

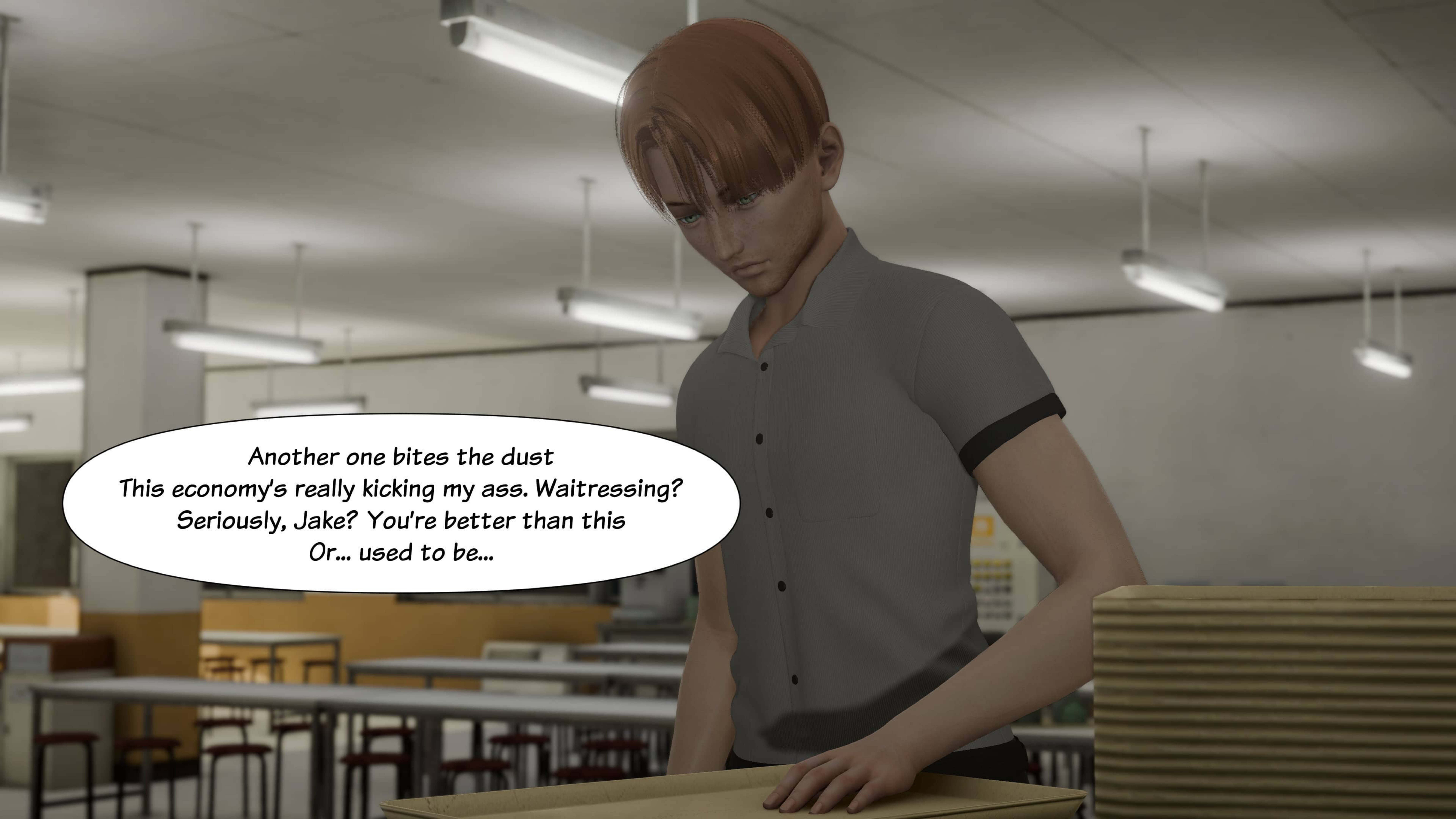


THE PUPPET
PROTOCOL BY NEONIEZ











*Another one bites the dust
This economy's really kicking my ass. Waitressing?
Seriously, Jake? You're better than this
Or... used to be...*






*Jake, that's it for tonight. And... for good
We're officially closing down after tomorrow
Can't keep the doors open*



I... I understand, Mr. Hong
Thanks for the opportunity,
even if it was short-lived

Damn it. Just when I thought
things couldn't get worse..



*You're a good man, Jake
Deserve better than this hole anyway
Go home, get some rest*



Thanks Mr.Hong

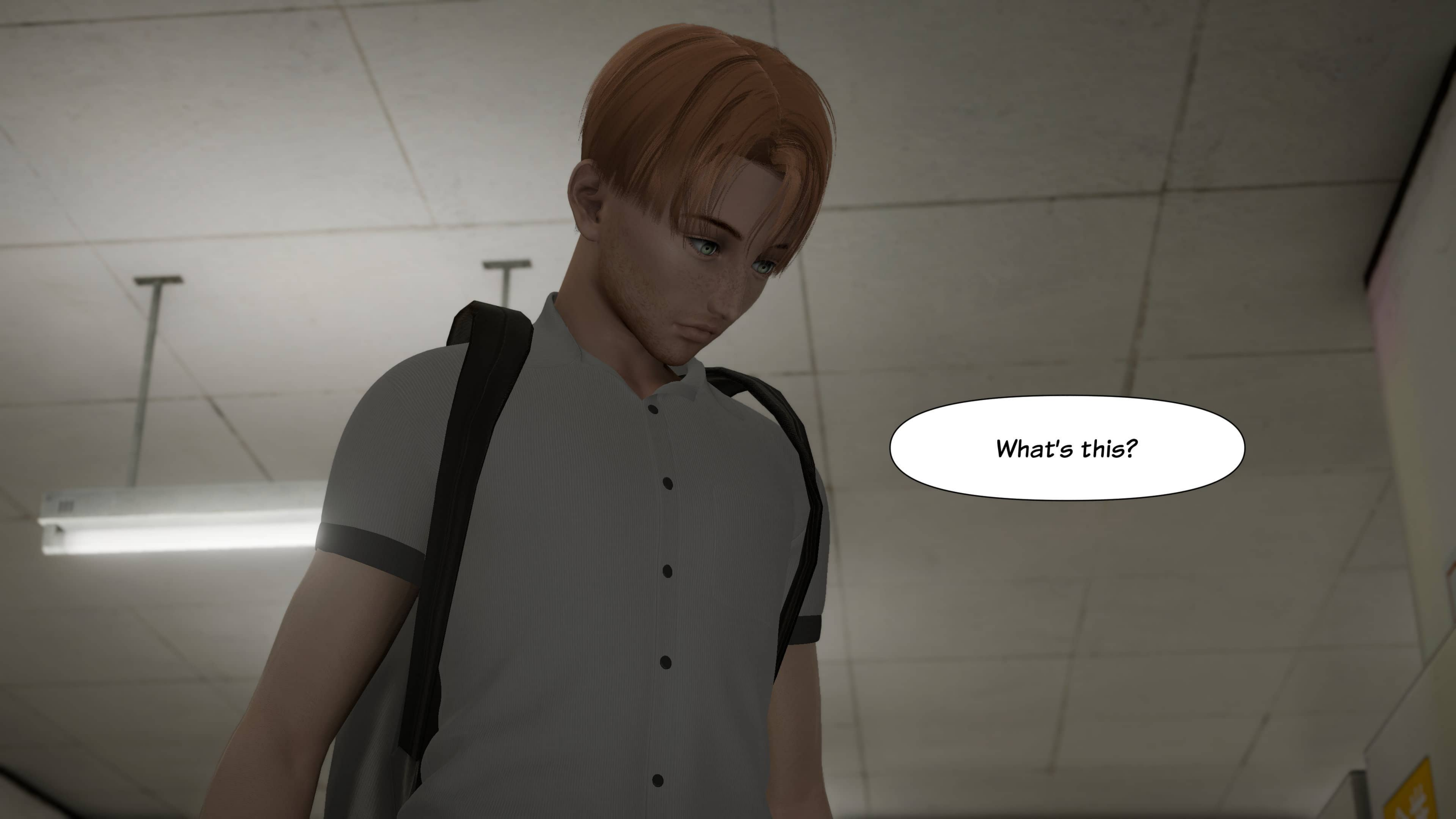




焼酎 甘酒 付
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可燃

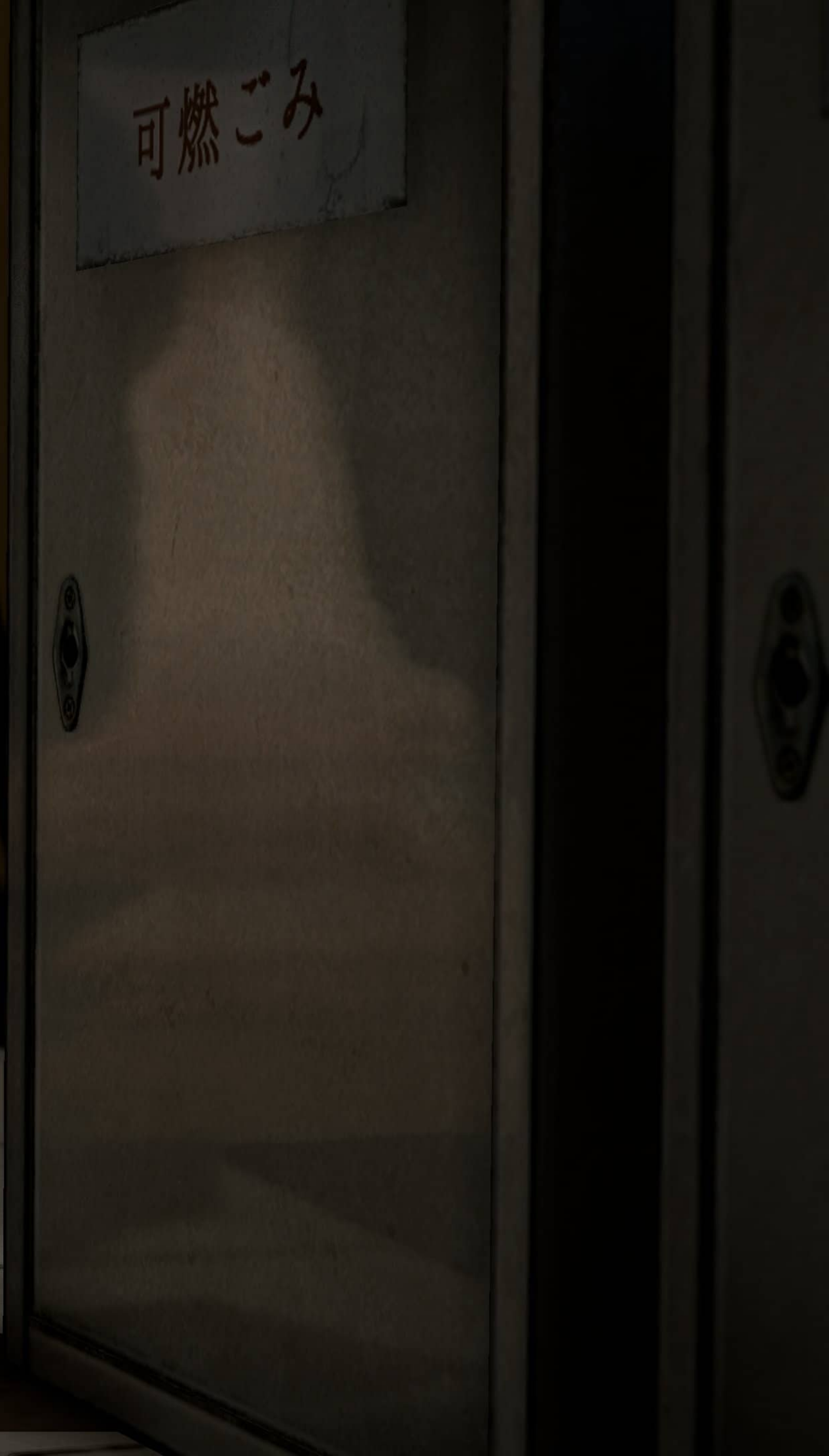




What's this?



可燃ごみ

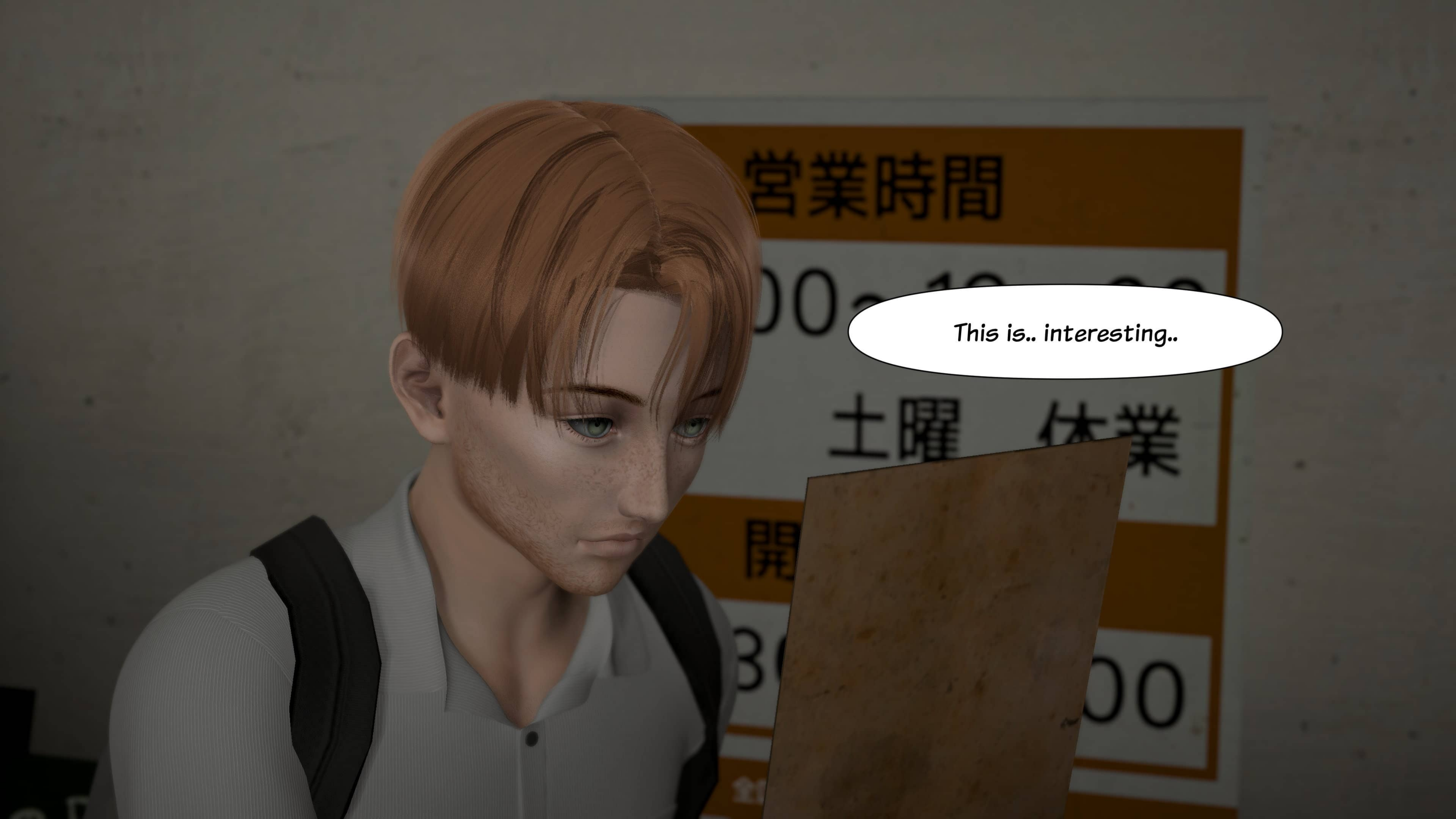


EARN SIGNIFICANT INCOME !!

**PARTICIPATE IN GROUNDBREAKING
NEW ENTERTAINMENT TECHNOLOGY.**


DISCRETION ASSURED.

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This is.. interesting..



A woman with short brown hair and blue eyes, wearing a white lab coat, is sitting at a dark desk in a futuristic office. She is looking towards the right. In the background, there is a window with a grid pattern, a large orange cylindrical object, and a computer keyboard on the desk. A speech bubble is positioned in front of her, containing text.

*Welcome, Mr. Miller
I'm Dr. Elara Vance, CEO of Synaptic Solutions
We appreciate your interest
in Project Chimera*



This place is... intense. Way beyond anything I've ever seen



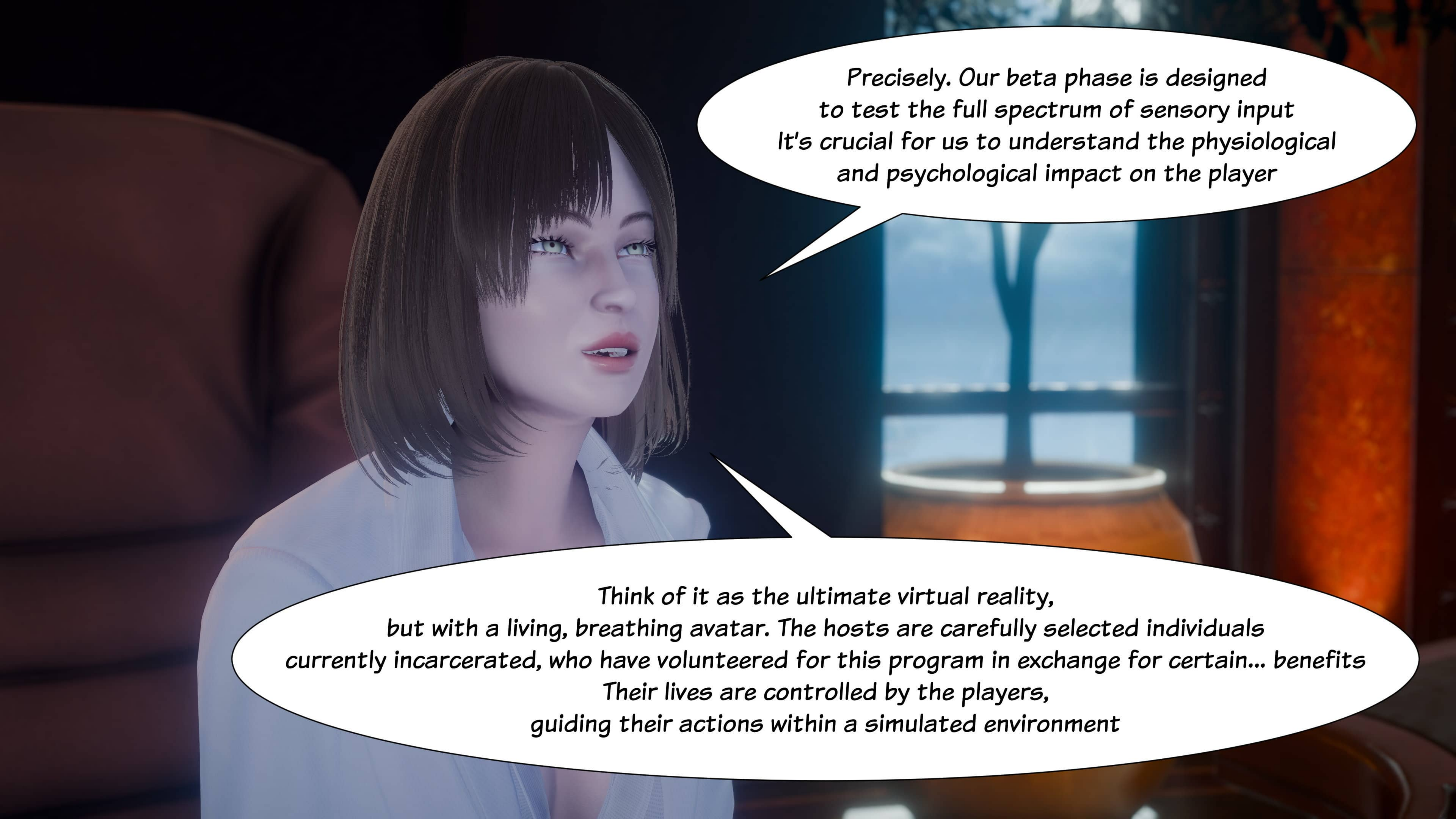
So, about this "groundbreaking entertainment." The flyer was... vague



*Indeed. Project Chimera is a revolutionary step in immersive entertainment
We've developed a neural interface that allows a player to fully inhabit the consciousness of another individual – a host,
as we call them. You will experience their senses, their movements, even their emotions,
as if they were your own. Every sight, every sound, every touch, every... pain*

Pain? So, I'd... feel what they feel?



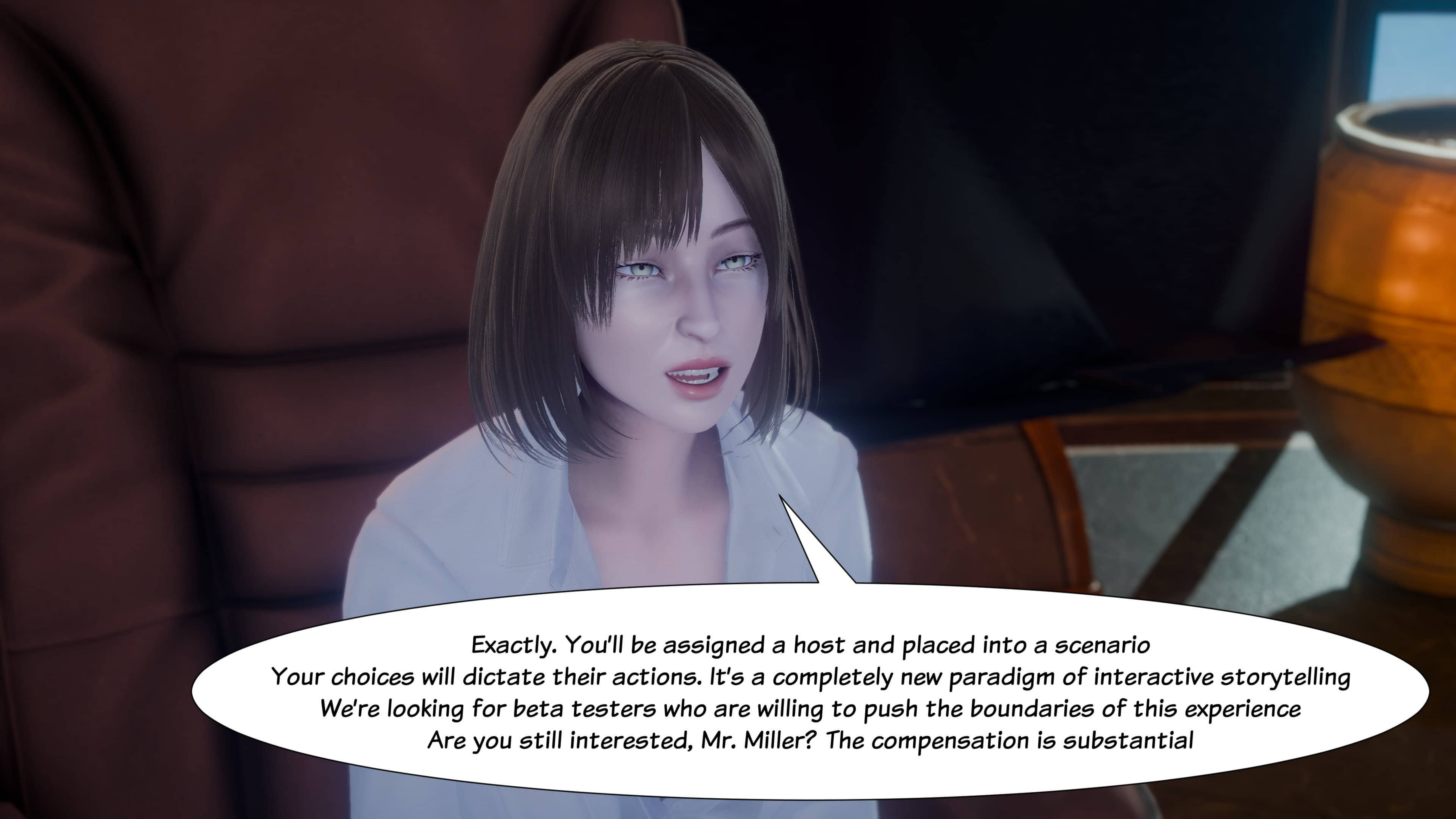


Precisely. Our beta phase is designed to test the full spectrum of sensory input. It's crucial for us to understand the physiological and psychological impact on the player.

Think of it as the ultimate virtual reality, but with a living, breathing avatar. The hosts are carefully selected individuals currently incarcerated, who have volunteered for this program in exchange for certain... benefits. Their lives are controlled by the players, guiding their actions within a simulated environment.



So, I'd be controlling someone? Like a game?



*Exactly. You'll be assigned a host and placed into a scenario
Your choices will dictate their actions. It's a completely new paradigm of interactive storytelling
We're looking for beta testers who are willing to push the boundaries of this experience
Are you still interested, Mr. Miller? The compensation is substantial*





This is insane. But what do I have to lose?
Everything else has gone to hell anyway..

Yes. I'm in.

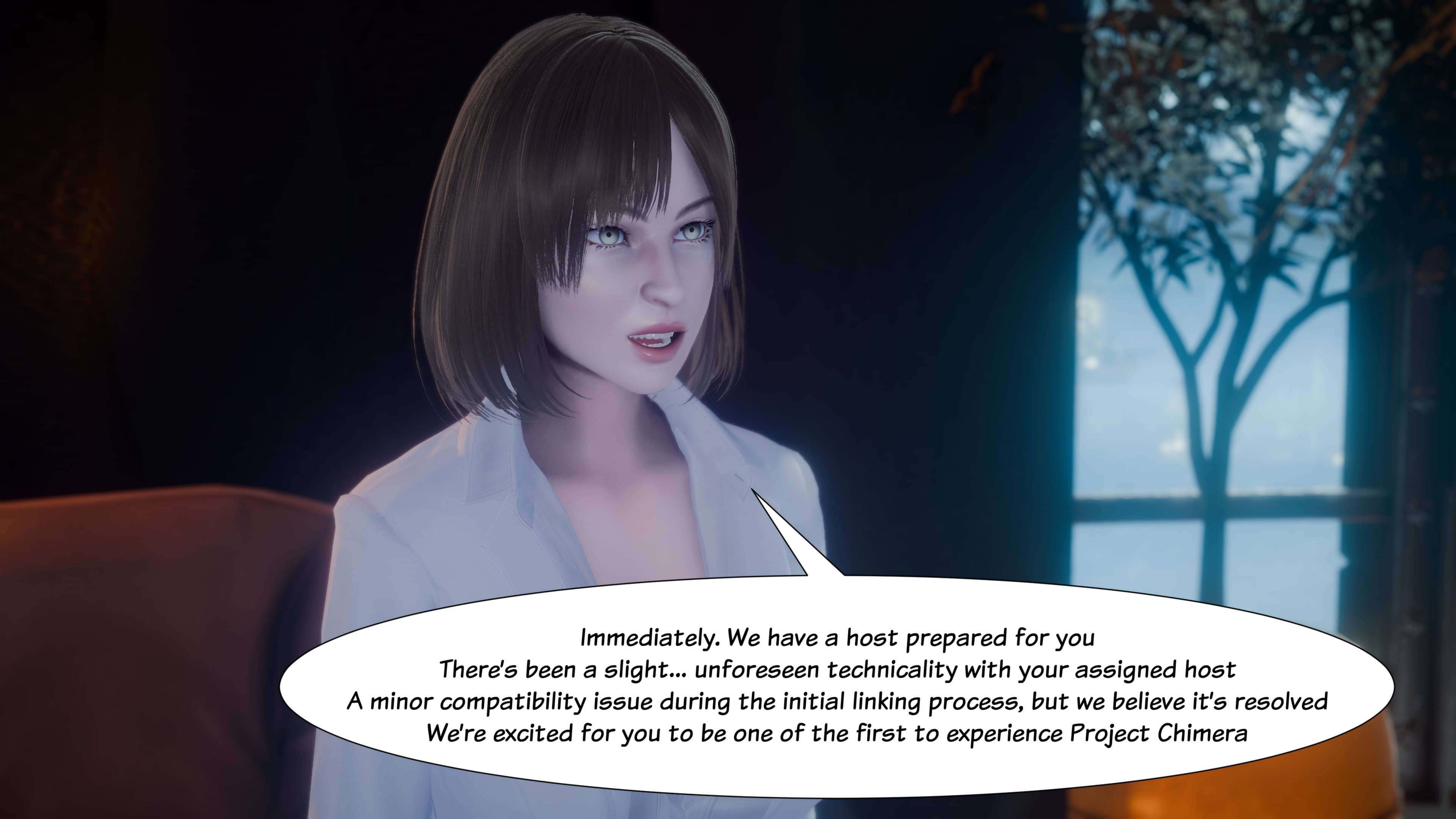


Excellent. Please place your thumb on the scanner to sign

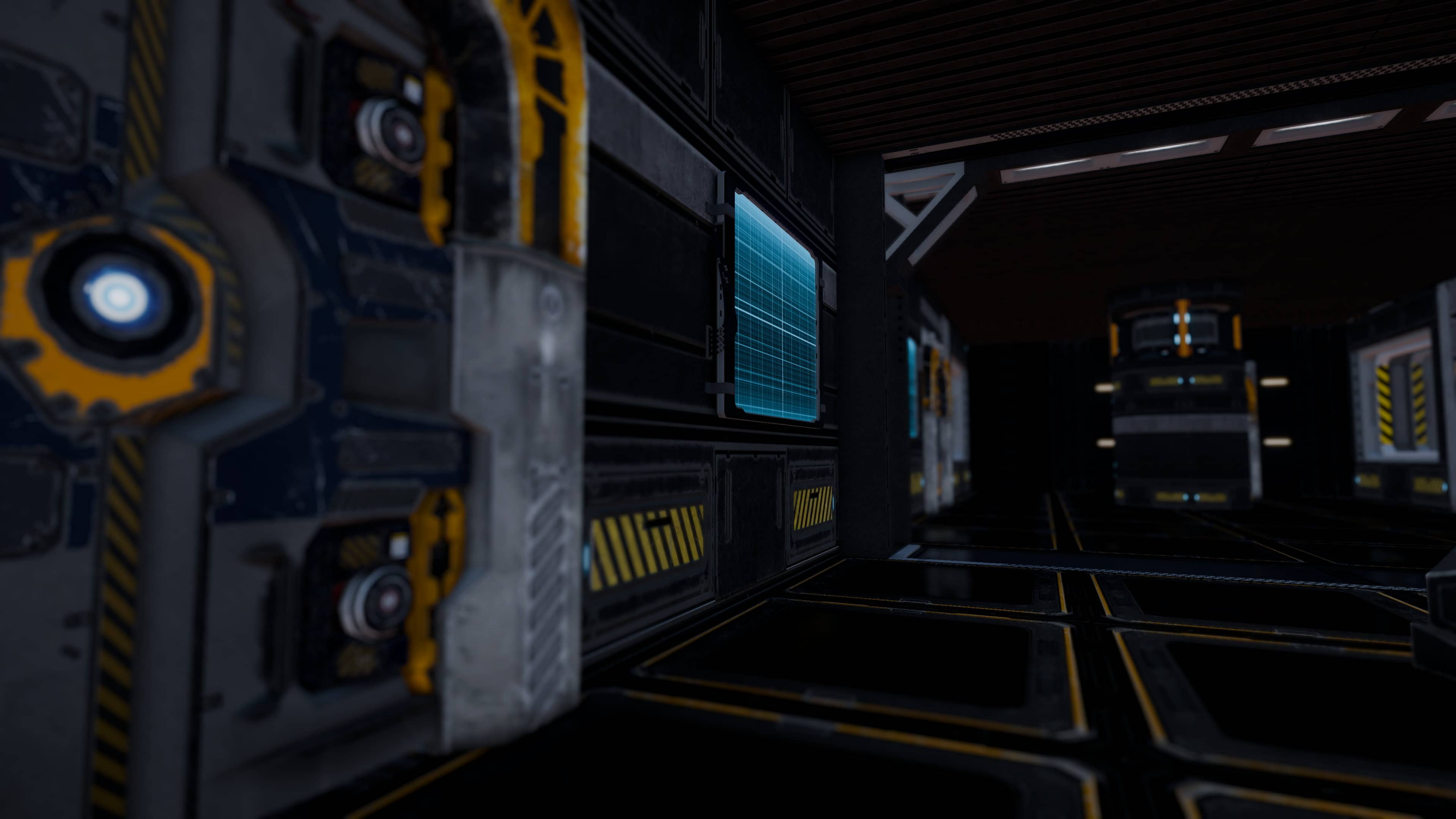




So, what's next? When do I start?



*Immediately. We have a host prepared for you
There's been a slight... unforeseen technicality with your assigned host
A minor compatibility issue during the initial linking process, but we believe it's resolved
We're excited for you to be one of the first to experience Project Chimera*







The process will starts in 3.. 2.. 1..



Whoa!! What in the world!







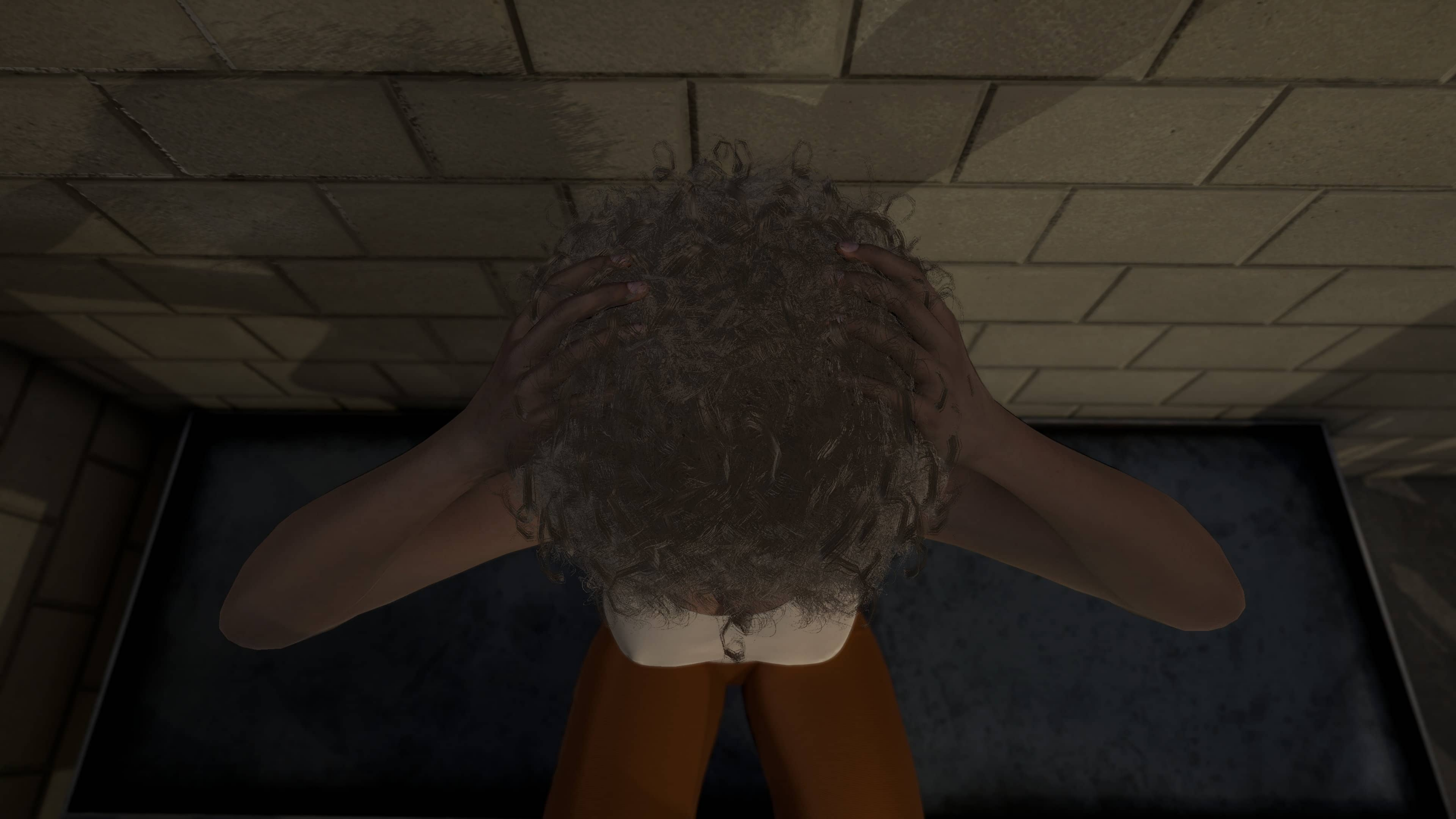




A close-up, low-angle shot of a woman with dark hair, wearing a white tank top. She is looking down and to the right with a slightly open mouth, as if speaking or reacting. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in front of her, containing the text "What the hell? This isn't right!". The background is a dark, textured wall with a grid-like pattern, possibly a window or a wall panel. The lighting is dim, creating a somber or tense atmosphere.

What the hell? This isn't right!










A woman with voluminous, curly hair is shown from the chest up, looking off-camera with a shocked expression. Her hands are raised to her chest. The background is dark and indistinct. A white speech bubble is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image.

Oh, god, no. No, no, no! This is... this is a woman! They messed up!
Vance said a "minor compatibility issue," not a complete gender swap!

A woman with voluminous, curly dark hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a white, thin-strapped tank top. Her eyes are closed, and her mouth is slightly open, suggesting a state of distress or unconsciousness. She is positioned in front of a grey brick wall. To her right, a metal prison cell grate is visible. The lighting is dim and directional, casting shadows on the wall behind her.

Get me out!

A woman with voluminous, curly, light-colored hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a white, thin-strapped tank top. Her expression is neutral as she looks directly at the camera. The background is a wall of light-colored bricks. A white speech bubble with a black border is positioned to the right of her head, containing three lines of text.

Monika. This must be Monika
The host they mentioned
Damn it all to hell..










A man with short brown hair and a light beard, wearing a brown jumpsuit, stands in a prison cell. He is looking slightly to the left with a neutral expression. The cell has black metal bars and a brick wall in the background. A white speech bubble is positioned in front of him, containing text.

*Well, well, well, if it isn't my favorite little firecracker, Monika
Heard you were finally awake. Missed you, baby*




A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair and a white tank top stands in front of a brick wall. She has a questioning expression on her face, looking slightly to the right. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned to her right, containing the text "Who the fuck are you?!".

Who the fuck are you?!



*Are you for real?
You're just going to act
like we've never met?*

A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair is shown from the chest up. She has a worried expression, with wide eyes and slightly open mouth showing her teeth. She is wearing a white spaghetti-strap top. The background is a dark, textured brick wall. A white speech bubble is positioned to her right, containing text.

*Oh, no. This is bad. Really bad
What does he want?!*

A man with short, dark hair and a light beard, wearing a brown, button-up jacket, is standing in a prison cell. He is leaning against the metal bars of the cell with his right arm. His left hand is raised to his shoulder. He has a serious, somewhat angry expression on his face. The background shows the grid of the cell bars and a window with a view of a brick wall. A speech bubble is positioned in the lower-left corner of the image.


You owe me, bitch! And I'm collecting right now!









A woman with voluminous, curly dark hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a white, thin-strapped tank top. Her expression is one of intense focus and determination, with her eyes looking slightly to the left. Her right arm is raised, with her hand clenched into a fist. The background is a brick wall, and a light switch is visible in the upper right corner. A white speech bubble is positioned above her head, containing text.

Holy shit!
I can actually fight in this body!
But I gotta end this, now!




















A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair and a white tank top stands in a prison cell. She has a determined and slightly distressed expression. The cell is made of metal bars, and a yellow object is visible on the floor behind her. A white speech bubble is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*This isn't a game. Not even close. And that bastard...
I almost... God, I need to get out of here.*



A woman with voluminous curly hair, wearing a white tank top and orange pants, stands in a brick hallway. To her right is a water cooler with a blue water bottle. The scene is lit with a soft, indoor light.

A simulation

*This whole place is a goddamn simulation..
They built this... for us. For their sick game*



-VRMMM-

WATER

WATER





WATER



A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair and a white tank top stands in a hallway with brick walls. She is looking towards a large, glowing blue, translucent orb that is emitting light and has a shimmering, ethereal quality. The orb is positioned in the foreground on the right side of the frame. A white speech bubble with a black border is centered between the woman and the orb, containing the text "A phone?".

A phone?




WATER



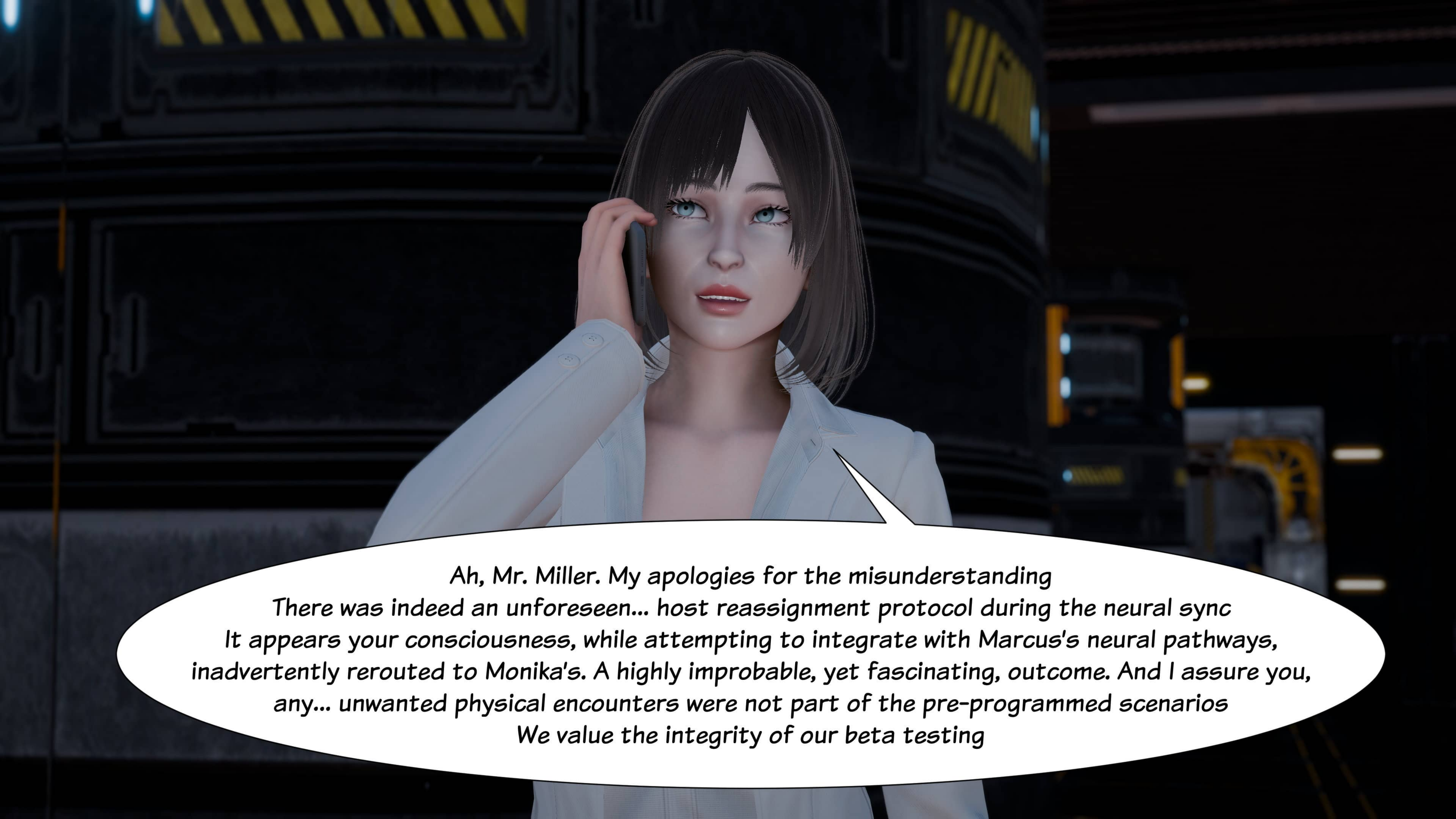
Hello?



Monika? Can you hear me, Monika? This is Dr. Vance

A woman with voluminous, curly dark hair is shown from the chest up, wearing a white tank top. She is holding a white smartphone to her ear with both hands, looking at the screen with a concerned expression. The background consists of a light-colored brick wall and a metal grate on the left side. A large white speech bubble is overlaid at the bottom of the image.

***It's not Monika! It's Jake! What the hell is going on, Vance?!
You said a "minor compatibility issue"! I almost just got... molested by some psycho!
You told me I'd be in Marcus!***




*Ah, Mr. Miller. My apologies for the misunderstanding
There was indeed an unforeseen... host reassignment protocol during the neural sync
It appears your consciousness, while attempting to integrate with Marcus's neural pathways,
inadvertently rerouted to Monika's. A highly improbable, yet fascinating, outcome. And I assure you,
any... unwanted physical encounters were not part of the pre-programmed scenarios
We value the integrity of our beta testing*

A woman with voluminous curly hair is shown in a public restroom. She is wearing a light-colored, thin-strapped top and is looking down at a white smartphone held in her hands. Her expression is one of concern or urgency. In the background, there is a white brick wall and a blue water dispenser with a large white water jug on top. The word "WATER" is printed on the front of the dispenser. A speech bubble originates from the woman, containing text that suggests she is in a difficult situation and wants to leave.

*Integrity?! I was nearly assaulted! I want out!
Pull me out right now, Vance! This isn't what I signed up for!*




*Mr. Miller, please. We understand your apprehension
However, this unforeseen development presents a unique opportunity for data collection
Think of the invaluable insights we could gain from your perspective in Monika's unique physiological state
We are on the cusp of something truly revolutionary. Please, don't give up on us now
We are prepared to offer significant additional compensation for your continued participation
A sum that would ensure your financial security for...
well, for life, Mr. Miller. Consider it a substantial bonus for your...
"adaptability"*

A woman with voluminous curly hair, wearing a white tank top, stands in a room with white brick walls. She is holding a white iPhone in her hands and looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. In the background, there are two blue water dispensers on a counter. The word "WATER" is printed on the front of the dispenser on the right. A white speech bubble with a black border is positioned above her head, containing text.

*A lifetime... of money. No more scraping by
No more diners. Just... freedom. But at what cost?*



How much? How much are we talking about, Vance?



*Let's just say enough to make all your previous worries disappear
Permanently. And we'll ensure your safety within the simulation, as much as possible,
of course. This is still a beta, after all*




*Fine. Fine, you win. But you owe me big time, Vance
And if anything else like that happens, I'll quit*



Excellent, Mr. Miller. I knew you'd see the bigger picture
Keep this phone, it's our only direct line of communication
Good luck, Monika



'Beep'

A woman with voluminous curly hair, wearing a white tank top and brown pants, stands in a public restroom. She is looking down with a concerned expression. In the background, there is a white urinal on a blue pedestal. The walls are made of light-colored bricks.

Man, I feel really weird. It's like I have to pee
I swear, this body is a total stranger

TOILETS 















MORI




Fuck I forgot.. I can't use this with this body









A woman with voluminous curly hair, wearing a white tank top, is shown in profile, looking towards a dark door. Her expression is one of concern or confusion. A speech bubble is positioned to her right, containing text. The background consists of a wall with a grid pattern, possibly a window or a partition.

*This is... weird
Really weird. Every little thing...
I can feel everything*













*God, I can feel... everything
The warmth of my own skin, It's like a phantom limb, but it's real
Her body... it's so... responsive*





A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a white, thin-strapped spaghetti top. Her expression is neutral as she looks slightly to the right. The background is a simple, light-colored wall with some shadows.

Shit.. I think she's getting wet..








Oh fuck.. am I really going to do this?









A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a white, thin-strapped tank top. Her eyes are closed, and she has a soft, sensual expression on her face. The background is a tiled wall, likely in a bathroom or shower. A speech bubble is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*Wow.. this is how a woman feels..
Just by touching it,
my body is aching for more..*













A close-up photograph of a woman with voluminous, curly brown hair. Her eyes are closed, and she has a serene expression. A white speech bubble with a black border is positioned above her head on the right side of the frame. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

God.. I don't even wanna stop.. it feels too good!











Oh fuck! it's coming!





Maybe this body isn't as bad as I thought





A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair and a white tank top is shown from the chest up. She has a contemplative expression, with a single tear visible on her right cheek. Her right hand is raised, and she is holding a small, clear, gel-like substance on her index finger. The background is a plain, light-colored wall with a tiled section at the bottom right.

I wonder how it taste..







Mnn... taste a little bit different
than what I knew.. but it taste good



A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a white, off-the-shoulder top. Her expression is neutral, and she is looking slightly to the left. A white speech bubble with a black border is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the image, containing two lines of text. The background is a simple, light-colored wall with a dark shadow cast by a vertical object on the right side.

*Holy shit, I feel like I could go all night
It's true what they say—a woman's body is amazing*



A woman with voluminous curly hair and a diamond-shaped tattoo on her left hip is shown from the waist up. She is wearing a white, sleeveless crop top. Her expression is neutral as she looks slightly to the side. A white speech bubble with a black border is positioned to her right, containing text. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

*I should stop for now..
let's just focus on what am I going to do next*



A woman with voluminous, curly brown hair and light-colored eyes is standing on a balcony. She is wearing a white, form-fitting tank top. The balcony has a grey tiled wall and a metal railing. In the background, there are large windows looking out onto a landscape with a power line tower under a hazy sky. A white speech bubble with a black border is positioned to the right of the woman, containing the text "Time to check this place out".

Time to check this place out