POLICE PRECINCT NEON CITY WEST. INTERROGATION OF SUBJECT VINCE GRAFFER. MURDER SUSPECT CASE AX-92. LIEUTENANT FAITH MARLOW PRESIDING.

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

Teysia

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MISTER GRAFFER, LET ME REITERATE. WE FOUND YOU AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.

THERE'S NO EVIDENCE TOWARDS YOUR INVOLVEMENT YET. BUT YOUR PRESENCE IN EMILY SPENCER'S HOME AS A COMPLETE STRANGER TO HER DOES RAISE SOME EYEBROWS.

PLEASE STATE AGAIN WHY YOU WERE THERE.

LIKE I SAID BEFORE, LIEUTENANT. IT WASN'T ME WHO WENT THERE.

WHEN TOTAL DARKNESS FALLS AROUND ME, I BECOME A FULLY DIFFERENT PERSON.

IT'S WHY I MOVED TO NEON CITY IN THE FIRST PLACE. LOTS OF LIGHT EVERYWHERE, TWENTY FOUR SEVEN. IT KEPT HER IN CHECK, FOR THE MOST PART.

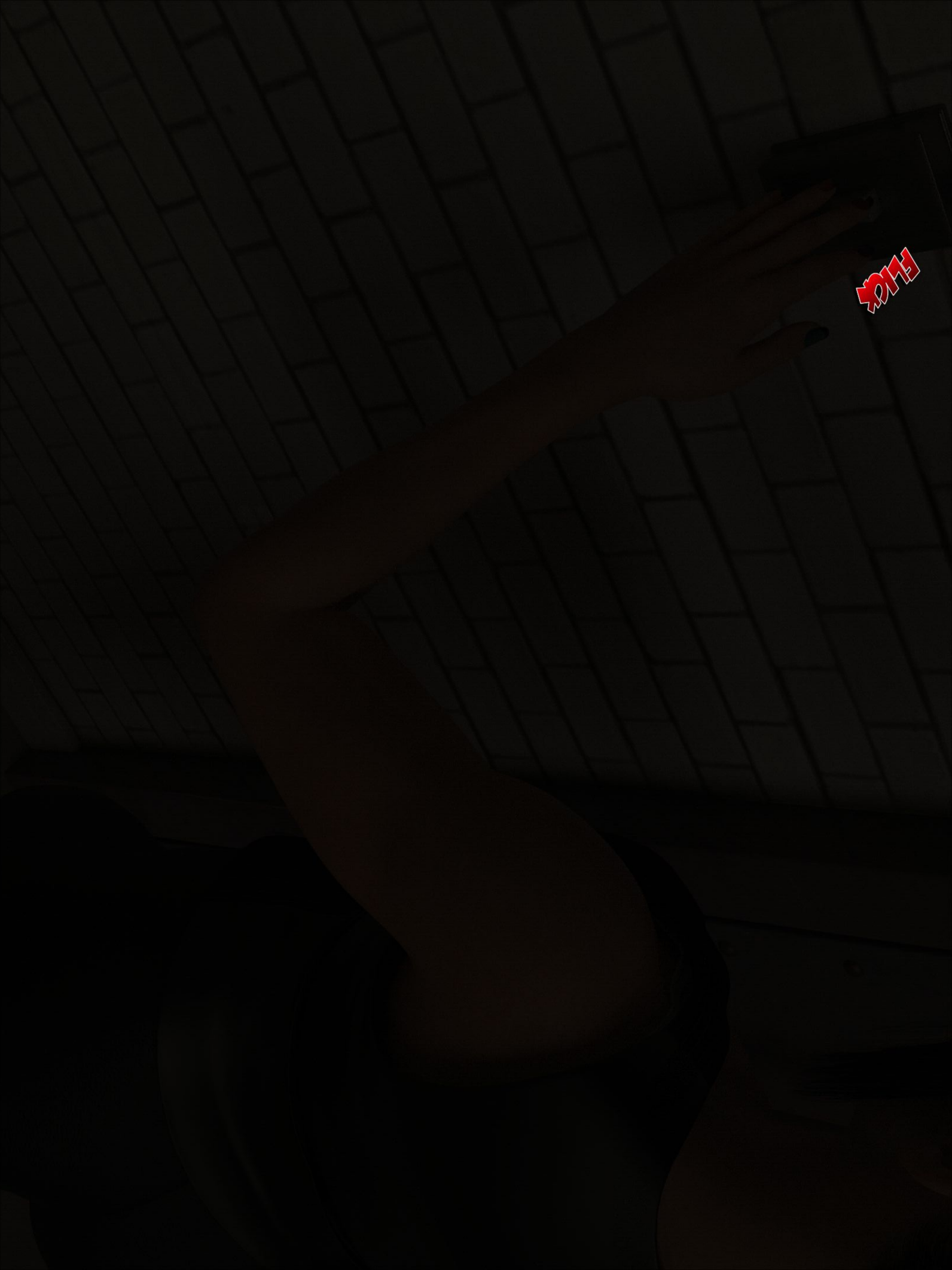

SO, YOU CLAIM TO HAVE SOME LIGHTING BASED SCHIZOPHRENIA?
THAT'S THE MOST BULLSHIT I'VE EVER HEARD.

IT'S NOT A MENTAL DISABILITY, NO. IT'S MUCH WORSE THAN THAT.

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT, I ACTUALLY BECOME SOMEONE DIFFERENT. IN EVERY WAY. AND SHE IS SCARY.

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS. MAYBE I SHOULD TURN OFF THE LIGHT, AND CONTINUE INTERROGATING IN THE DARK.

NO! DON'T!


FUCK


GREETINGS, LIEUTENANT.

FANCY MAKING YOUR ACQUAINTANCE.

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

FLICK

BLINK

I TOLD YOU, LIEUTENANT. SHE IS SCARY.


STOP RIGHT THERE! DON'T YOU DARE TRY ANYTHING!

EASY THERE, LIEUTENANT. I'M NOT GONNA TRY ANYTHING. I'LL MOVE BACK INTO MY CHAIR NOW, OKAY?

SLOWLY! AND KEEP YOUR HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE THEM!

WHO IS SHE?
WHAT IS SHE?
HOW DID THIS COME TO PASS?
DETAILS!

I DON'T KNOW.
I WAS TRAVELING SOME REMOTE LOCATION.
A DERELICT MOUNTAIN RANGE WITH SOME RUINED RELIC BUILDINGS.

I TRIPPED AND TUMBLED DOWN INTO A RAVINE, BADLY INJURING MYSELF.
I THOUGHT FOR SURE I WAS A GONER.
AS NIGHT FELL, SHE CAME TO ME, AND SAID SHE'D SAVE ME IF I CARRIED HER WITH ME.

I WAS DESPERATE NOT TO DIE. SO I DIDN'T REALLY ASK ANY QUESTIONS. IN HINDSIGHT, MAYBE I SHOULD'VE.

NOW, I'M LITERALLY CARRYING HER AROUND WITH ME. AND EVERY TIME DARKNESS SURROUNDS ME, I GET PUSHED ASIDE AND SHE DOES WHATEVER IT IS SHE DOES.

I'VE TRIED TO FIGURE OUT WHAT HER AGENDA IS. AND THOUGH SHE SEEMS VERY CAPABLE OF VIOLENCE, I'VE NEVER HEARD ANY MURDER MYSTERIES IN WHATEVER REGION I WAS IN DURING THE DARK HOURS. I DON'T BELIEVE SHE HARMED MISS SPENCER.

SUPPOSING THAT'S TRUE, DO YOU RECKON SHE KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED TO EMILY SPENCER?

IT'S POSSIBLE, YEAH. BUT I WOULD STRONGLY ADVISE YOU TO NOT TRY AND INTERROGATE HER.


I THINK I CAN HANDLE THIS. I'VE DEALT WITH WORSE SUSPECTS.


ALRIGHT, LADY! COME OUT! I GOT SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU!
FLICK

FANCY TOY YOU GOT THERE, LIEUTENANT. DOES IT GIVE YOU CONFIDENCE?

GRAB

SHALL I ALLOW YOU TO POINT IT AT ME IN A WAY IT'S MEANT TO BE USED?

DOES POINTING IT IN A THREATENING MANNER MAKE YOU FEEL CONTROL? IS ASSERTION OF DOMINANCE WHAT YOU SEEK?

NO. NO, OF COURSE NOT. I'LL SHOOT IF I HAVE TO, MIND YOU.

I GOT SOME QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ANSWER. DO THAT, OR I'LL TURN THE LIGHTS BACK ON.

THERE YOU GO AGAIN. TRYING TO FIND AN ANGLE TO THREATEN ME. ALRIGHT, LET'S PLAY YOUR GAME.

SUPPOSEDLY, IF I WOULD USE MY SUPERIOR SPEED TO RESTRAIN YOU IN A POSITION YOU CAN'T REACH THAT SWITCH FROM. WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

TWIST

YOU WOULD FALTER, WOULDN'T YOU, DARLING? YOU AND ME BEING DIFFERENT WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT IS A THING WE SHARE.

BEING RESTRAINED GIVES YOU JOY, DOESN'T IT? YOU SMELL OF SUBMISSION. YOU'VE ASKED FOLKS TO DO THIS TO YOU, HAVEN'T YOU?

NO! NEVER!
I... GULP... I
WOULDN'T WANT TO...
I COULDN'T IMAGINE...
I...


LIAR!

ALRIGHT, THEN. LET'S CHANGE UP THE GAME AND USE THREATS AS YOU DID.

TELL ME YOUR DARK TRUTH! OR I'LL MAKE YOU LICK YOUR OWN COOCH!

I... I DID ASK TO BE RESTRAINED. USING MY OWN HANDCUFFS.

I GUESS HAVING TO BE THE AUTHORITY COP DURING THE DAY SPARKED MY FANTASY OF BEING ON THE OTHER SIDE.

SEE, LIEUTENANT? ISN'T IT MORE FUN IF ONE IS HONEST ABOUT THESE DARKER THOUGHTS?

AND FAIR IS FAIR. YOU MAY ASK YOUR QUESTION NOW.

EMILY SPENCER. DO YOU KNOW WHO MURDERED HER?

I DO, YES. SADLY, I WAS UNABLE TO DEAL WITH THEM.

WHO DID IT? WHAT WOULD YOU'VE DONE?

AHH, AHH. TIT FOR TAT, DARLING. MY TURN TO ASK A QUESTION.

FINE.
IF WE'RE DOING THAT, ASK AWAY.
I GOT A CASE TO FINISH.

HOLSTER


BOLD MOVE PUTTING AWAY YOUR TOOL OF CONFIDENCE, LIEUTENANT.
I LIKE HOW YOU STILL PROJECT AGENCY AND EFFICIENCY. IN SPITE OF YOUR OWN DESIRES.

YOU'VE EARNED YOURSELF A BOON. I SHALL RELEASE YOU FROM MY RESTRAINING HOLD.

LET'S RETURN TO THE TABLE. I'VE GOT A LOT OF NOTES TO TAKE.

AND I WAGER OUR BACK AND FORTH CHATTING WILL TAKE QUITE SOME TIME.

ALRIGHT.
WHAT DO YOU WANT
TO KNOW?

WHEN YOU HAVE YOURSELF RESTRAINED IN THE DARK, DO YOU DO NAUGHTY THINGS WITH OTHERS?


AT FIRST,
I DIDN'T.
AFTER A WHILE,
THOUGH, YES.
MY DESIRES SHIFTED
TO BEING USED AS
A PLAYTHING.

MY, LIEUTENANT.
HOW INTRIGUING.
I GOTTA KNOW MORE
ABOUT THAT.

WHATEVER. MY TURN NOW.

CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE MURDERERS? DO YOU KNOW THEIR NAMES?

IT WAS TWO MEN.
I DON'T KNOW THEIR NAMES.
OR HOW THEY LOOK LIKE.
I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM.


WAIT A SEC. IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THEM, HOW DO YOU KNOW THEY'RE GUILTY?

I CAN SENSE AURAS.
IN THE SAME WAY I KNEW YOU'D BE SUBMISSIVE IN THE DARK.
AND HOW YOU LIED TO ME.

I RECOGNIZED THE DEED HANGING ON TO THEIR SOULS.
I NEVER PHYSICALLY SAW THEM.
BUT IF I WAS TO MEET THEM, I'D KNOW IT'S THEM.

AND SINCE YOU JUST GOT A TWO FOR ONE, I NOW GET TO ASK A BIG ONE.

DESCRIBE TO ME THE FIRST TIME ONE OF YOUR PARTNERS DOMINATED YOU.

DRAT.
HAD TO COME TO THIS, DIDN'T IT.
OKAY, HERE GOES...

I WAS IN THE DEEP OF ME
DISCOVERING MY FETISH.
I KNEW WHAT I LIKED.
I KNEW WHAT I NEEDED.
BUT FOR SOME REASON,
I WAS MISSING SOMETHING.

I MET THIS OTHER WOMAN AT A KINK FETISH AND LEATHER STORE.
WE GOT INTO TALKING.
AND THE MORE WE CHATTED, THE MORE WE BOTH REALIZED WE WERE WHAT THE OTHER WANTED.
I HARDLY HESITATED WHEN SHE TOLD ME ABOUT THE BASEMENT SHE HAD.

I KNEW EXACTLY WHAT SHE WANTED ME TO DO. EVEN BEFORE SHE SAID IT.

SQUEAL FOR ME, LITTLE PIGGY.

I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOUR IMAGINATION WHAT SHE ACTUALLY DID TO ME. HOW SHE TEASED ME.

SUFFICE TO SAY, IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG TILL WE BOTH GOT WHAT WE DESIRED.

MMMHHHHMM!!!
MHHMMMMMM!!!

IT WAS IN THAT BASEMENT I DISCOVERED I'D NEVER BE SATISFIED WITH ORDINARY COUPLE SEX. I NEEDED TO BE IN A PLACE WHERE SAFE WORDS ARE A REALITY. I NEEDED TO BE DRIVEN TO THE EDGE, WITHOUT ME BEING IN CONTROL. BEING HELPLESS WAS MY ULTIMATE FANTASY.

MHHHMMMMMMMMHHHHMMMMM!!!!!



GET UP, LIEUTENANT. I'LL HELP YOU FIND THE MURDERERS.

BRING VINCE TO THE CRIME SCENE. ONCE THERE, I'LL HELP YOU FIND SOME CLUES YOUR TEAM LIKELY MISSED.

FLICK

DID... DID SHE JUST SELF-EXIT? SHE NEVER DOES THAT.

YOU'RE HOME FREE, MISTER GRAFFER. TESTIMONY SAYS YOU'RE NOT THE KILLER.

SADLY, I DO STILL REQUIRE A BIT MORE OF YOUR TIME.

AFTER A SHORT TRAVEL.

AND THIS IS WHY I CHOSE TO LIVE IN NEON CITY.

EVEN IF THE STREETS ARE TOTALLY DESERTED, THERE'S HARDLY ANY DARK SPOT AROUND HERE. SO I CAN AVOID HER COMING FORTH MOST OF THE TIME.

HOW IS IT WHEN SHE TAKES CONTROL? DO YOU NOTICE ANYTHING SHE DOES?

BITS AND PIECES, HERE AND THERE. WHEN SHE HAS A STRONG EMOTION.

I NOTICED WHEN SHE WAS MAD AT YOU. OTHER THAN THAT, IT'S LIKE I'M PASSED OUT.

HENCE YOU KNEW SHE WASN'T INVOLVED IN THE MURDER. SINCE YOU WOULD'VE FELT HER EMOTIONAL SPIKE.

YES. I'VE NEVER HAD ANY IMPRESSION OF HER ENDING A LIFE. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS SHE'S INVOLVED ME IN AN ONGOING INVESTIGATION.

SPEAKING OF, HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO CONVINCE HER TO HELP YOU?

FROM WHAT I GATHERED FROM THE BACK, YOU TWO WERE QUITE ANTAGONISTIC.

I DIDN'T CONVINCE HER AT ALL. FOR SOME REASON, SHE CHOSE TO DO THIS OUT OF THE BLUE. I'VE GOT NO IDEA WHY.

THAT'S ODD. MAYBE SHE'S TAKEN SOME WEIRD LIKING TOWARDS YOU? IF SO, BE WEARY. AND I'M SORRY.

THANKS. I'LL BE FINE. I CAN HANDLE THIS.

WELL, THIS IS THE PLACE.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS IF YOU DON'T FEEL UP TO IT. WE CAN'T REALLY FORCE YOU TO GO DOWN THIS ROAD.

YEAH, I KNOW. BUT THE VICTIM DESERVES JUSTICE.

AND IF THIS IS THE WAY, SO BE IT. I'LL DO MY PART.

Fire Evacuation Plan

ALRIGHT.
THIS IS THE PLACE.
IT'S BEEN DOCUMENTED OVER AND OVER AGAIN BY FORENSICS. AND THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO DISCOVER.

SO WE DON'T NEED TO BOTHER ABOUT PRESERVING ANYTHING IN HERE.

FAIR ENOUGH. LET'S BRING OUT THE ONE BEING WHO STILL MIGHT DISCOVER SOMETHING.

HELP ME KILL THOSE LIGHTS.

GIVE ME A BRIEF SYNOPSIS. WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

THE VICTIM WAS FOUND STRANGLED TO DEATH. OVERPOWERED HERE ON THE BED.

EITHER NOT FIGHTING BACK IN TERROR, OR HELD IN RESTRAIN. THERE'S NO TRACE ELEMENTS OF THE PERPETRATORS. AT LEAST NONE THAT ARE WORTH MENTIONING.

GOTCHA. LET'S TAKE A GLIMPSE AT HER REMAINS.


NOWHIS

WHAT IS THAT, IF I MAY ASK?

THIS IS THE REMNANTS OF EMILY'S SOUL.

IF WE REWIND THROUGH HER LAST MOMENTS, WE MIGHT GET A CLEARER PICTURE WHAT HAPPENED HERE.

GOLLY! THE POSSIBILITIES OF THAT PUTS FORENSIC DEDUCTION TO SHAME.

LET'S SEE IT.

NOT YET, LIEUTENANT. WE GOT AN ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM TO DISCUSS.

AND DON'T YOU BELIEVE FOR A SECOND I DIDN'T NOTICE.