



PART 11:
**THE BROKEN
GUARDIAN**



This is
a terrible
idea, Cass.

You barely
know this
girl.



Scarlett
not only
saved
my life...

...but she also
took great care
of Simon while
I was in the
hospital.

I'll be
fine.

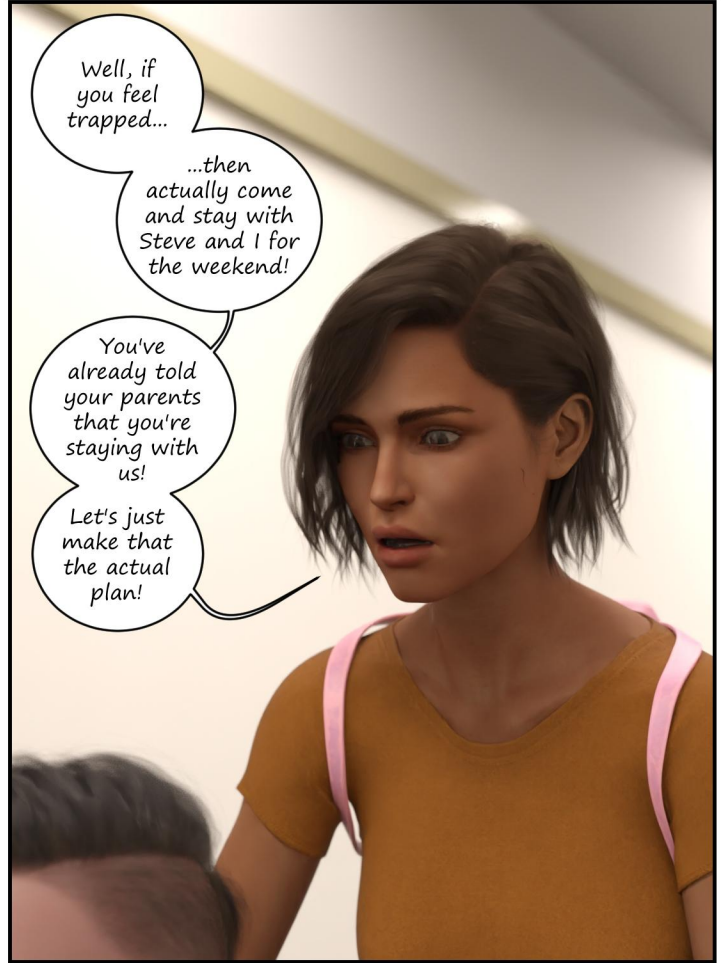


Besides, I'm
only staying
with Scarlett
for the
weekend...

...it's not like
I'm moving in
with her.

Ever since
my accident
I've been
trapped at
home...

...and this
is a great
chance to get
out of the house
for a while.




Well, if
you feel
trapped...

...then
actually come
and stay with
Steve and I for
the weekend!

You've
already told
your parents
that you're
staying with
us!

Let's just
make that
the actual
plan!



Mary, ever
since you started
dating Steve, I've
felt like a third
wheel.

I need to
be somewhere
where I don't
feel like I'm
getting in
the way.

A woman with short grey hair, wearing a black halter top, is seated in a wheelchair. She is holding a black cat. She is looking towards a woman with short brown hair who is wearing a brown crop top and leggings, and carrying a pink backpack. The woman with the backpack is standing and knocking on a dark door. The scene is set in a hallway with a white wall and a grey floor.

You're an awesome friend, Mary...

...but you've been stuck with taking care of me ever since I lost Mark and the gang.

Knock
Knock

You might not feel it this way...

...but I feel terrible about how I dump all of my bullshit on you-

Oh, hey!
You're
here!



Hi! Nice
to meet
you!

I'm Cassie's
friend
Mary!

Hi,
Mary!

I'm Sco-
Scarlett!

Meow!

So...
this is my
place!





Oh my God,
Cassie! You never
told me she was
this fucking
hot!

What are
you talking
about?



Those
legs, that
cute little
ass...



*...you're
here for more
than just a
simple
sleepover...*

*...you plan
on getting
inside her
pants!*

*Were you
feeling nostalgic
about our high-
school sleep-
overs?*



Chuckle


If you
say so.





Would you like anything to drink?

Tea, coffee, or something sweet?



Something
sweet?



Alright,
root beer
or iced tea?

Iced tea
would be
nice.



Well, I'll
leave you
two to it.



Have fun!

Click

Is she gone?

Finally!

I'm free of
this bloody
chair!







Of course
I can!

Can't
you?



I can...

...but I
thought I
had to be in
uniform to
do it.




Nope! You
can do it
anytime
you like!

Try it!



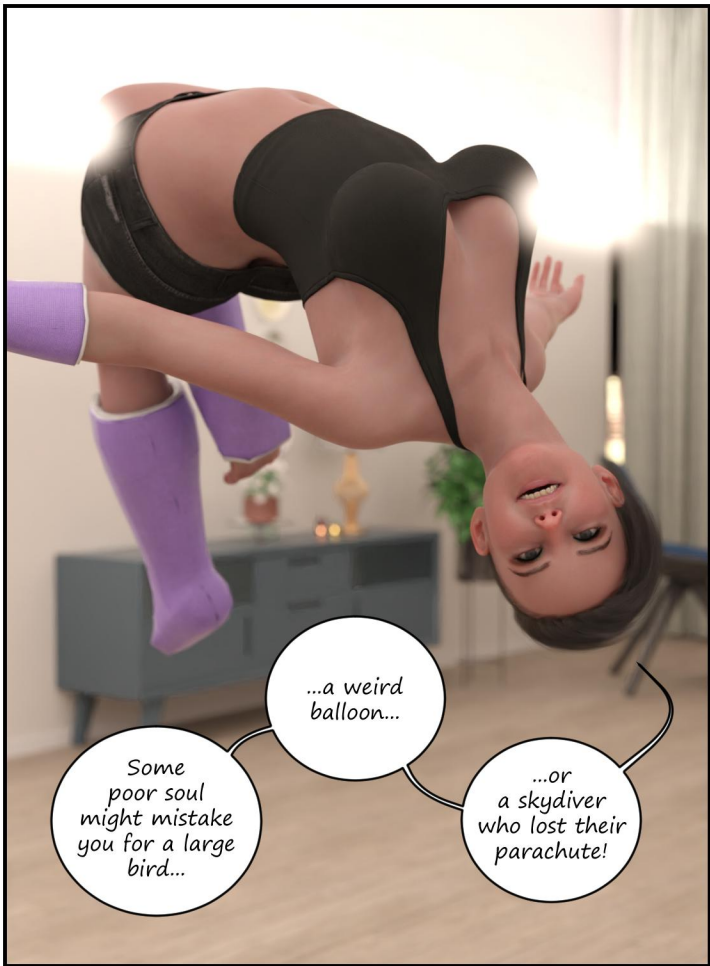
Whoa!

You're
right!



You'll still want to wear the uniform when flying outside however.

Because people will be able to see us to varying degrees of clarity if we fly around in ordinary clothes.



Some poor soul might mistake you for a large bird...

...a weird balloon...

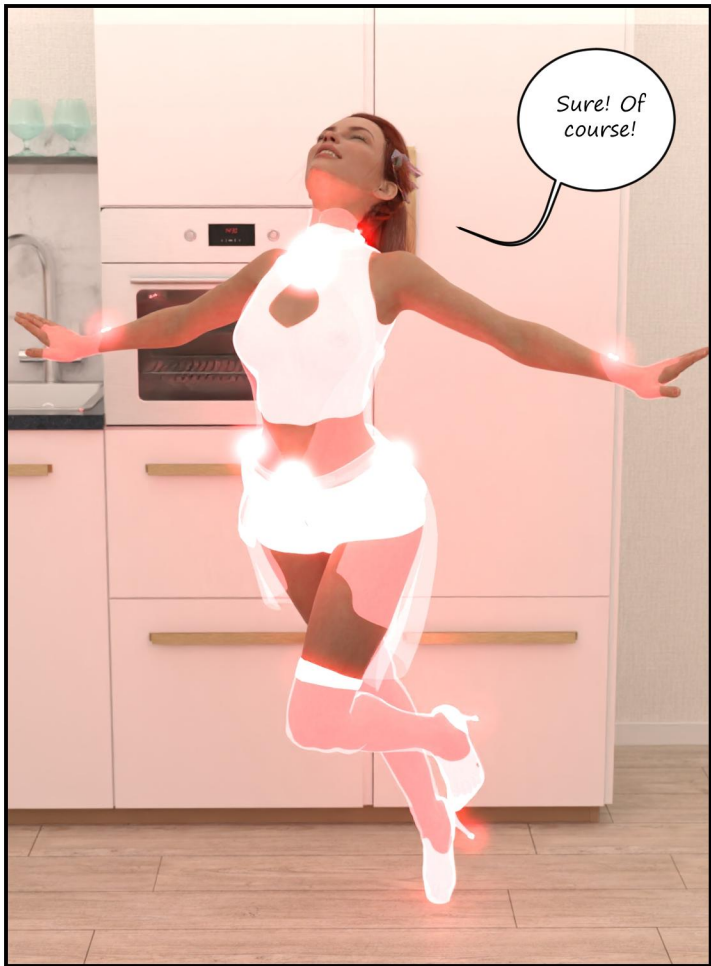
...or a skydiver who lost their parachute!



Speaking of uniforms...

...can I see yours?


I didn't have a chance to get a good look at it last time.



Sure! Of course!



Ta-da!

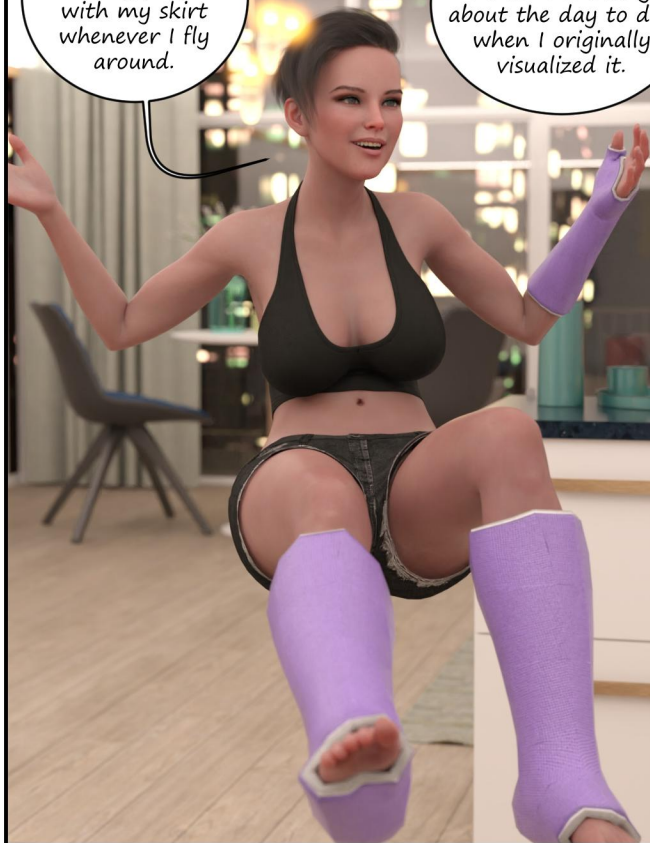


Oh wow!
It's nice and
practical!

Thanks!

I'm always invisibly flashing people with my skirt whenever I fly around.

My uniform looks great, but I wasn't thinking about the day to day when I originally visualized it.





Oh yeah,
your
costume!

I barely had
a chance to
look at it the
night I got these
powers!

Can I
see it?



I'd love
to show it
to you.

But some-
body...


...took every
one of my
powers, but
flight, away.



I had no choice!

The Shadow Man had to know that you retired.

Otherwise he might have killed Scott!



There you go again, calling her Scott...


...when I clearly remember her introducing herself as Scarlett at the hospital!



Is it true?

Were you once a guy...

...and the Shadow Man changed all of reality so that you are now and always have been a girl?



Yeah, it's true.

One snap of his fingers and I got stuck like this!

And no matter how hard I concentrate...

...I can't transform back into my original self.



At most,
all I can
change are
my clothes!



Oh yeah,
that was my
second favorite
perk...


...after
flying of
course!





Same here!


Flying is totally sweet!



So? What's it like having your whole life turned upside down?

Do you now have memories of growing up as a girl?

Of taking a guy instead of a girl to prom?

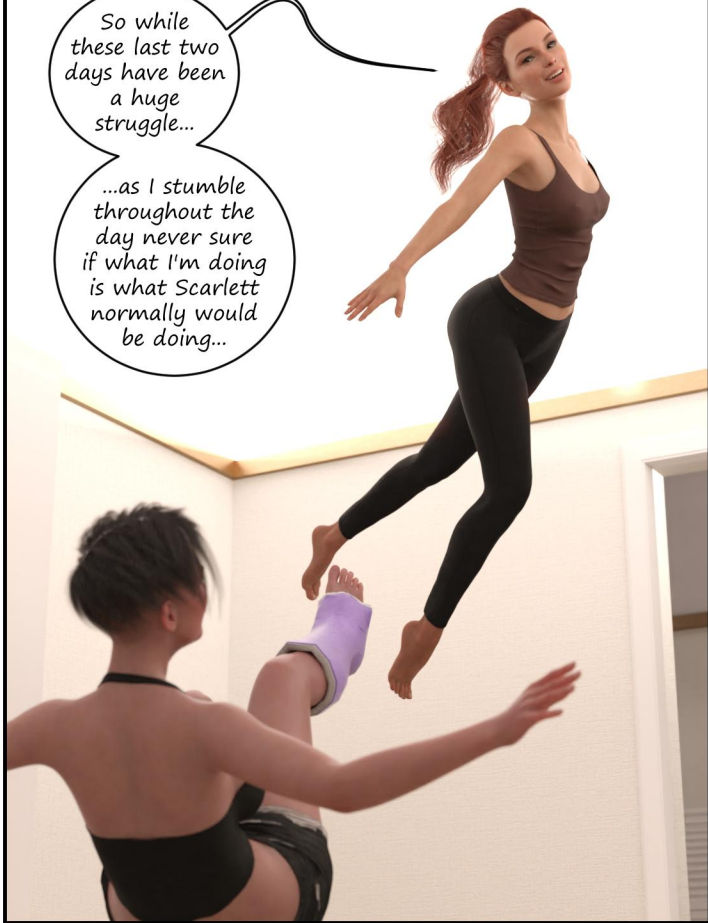
A woman with vibrant red hair tied in a bun is floating in a white, brightly lit room. She is wearing a dark brown tank top and black leggings. Her hair is blowing in the air, and she has a slight smile on her face. Her arms are outstretched, and her legs are also outstretched, suggesting she is in a state of weightlessness or being held in place by an invisible force. The background is a plain white wall with a yellow light fixture visible at the top.

No, not at all, thank God for that.

If my memories were to change, I'd get scared that I'd eventually forget who I really am!

So while these last two days have been a huge struggle...

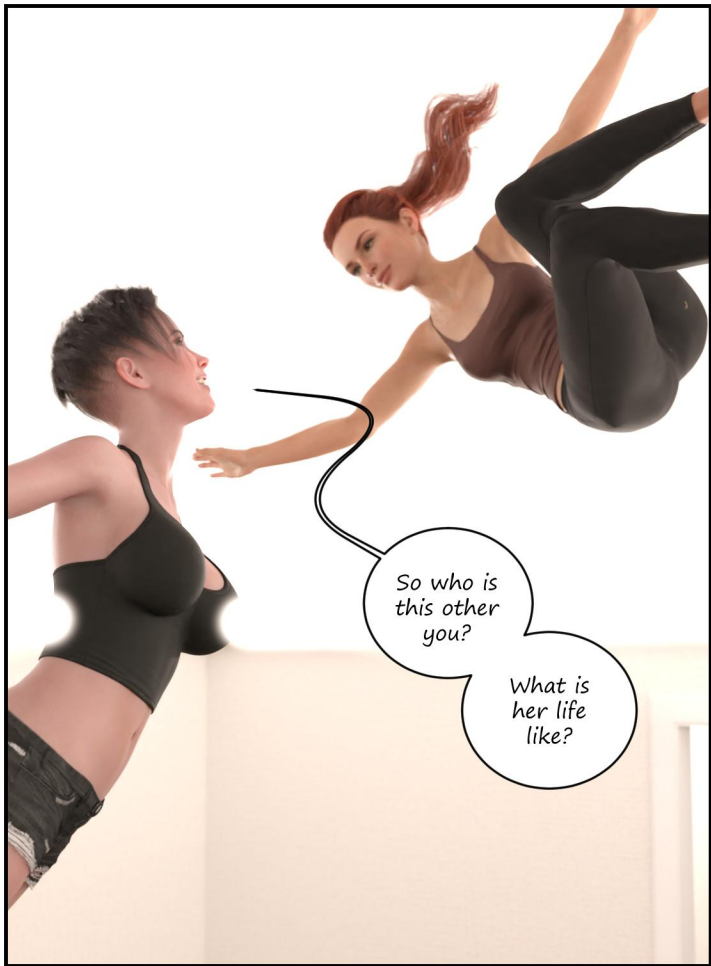
...as I stumble throughout the day never sure if what I'm doing is what Scarlett normally would be doing...





...I'd much
rather have
no clue what
I'm doing...

...than
lose who I
am!





Fortunately,
very similar
to mine.

And at first,
I was shocked
at how similar
it all was!

Same
apart-
ment...

...same
friends...

...same
job and
so on.



But after living a few days with these changes, I think I have a better idea as to how he did it.



Because
if I was in
his shoes...

...!d do it
the same
way!



Oh?

How do
you think
he did it?



Well first
of all, he did
it with a
simple snap of
his fingers...

...which
implies that
whatever he did,
it took very little
mental effort
on his part.



He didn't sit down and carefully rewrite my entire history by hand so it all fit perfectly with my new reality...

...no, he snapped his fingers like he was pressing a button and letting an automated script do the rest!



I mean,
sure, maybe
that snap sent
a command to
a minion...

...a cranky
goblin stuck
in a drab
cubicle...

...who then
works it all
out for his
master.



But the fact is, beyond whatever his true purpose is, he doesn't give a shit about us!

He wouldn't even waste an imaginary goblin's time with making every bit of my life fit with my new gender!



I don't even think he wasted any of his energy changing all of reality or rewriting history just for me.

No...

...I think he hit me with a simple recursive curse!



You seem...

...oddly
excited
about being
cursed.



Because of
how simple,
elegant...

...and fucking
lazy the whole
thing probably
is!



My apartment is nearly exactly the same as it was when I was a guy!


Same furniture...

...same decor...

...et cetera!

The only things that really changed are my shoes in my shoe cabinet...



A photograph of a bedroom with light-colored walls and a wooden floor. Two white, six-panel doors with silver doorknobs are set into the wall. A bed with a blue and orange polka-dot duvet is visible in the foreground. Two text boxes are overlaid on the image. The first box is positioned in front of the left door, and the second box is positioned in front of the right door.


*...the clothes
in my closet...*

*...the toiletries
in my bathroom...*

...and other little insignificant random items.

Like how the condoms in my bedside drawer became a pink dildo because why would a lesbian need them?





And what
all those things
have in
common...

...is that
if they hadn't
changed, they would
all have directly
contradicted the new
life story the Shadow
Man created
for me.

Everything
that doesn't
contradict is
untouched.

It's the same
at work.

With the
exception of my
blue pens now
being purple...

...nearly every-
thing at work
is the same as
it was before.



What has
changed, are my
relationships...

...which makes
total sense...


...because of
course girl me
would interact
differently with
people than
guy me.



*But my co-workers
don't simply treat
me as a girl version
of my old self...*

*...no, they all
remember me as
a brilliant but
easily confused
and forgetful girl
who has no sense
of fashion or style!*





*Which is precisely
the way I was acting
when I walked into
the office for the first
time as Scarlett
yesterday!*

It's as if when everyone saw how weird I as acting yesterday...

...any thought in their head of "hey Scarlett's acting weird today..."



*...was replaced
with "This isn't
weird at all..."*

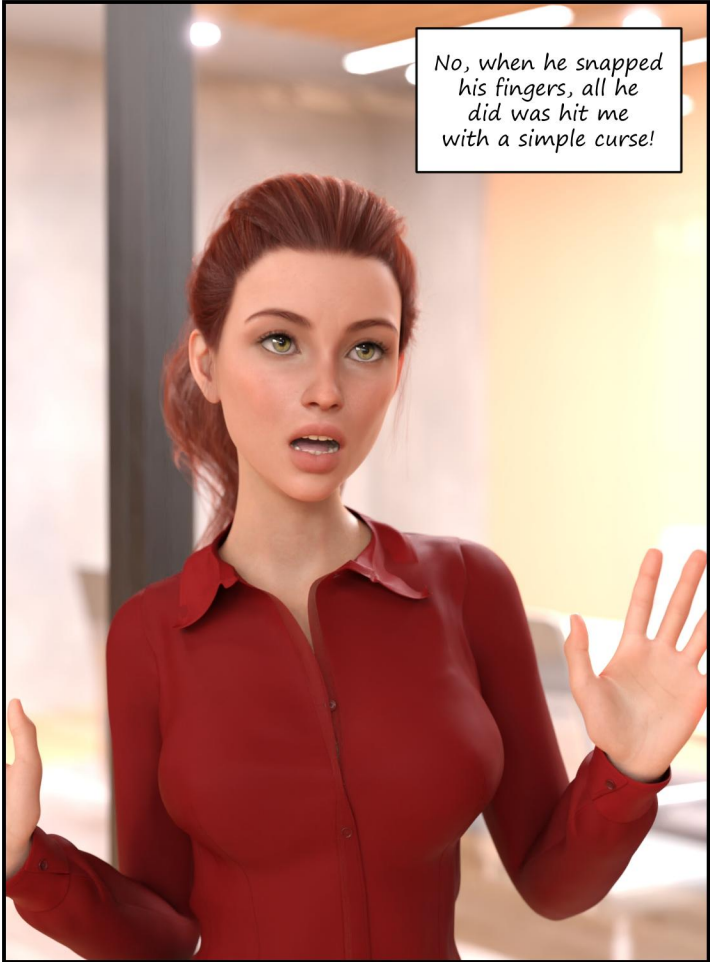
*"...Scarlett is
always like
this!"*



Which seems to imply
that when the Shadow
Man snapped his fingers,
he didn't change the
world in an instant...

...he didn't change
anything at all!






No, when he snapped his fingers, all he did was hit me with a simple curse!

A curse that
functions like
a computer
worm...

...spreading from
me to anyone who
I come into contact
with.





Riding along
in a dormant
state in carriers
who are immune
to its effects...

...but spreading
to everyone else
nearby and altering
any notion of "Scott"
in their head to
"Scarlett..."

...anytime I am
mentioned in
conversation.

*And then,
if an infected host
encounters any physical
evidence that contradicts
their new memories...*

*...the curse will
alter the evidence
to fit the host's
new memories.*


**Reminder: Dinner
with Scarlett in
2 hours.**






In short, I think the curse he inflicted me with is a magical memory and evidence altering spell worm...

...that is spreading to every person I know!



I bet you
that in my
hometown, there's
still a bunch of
yearbooks that
still show me
as Scott!




But as soon
as someone
afflicted with
the curse looks
at it...



Boom! Every page that had Scott in it will now show Scarlett!

Wow, you've
really thought
this through.





That bastard
turned my
life upside
down!

It's hard
not to think
about how he
did it.

So you've
told me about
the big
changes...

...what about
the weirdest
change?






Weirdest
change?

Yeah,
what change
surprised you
the most?

And not
something
boring like it
feeling weird to
have a
vagina...

...but a
weird change
to your life
history or some-
thing someone
said or did.





Well my
best friend
at work did ask
me to join her and
her husband for
a threesome.




Seriously!?



Yeah...

...she's been looking for a girl to fill the role for ages...

...but has been super picky about it.



So when the
topic came up
yesterday she
was like...

"...wait
Scarlett,
why did I
never ask
you?"

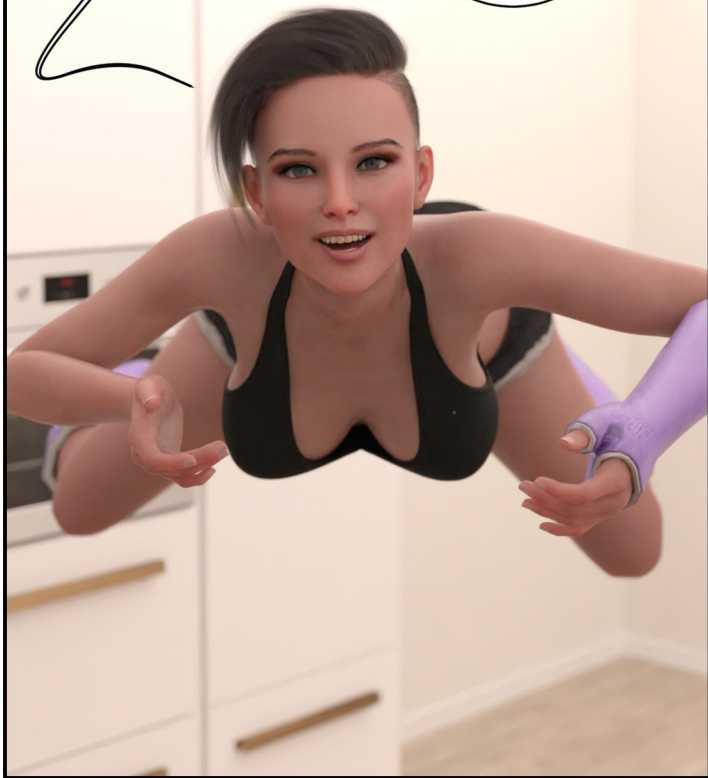


And did
you say
yes?



Why not?


Is your friend not your type or something?






The
opposite
actually...

...I've had a
crush on her
for as long
as I have
known her.




And while
it would be a
dream come
true to do it
with her...

...her
husband will
be the third
part of the
threesome...

A woman with long, reddish-brown hair pulled back, green eyes, and a serious expression. She is wearing a brown, form-fitting tank top and black pants. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a potted plant and a candle.

...and that
dream is not
worth letting a
guy stick his dick
inside of
me!




So you're
not going to
try it...?

...for the
good of all
Science?



What do
you mean
by...?

...for the
good of
Science?



Well I can't
speak for what
the magical folk
might do behind
closed doors...

...but you're
the only person
I know of who has
had their entire
body transformed
at an atomic level
from one gender
to the other!



Meaning that
you are in an
unique position to
answer the age
old question
of...



...is sex
better for
men...?

...or for
women?



Both?

Both!?

I wasn't
expecting
you to have
an answer!

You've had
that body for
less than a week
and you've
already-?



A 3D rendered woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a black halter-neck crop top and dark jeans. She has a purple cast on her left arm. She is pointing her right index finger upwards. The background is a kitchen with a white oven. Two speech bubbles are connected by a line, one on the left and one on the right.

Oh!

Not with
someone,
but solo!

I mean,
you are a
guy trapped
in a hot girl's
body...

...of course
you would
have tried
taking it for
a test drive.





So tell
me...

...why
both?

Master-
bating as a
guy versus as
a girl can't
feel exactly
the same!



No, not
the same
at all...

...far from
it!




Now, to
be clear...

...the first
time I
orgasmed
as a girl...




...it was
fucking
mind-
blowing!

Climaxing
as a girl felt
unlike anything
I had ever felt
before!



But it also
took a ton
of effort to
get there...

...it was
exhausting!



When I was
a guy and I
was feeling
horny...



...all I'd need
is a photo of
some sexy
cleavage...

...or a
short
video...

...and I
could get
relief in a
few short
minutes!

But as
a girl?

I don't
know about
you...

...but for
me?

Getting
that relief is
a whole lot
of work!





Which is
why you girls
have all those
toys, I
suppose.




Have you
tried any?



Um...
maybe?

See, this
is why you
need to try that
threesome
with your
coworker!





Because
how can you
properly compare
which side has
it better...

...when you
have so little
experience of
it as a girl!



But does
it really
matter?

Wouldn't
different
people have
different
preferences?



Sure!

But that
doesn't mean
that one side
can't objectively
have it
better!

This is an
important
thing to
know!



Hey!

Do you
have any
pictures of
your coworker's
husband?

Is he
ugly? Is
he hot?

A woman with vibrant red hair tied in a high ponytail is looking down at her smartphone. She is wearing a dark brown tank top and black leggings. The background is a softly lit indoor space, possibly a living room, with a blue cabinet and some decorative items visible.

I don't know, he's simply looks like a guy to me!

But in regards to photos...

...I doubt I have any photos of him in my camera roll...

...but Bobbi should have plenty on her social media.



That's them?

Yeah.

They seem like a cute couple.

*You could
do far worse
than a guy
who looks like
that!*



And I can see
why you'd
have a crush
on the girl...

...she's
beautiful.



Wait...
hold on...

...now it's showing
pictures of some-
one else.





His sister...?

...but then why
are they showing
up in an album
of photos tagged
as 'Rick Shaw'?



...uh...



Holy shit!

I think they
are photos
of Rick!

Did you
know about
this?

Uh... no?

I've only ever
met him the
few times Bobbi
brought him to
company events.


*Well, problem
solved, Scarlett!*



Just ask him
to dress up like
this for the
threesome...

...and then you
can just imagine
yourself being
fucked by a girl
wearing a
fancy strap-on!



A woman with vibrant red hair pulled back, wearing a brown tank top, stands in a softly lit room. In the background, a blue side table holds a gold lamp and lit candles. The scene is framed by a black border.

I don't
see how that
makes things
any better.

It'll still
be a guy
fucking
me.

Well...
at least
think about
it...

...I'm just
suggesting
you try it at
least once.



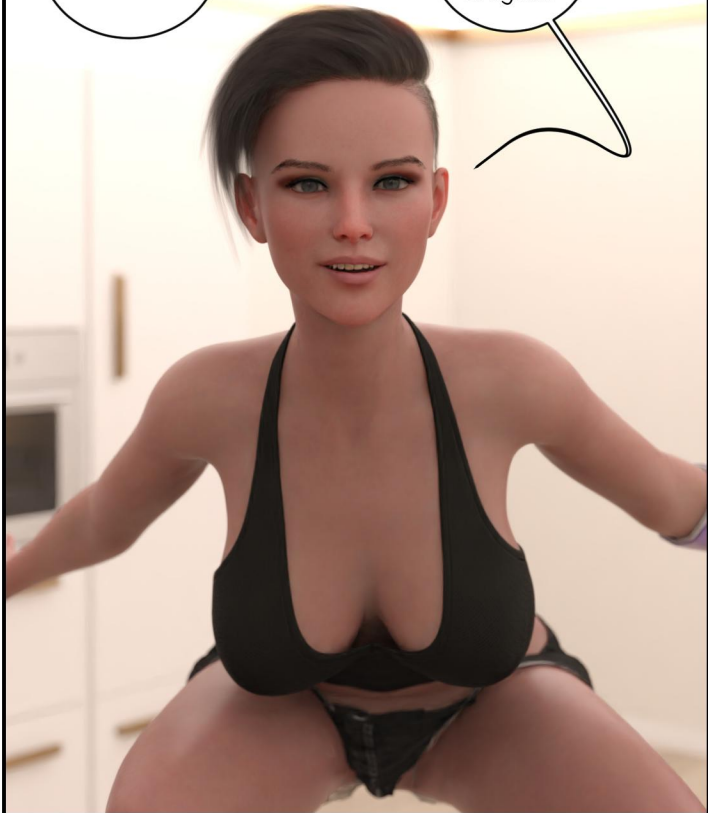


And if your friend is a good one, I'm sure she'll do her best to ensure that you feel safe and comfortable...

...through-out the entire experience.

Heck,
you never
know...

...you
might even
want to try
it again!

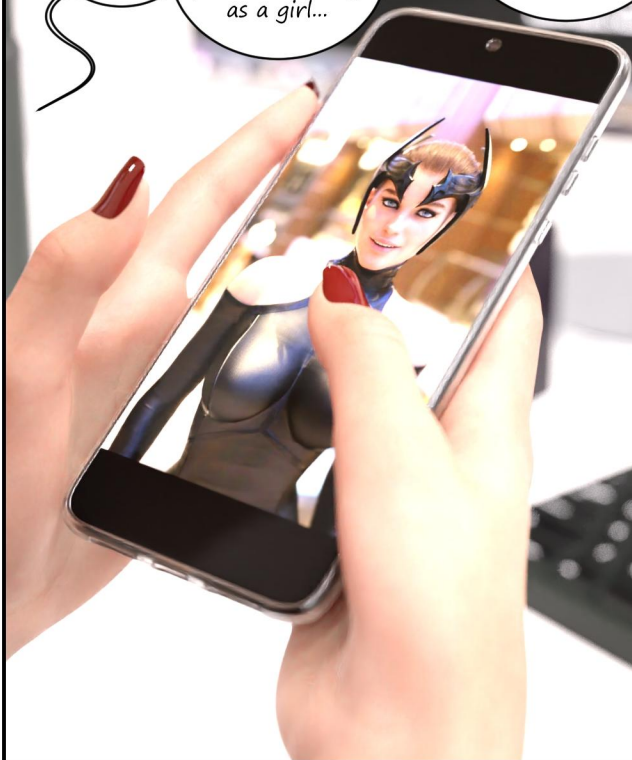


Monday Morning

Is Cass right?

Does the fact that Rick can convincingly pull off dressing as a girl...

...solve my problem that the thought of having sex with a man makes me feel queasy?



Because I
have to admit
that I am
curious about
it...

...what it
might feel
like to have a
dick thrust
inside of
me...

...but not so
curious that
I'd actually let
a guy fuck me
to find out.



The fact is,
despite my
change in gender
I'm just not
attracted to
guys...

...I'm
attracted
to girls who
look like
this.



And if
kissing Rick
feels just like
kissing a
girl...

...does it
really matter
that he's a
guy behind
the makeup?



Like, if Gwen was attracted to girls, and not guys...

...would I have asked her out?

I mean, she's almost perfect for my current situation!

Everything about her screams 'girl'...

...except unlike other girls, she has exactly what I need to satisfy my curiosity.



And would sex with Rick really be that different?

Couldn't I just pretend that he's a girl like Gwen, but flat chested?



Except, if
I were to have
sex with either
of them...

...I'd spend
the entire time
wishing that I was
in their shoes,
fucking a girl
like me.

Fuck.



Good morning, Scarlett!

How was your week-?

Holy
shit!


Did some-
one give you
a make-
over?






A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is wearing a black blazer over a black top and a black skirt. She is standing in a modern office hallway with large windows and wooden floors. She has a shrugging expression on her face, with her right hand held out palm up and her left hand on her hip. A speech bubble is positioned above her head, containing the text "You guess?".

*You
guess?*

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair and a small mole on her left cheek is wearing a black blazer over a black top and a black skirt. She has a neutral expression and her hands are slightly raised in a questioning gesture. Two speech bubbles are positioned above her, connected by a line. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting.

So what happened?

What's the story behind this new look?



I hung out
with Cassie, the
girl I rescued,
over the
weekend.

And she put through what was basically makeup and fashion boot camp.





Wow!

And it looks like whatever she did had quite the impact on you.



Which makes me jealous!

We've known each other for years, and I can't think of anything I've ever done that impacted you the same way!

No
Bobbi!

You've
been super
helpful!

I looked
absolutely
stunning after
you helped me pick
that dress and did
my makeup for
dinner last
week!



It's just that I've never been able to pull any stuff like that off without your help...

...because unlike whatever you remember, I've only been a girl for less than a week...

...until Cassie came along and pointed me in the right direction...!

...since she knew my actual situation and started me from the absolute basics!





So does this mean that you two are dating now?

Dating?

I don't
think we're
there yet.

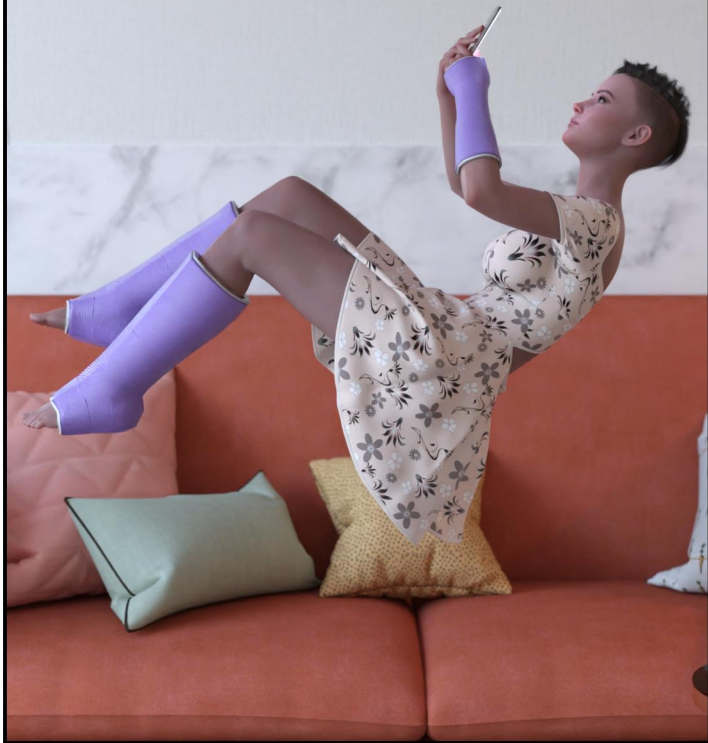
We're just
friends at the
moment.



Like, we're
definitely going
to hang out again

Because
she never
left!

Her weekend
visit has turned
into a week
long stay!



*But we haven't
done anything
romantic
together yet.*

*Although
we did share the
same bed for the
last three nights.*



I don't even know yet if she's attracted to girls!

Except, I did wake up at least twice to her hand on my boob.


But she was sleeping both times, so it could've just been an accident.





So you haven't hooked up yet, but it's still a strong possibility.

Perfect!

A woman with long, wavy brown hair and blue eyes is shown from the waist up. She is wearing a black blazer over a black top. She has a slight smile and is gesturing with both hands as if speaking. The background is a blurred office interior with glass partitions and warm lighting.

Because I
talked to Rick
about that
threesome
again...

...and how
you were never
a real candidate
due to your
discomfort with
a man being
involved...

...and he
offered a
compromise.



I'll do
it!

Seriously?

You'll
do it!?

But I haven't
told you the
compromise
yet!



*It doesn't
matter, it's
not needed...*





*...on one
condition.*