



THE CENTER OF ATTENTION!







COME ON...

COME OOOON...

BAM
BAM



HANNA! ARE YOU FINISHED
SOON?

NOOO... WHY?



HEY! WHAT'S WITH THE
FANCY DRESS?

A woman with short, wavy brown hair and green eyes is standing in a modern kitchen. She is wearing a bright red, form-fitting, spaghetti-strap dress. She has a black wristband on her left wrist and a purple and silver bracelet on her right. She is looking towards the left with a questioning expression, her hands held out palms up. In the foreground, the back of a person's head with long brown hair is visible, looking towards the woman. A green fern plant is also in the foreground. The background shows a kitchen with wooden cabinets, a white countertop, and a glass display case.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN
"WHAT'S WITH THE FANCY
DRESS?"

THE GUYS WILL BE
HERE IN 30 MINUTES FOR
THE PARTY, DUH!

HUH?



WHAT?!

PARTY?!

WHAT
PARTY?!

A woman with short, wavy brown hair and green eyes is shown from the waist up. She is wearing a bright red, spaghetti-strap, form-fitting dress. She has a black necklace with a small red pendant and a pink and silver bangle on her right wrist. Her right hand is raised in a gesture, palm facing forward. Three speech bubbles are positioned to her left, connected by lines. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a wooden lattice screen and some greenery.

WE WERE
PLANNING THIS FOR A
WEEK NOW.

NO WE DIDN'T!

YES WE DID!

A comic book panel showing two women in a modern apartment. The woman on the left, with short brown hair and glasses, is wearing a grey tank top with 'SPORT JUST DO IT PLAY' and yellow sleeves, and grey shorts. She has a surprised expression. The woman on the right, with short brown hair, is wearing a red dress and has her finger to her lips in a 'shh' gesture. A speech bubble from her says, 'OR MAYBE I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU? NOW I'M REALLY NOT SURE...'. Another speech bubble from the first woman says, 'JUDY! YOU PROMISED TO NEVER DO THIS AGAIN.'. The background features a red sofa, a large window with a city skyline, and indoor plants.

JUDY! YOU PROMISED
TO NEVER DO THIS
AGAIN.

OR MAYBE I JUST WANTED
TO TELL YOU? NOW I'M REALLY
NOT SURE...



OKAY OKAY...
SORRY...

IT MUST HAVE SLIPPED MY
MIND AMONGST ALL THE
STUDYING.

IT WON'T HAPPEN
AGAIN. I PROMISE!



YEAH... RIIIGHT!

HEY! DON'T MAKE
THAT FACE.



WHAT? YOU CAN'T
LEAVE....

SIGH... I GET MY STUFF
AND DISAPPEAR. I LET YOU
PARTY IN PEACE.

YES I CAN.



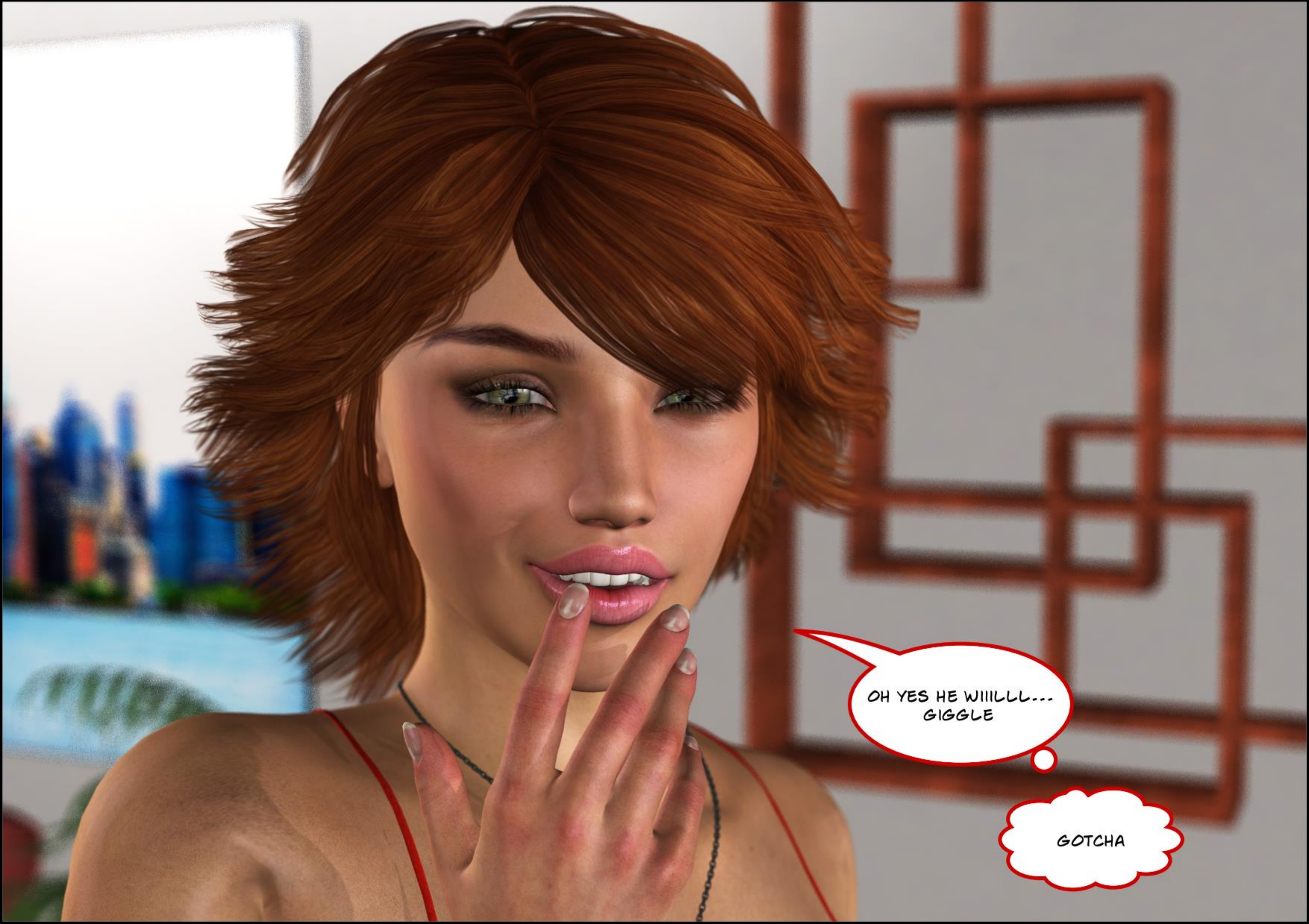
OOOH, THAT'S TOO BAD...
BUT I GUESS IT CAN'T BE
HELPED.

WHAT SHOULD I
TELL MATT WHEN HE'S
HERE?

GULP

M-MATT WILL
COME TOO?

SPORT



OH YES HE WIILL...
GIGGLE

GOTCHA



I'M READY IN TEN
MINUTES!

SPORT
JUST DO IT
PLAY



YOU'D BETTER TAKE
TWENTY JUST TO BE
SURE...

S-SHUT UP...

SLAM



LATER...

JUDY? I... I'M
REALLY NOT SURE ABOUT
THIS.

I LOOK TERRIBLE,
WHAT WILL MATT THINK
OF ME?





WHAT ARE YOU
SAYING YOU LITTLE
DUMMY.

YOU LOOK SUPER
CUTE. HE WILL LOVE
YOU, TRUST ME.

Nintendo



EASY FOR YOU TO
SAY... SIGH!

AND WHY
WOULD YOU SAY
THAT?

NO PARTICULAR
REASON.

BUT SERIOUSLY, DON'T
YOU THINK I SHOULD
JUST...

BOING

BOING

Nintendo

DING
DONG

OH MY GOSH!
THEY'RE HERE.

Nintendo®



I'M COOOMING!

TYPICAL
JUDY...

Nintendo®



HEEEY! WE BROUGHT SOME SNACKS!

AWWW... COME ON
IN ALREADY GUYS...
GIGGLE

AND BEER, OF
COURSE! LOTS OF
BEER...



SOME TIME LATER...



HAHAHA DAMN, YOU
DON'T SAY!

YEAH, WHAT A
STORY...



BUT IT'S TRUE.
THAT'S HOW I
MANAGED TO DO MY
FINAL EXAMS.

CAN I USE THE
BATHROOM?

YEAH, SURE.
FIRST DOOR TO THE
RIGHT.

THANKS!



WELL, MY MY PARENTS
OWN THE MOUNTAIN HOUSE, SO
I DON'T SEE ANY REASON WHY
NOT.

THAT'S PRETTY
COOL MAX. I WISH I
COULD GO TOO NEXT
WINTER.

REALLY? THAT
WOULD BE
AWESOME!





HE'S SO COOL
AND HANDSOME...





GO FOR IT
GIRL!

INHALE

OKAY HANNA...

YOU CAN DO
IT...





HM?

M-MATT?



H-HEY...
HEHE...

I... NICE
TO... UM...

I MEAN... IT'S
BEEN A WHILE...
HEHE...



OH! HANNA!
YEAH, IT HAS BEEN A
WHILE.

IT'S GOOD TO SEE
YOU AGAIN IN A
GATHERING.

R-RIGHT, IT'S NICE
TO MEET YOU AGAIN
TOO... HEHE

UM... AAAND... WHERE
HAVE YOU BEEN THE PAST
MONTHS?

IT MUST HAVE
BEEN QUITE IMPORTANT
AND FUN.



OH... UHM... I LOVE TO
PLAY GAMES, AND WATCH A
BUNCH OF ANIME.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE
LATEST EPISODE OF ONE PIECE
WHERE LUFFY IS FIGHTING THE
YONKO?

IT'S SO EPIC! I
LOVE IT...



EHM... WELL, IF
YOU SAY SO.

I'M NOT
REALLY AN ANIME
FAN, BUT IT MIGHT BE
FUN.

AND I LOVED TO PLAY GAMES. THO
SADLY I DON'T REALLY HAVE MUCH TIME
AFTER SCHOOL AND WORK...



ANIME?! OH
COME NOW MAN.

THOSE DUMB CHINESE
CARTOONS WHERE EVERYONE
SCREAMS FOR HOURS AND THEY HAVE A
DIFFERENT HAIR COLOR EVERY
EPISODE?

HEHEHE... SO
LAME...



DON'T YOU
AGREE?

N-NO... T-THAT'S
NOT...

IT'S NOT
WHAT...

I... THEY...
I...



S-SORRY... I... I
MUST GO TO THE
TOILET!

O-OH...

OKAY?



WOW! THAT WAS WEIRD.
DID I SAY SOMETHING
WRONG DUDE?

DON'T YOU
THINK YOU WERE A
LITTLE DOUCHY SAM? SHE
WAS JUST SUPER
NERVOUS.

WHAT? I JUST TOLD
THE TRUTH.

SIGH... WE SHOULD
APOLOGIZE WHEN SHE'S
BACK.

UM... YEAH, SURE
MAN.



OH, POOR GIRL...
I HOPE SHE'S
OKAY...



SLAM



SOB

SOB





GAMES? AND
ANIME?!

DID I
SERIOUSLY SAID
THAT?

I'M SUCH A
STUPID WEEB...

A 3D rendered female character with short brown hair and black-rimmed glasses is shown from the chest up, sitting in a white bathtub. She has a distressed expression, with tears streaming down her face and her mouth slightly open as if crying. She is wearing a red short-sleeved top. Her hands are clasped together, holding a dark, textured object. The background consists of light-colored square tiles. Two speech bubbles are overlaid on the image: a purple one on the left and a blue one below it.

AND WHAT'S WRONG
WITH GAMES AND
ANIME?

HEH?!



ME AND MY SISTER
LOVE THOSE THINGS
TOO...



...BUT DON'T YOU THINK
IT'S RUDE TO OPEN THE DOOR
ON SOMEONE WITHOUT
KNOCKING?

WHAT? W-WHO
ARE...



OH... THE
NAME'S MIA.



BUT SERIOUSLY. DON'T
YOU EVER KNOCK? IF YOU WANT
TO SHOWER, JUST WAIT FOR
YOUR TURN.

SNIFF

I... I LIVE
HERE.

BUT YES... YOU'RE
RIGHT... I-I'M REALLY
SORRY...

SIGH! AT LEAST I
WAS NOT SITTING ON THE
TOILET, SO JUST FORGET
IT.

UM... BUT WHO ARE
YOU AGAIN? I DON'T
REMEMBER MEETING YOU
BEFORE.

WIPE

SNIFF



OH! WELL, ME AND MY SISTER
JUST STARTED IN YOUR SCHOOL LAST
WEEK. THEN I BUMPED INTO THAT JUDY
GIRL WHO INVITED ME.

YEAH, THAT'S SO
JUDY.

I'M NOT REALLY THE GROUP
ACTIVITY TYPE, BUT MY MOM TOLD
ME I SHOULD SOCIALIZE MORE, SO
HERE I AM.



I CAN RELATE
TO THAT.

SO WHAT'S WITH THE
CRYING? WHY DON'T YOU COME
OUT THE BATHTUB AND TELL ME
ABOUT IT?

SIGH... WHY
NOT...



THERE! ISN'T IT BETTER? SO
WHAT HAPPENED? YOU CAN
TELL ME.

OH, NOTHING, REALLY...
I'M JUST AN IDIOT WHO BLEW HER
CHANCE WITH THE GUY OF HER
DREAMS. NOTHING SERIOUS...

IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD.
JUST GO BACK AND TALK
TO HIM.



IT'S EASY FOR
SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO
SAY THAT...

HUH? WHAT?

GIRLS WITH KILLER
BODIES AND HUGE KNOCKERS
HAVE IT SO EASY.

YOU ALWAYS SWELL
WITH CONFIDENCE...

IT'S INFURIATING!





SIGH... SOMETIMES I WISH I
COULD BE JUST AS CAREFREE AND BE
THE CENTER OF ATTENTION TOO, AT
LEAST FOR ONCE...



AAAAA! NOW I
GET IT.

SO THAT'S WHAT
YOU REALLY WANT...
CHUCKLE

HEH? WHAT DO
I WANT?



SILLY GIRL, I THINK I
MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP FOR A
CHANGE. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU
REALLY WANT...

WHAT DO I WANT?
YOU'RE A WEIRD ONE, BUT
YEAH SURE, WHATEVER...

WONDERFUL!



AND I FINALLY GET THE
CHANCE TO PRACTICE A
LITTLE. HM?

WHAT?!

WHOA! CLOSE!
TOO CLOSE!



NOW HOLD STILL
FOR A SEC...

B-BUT WOW,
SHE SMELLS SO
NICE.

AND MY STOMACH
FEELS A LITTLE...



SSSSSS

...A LITTLE...

HM?!





HEEEY!

WHAT THE
HELL?!

D-DID YOU JUST
PINCH ME YOU PSYCHO
BITCH?

THAT HURT!



A SMALL PRICE TO
GET WHAT YOU WANT
HANNA.

YOU DON'T NEED TO
THANK ME...

THANK YOU?!

HEY! WAIT UP!

I MEET YOU
OUTSIDE...

WEIRDO!

BUT SHE'S RIGHT,
I'D BETTER GO
BACK...

CLOSE

Nintendo®

SCRITCH

...I DON'T WANT JUDY
TO WORRY AND MESS UP
HER NIGHT.

SCRITCH

SIGH... HOW DID SHE
EVEN PINCH ME SO
HARD?

IT WILL LEAVE A MARK
FOR SURE...

BADUMP
BADUMP





WHERE DID MIA GO?
SHE COULDN'T HAVE JUST
DISAPPEARED...

AND IS IT ONLY ME, OR
IT GOT A LITTLE HOTTER IN
HERE?



HM?!



WHY IS
EVERYTHING SO
BLURRY?

NO... WAIT A
SEC!



M-MY EYES?

I... I CAN SEE
EVERYTHING CRYSTAL
CLEAR.

OH GOD! HOW IS
THIS EVEN...



HANNA! HEY IS
EVERYTHING OKAY?

I SAW YOU RUNNING
OFF AND I WAS GETTING
WORRIED.

Y-YEAH... BUT GUESS
WHAT, I CAN SEE WITHOUT
MY GLASSES!

ISN'T THAT
COOL?



WHAT? BUT YOU NEVER
HAD GLASSES.

WHAT ARE YOU
SAYING? I JUST TOOK
IT OFF.

NO YOU
DIDN'T. I WOULD
KNOW IF MY BF HAD
ONE.

OOOKAY... THEN
WHAT IS THIS IN MY
HAND?

SOMEBODY MUST
HAVE LEFT IT HERE?

WHAT?!



JUDY, YOU'RE NOT
MAKING...



---ANY---

GROON



...SENSE? HEH?

GROOM



AAARE YOU SURE
YOU'RE REALLY OKAY?
IS IT THE SHORTS?

BECAUSE I TOLD YOU
EARLIER IT MIGHT BE TOO
SMALL FOR YOU.

W-WHAT THE
HELL?! JUDY DID YOU
SEE THAT?!

HEH?! SHORTS?!
I... I JUST GREW
TALLER!



YOU KNOW WELL THAT
WITHOUT HIGH HEELS YOU
WERE ALWAYS TALLER
THAN ME.

I'M REALLY BEGINNING TO
WORRY ABOUT YOU. MAYBE WE
SHOULD JUST CALL IT A DAY AND
SEND EVERYONE HOME.

N-NO I DON'T
WANT TO RUIN YOUR
NIGHT...

SIGH... OKAY, BUT TELL ME
IF SOMETHING'S WRONG, OKAY? AND
PLEASE DON'T DRINK ANYMORE
TONIGHT...

S-SURE...

THO, I JUST HAD
APPLE JUICE...



WHAT'S GOING ON
HERE?

I JUST GREW LIKE A FEET
TALLER IN FRONT OF HER, AND
SHE DIDN'T EVEN REACTED. LIKE
NOTHING HAPPENED.

IT'S LIKE HER
PERCEPTION WAS...



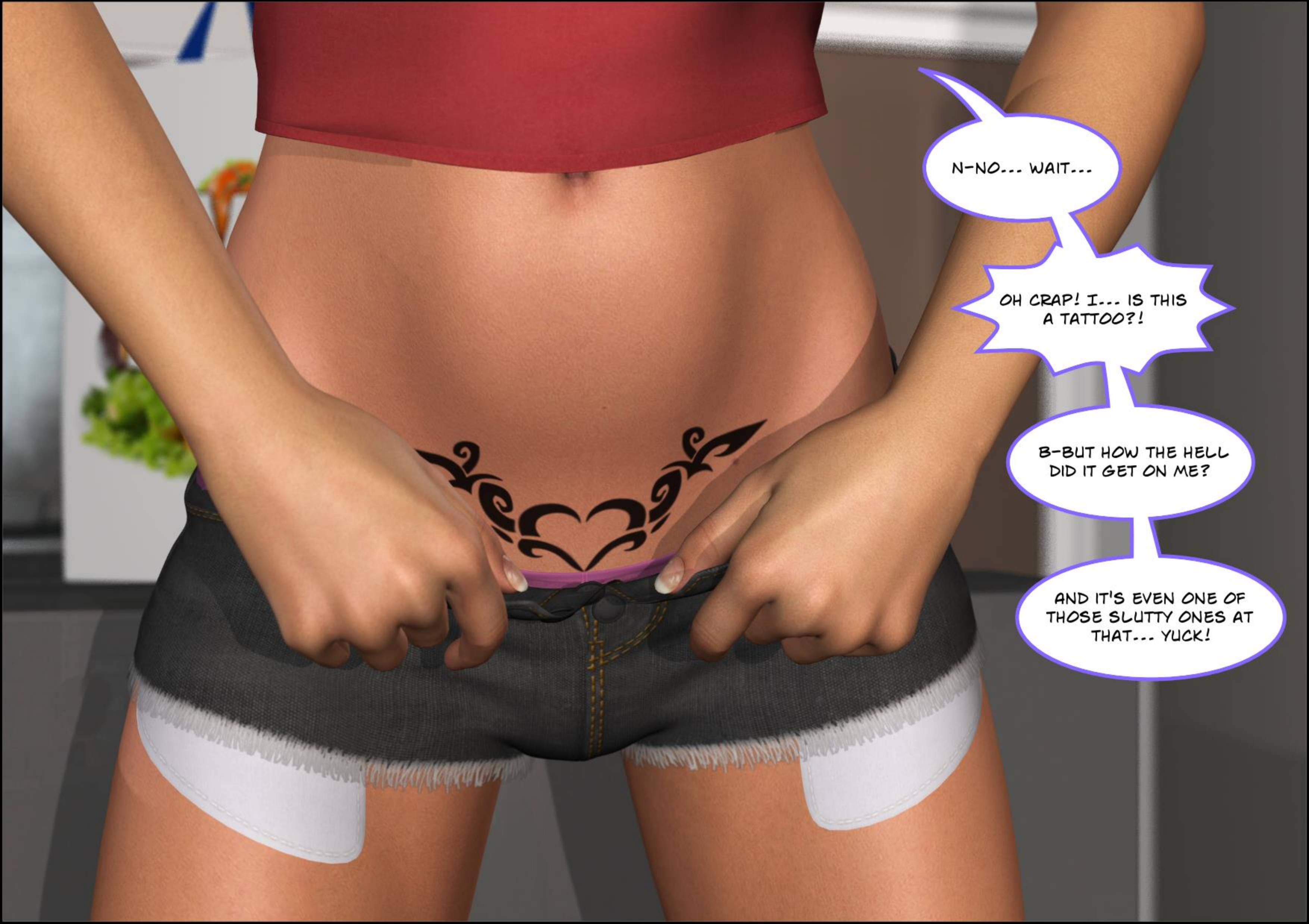
HM?

A close-up photograph of a person's midsection. A hand is pulling down the waistband of dark blue jeans, revealing a black tattoo on the skin. The tattoo consists of two stylized, symmetrical floral or leaf-like motifs. Below the tattoo, a small, faint, reddish mark is visible on the skin. The person is wearing a white garment with a frayed hem underneath the jeans. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the right side of the image.

W-WHAT THE
HELL IS THIS?

IT'S WHERE THAT
MIA GIRL PINCHED
ME.

DID IT REALLY LEFT
A MARK?



N-NO... WAIT...

OH CRAP! I... IS THIS
A TATTOO?!

B-BUT HOW THE HELL
DID IT GET ON ME?

AND IT'S EVEN ONE OF
THOSE SLUTTY ONES AT
THAT... YUCK!

A close-up of a woman with short, wavy brown hair and light skin. She is wearing a red, short-sleeved top. Her expression is one of surprise or shock, with wide eyes and slightly open lips. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a window and a red circular object visible on the left.

OH! I DIDN'T
KNOW YOU HAD A
TATTOO...

IT LOOKS REALLY
NICE.

HEH?!



← To Be Continued **III**