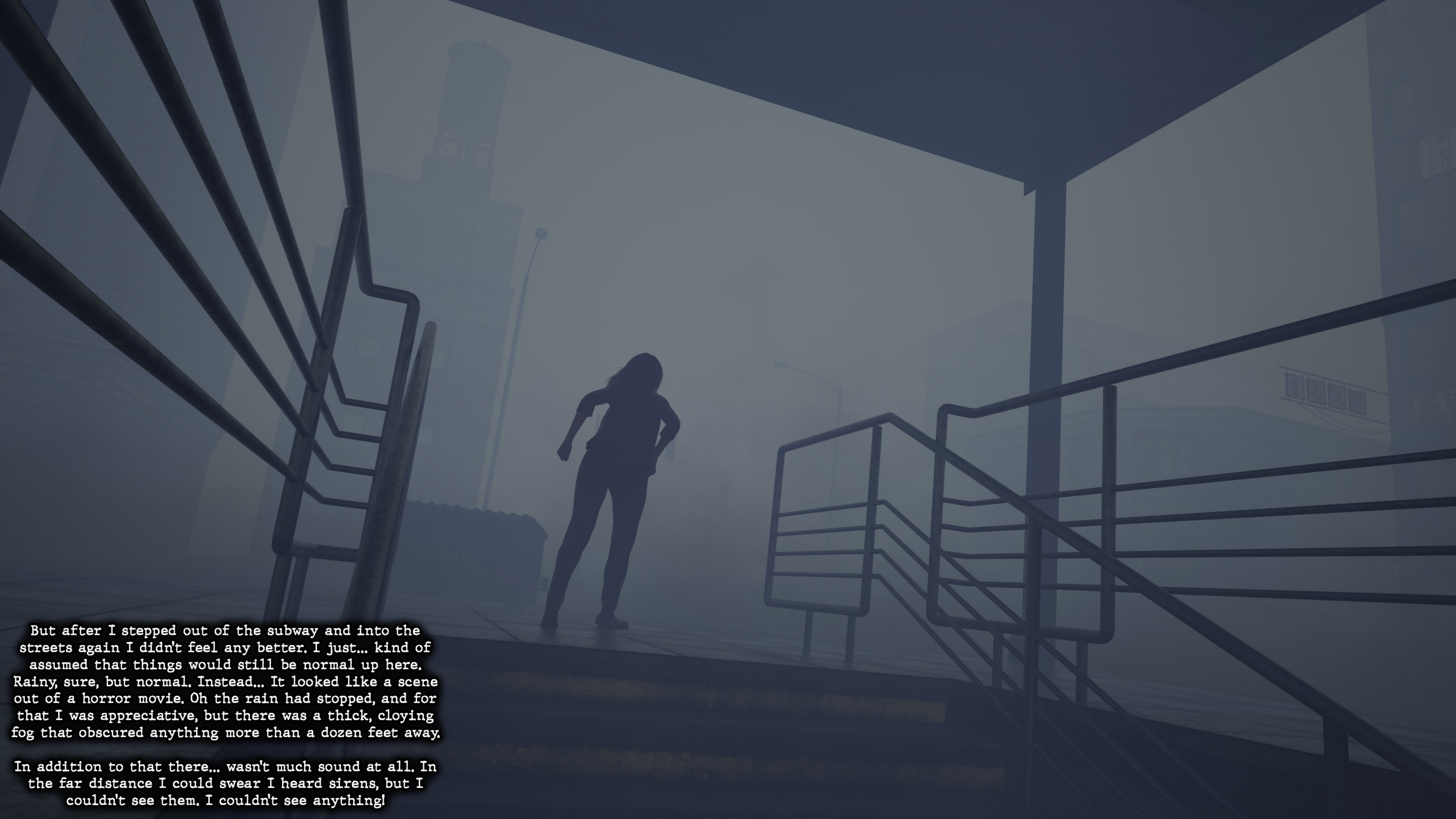
I was safely out of range, but I wouldn't feel safe until I was much, much further away from that... thing.

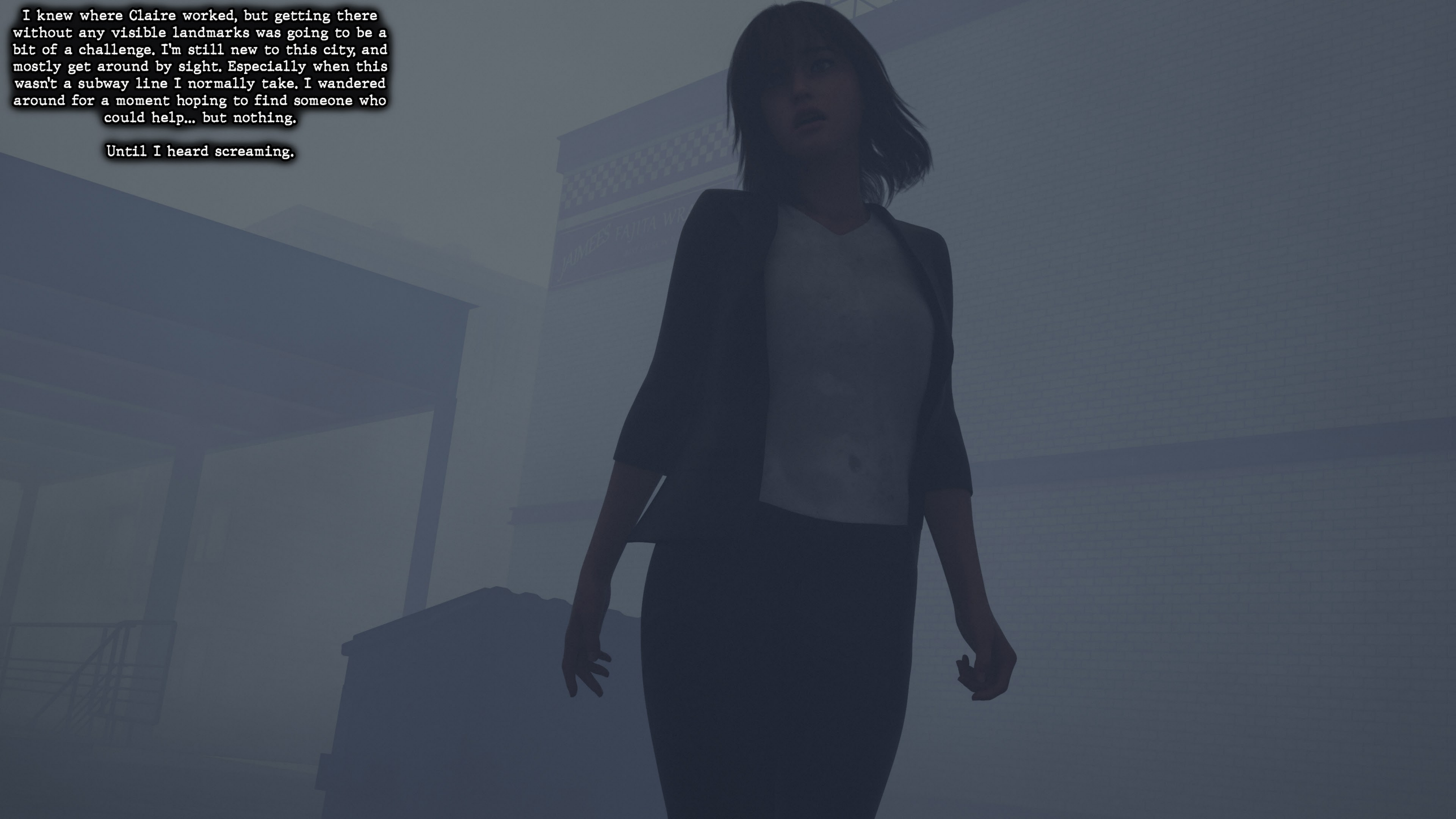


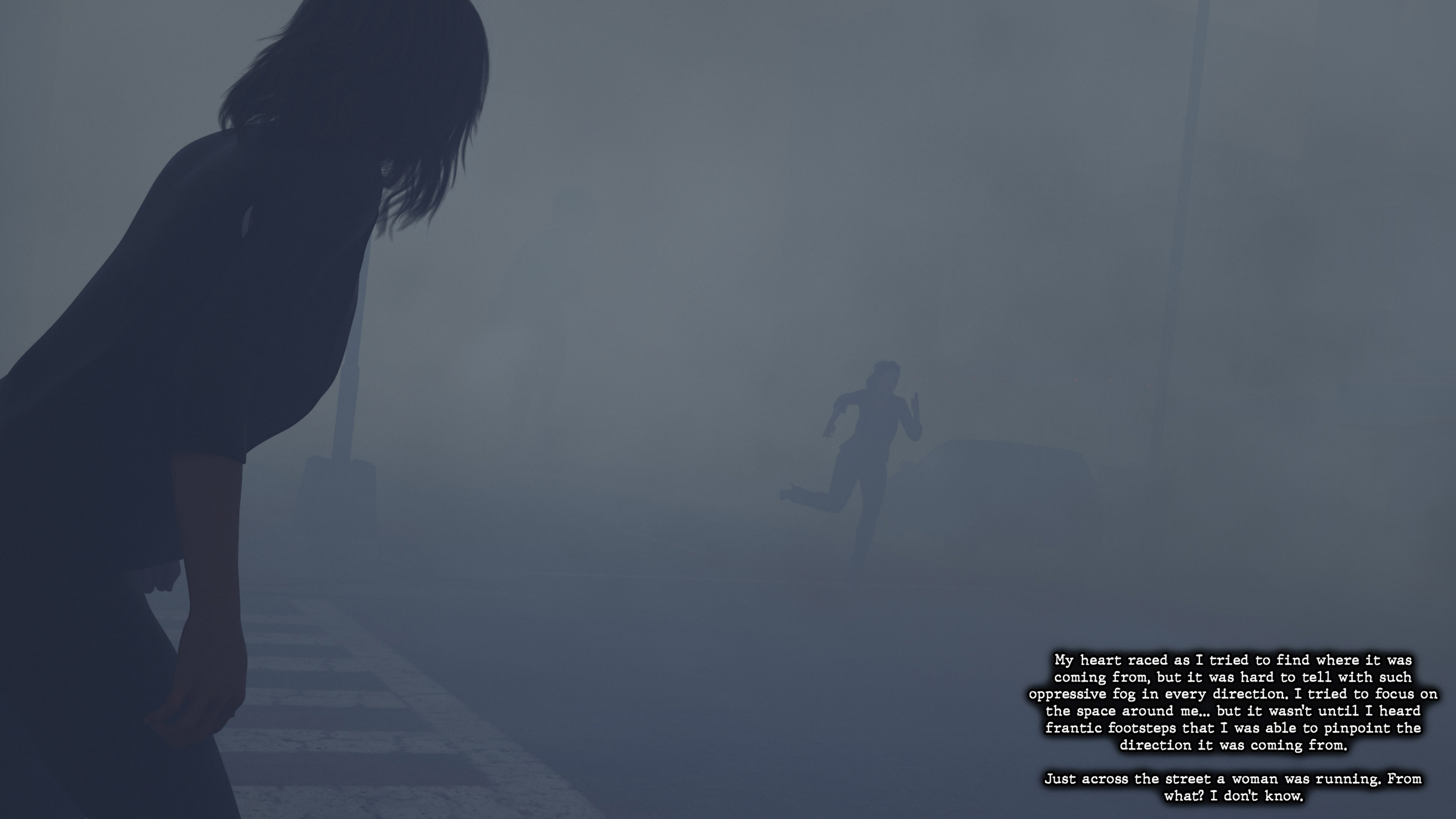
With the train slowing down I hopped off onto the platform, looking back to make sure that the giant woman was still trapped. Even now I could see her hand continue to grow as it thrashed around the door to the subway car, looking for something to hold onto... but she was stuck.

For how much longer, I had no fucking intention of finding out.


As far as I was concerned I had to get to safety. I had to get back home to Claire! I had to-
No, she wasn't home. She was staying late at work. Okay. I knew where I needed to be. I had a creeping sense of dread that this was only the beginning of something much, much worse, and I knew that the safest thing to do was to get the hell out of dodge with my love in tow.
42 St
ERS EXPE
◇CCA


But after I stepped out of the subway and into the streets again I didn't feel any better. I just... kind of assumed that things would still be normal up here. Rainy, sure, but normal. Instead... It looked like a scene out of a horror movie. Oh the rain had stopped, and for that I was appreciative, but there was a thick, cloying fog that obscured anything more than a dozen feet away.
In addition to that there... wasn't much sound at all. In the far distance I could swear I heard sirens, but I couldn't see them. I couldn't see anything!


I knew where Claire worked, but getting there without any visible landmarks was going to be a bit of a challenge. I'm still new to this city, and mostly get around by sight. Especially when this wasn't a subway line I normally take. I wandered around for a moment hoping to find someone who could help... but nothing.
Until I heard screaming.



My heart raced as I tried to find where it was coming from, but it was hard to tell with such oppressive fog in every direction. I tried to focus on the space around me... but it wasn't until I heard frantic footsteps that I was able to pinpoint the direction it was coming from.

Just across the street a woman was running. From what? I don't know.

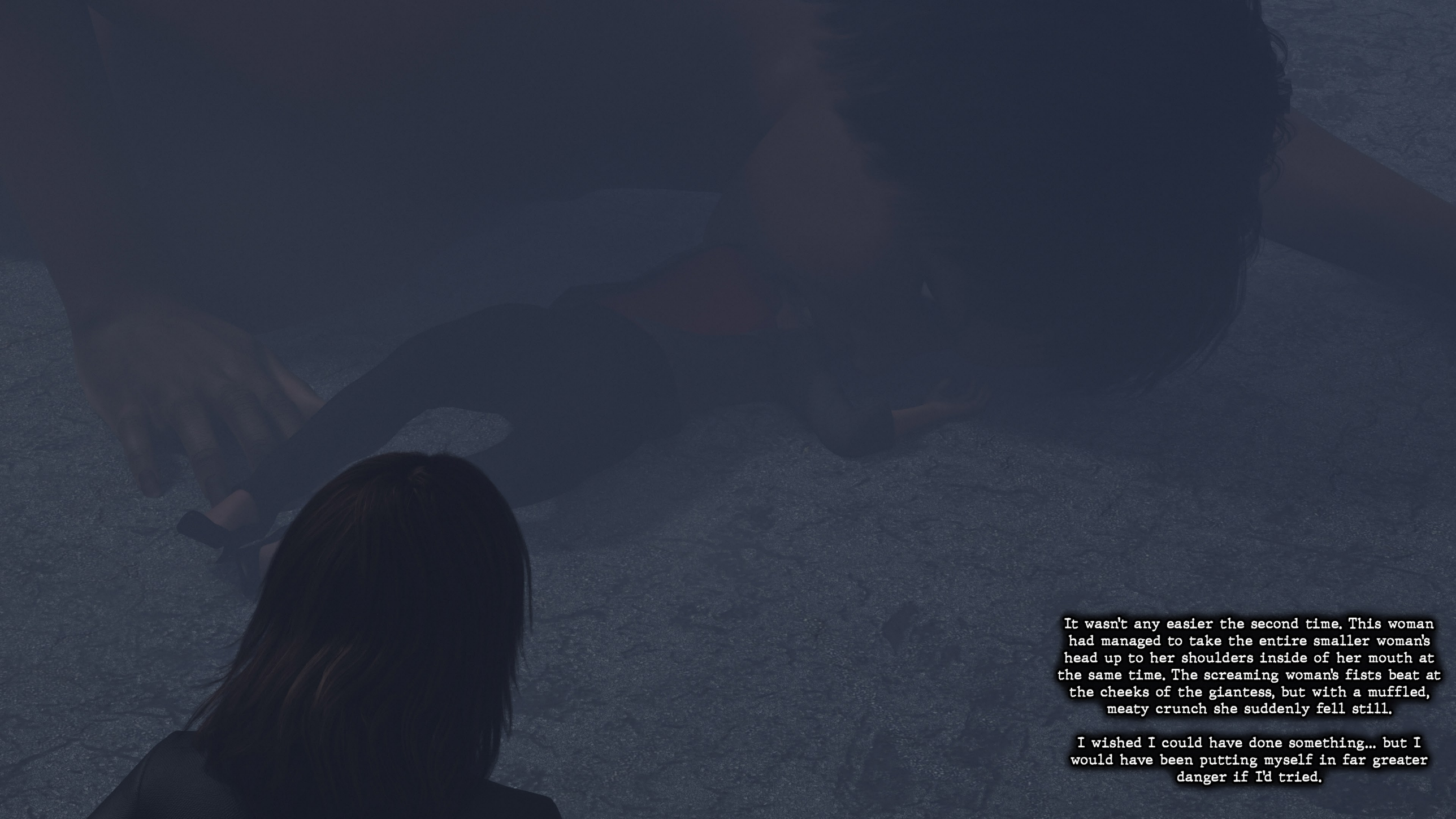

But I had a feeling I should be running too.
It seemed so impossible at the time, but it was the only thing my mind went to. Could there be more like the woman in the subway? What if I'd just escaped from the frying pan to jump straight into the fire?
I didn't have to wait long to find out.

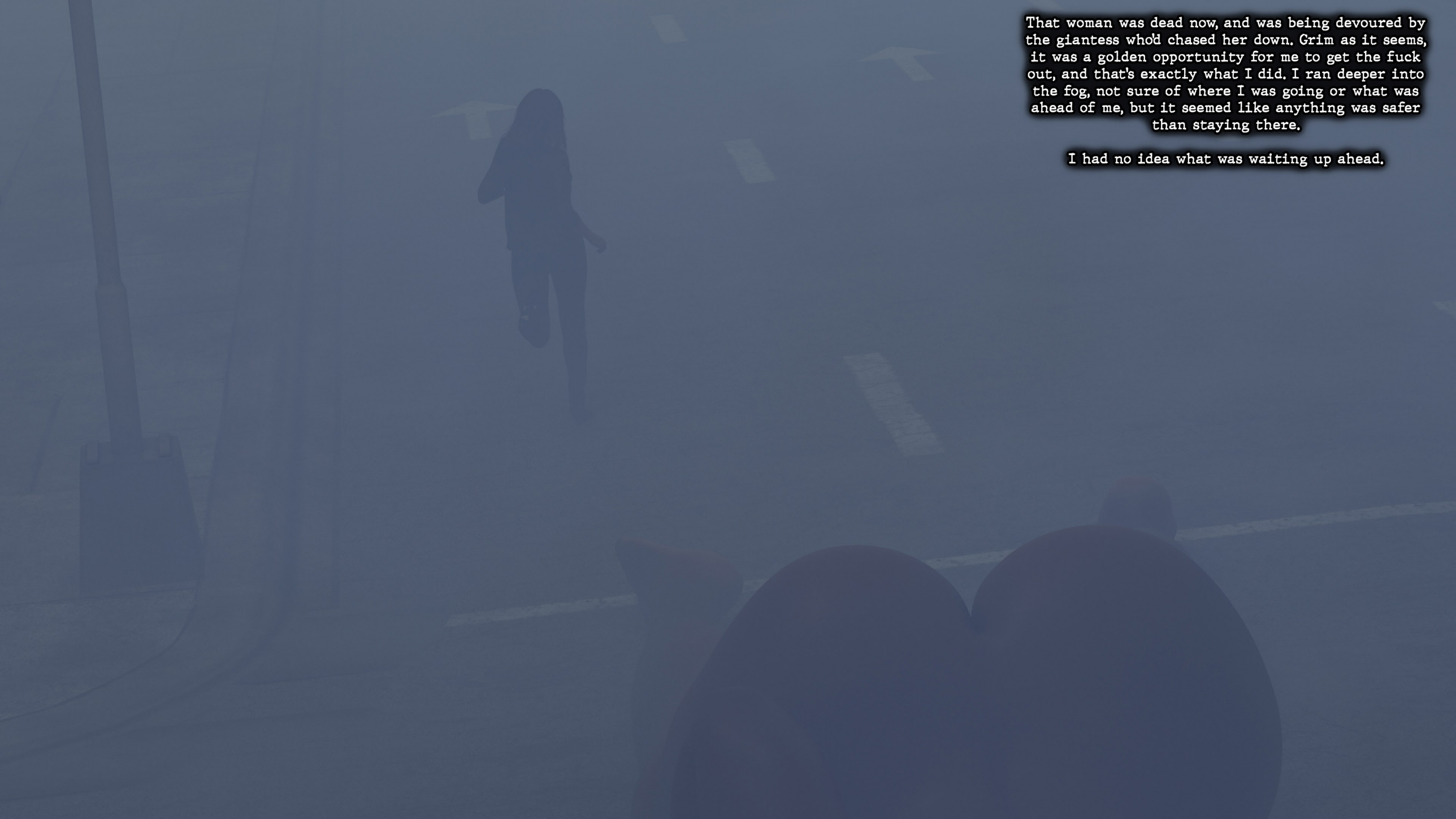

It started with a deep thumping sound that shook the ground under me. It felt like my heart was running a million miles an hour when I could make out a shape gradually coming out from the fog. It was a woman, just like the one that I'd seen in the subway... but maybe even bigger.
I froze up, not sure if what I was seeing was real. There's just no way, right? Was this the end of the fucking world?
phone
1 HOUR FILM



It's a good thing I didn't run immediately. The giant woman's pounding footsteps threw the balance off of the woman who was running away. She tripped, fell, and in the blink of an eye the giantess had practically pounced on her, and opened her mouth wide.

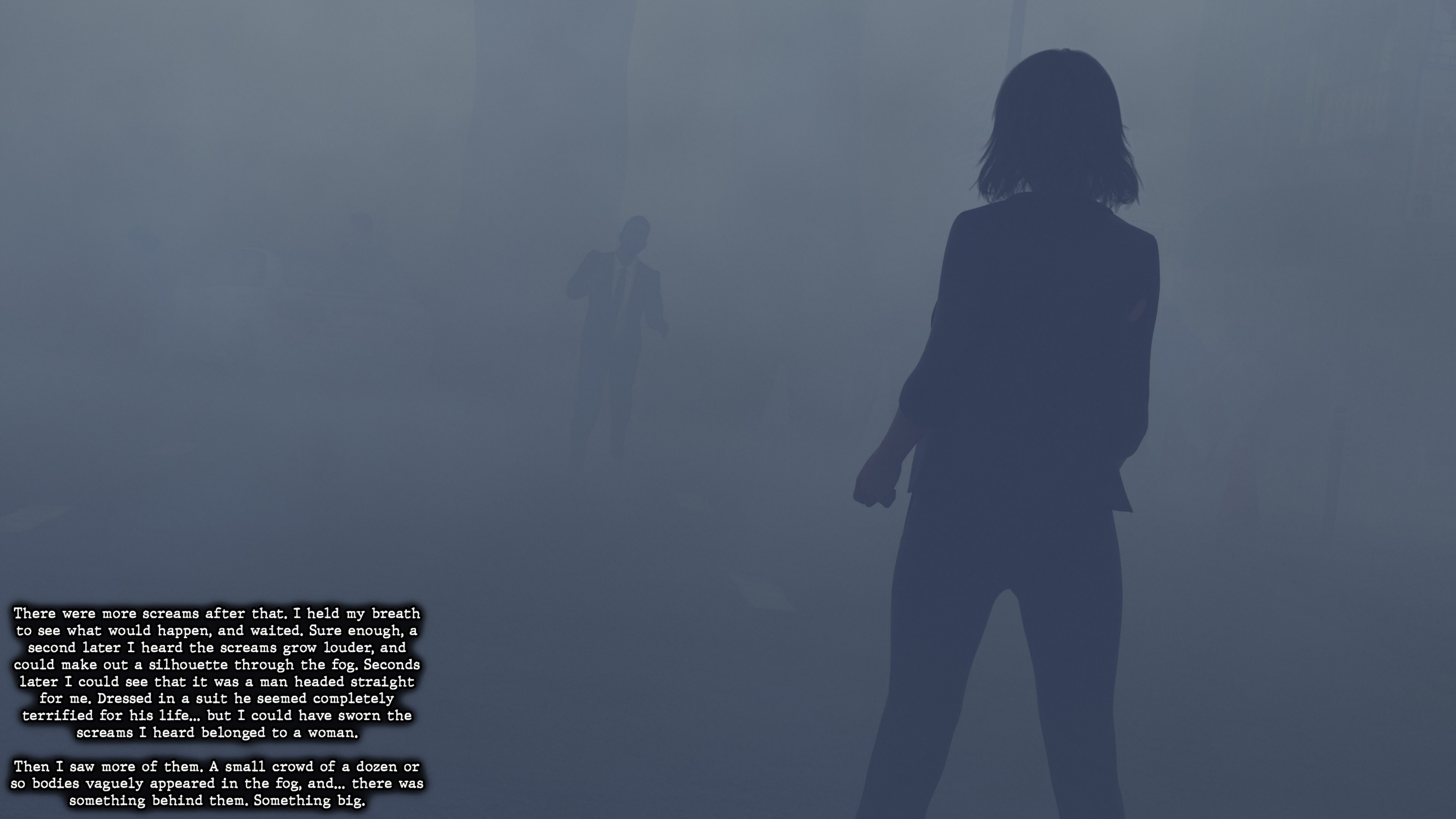
The woman underneath her screamed, and I braced myself for an image I'd already seen once before.


It wasn't any easier the second time. This woman had managed to take the entire smaller woman's head up to her shoulders inside of her mouth at the same time. The screaming woman's fists beat at the cheeks of the giantess, but with a muffled, meaty crunch she suddenly fell still.
I wished I could have done something... but I would have been putting myself in far greater danger if I'd tried.


That woman was dead now, and was being devoured by the giantess who'd chased her down. Grim as it seems, it was a golden opportunity for me to get the fuck out, and that's exactly what I did. I ran deeper into the fog, not sure of where I was going or what was ahead of me, but it seemed like anything was safer than staying there.
I had no idea what was waiting up ahead.


With the thick fog it didn't take long for the giant woman behind me to vanish from view entirely, but that didn't exactly put me at ease. Especially not when I felt it again. That deep thumping as if something big and heavy was walking around...

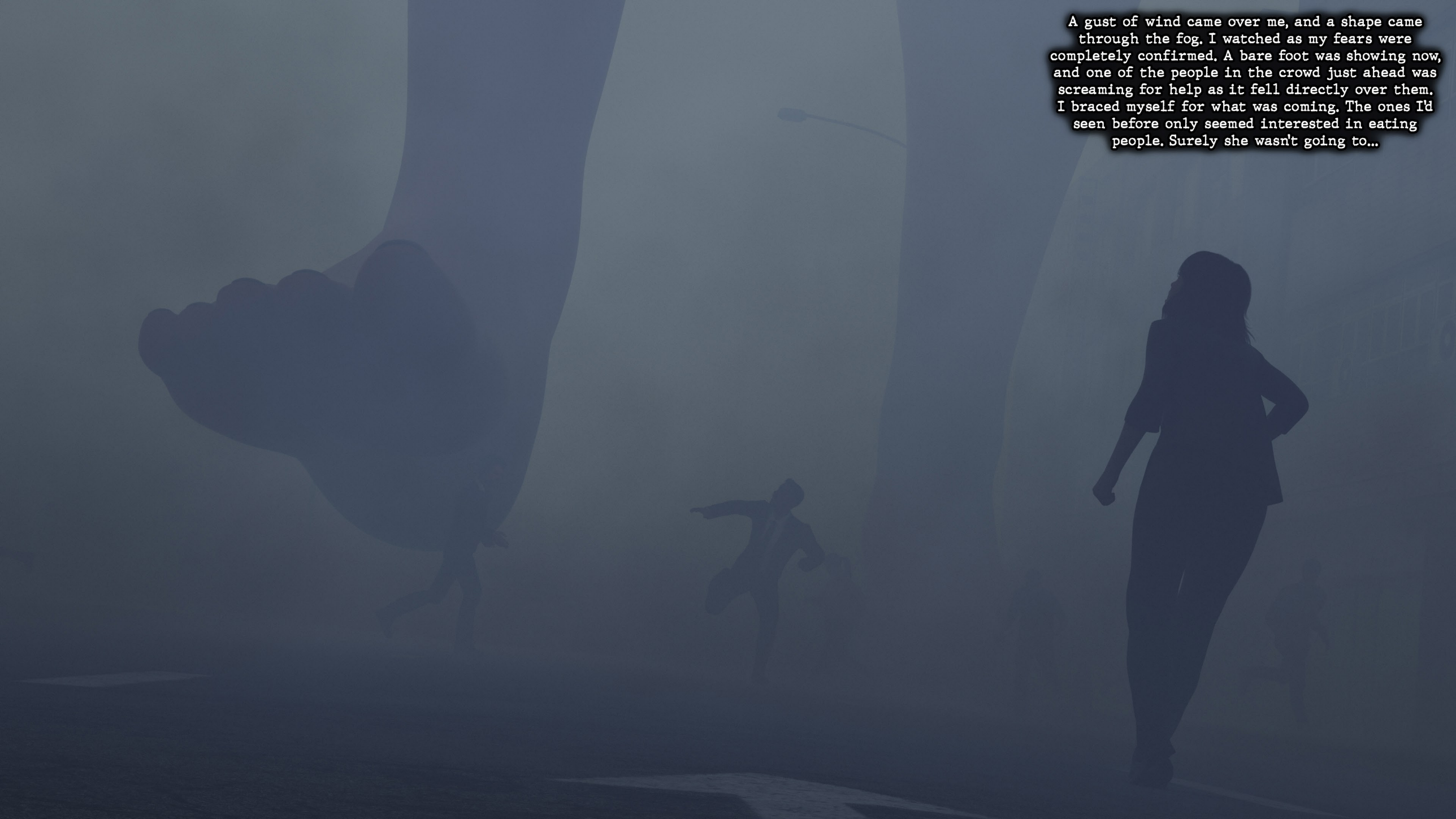
Only it wasn't like the giant woman I'd just heard. No. This one was much, MUCH deeper. I swear the buildings themselves were shaking on their foundations. I crossed my fingers and hoped there was a freak earthquake taking place, because the last thing I wanted right now was to run into someone big enough to actually make those sounds just by moving.

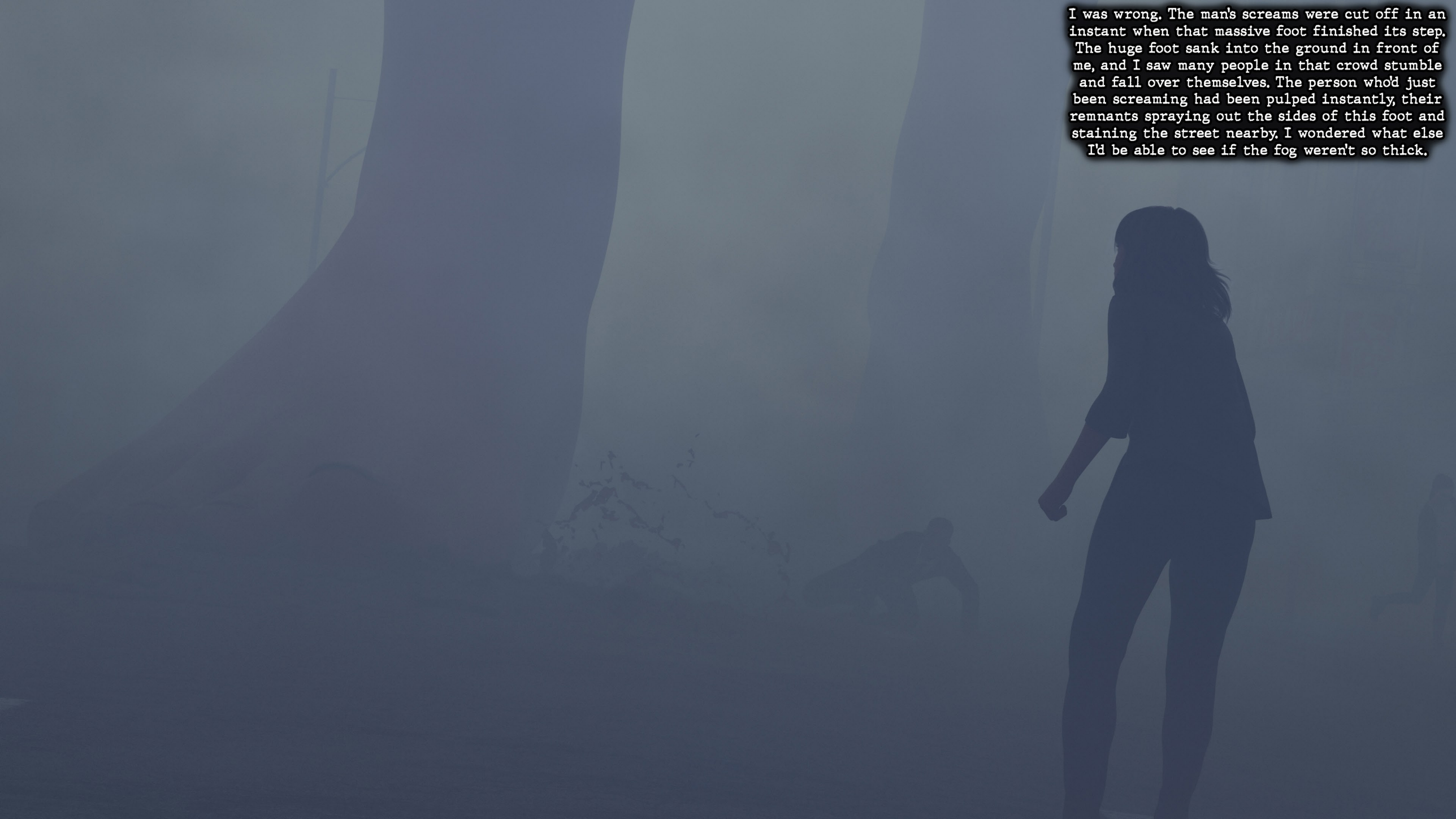


There were more screams after that. I held my breath to see what would happen, and waited. Sure enough, a second later I heard the screams grow louder, and could make out a silhouette through the fog. Seconds later I could see that it was a man headed straight for me. Dressed in a suit he seemed completely terrified for his life... but I could have sworn the screams I heard belonged to a woman.

Then I saw more of them. A small crowd of a dozen or so bodies vaguely appeared in the fog, and... there was something behind them. Something big.


The earth shook around me, and I could feel my breath get stolen away. I could make out more of that enormous shape, and it was growing closer. And I had a sneaking suspicion that I was looking at a leg.
Another boom, and more of the body came into view... and this one was so much bigger than the two I'd already seen that I wished I was anywhere but there at the moment.

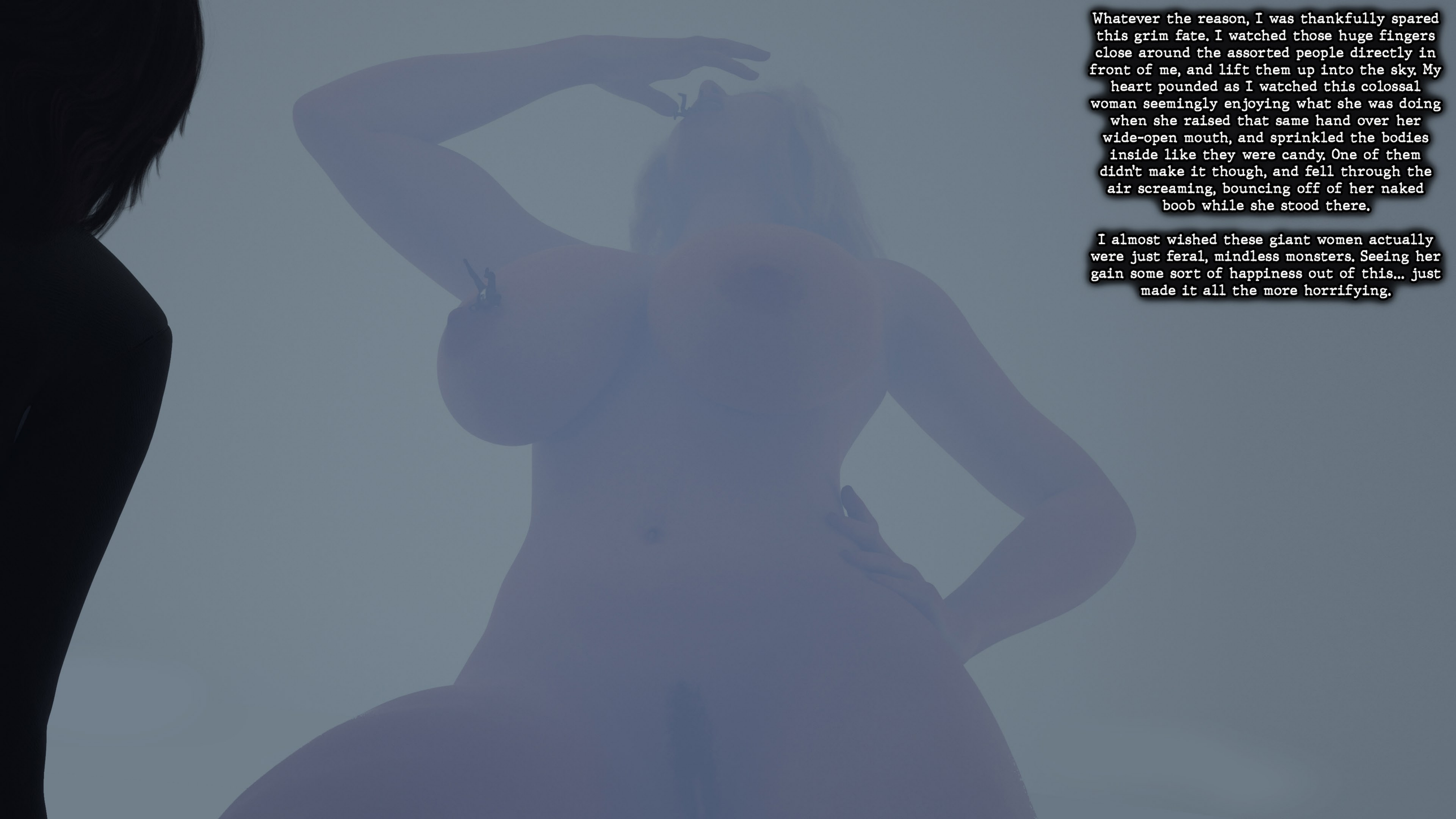

A gust of wind came over me, and a shape came through the fog. I watched as my fears were completely confirmed. A bare foot was showing now, and one of the people in the crowd just ahead was screaming for help as it fell directly over them. I braced myself for what was coming. The ones I'd seen before only seemed interested in eating people. Surely she wasn't going to...


I was wrong. The man's screams were cut off in an instant when that massive foot finished its step. The huge foot sank into the ground in front of me, and I saw many people in that crowd stumble and fall over themselves. The person who'd just been screaming had been pulped instantly, their remnants spraying out the sides of this foot and staining the street nearby. I wondered what else I'd be able to see if the fog weren't so thick.


Then it hit me.
That foot was nearby. And at her size... I would be too. I held my breath while looking up at the giant woman, trying to get a handle on just how big she was... and how much danger I was in.


Even with her enormous form directly in front of me I could hardly make out a thing. There was a vague outline of a face, and I could tell like the one in the subway that her boobs must have grown quite a bit. For a moment I could swear I saw her expression change, though even that isn't something I was sure of.
I felt small, and terrified of what would happen next. It was like she was looking at me... and then she started to bend over.


This was the end for me. At the time, I genuinely thought my life was over, and I shielded myself, not wanting to face reality... only to see the hand come down right in front of me. I cracked an eye open, and gasped when I saw more people making their way through the fog to be clearly in view, only to be snatched up directly by the hand coming down.
She wasn't reaching for me at all. She wanted the people in the crowd. I think maybe she was so big that she had a hard time seeing anyone herself, and the screaming bodies had made themselves easier to spot while I had kept my mouth shut.



Whatever the reason, I was thankfully spared this grim fate. I watched those huge fingers close around the assorted people directly in front of me, and lift them up into the sky. My heart pounded as I watched this colossal woman seemingly enjoying what she was doing when she raised that same hand over her wide-open mouth, and sprinkled the bodies inside like they were candy. One of them didn't make it though, and fell through the air screaming, bouncing off of her naked boob while she stood there.

I almost wished these giant women actually were just feral, mindless monsters. Seeing her gain some sort of happiness out of this... just made it all the more horrifying.

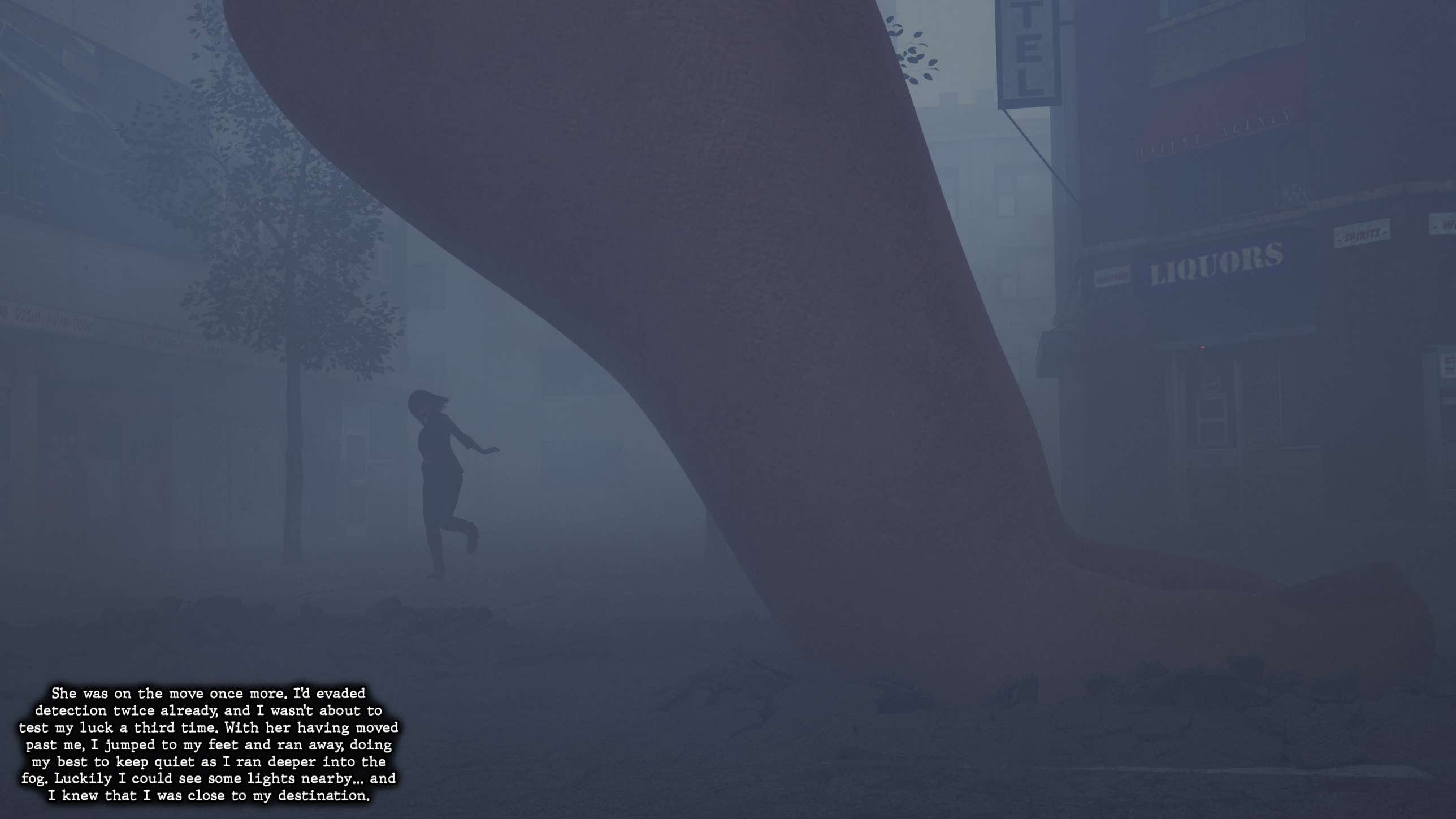


A second later, the body that had unfortunately missed the mark smashed into the pavement with a wet crunch. Their screams were silenced in an instant, while the sheer force of the landing splattered blood across the pavement.

Just how high up was that drop for the landing to be that brutal? I didn't want to think about it, but the question ran through my head over and over until I noticed the giant woman's toes clenching.


A second later, the foot rose up into the air. I wanted to scream from terror, but I managed to hold it together. If only barely, because I was still running under the assumption I hadn't been noticed yet.
Still, it wouldn't matter if she was aware of what she was doing if she stepped on me. I'd be dead all the same.


I tried to keep myself silent as I moved, but it was no use. When that foot came down I couldn't help but squeal in terror, before the ground beneath me was ripped apart. I fell over in an instant, and mounds of dust were blown onto me as I lied on the ground.
My heart raced as I watched that foot nearby. It hadn't hit me... but she seemed to stop for a moment. Had I been heard? I covered my mouth and waited, hoping that this would be over soon.
Seconds passed... and I heard the ground rumble under me again.



She was on the move once more. I'd evaded detection twice already, and I wasn't about to test my luck a third time. With her having moved past me, I jumped to my feet and ran away, doing my best to keep quiet as I ran deeper into the fog. Luckily I could see some lights nearby... and I knew that I was close to my destination.


Chinatown.
I stood there for a moment, taking it all in. Once again, it was quiet. Once again, I felt like I was being watched. Once again, I expected something to jump out and attack me... But this time, nothing happened.



I'd always thought the gaudy lights of all the buildings here were distracting, but at that moment I couldn't have been happier to see them. With a good deal more light I was able to make my way over to the restaurant that I was looking for, and sighed in relief.

If nothing else... it was still in one piece.


The restaurant, just like the streets, was eerily quiet. I stepped inside, and nearly jumped at the sound of the bell that dinged when to signal a new customer. The lights inside had been turned off, but thankfully the neon outside did a good job of illuminating the building.
The stairs were just as eerie as the rest of the building. There wasn't much more than the sound of my feet on the floor, and I began to worry that Claire wasn't even here anymore. If only I hadn't been so stupid and dropped my phone! We could have coordinated something!


Still, it was all I had. If the restaurant was empty, then I would have to rough it outside again. So I could only hope that she was still here... and still in one piece.
Worry began to set in the more I looked around though. The building was in one piece, sure, but this place looked like a pig sty. Like there had been a brawl inside that stopped just short of breaking the windows. What happened here before this?


The more I walked around the more uneasy I felt. I hadn't been here enough times to fully memorize the layout, but I'm pretty sure I was looking at the door to the walk-in fridge... and it looks like someone tried to barricade it shut. Were they trying to keep themselves safe from whatever happened out here?
Or had they been trying to keep something inside of there locked in...?



Worry began to set in after a minute of aimless wandering. I wasn't sure if Claire was even still here. There were a lot of places for someone to stay out of view around here if she were trying to hide and didn't realize that it was me who'd entered the restaurant. If she was here I could call out to let her know it was safe to come out...

But what if that just revealed my own location to someone or something else?


For a moment I almost considered leaving, assuming that this wasn't going to be worth pursuing any further and I should hope that she found safety herself. That was until I saw... a shape. Something hiding behind the curtain they had for one of the privacy booths around.
It was definitely a woman... and she looked tall. At least, taller than someone should be. Behind it was either Claire, or my impending death. How was I supposed to decide what to do?


The answer turned out to be easier than I expected.
Yeah. I'll admit it. I'd given up hope. I was already scared out of my mind, and if there was a murderous giant woman waiting behind this curtain, then I figured that at least this nightmare would come to an end. I pulled it open with one hand, and immediately took a step back.


It was Claire!
And she was standing atop the table brandishing a knife. I looked her over, worried about whether or not she was feral like the others I'd run into, and held my breath. She was hyperventilating so bad it looked like she was about to pass out, before her expression softened.
"Sofia?"
嚴禁吸煙
NO SMOKING


"It is you!" She nearly shouted, dropping the knife and jumping straight from the table to the floor. "Do you have any idea what's happening? It's-"
"I had to run here, didn't I?" I told her, and she only smiled, then wrapped her arms tight around me.


Too tight.
I wasn't sure whether she'd grown too or if she was just standing at a higher elevation than me, but she was holding me tighter than she ever had. I wasn't sure if it was a combination of relief and adrenaline, or something else entirely... but at that moment I didn't give much of a damn. She was safe, and alive, and we could get out of there together now. That's all I cared about.


"You look like you've had just as hectic a day as I have." She said, smiling down at me...
Down...
My heart raced as I looked down to her feet, and was grateful to see that she was standing on a step just above me. I looked back up at her and smiled, and she returned it quickly. "Things were crazy here. There was this lady who didn't want to wait for her food. And she was like, really tall, too. She pushed tables and people over... and then she just started biting people..."


"I went through something similar." I told her. "But I was stuck underground when it happened. Crazy woman got really big, and tried to attack me in the subway."
"I doubt it was much better up here. We called the cops but they never came. We had to-"
"Listen, you can explain while we go, but we can't stay here. Those... I was in the streets on the way here. Those giants, they're everywhere! And some of them are so big they'd be able to crush this entire restaurant in a single step. I don't know what's causing it, but these people are growing huge, and attacking people, and we have to get out of the city!

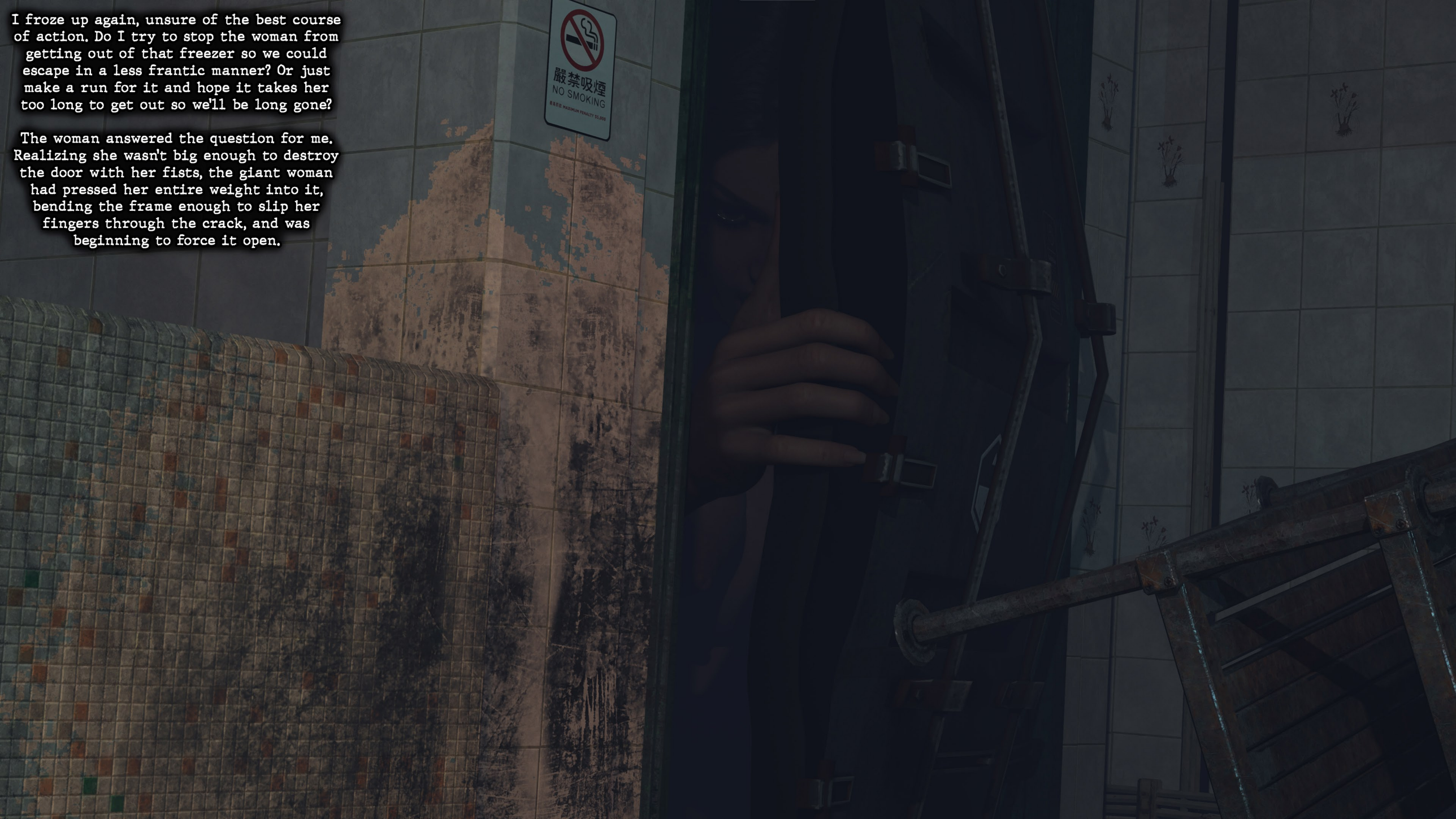

"Right! Okay! Let's get out of here! And-"
Claire was cut off by a series of loud, echoing bangs. Something that wasn't coming from outside, and wasn't the dull, thunderous footsteps of a giant woman outside. These were closer. And from inside this very room.
"Is there-"



More bangs, and I could see the heavy door to the walk-in shaking as some of the furniture blocking it was gradually loosened.

"Like I was saying," Claire explained. "We couldn't do anything about the woman, so we locked her in the freezer, before all the customers fled. I could swear she just started eating all the frozen meat as soon as I did so, but I figured she'd calm down eventually!"

The answer to that question was a resounding, clear, no. More heavy fists pounded on the door, and I could see the metal frame begin to deform from the repeated blows.


I froze up again, unsure of the best course of action. Do I try to stop the woman from getting out of that freezer so we could escape in a less frantic manner? Or just make a run for it and hope it takes her too long to get out so we'll be long gone?
The woman answered the question for me. Realizing she wasn't big enough to destroy the door with her fists, the giant woman had pressed her entire weight into it, bending the frame enough to slip her fingers through the crack, and was beginning to force it open.
嚴禁吸煙
NO SMOKING


The decision was made for me. Going anywhere near that door was a death sentence as far as I was concerned, and I grabbed hold of Claire's wrist tight.
"We have to go. NOW!"
She did not have to be convinced.



We both ran straight for the stairway, trying to ignore the sounds of a heavy steel door scraping across the floor as the giant woman inside gradually freed herself. I just kept repeating three things to myself over and over. We're going to be okay. Don't look back. And above all, don't let go of Claire.

"Do you have any idea what the fuck is happening!?" She asked.

"I'm just about as much in the dark as you are!" I told her. "Now keep moving!"


The banging was echoing through the entire restaurant, and it felt like it was growing deeper and more violent with every passing second. I know that the giant woman had a good view of us as we made our way out, and I hoped that the fog would be enough to keep us safe once we were outside.
What I didn't expect was for the scraping to stop abruptly.


But before I could even begin to hope that she'd just tired herself out and would be leaving us alone, the pounding began once more. Only this time it wasn't aimed for the door. Maybe the barricade had frustrated her enough to try something else, but she had started to pound against the walls of the freezer.
Walls that had a more direct line straight for us.
Walls that were shaking, with bricks loosening before crashing to the floor.



"LOOK OUT!"

With a devastating explosion a massive hand burst straight through the wall directly in front of us, sending a shower of bricks and broken material crashing to the floor all around us. The massive woman looked positively furious as she reached for us, before the awkward shape of the hole she'd created prevented her from moving any further.


That was the only thing that saved us... but I knew it wouldn't last. One more thrust straight into the wall and she'd be back on our trail, so we had to keep moving for both of our sake.

"Come on, towards the back!" Claire shouted, pointing me in the direction to go. I'd never been behind the counter before, but there wasn't anyone around to get mad at me for it so I ran as fast as my legs could carry me. Besides, I wasn't about to take the front exit with the giant woman crawling out from her makeshift prison to grow faster.



With another roar of anger the massive woman slammed into the wall one more, widening the hole and finally crawling out into the rest of the place. I'd hoped we'd at least be able to get out of the building before that happened, but no such luck today. I pulled Claire's wrist harder, hoping that the sheer amount of tables and discarded furniture in the path would slow the giant woman down.

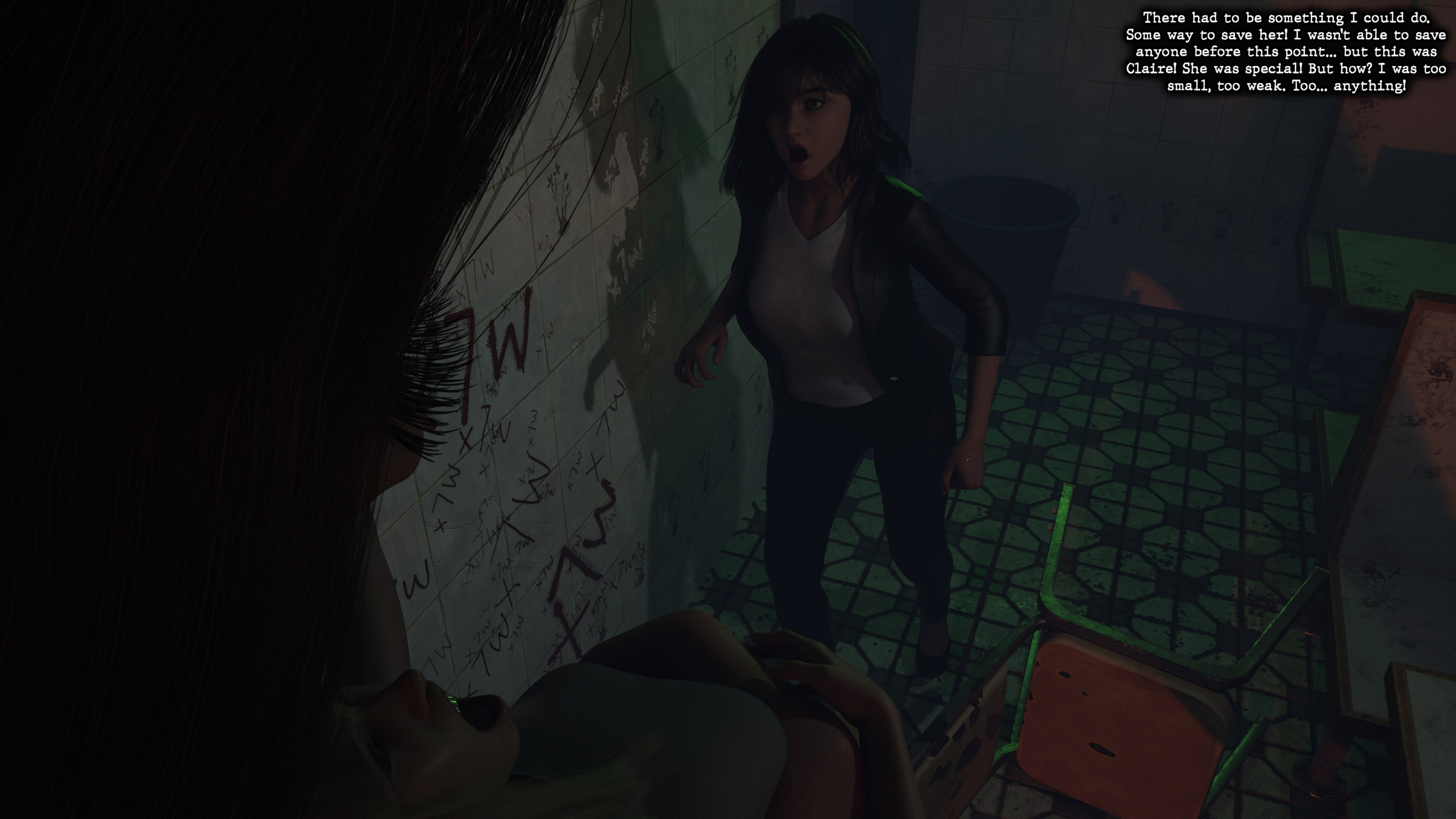

Unfortunately, the exact opposite happened.
The giant woman shoved tables and chairs aside like they were mere playthings, clearing a path for herself in the blink of an eye. At the same time, when Claire and I rounded a corner a flipped-over chair caught her off-guard, and caused her to trip.
"CLAIRE!" I had shouted back to her, taking a step back to help her up.


But the giant woman had reached her first.
"DON'T LET HER GRAB ME!" Claire screamed, as the giant woman's huge hand reached for Claire's body and grabbed hold of her torso in an instant. I tried to pull her back, but she was out of my own reach before I could so much as lay a finger on her.



"DO SOMETHING!" Claire screamed, flailing her arms and legs wildly as she was effortlessly picked up, and carried towards the giant woman's open mouth. I looked around the restaurant, hoping to find something that would help me save her. I remembered the knife...! But it was way too far away for me to grab!

Tears welled in the corner of my eyes as I watched the giant woman's teeth pass over Claire's head.


There had to be something I could do. Some way to save her! I wasn't able to save anyone before this point... but this was Claire! She was special! But how? I was too small, too weak. Too... anything!



Despair threatened to set in... but I wiped it away in an instant.

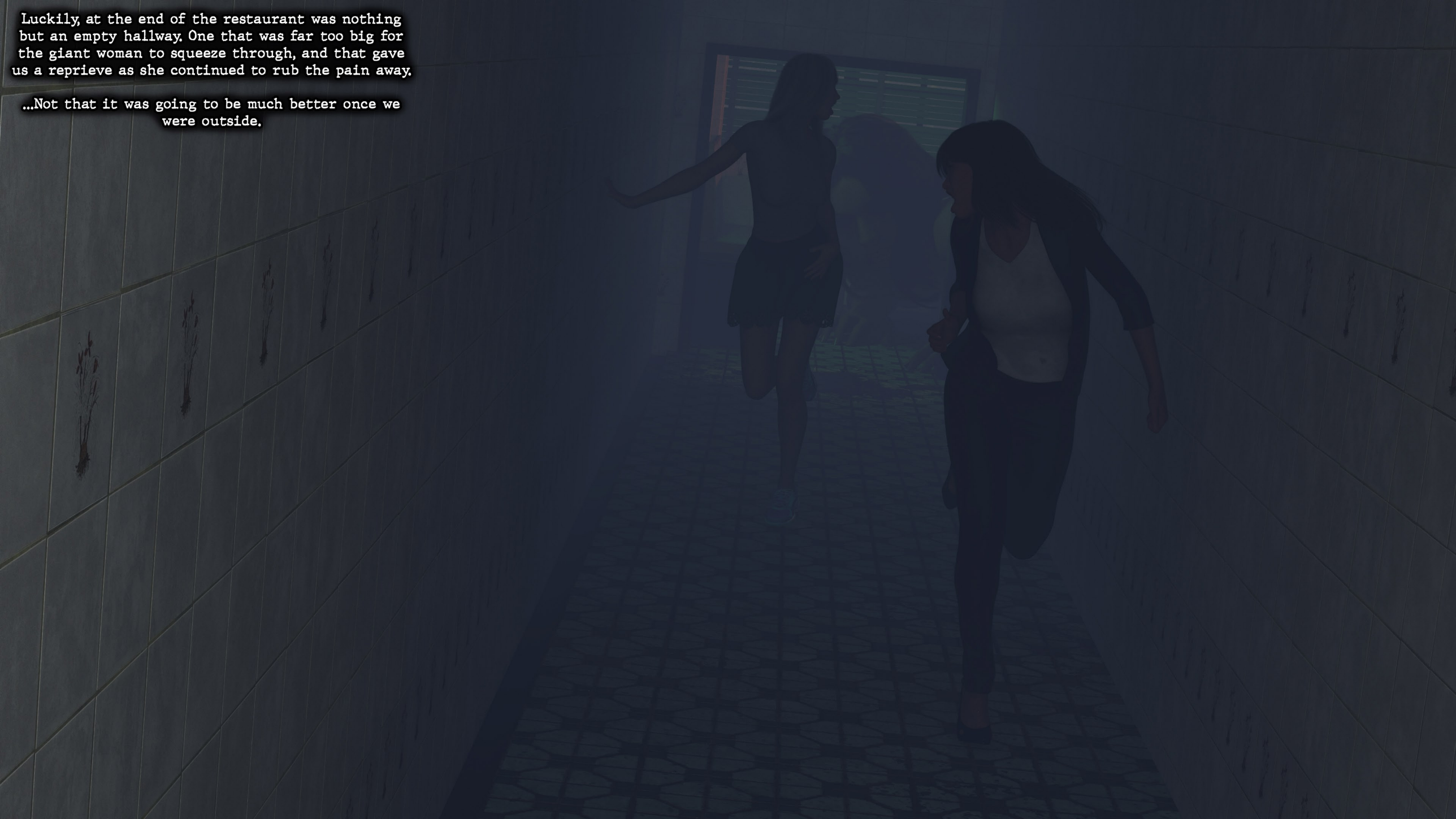
I wasn't going to just let this happen. No. even if it meant my own fucking life, I wasn't going to let this this oversized bitch eat my girlfriend right in front of me. I thought of picking up the chair to swing it, but the chance of hitting Claire instead was too great. I only had my own bare hands to do something about it.


And do something I did.
I didn't know much about the biology of these giant, mutated women. I could only hope that they really and truly did work just like regular people, but on a much-larger scale. That meant that even if I couldn't actually injure her given our size difference, she did have an extremely obvious weak point right in front of me.
Her eyes.



The feeling of digging my fingers into the soft tissues of her eye was a bit gross, but it did the job. The giant woman roared in pain, squinting the eye that I'd grabbed hold of shut, and dropping Claire to rub the pain away.

I didn't have to do anything other than that. Claire seemed to realize just how lucky she was, and was back on her feet faster than even I expected, and grabbed my own wrist to pull me away this time.


Luckily, at the end of the restaurant was nothing but an empty hallway. One that was far too big for the giant woman to squeeze through, and that gave us a reprieve as she continued to rub the pain away.
...Not that it was going to be much better once we were outside.



No, the grim reality set in once again as we stepped outside. We were away from one giant, crazy woman, and into the open where there could be anything around any corner.

Still, it gave us a moment to slow down and pace ourselves. That woman in the restaurant could resume the chase at any time... but if we were out here we could just as easily sink into the fog and lose her... even if it meant there were others we had to worry about now.



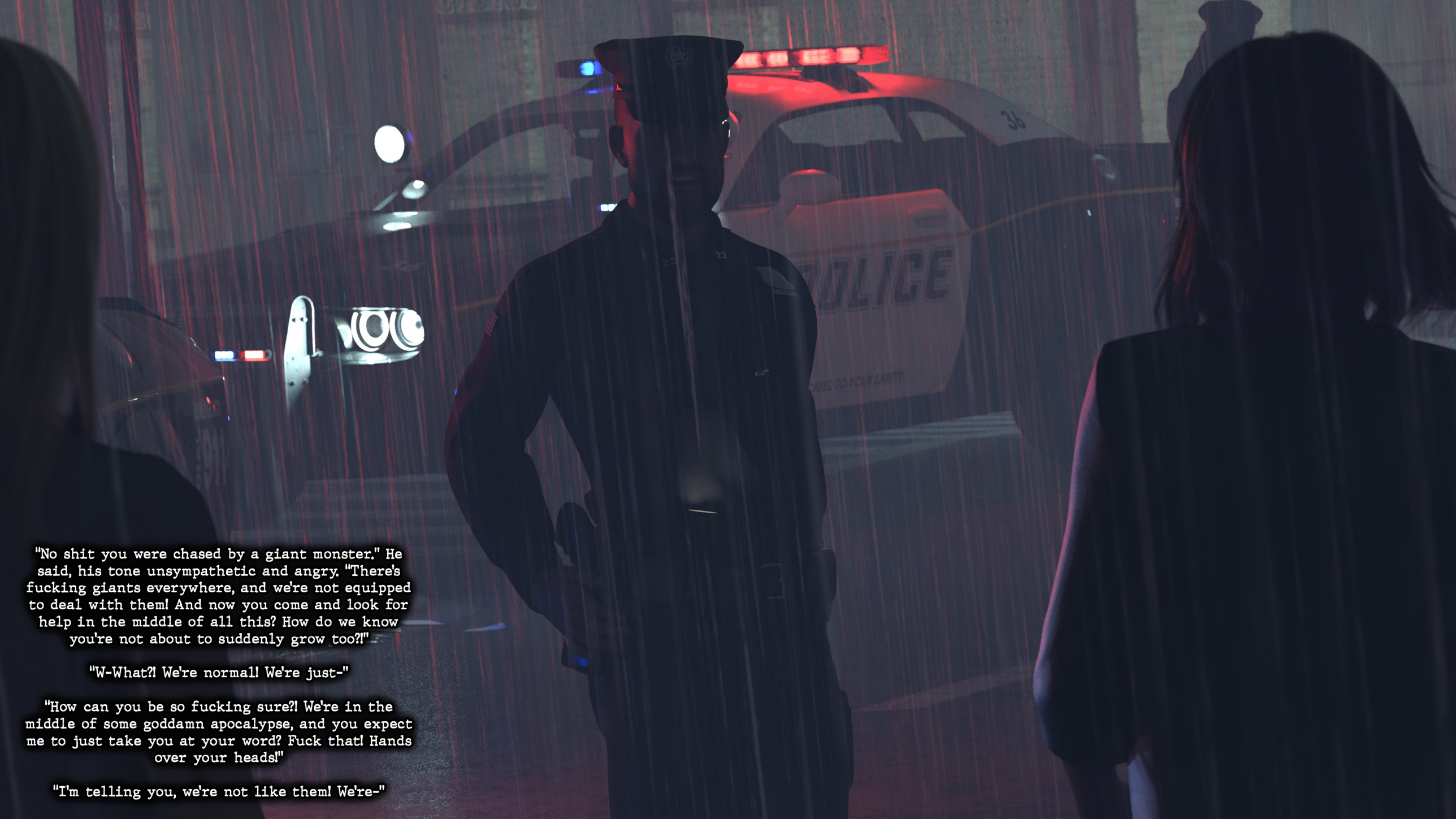
I don't know how far we ran. I know that the neon lights of Chinatown were far behind us, and we were back into the no-mans-land of foggy New York.

At least, that was until we saw flashing red and blue lights in the distance. Thankful to have reached some help, we made our way to what turned out to be a police barricade set up in the middle of the street, with a number of officers milling about.



"Thank God you're here!" I said, stopping to catch my breath as one of the men looked me over. "We're being chased by some giant monster, and we could use some help!" As I spoke, Claire caught up and stood behind me, catching her breath as well.

The man looked us both up and down, and lowered his hands to his holster. I was worried he was going to open fire on both of us right then and there as part of some grand cover-up, but he didn't pull it out.

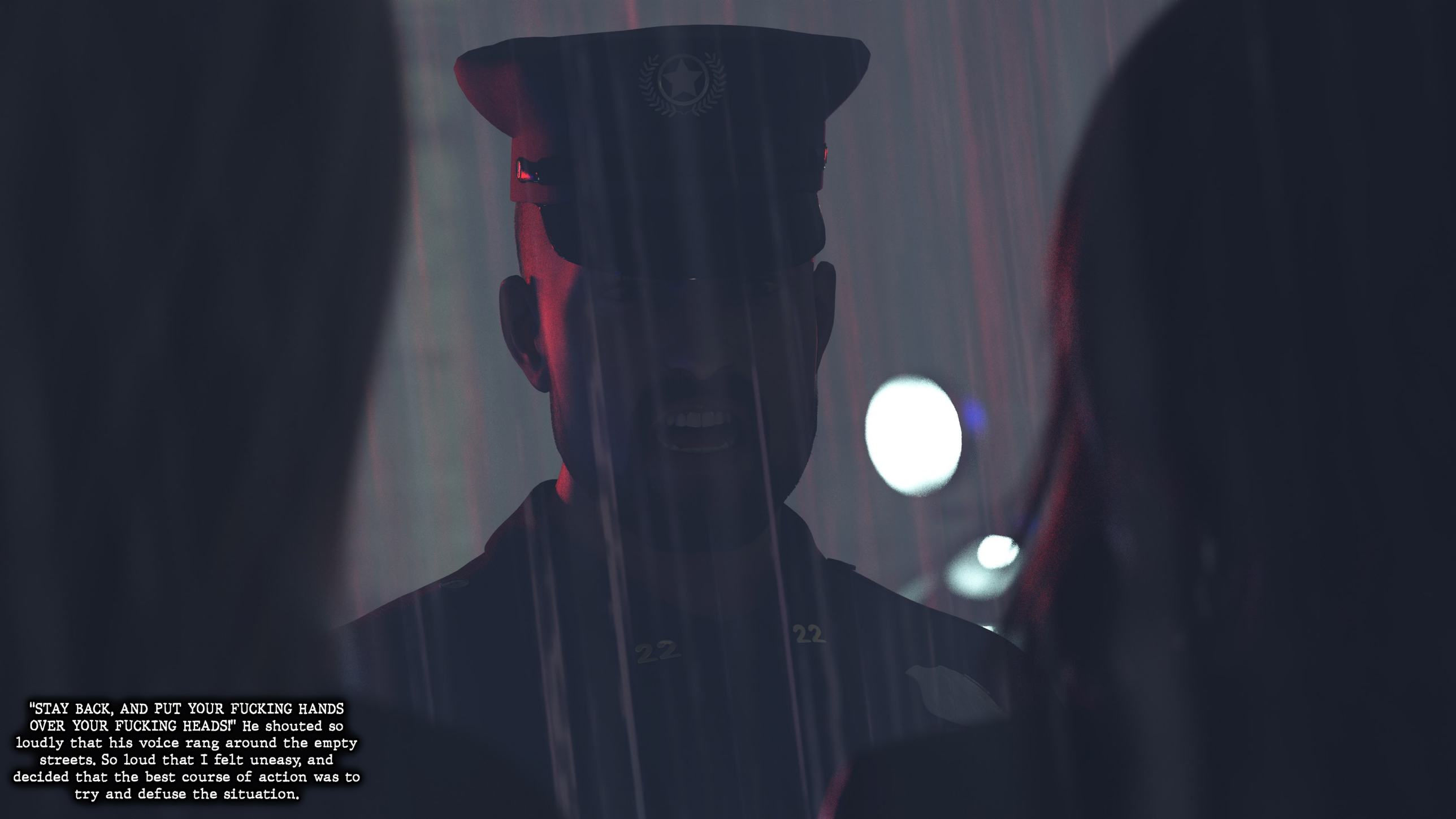


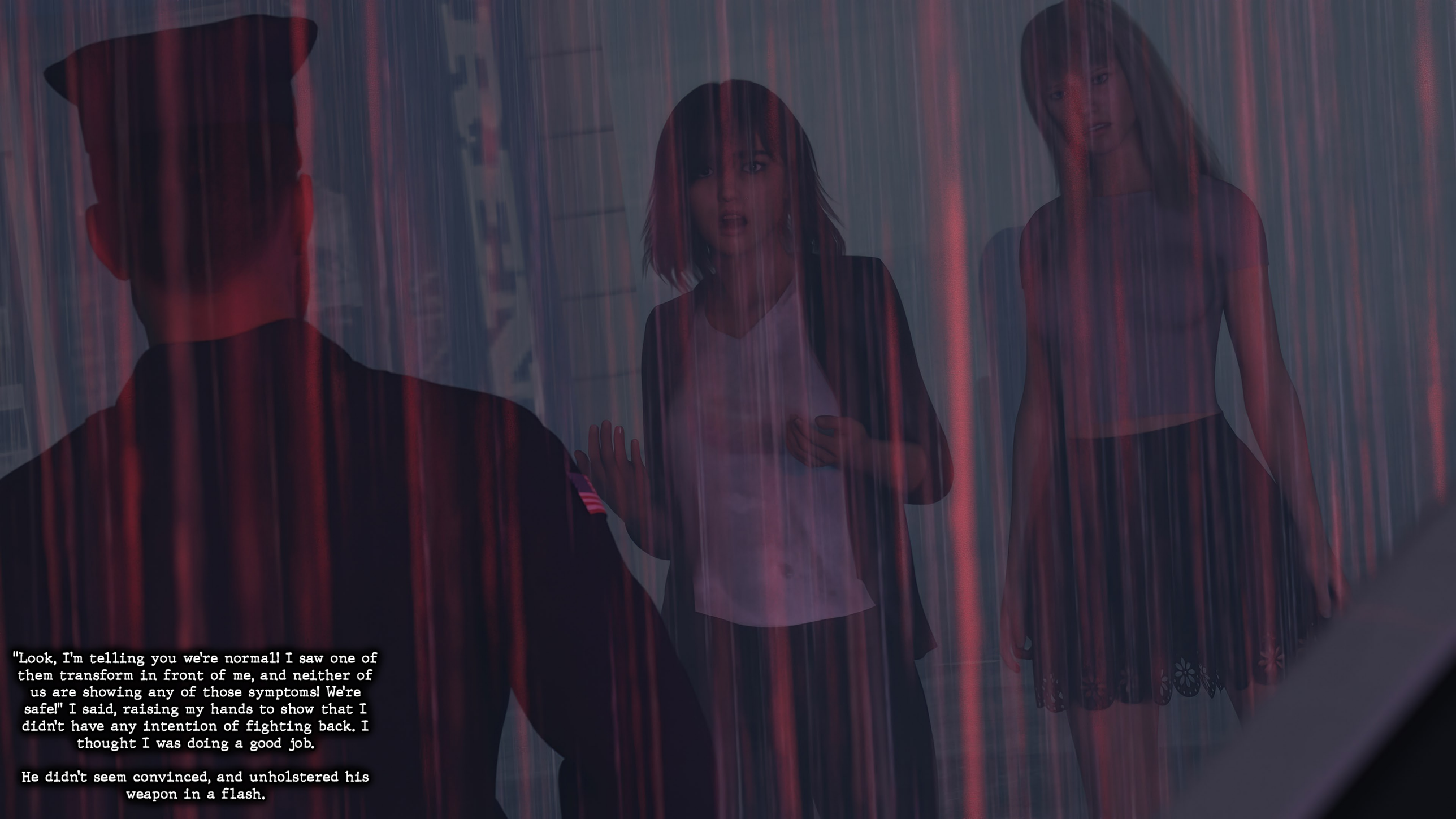
"No shit you were chased by a giant monster." He said, his tone unsympathetic and angry. "There's fucking giants everywhere, and we're not equipped to deal with them! And now you come and look for help in the middle of all this? How do we know you're not about to suddenly grow too?!"

"W-What?! We're normal! We're just-"

"How can you be so fucking sure?! We're in the middle of some goddamn apocalypse, and you expect me to just take you at your word? Fuck that! Hands over your heads!"

"I'm telling you, we're not like them! We're-"


"STAY BACK, AND PUT YOUR FUCKING HANDS OVER YOUR FUCKING HEADS!" He shouted so loudly that his voice rang around the empty streets. So loud that I felt uneasy, and decided that the best course of action was to try and defuse the situation.



"Look, I'm telling you we're normal! I saw one of them transform in front of me, and neither of us are showing any of those symptoms! We're safe!" I said, raising my hands to show that I didn't have any intention of fighting back. I thought I was doing a good job.

He didn't seem convinced, and unholstered his weapon in a flash.



"I don't give a fuck! Don't move a fucking muscle, got that?!"

"Listen, officer." I said, trying to keep calm. "It's dark out, and I think that the fog would help us stay safe, but if you keep yelling like that-"

"I SAID HANDS UP!" He shouted, pointing the gun over to Claire, who raised her arms even higher.


"Listen, dickhead! We were hiding out inside of a building until just now, and had no contact with any of them. If you can call for help, or get us a ride, we'll be out of your hair! Just let us-"
Claire's explanation was cut off when the ground rumbled. I felt it just as much as she did, and the officer's eyes went wide as he took a step backward. I thought of trying to make a break for it, but I didn't want to draw any unnecessary attention in the process.



The officer handled that for me, though.

"OH FUCK, GET DOWN!" The man screamed, before firing off every single round in his pistol in one quick burst. Any hopes of keeping a low profile had gone out the window as the second that first crack fired off I heard the thumping pick up pace, and dropped to the ground while hoping for the best.


There was a small bit of relief when I saw the size of the woman stomping after him for attacking her. She wasn't nearly as big as the one I'd seen in the streets earlier, and she wouldn't be crushing the entire street with a single foot.
That relief passed when she drew closer, and I realized that I recognized her. The advantage we'd had getting out of the restaurant had completely evaporated thanks to this boneheaded cop who wasted no time reloading and firing off several additional shots at the charging amazon.
TRENZ
TRENZ
TRENZ
TRENZ
TRENZ


"Move!" I shouted to Claire, hoping that the shots would be enough to mask my voice. She got the hint immediately and both of us looked back to make sure that the giantess wasn't hot on our trail after failing to catch us earlier.
But it felt like my suspicions of these... things being a bit on the feral side was true. She wasn't looking for revenge, or to catch prey that had escaped her. The man pointing and shooting at her had completely consumed her attention, and she didn't even give us a second thought while heading straight for him.


I wished that there was something I could have done to save the cop, but this was already a hundred times worse than being inside the restaurant. I watched as her big hand picked him up and wasted no time pushing his head between her lips. The screaming cop tried to raise his gun again to shoot her at close range, but he was too slow.
Her teeth sank into his neck, severing his head from the rest of his body with a muffled snap. His body twitched and fell still, dropping the gun in the process.



The last thing I saw was spurts of blood squirting from between her lips. I wished he'd had the good courtesy to die a little closer since I'm sure that gun could have come in handy, but I wasn't about to go for it, and knew that putting more distance between us and the giantess was the smarter move.

"WHAT THE FUCK?!"



I remember that voice scaring the shit out of me. I was so focused on the cop who was threatening me that I'd completely forgotten there were more nearby. People angry that their colleague was just ripped to shreds right in front of them. People who had weapons of their own, and wasted no time opening fire on the giant woman who had done this.

The giant woman's next step made the cars bounce on their tires, and nearly knocked both me and Claire over. She must still be growing, and the food... awful as it feels to call it that, that's what it was to her, must have been contributing to that.



In no time at all the other two officers had been swept off their feet. Lights from their cars made the scene feel like something out of one of those found footage movies. I couldn't make out much at all when running as fast as we were, but I didn't need to see all that much.


Because I could hear everything.
The screams of the woman that was lifted up to the giant woman's mouth first. The way she begged for help from her partner, who was being compressed in the giantess's fist. The image is still so clear in my head, because I'd already seen more people than I ever thought I would get their bodies torn apart by the giant women's jaws.
A5 8599
36
EMERGENCY


This one was different.
There was no crunch, crackle, and snapping of teeth cracking bone and ripping through flesh. Instead the woman was forcefully shoved inside of the giantess's mouth up to her waist, then let go. A pair of legs stuck out of her mouth kicking wildly, and I watched as the amazon's throat bulged in an effort to swallow the remainder of her meal whole and alive.



Being torn apart alive was bad enough, but that seemed like a fate that was so much worse. I could hardly imagine the horror of meeting your end like that. Digested slowly and alive in the belly of a giant, man-eating monster. I almost collapsed on the spot from the sheer sense of dread that threatened to overwhelm.

"DON'T JUST STAND THERE SOFIA! MOVE!"

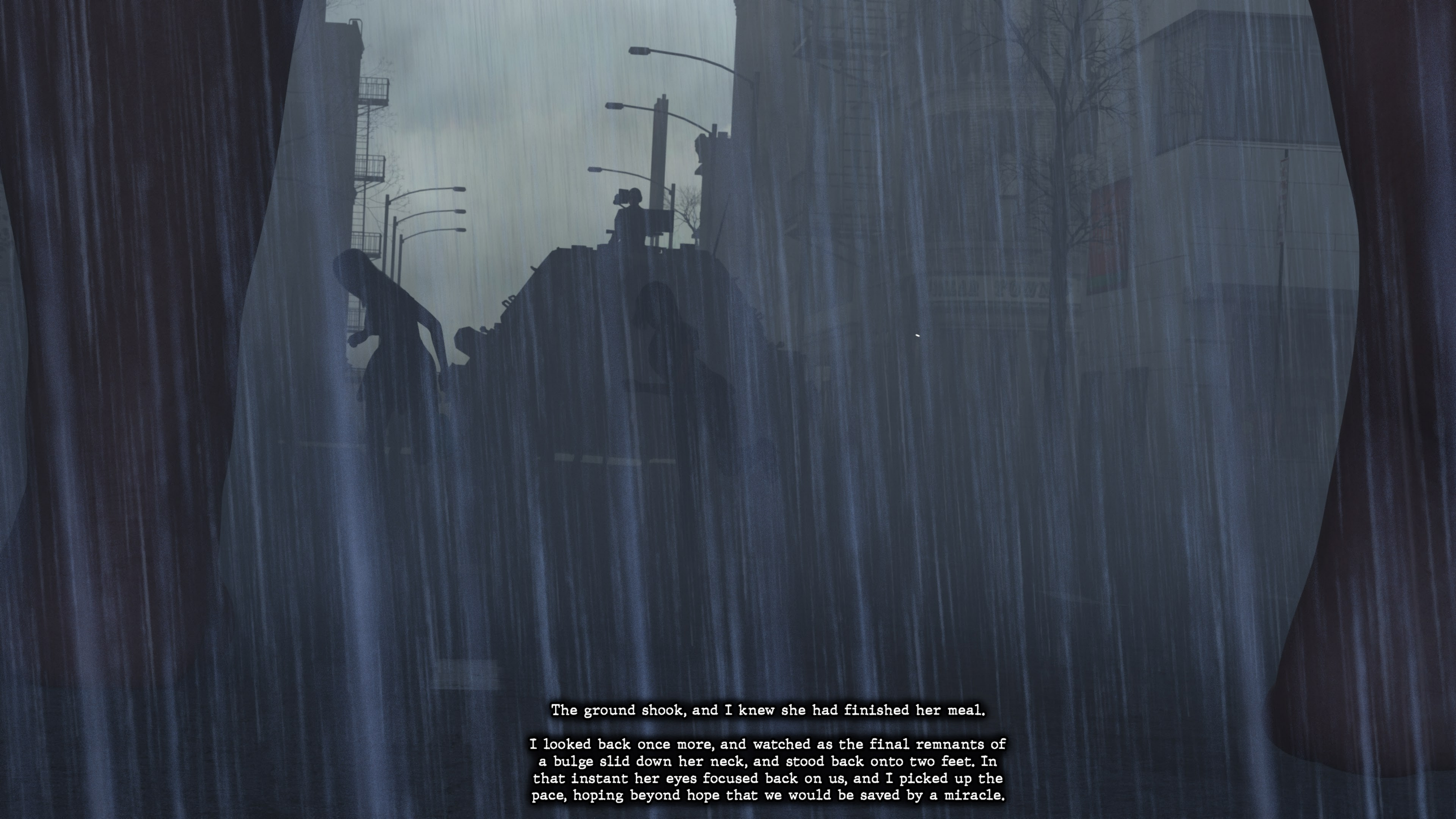
Claire's voice threw me out of my stupor. I remember my vision clearing up in an instant, and focusing on her as she ran away. She smiled as she saw my eyes on her, before resuming the run.

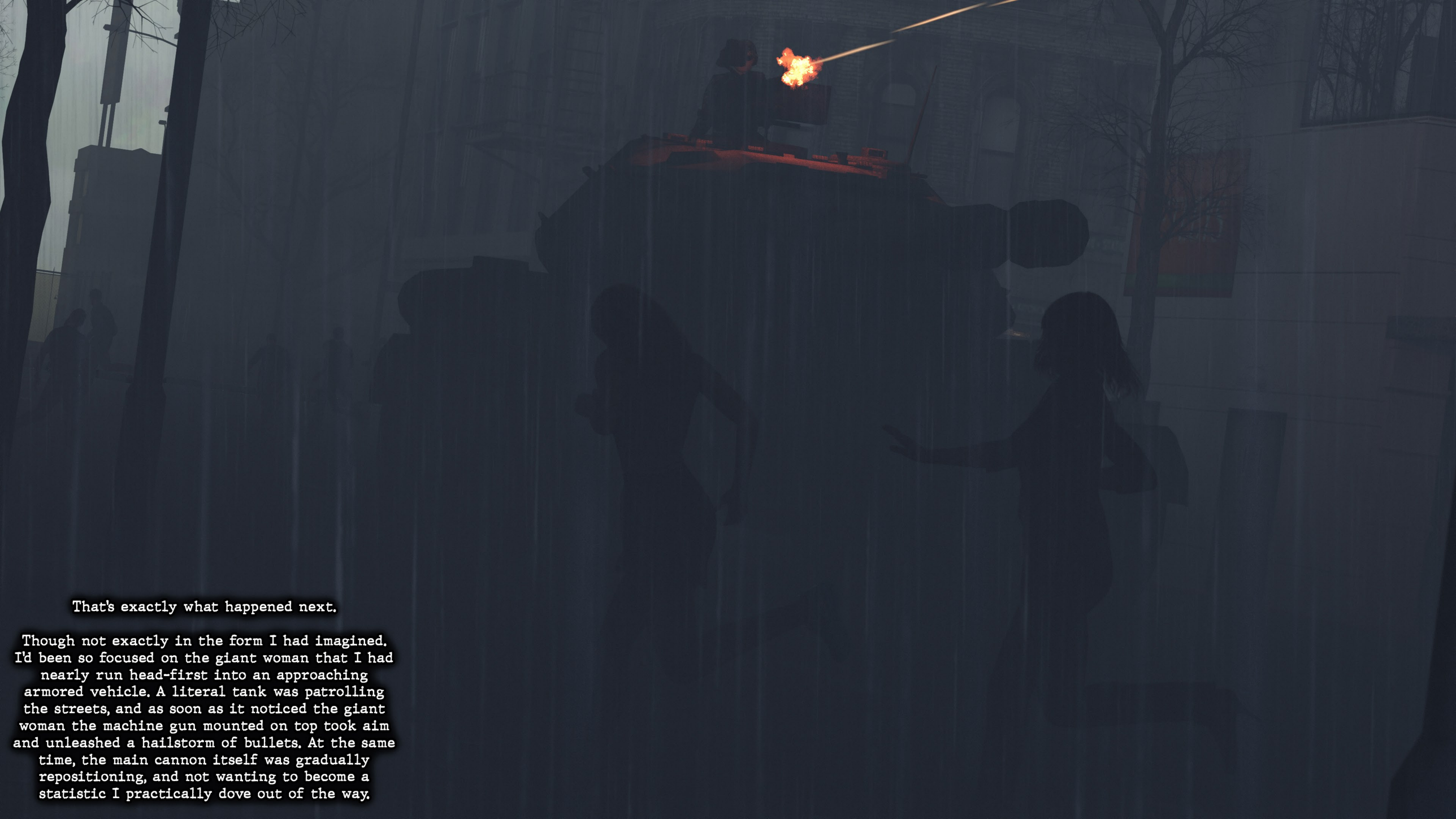
I followed her as fast as I could.



Still, running through thick fog in the middle of rain on an open street was far from the safest thing to manage. I did the best I could, but with no telling what was ahead of us even the simple act of getting away didn't feel safe.

We didn't have any other choice though. I could hear the amazon behind me finishing up the second officer, and the many lights from the police barricade would mean we didn't have the advantage of the thick fog to vanish from view.


The ground shook, and I knew she had finished her meal.
I looked back once more, and watched as the final remnants of a bulge slid down her neck, and stood back onto two feet. In that instant her eyes focused back on us, and I picked up the pace, hoping beyond hope that we would be saved by a miracle.



That's exactly what happened next.

Though not exactly in the form I had imagined. I'd been so focused on the giant woman that I had nearly run head-first into an approaching armored vehicle. A literal tank was patrolling the streets, and as soon as it noticed the giant woman the machine gun mounted on top took aim and unleashed a hailstorm of bullets. At the same time, the main cannon itself was gradually repositioning, and not wanting to become a statistic I practically dove out of the way.


The sound of the cannon firing felt like it popped my eardrums I was so close to it. It took a few seconds for my hearing to return, but I couldn't have even begun to care. All my attention was on the giantess who'd just taken a shell straight to the chest. The brilliant explosion illuminated her entire body for a split-second, and she was launched backwards where she landed on the ground with a heavy thud.
I remember hoping that that was the end of the giant woman. My heart was racing when I waited to see what would happen next...



And... nothing.

The streets felt eerie again. I thought back to what had drawn the giantess to this direction in the first place. All of the shooting from the cops that had caused so much noise, and the combination of the machine gun and cannon that made the entire street shake from their sheer volume.

But... was it worth it for this?


"Is she..."
"I hope so." I told Claire. Despite the good signs, my heart hadn't stopped racing for even a second yet. I just felt like she was going to jump to her feet again any second now. Maybe she'd grow again, and we'd be even worse off.
But my body was sore. I was tired. I'd run so much already, and I needed the brief reprieve. Especially when the signs were so good...



We kept watching, and waiting to see if anything changed. I nearly leapt out of my skin when I saw one of the giant woman's feet twitch abruptly, but it fell still just as quickly. Maybe that was just the final nerve impulses doing their thing, I figured.

The entire time the tank kept its cannon pointed up. The man operating the machine gun never even acknowledged me or Claire. With the lack of anything happening though... it felt like things were actually looking up for once.



Until we heard something else.

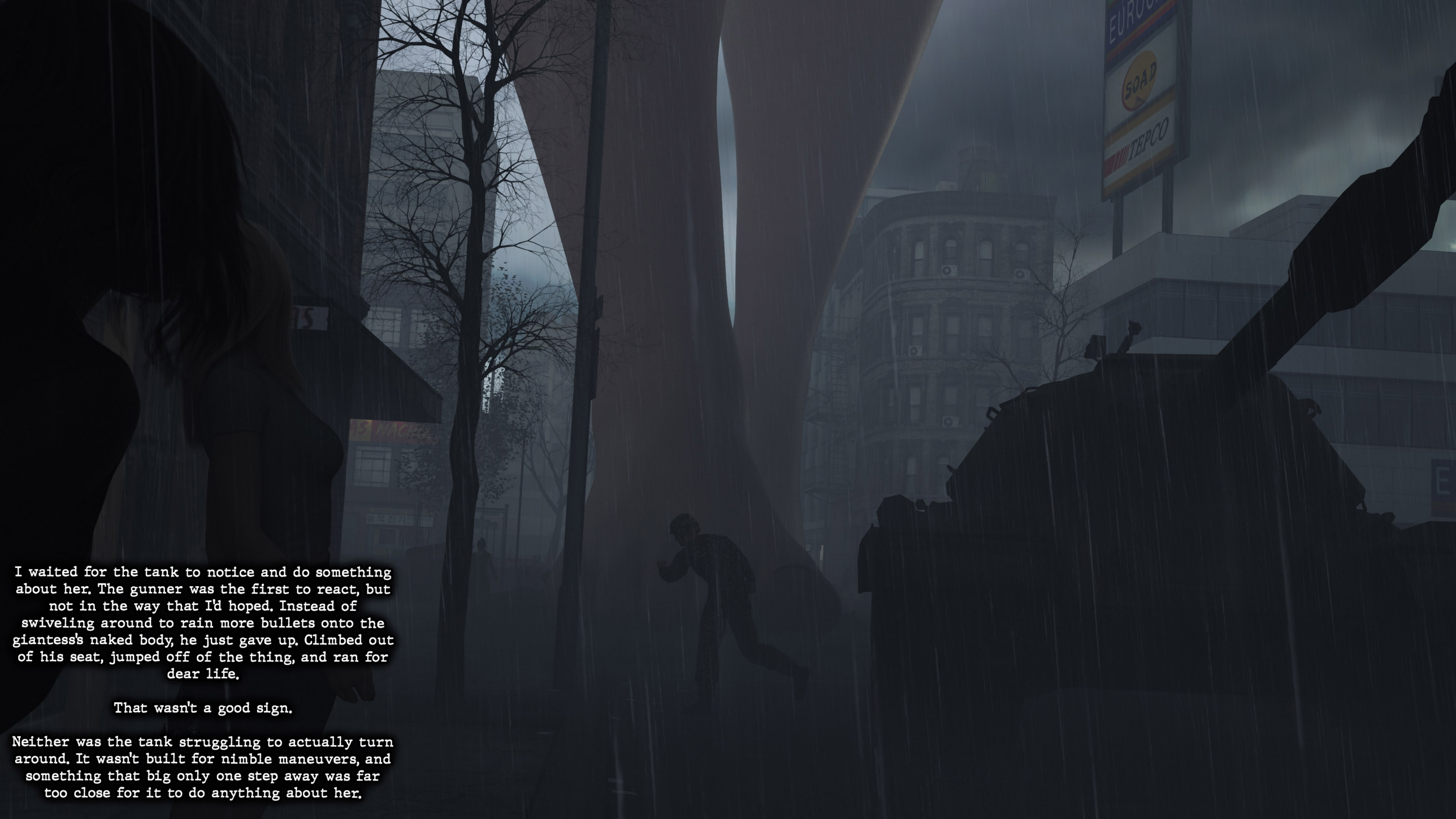
For a moment I almost thought that the cannon had fired again. Kind of double tap the giant thing to make sure it didn't get back up again. But there was no flash of light, and the booming sound shook the earth far more violently than the cannon firing had.

There was another one nearby... and the moment I caught a glimpse of an enormous leg in the distance I knew she had to be much, much bigger than the one the military had just put down.



I craned my neck up, feeling more fear set in the longer it took to do so. It wasn't until I saw that wavy blonde hair draped around the giant woman's shoulders that I realized I wasn't looking at a stranger. I'd seen this one before. She had stepped on the crowd and scooped some people up from it to eat them right in front of me.

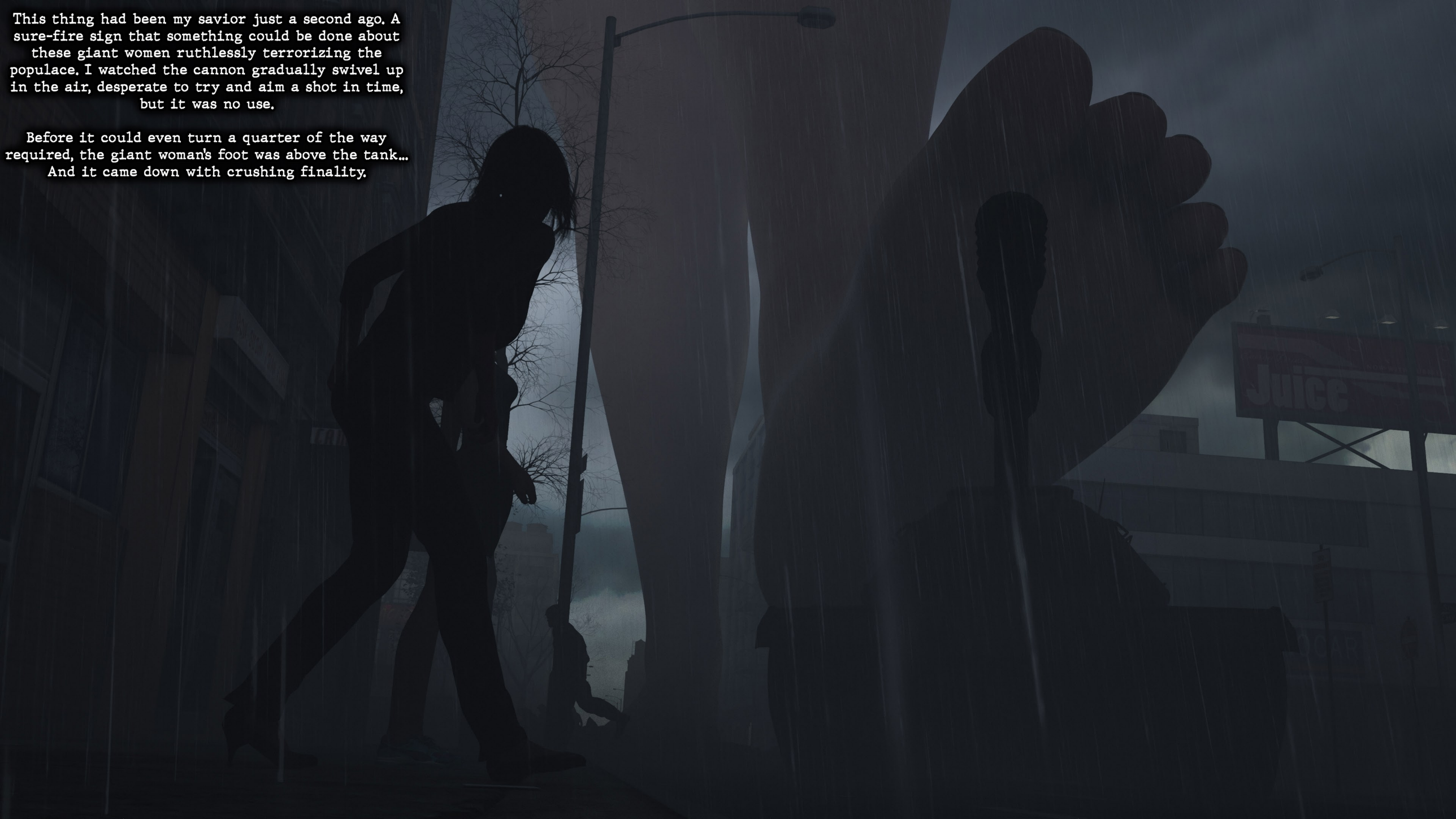
And she'd grown a lot bigger from when I'd last seen her.



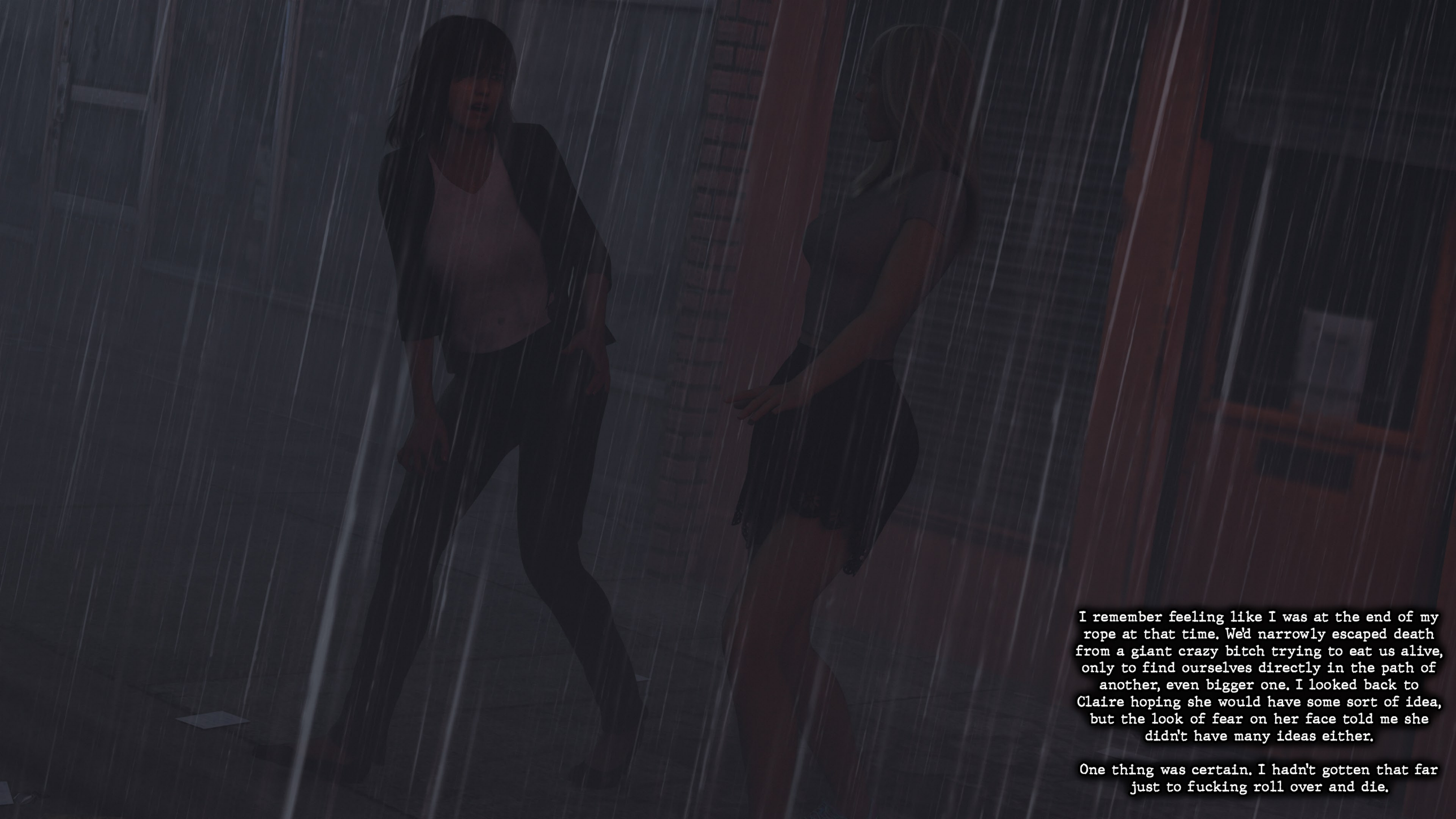
I waited for the tank to notice and do something about her. The gunner was the first to react, but not in the way that I'd hoped. Instead of swiveling around to rain more bullets onto the giantess's naked body, he just gave up. Climbed out of his seat, jumped off of the thing, and ran for dear life.

That wasn't a good sign.

Neither was the tank struggling to actually turn around. It wasn't built for nimble maneuvers, and something that big only one step away was far too close for it to do anything about her.

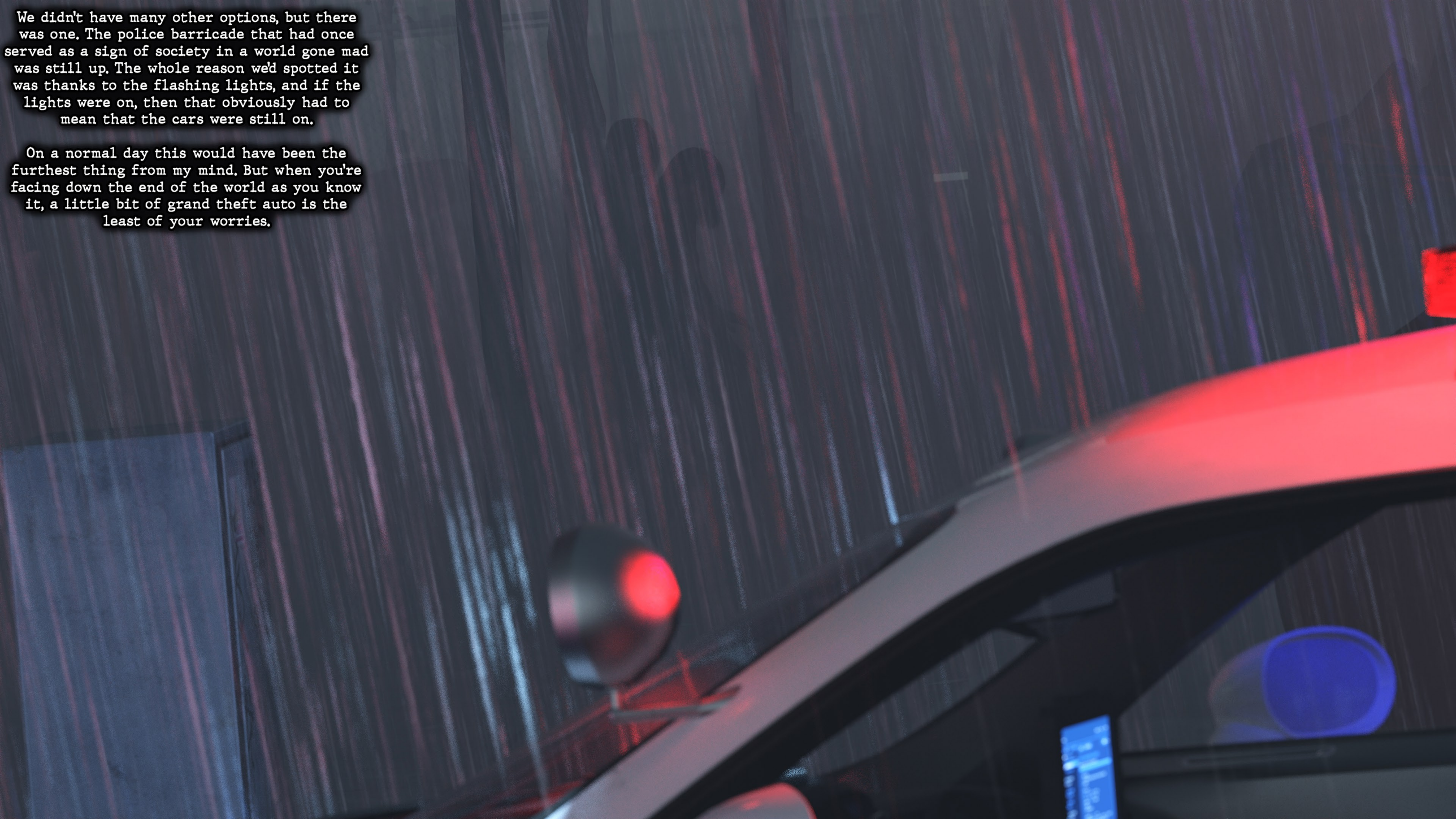

This thing had been my savior just a second ago. A sure-fire sign that something could be done about these giant women ruthlessly terrorizing the populace. I watched the cannon gradually swivel up in the air, desperate to try and aim a shot in time, but it was no use.
Before it could even turn a quarter of the way required, the giant woman's foot was above the tank... And it came down with crushing finality.


The tank turned into a fireball that danced up the sides of her foot for an instant, before the fuel tank ruptured and turned into an inferno. Dense smoke covered the carnage, but it didn't take a genius to know that the thing, along with everyone inside of it, was toast.



I remember feeling like I was at the end of my rope at that time. We'd narrowly escaped death from a giant crazy bitch trying to eat us alive, only to find ourselves directly in the path of another, even bigger one. I looked back to Claire hoping she would have some sort of idea, but the look of fear on her face told me she didn't have many ideas either.

One thing was certain. I hadn't gotten that far just to fucking roll over and die.


We didn't have many other options, but there was one. The police barricade that had once served as a sign of society in a world gone mad was still up. The whole reason we'd spotted it was thanks to the flashing lights, and if the lights were on, then that obviously had to mean that the cars were still on.
On a normal day this would have been the furthest thing from my mind. But when you're facing down the end of the world as you know it, a little bit of grand theft auto is the least of your worries.

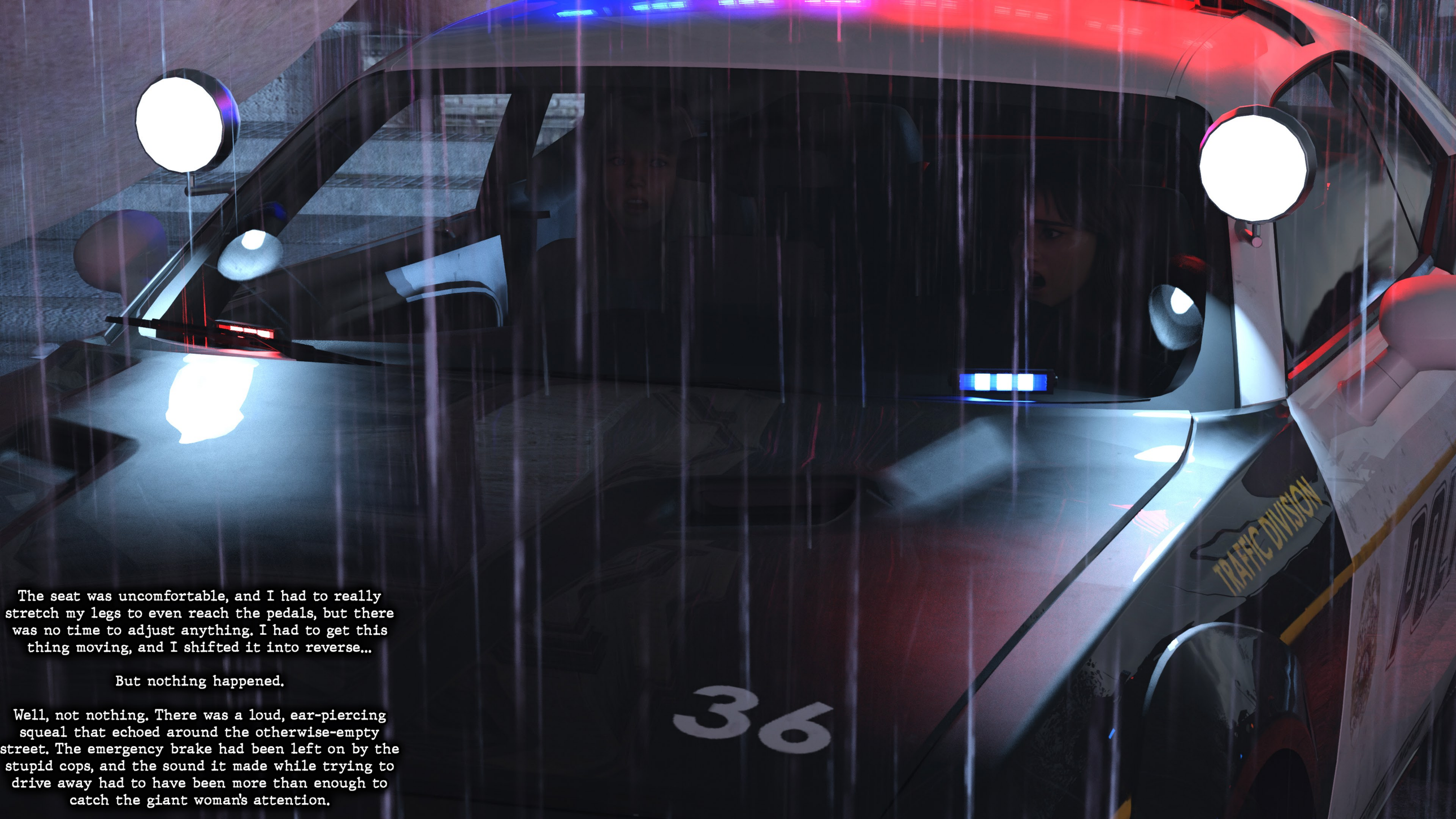

Claire seemed to realize what I had intended after taking a look in the same direction, and we both broke into a full-on sprint. And not a second too soon. The moment we began moving I could feel the rush of wind as the enormous foot behind me raised to take yet another step. One that looked primed to hit the exact spot we'd both been standing just a moment prior.


Her footstep shook the earth, and I was hoping that we hadn't been noticed yet. There were too many other sounds nearby for us to stand out, but we were the only things moving down here as well.
Trying to keep calm while running past a giant corpse while being chased by an even more giant woman isn't how anyone would want to spend their day, but I was hyper focused on the car in front of me. I knew that looking back would leave me too scared to do anything else, so I simply didn't.



As soon as we reached the car I looked around inside to make sure there wasn't anyone inside who might try and attack us for stealing the thing. Thankfully it was empty, and the engine was rumbling so they hadn't simply turned the lights on and left it to stall.

"GET IN!" I told Claire, while I boarded the driver's seat.

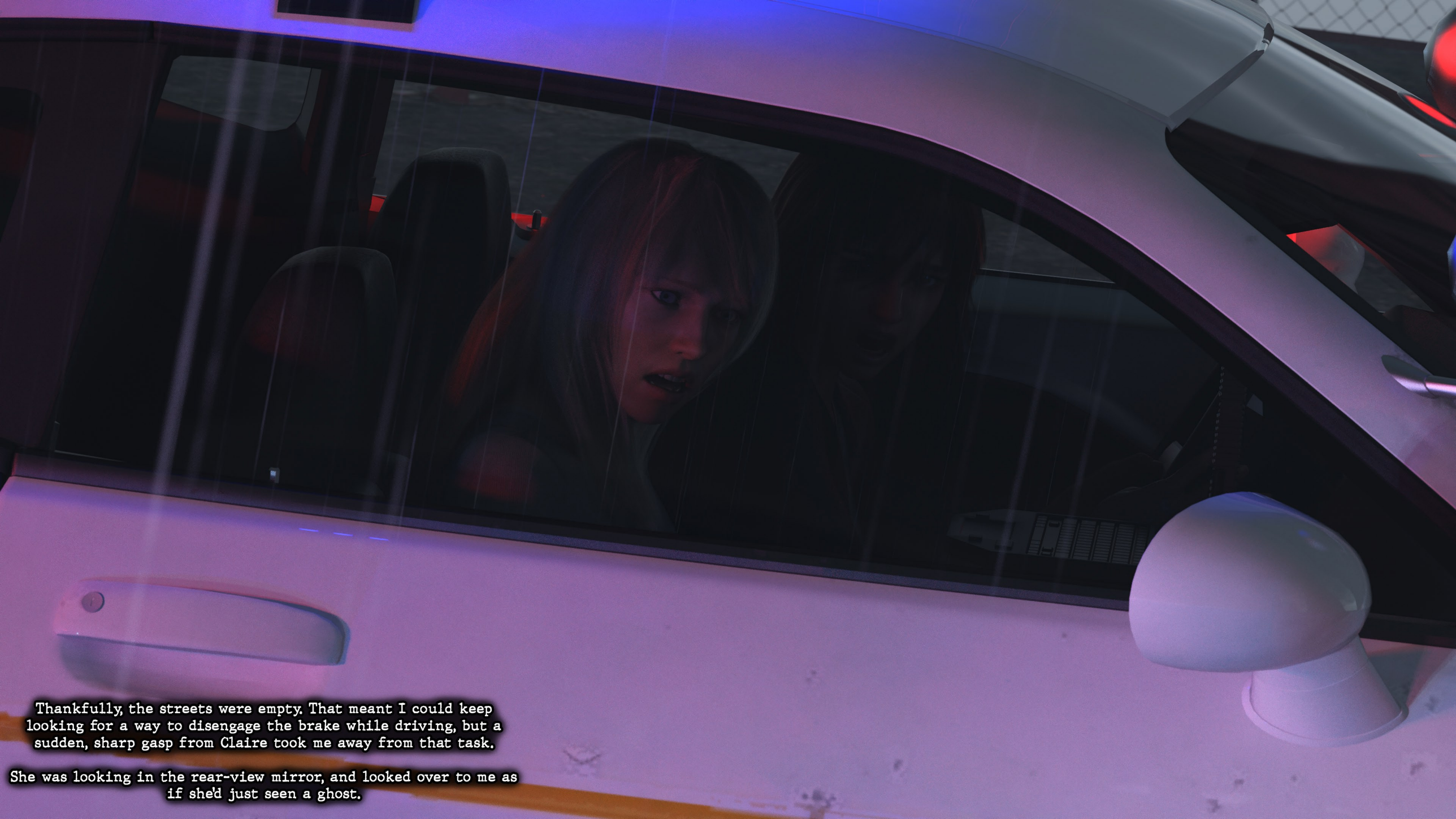


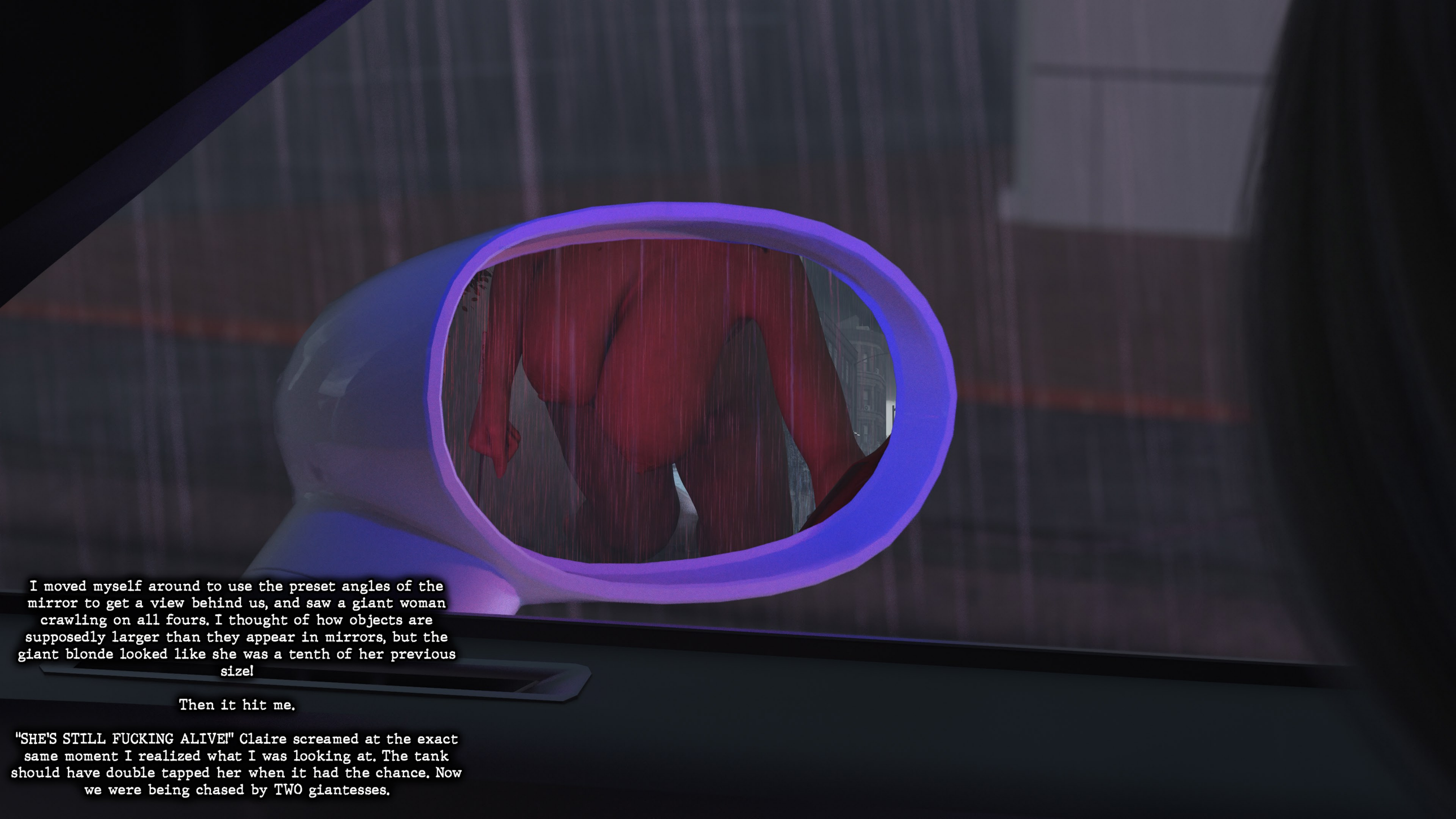
The seat was uncomfortable, and I had to really stretch my legs to even reach the pedals, but there was no time to adjust anything. I had to get this thing moving, and I shifted it into reverse...

But nothing happened.

Well, not nothing. There was a loud, ear-piercing squeal that echoed around the otherwise-empty street. The emergency brake had been left on by the stupid cops, and the sound it made while trying to drive away had to have been more than enough to catch the giant woman's attention.

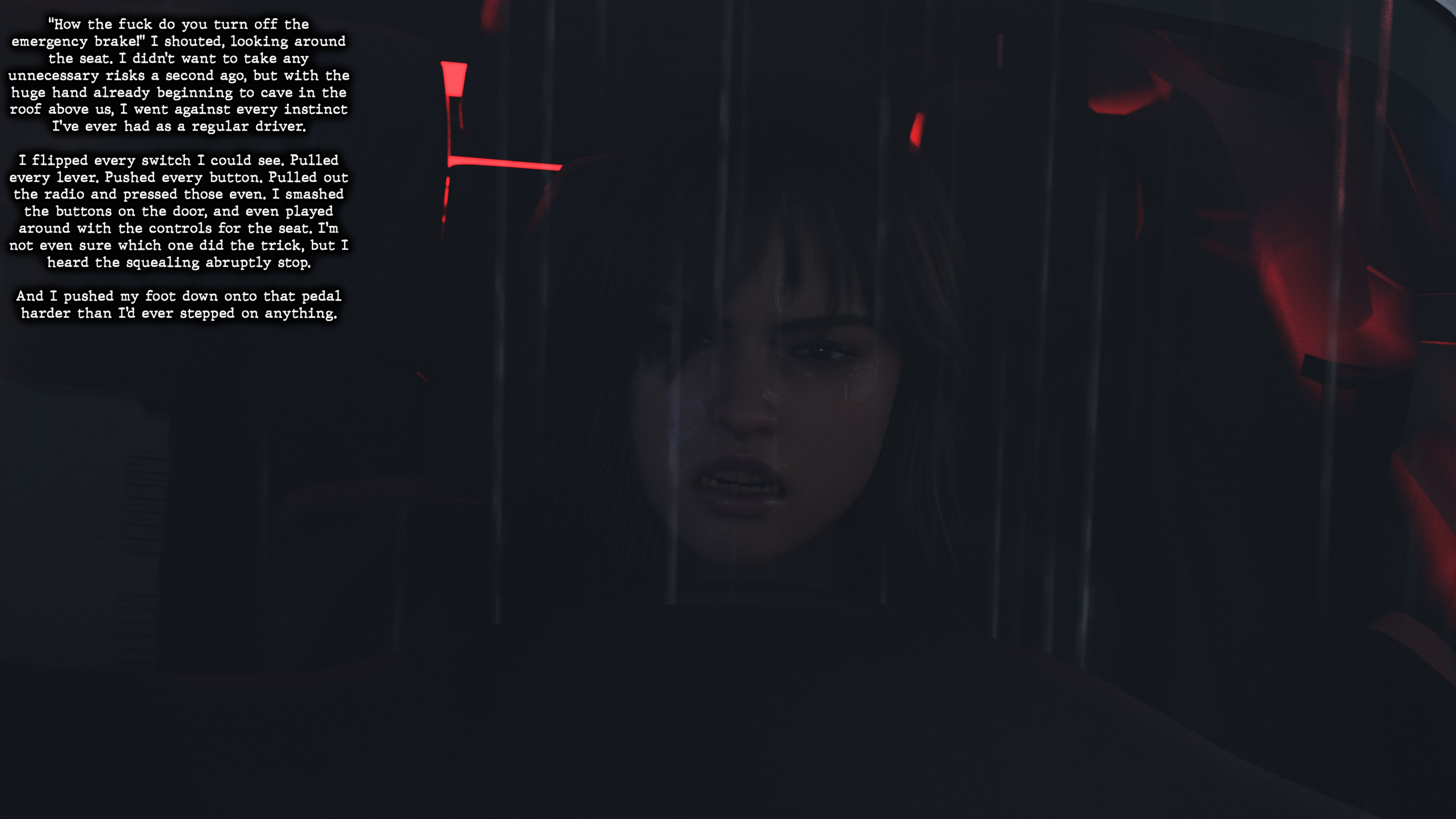

I tried to look for a lever or a lock to disengage the brake, but when the ground rumbled I knew time was running out. This was the one thing stopping us from escaping! How could we have gotten that far just to fail at the last second?
"JUST FLOOR IT ANYWAY!" Claire shouted, giving me a piece of advice I'd never stopped to consider. And... Well, it worked. The squealing sound returned, and I'm sure I would have completely destroyed the brake pads in just a few miles like this, but it wasn't like we were going to keep this thing. As soon as it was moving we managed to round a corner as one thing became very, very clear.
The giant woman had noticed us, and was chasing right behind us.
NO PARKING
POLICE
TRAFFIC DIVISION
DEDICATED TO YOUR SAFETY
A 548235
S.W.A.T


Thankfully, the streets were empty. That meant I could keep looking for a way to disengage the brake while driving, but a sudden, sharp gasp from Claire took me away from that task.
She was looking in the rear-view mirror, and looked over to me as if she'd just seen a ghost.


I moved myself around to use the preset angles of the mirror to get a view behind us, and saw a giant woman crawling on all fours. I thought of how objects are supposedly larger than they appear in mirrors, but the giant blonde looked like she was a tenth of her previous size!
Then it hit me.
"SHE'S STILL FUCKING ALIVE!" Claire screamed at the exact same moment I realized what I was looking at. The tank should have double tapped her when it had the chance. Now we were being chased by TWO giantesses.


A loud thump shook the entire car, and my face nearly smashed into the steering wheel. I looked back, hoping that I'd just hit a curb or something, but we wouldn't be so lucky. The amazon had grabbed hold of the car by the lights on top, and was trying to drag it closer to her.
I pushed the pedal down harder, and could hear the metal securing the lights on top begin to weaken... but it was no use.
36
POLICE
TRAFFIC DIVISION
A 548235


Without the emergency brake engaged we may have been able to steer away, leaving the amazon holding onto a pair of broken lights and allowing Claire and I the chance to escape. But thanks to that handicap she was able to keep us locked into place, and gradually pulled herself closer.
She was alive, but she definitely wasn't at 100%.
GAMES PLANET
CUT PRICE LIQUORS
TRAFFIC DIVISION
POLICE
DEDICATED TO YOUR SAFETY
36
EMERGENCY DIAL 911



"How the fuck do you turn off the emergency brake!" I shouted, looking around the seat. I didn't want to take any unnecessary risks a second ago, but with the huge hand already beginning to cave in the roof above us, I went against every instinct I've ever had as a regular driver.

I flipped every switch I could see. Pulled every lever. Pushed every button. Pulled out the radio and pressed those even. I smashed the buttons on the door, and even played around with the controls for the seat. I'm not even sure which one did the trick, but I heard the squealing abruptly stop.

And I pushed my foot down onto that pedal harder than I'd ever stepped on anything.



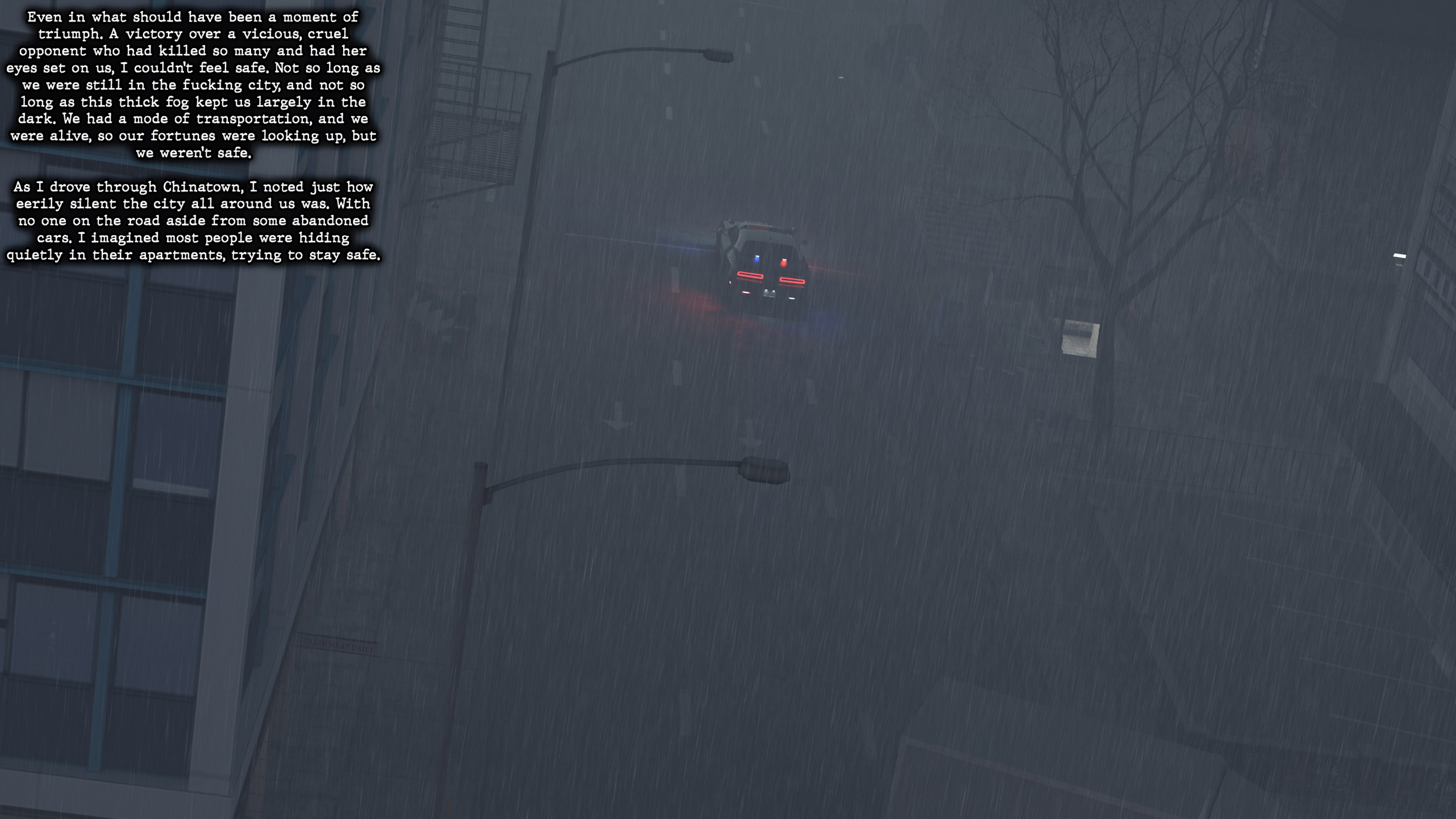
We pulled forward a couple of feet, and I watched the giant woman above have to extend her arm further to maintain her grip... but she was able to do it. Now we were in something of a tug of war, but the sudden loud booming of the even-bigger giantess confirmed to me that we weren't going to make it out of this even with that assistance.

It would have taken a miracle at that point, and I felt like I'd already burned all my good fortune just getting this far.

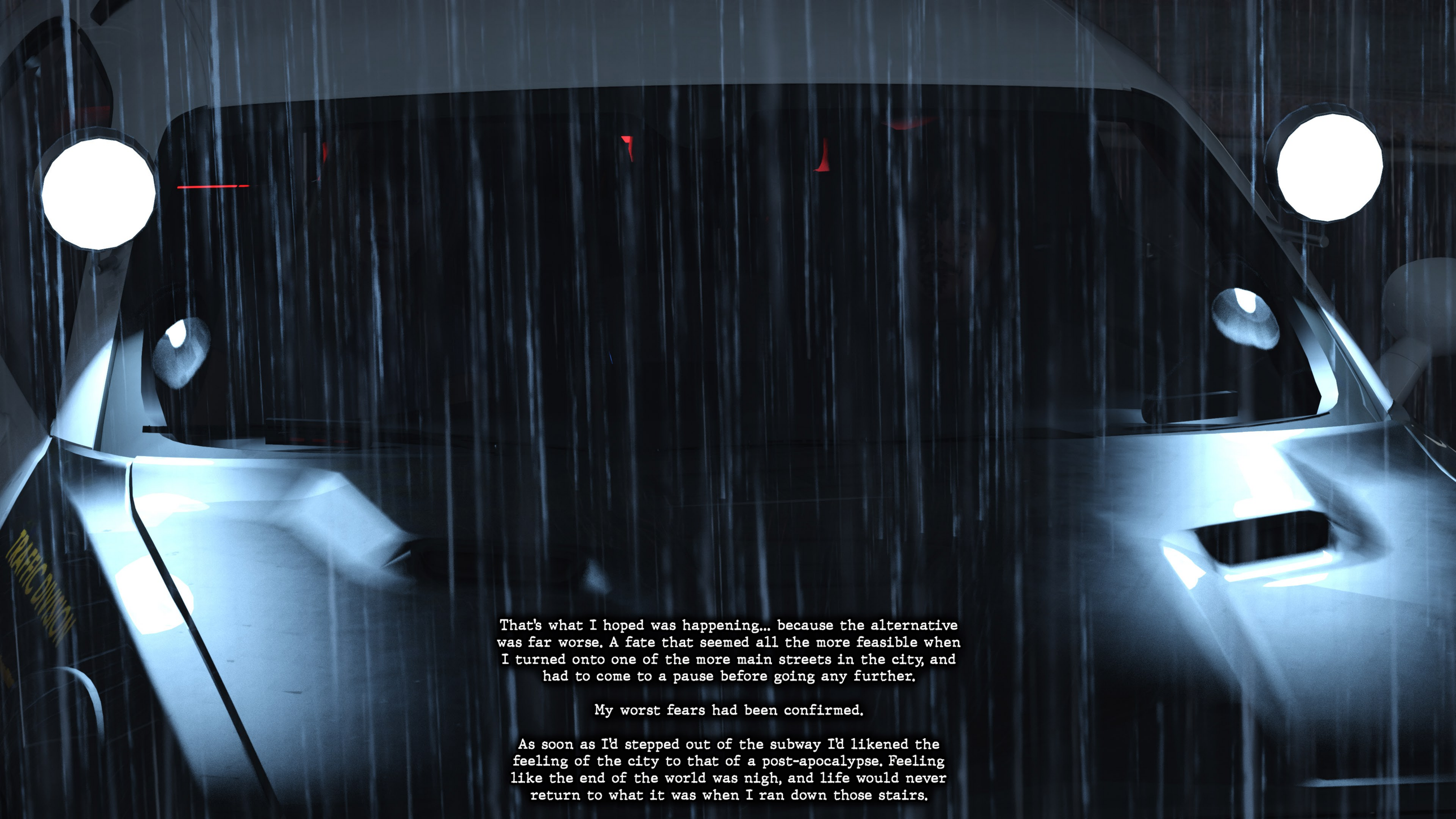

The metal roof above us began to twist and deform as the lights were pulled on by the amazon, and I waited for our grisly demise to happen... but it didn't. Instead we heard a violent sound like someone was trying to rip the roof of the car to shreds... and nothing.
The image in the rear-view mirror told me what had just happened. My luck hadn't run out just yet. I had one more in me, and could only watch as the blonde titaness grabbed hold of the amazon that had been holding the police car back, and lifted her up from the street.
TRAFFIC DIVISION
POLICE
DEDICATED TO YOUR SAFETY


The sight was like nothing I'd ever seen before. I guess deep down I just assumed that these giant women recognized one another as allies, or some kind of companion and wouldn't lay a finger on one another. A thought that felt completely naive as I watched the towering giantess lift the feral amazon up to her mouth, and drop her inside just as casually as she had the crowd only a few minutes prior.
I almost wanted to stay and watch the giant bitch get swallowed all the way. Just to feel something resembling vengeance over what she'd done to Claire and I, but I'm not one to look a gift horse in the mouth. We'd been given a gift, and I was going to take full advantage.


With no way of knowing just how long the giant woman would be distracted I sped off, feeling a sense of relief wash over me. We'd actually made it. Claire and I were...
Not safe.
36
A 548235


Even in what should have been a moment of triumph. A victory over a vicious, cruel opponent who had killed so many and had her eyes set on us, I couldn't feel safe. Not so long as we were still in the fucking city, and not so long as this thick fog kept us largely in the dark. We had a mode of transportation, and we were alive, so our fortunes were looking up, but we weren't safe.

As I drove through Chinatown, I noted just how eerily silent the city all around us was. With no one on the road aside from some abandoned cars. I imagined most people were hiding quietly in their apartments, trying to stay safe.



That's what I hoped was happening... because the alternative was far worse. A fate that seemed all the more feasible when I turned onto one of the more main streets in the city, and had to come to a pause before going any further.

My worst fears had been confirmed.

As soon as I'd stepped out of the subway I'd likened the feeling of the city to that of a post-apocalypse. Feeling like the end of the world was nigh, and life would never return to what it was when I ran down those stairs.



Now I could get a much greater appreciation for the full-extent of the calamity that we were experiencing. There were other giantesses wandering the streets. Some the same size as the amazon who'd nearly ripped this very car to shreds. Some bigger.

And one in the far-off distance... who looked bigger than even the blonde.



We drove by a one giantess in particular who looked familiar. She... looked like the second one I'd seen, actually. The one who'd tackled the screaming woman just after I got out of the subway. She couldn't have been more than twenty feet tall then, but now? Even her foot was big enough to crush the car we were in.

I wondered if there even was a way to go back from this. Would they just keep growing forever? This was one of the most populated cities on the planet. If they were just devouring people for sustenance, they could have grown for who knows how long.


I drove through the streets carefully, trying to keep a low profile and keep ourselves safe. But... it didn't really make me feel any better. It just let me watch the chaos unfold around us for even longer. I could see the blonde in the far-off distance behind us. She had straddled a skyscraper, and was lowering herself onto it from above. She was using the entire damn thing as a sex toy, and grinding herself up and down.
Loud, booming moans of pleasure reached far and wide enough to even make the ground vibrate beneath us, and I tried to pick up the pace.


As I did so, I could see the dark-skinned woman from earlier lift another handful of poor stragglers above her mouth. Just like earlier, she didn't seem to take any joy or pleasure in what she was doing. She was eating to satiate her hunger, and the living people were just tossed down her throat like they were pieces of popcorn.
"Sofia?"
NORTH
495
LAST EXIT
EXIT 29
DRUGS



"Yeah?" I said, looking at Claire, who was gritting her teeth.

"I'm... I'm scared."

"It'll... It'll be okay, Claire. We'll-"

"No. Not... My clothes feel tight."

I looked over at her, and saw that the front of her shirt had ripped open. It was happening again...



I didn't have to come to terms with what was happening. Before I could even say a word back the ground beneath us began to shake again, and I could see cracks forming around and underneath us. I thought another giantess had come close to crushing the car... but there wasn't anyone nearby.

Unless...



I stepped on the gas as hard as I could. The ride was bumpy, but we only barely managed to escape before a massive hand burst from the ground underneath us. The fingers stretched and wiggled as if testing if there were anything to grip onto, before they began to fall to the ground.



The impact of this giant woman's nails slamming into the street nearly threw the car off its axis entirely, and sent me swerving into a curb. I tried to correct, but it was no use.

My memory is a bit blurry as to what happened immediately after. I remember... Claire screaming. The ground shaking more. More of it being ripped apart, as parts of an arm showed up, and the hole was widened. Our car was flipping... and settled upside-down.



The giant woman burst from the ground beneath us. I only saw her face for a split-second, but I recognized her instantly. Though much of the surrounding bits are blurry, that one was clear as day. It was a truly colossal woman. One far, far bigger than the others I'd seen so far. One that sported long, red hair.

It was *her*.

The one I'd encountered in the subway.


The thought of having to head back out into the streets, injured and on foot... was scarier than anything I'd ever experienced. I looked over to Claire, and she was still conscious, but she looked as if she'd taken the rollover a little worse than I had.
I moved to try and open the door, but the entire world around me began to shake again. The redhead was moving, and her slightest action was enough to send the car skidding across the street violently, and crash into another curb in the process.


I'm... not sure what happened after that. That's where my memory goes blank. I remember seeing just how big she was, and just how threatening she was, and fearing for my life. I wanted to get closer to Claire and hold her tight so we could spend our final moments together, but everything went black before I could do anything else.
I thought that was how the world would end...


"...Until a few hours ago. I wake up, get carted over here, and now I'm staring at you."
The man in the hazmat suit looked at me severely for a moment longer.
"What. That's it. I told you everything that happened to me! If anything I said helps you out, then you owe me! Did Claire make it? We were in that car together, so if I'm here, then surely she made it too, right?"

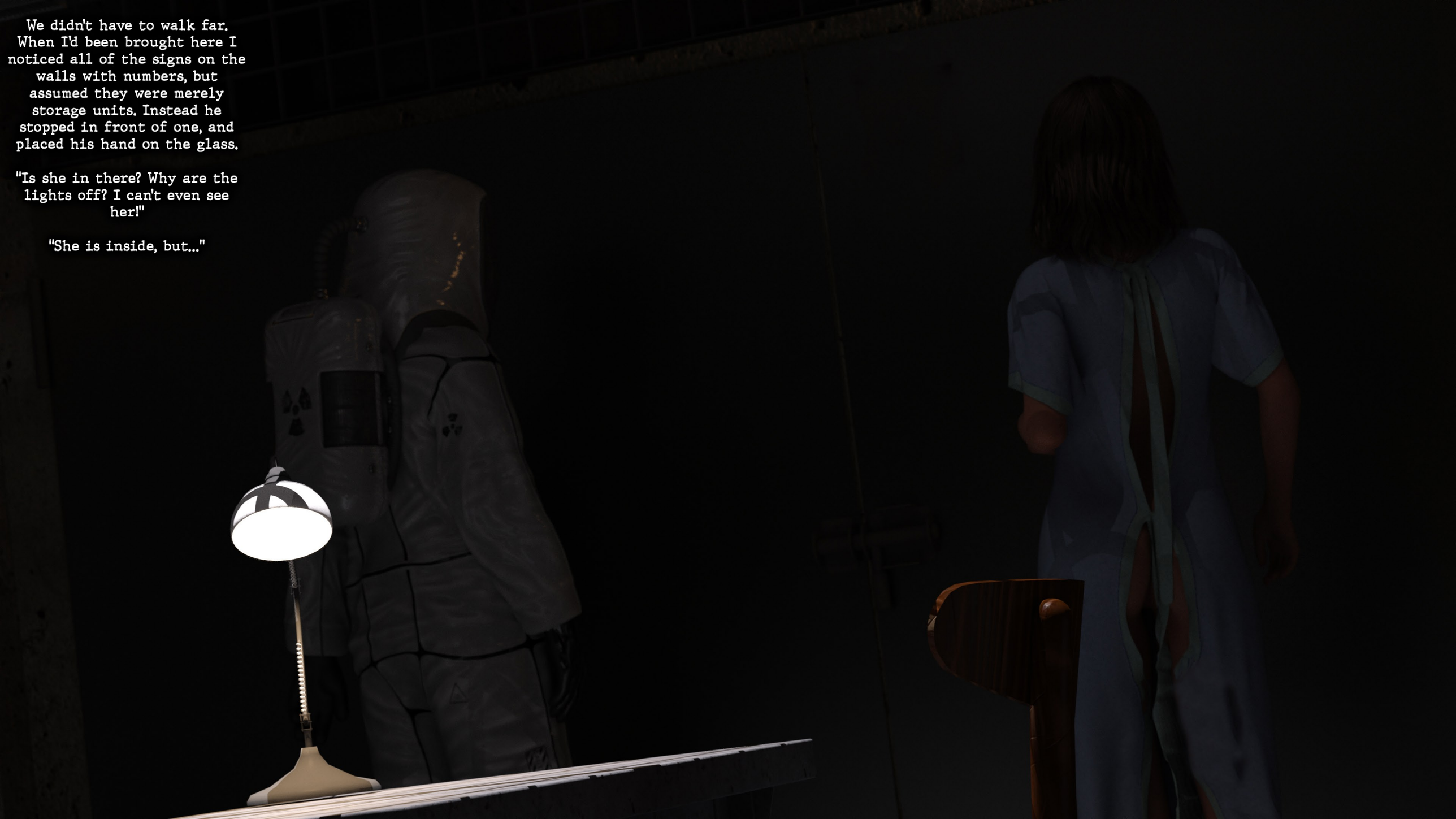
The man in the hazmat suit sighed, and stood up. He took a moment to walk around me, as if he was looking for something, before coming to a stop on the opposite side of the desk again.

"Yes." He said shortly. "Well, assuming that the Claire in your story is Claire Ramsay, then yes. You were both discovered together. We have a positive ID, and she is in our custody if you'd like to meet her."

"Yes, of course! What kind of a question is that?! Where is she?!"




The man sighed, and hung his head low. His fingers tapped the desk, a sound that echoed around the room before he stood up straight again.
"Of course." He finally said, motioning for me to stand. "Follow me."


We didn't have to walk far. When I'd been brought here I noticed all of the signs on the walls with numbers, but assumed they were merely storage units. Instead he stopped in front of one, and placed his hand on the glass.
"Is she in there? Why are the lights off? I can't even see her!"
"She is inside, but..."



That's when I put it together. "Oh my God, is she one of them?"

I looked at him, then at the door again.

"I'm afraid so," he said matter-of-factly. "If you're not ready to see her, I understand."

"Let me fucking see her."


"If you're sure."
Saying that, he flicked a button. Lights turned on one after another and I gasped. That was certainly Claire on the other side of the door... but she had to have been at least twenty feet tall. She was completely naked and lying on the ground, as there wasn't even enough room for her to stand inside.


"CLAIRE!" I said, just happy to finally have confirmation she was alive again. "I was so worried about you! I wanted to..."



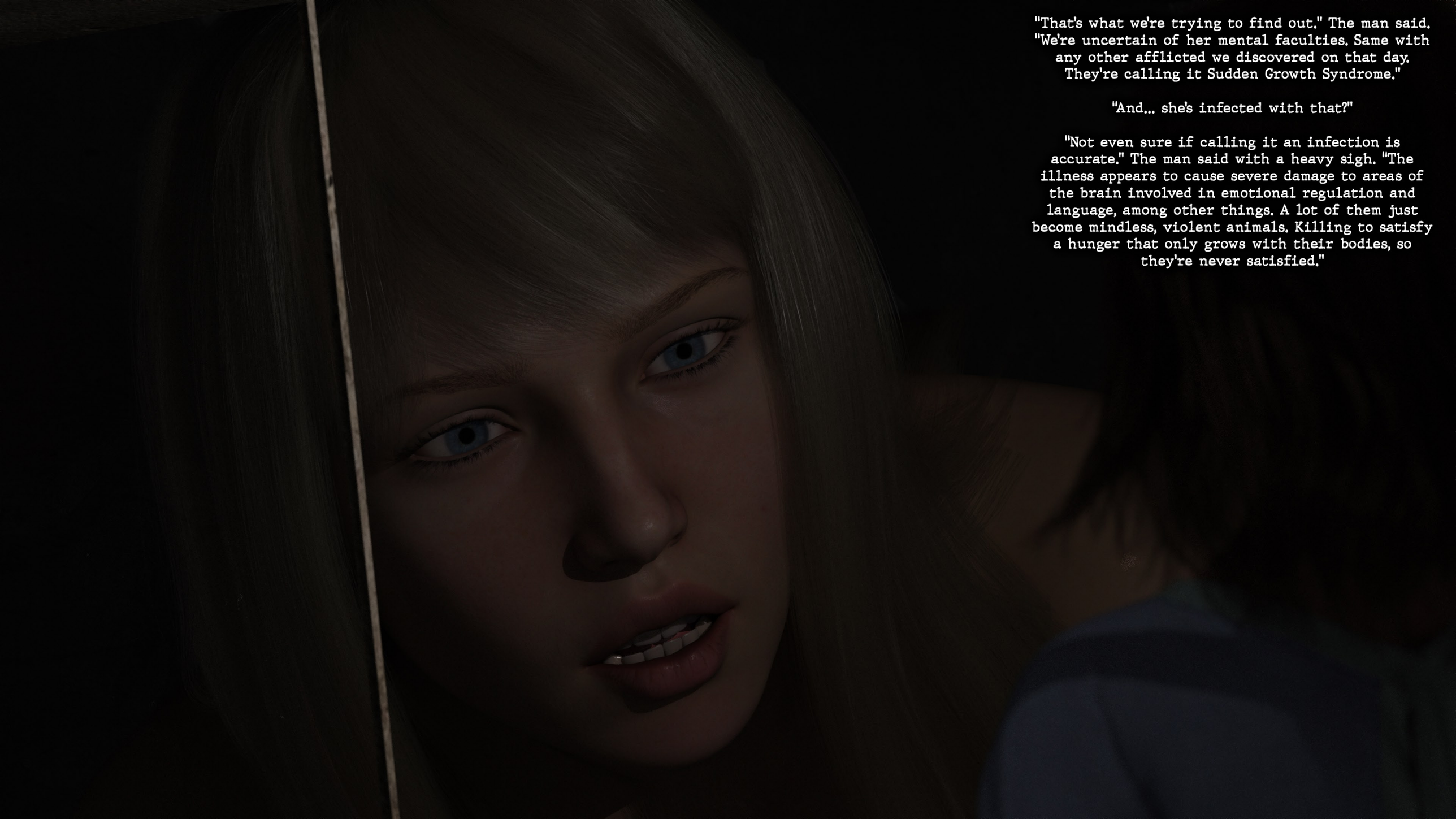
She wasn't responding. She only gave me a long, intense stare. It felt like she was trying to find the words to respond, but they never came.

"Are these rooms soundproofed?" I asked the man in the suit, and he only shook his head.

I looked back at Claire, and... it felt right. There may not have been a ton of light that day, but I could tell that the other giantesses were like feral, violent monsters. Mindless drones driven by hunger, like real live fucking zombies. But Claire was..

Her look was different. She was quiet. Patient. Sad.

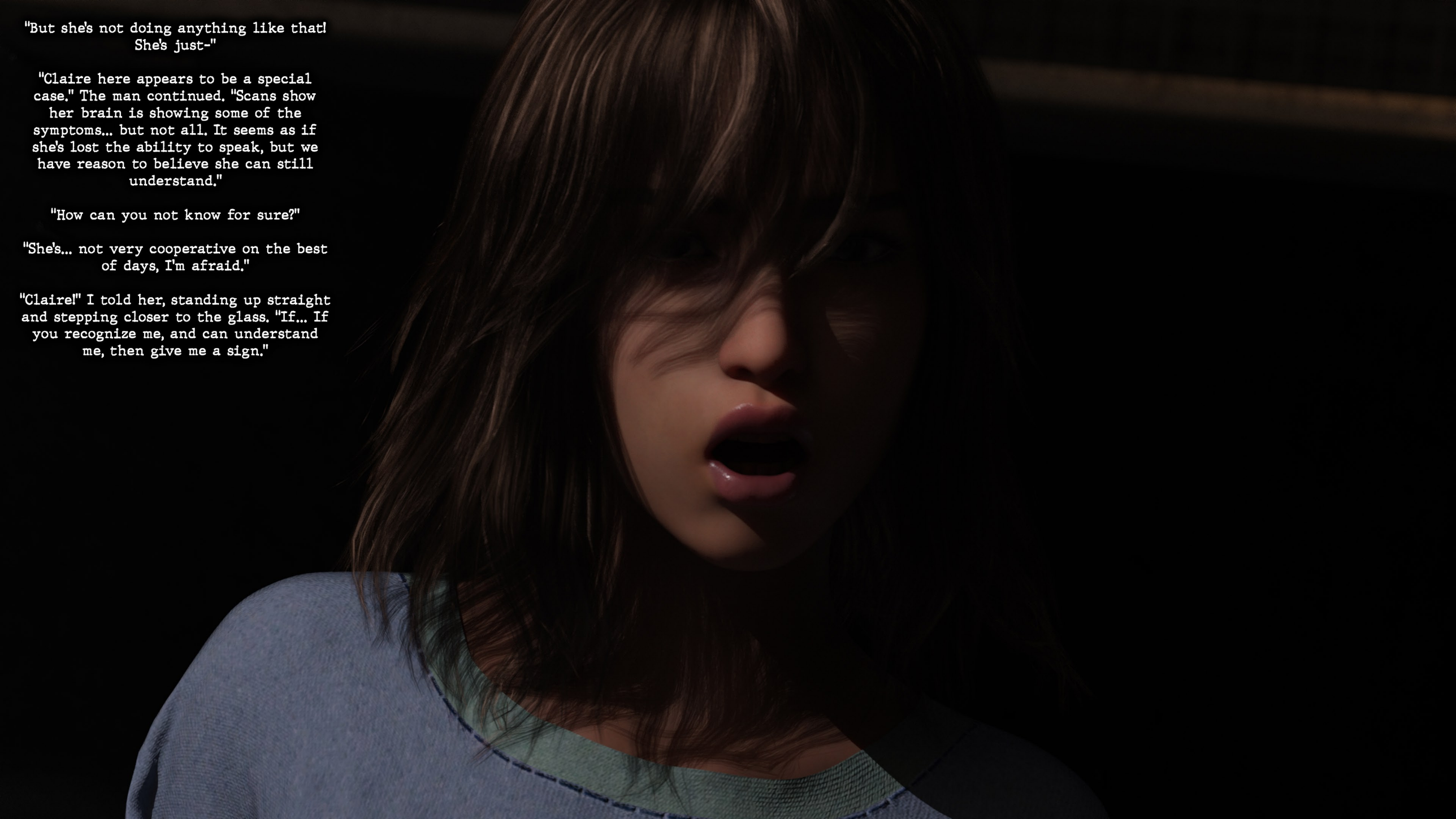

"What the fuck did you do to her?! You son of a-"
"We didn't do anything." The man in the suit said matter-of-factly.
"Then why is she not saying anything? I can tell just by looking at her that she's not like the others! She's-"



"That's what we're trying to find out." The man said. "We're uncertain of her mental faculties. Same with any other afflicted we discovered on that day. They're calling it Sudden Growth Syndrome."

"And... she's infected with that?"

"Not even sure if calling it an infection is accurate." The man said with a heavy sigh. "The illness appears to cause severe damage to areas of the brain involved in emotional regulation and language, among other things. A lot of them just become mindless, violent animals. Killing to satisfy a hunger that only grows with their bodies, so they're never satisfied."



"But she's not doing anything like that! She's just-"

"Claire here appears to be a special case." The man continued. "Scans show her brain is showing some of the symptoms... but not all. It seems as if she's lost the ability to speak, but we have reason to believe she can still understand."

"How can you not know for sure?"

"She's... not very cooperative on the best of days, I'm afraid."

"Claire!" I told her, standing up straight and stepping closer to the glass. "If... If you recognize me, and can understand me, then give me a sign."


Claire looks at me, then at the scientist past me. It almost looks as if she's weighing her options... before she nods, and places a hand against the wall. The sheer size of it was astounding... but it was undoubtedly hers.


The same hand that I'd held so many times. The hand that I had squeezed when we watched horror movies together. The hand had run through my hair after a long day. And the hand that I had held tight on that day, making sure we never lost contact.


Tears welled up in the corners of my eyes as I stepped forward... And placed my own hand onto the window against hers.


The edges of her lips curled up into something that vaguely resembled a smile. A smile that I only got to see for an instant, before my vision was blurred from all the tears running down my face.


End of Part 1


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