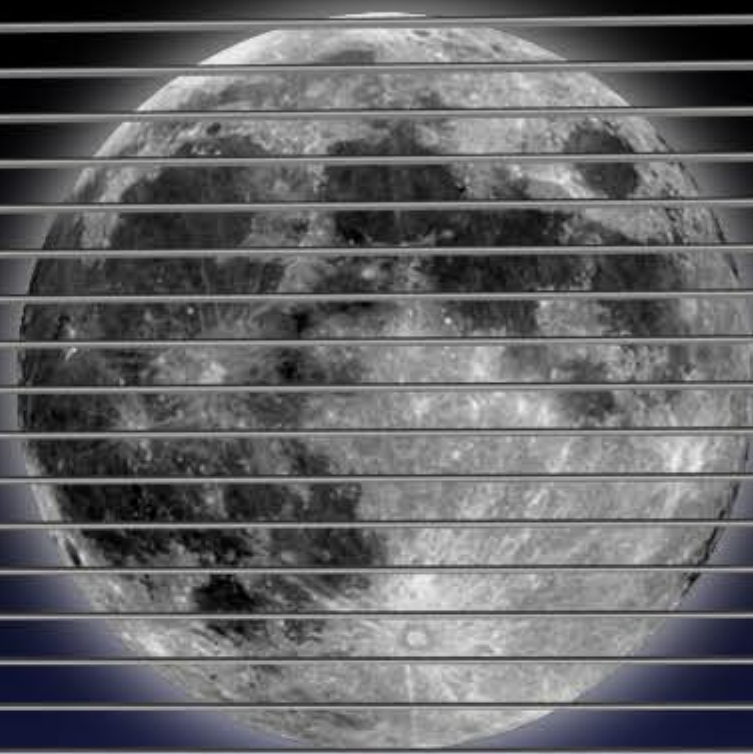


ATTENTION

MEETING



PART 1

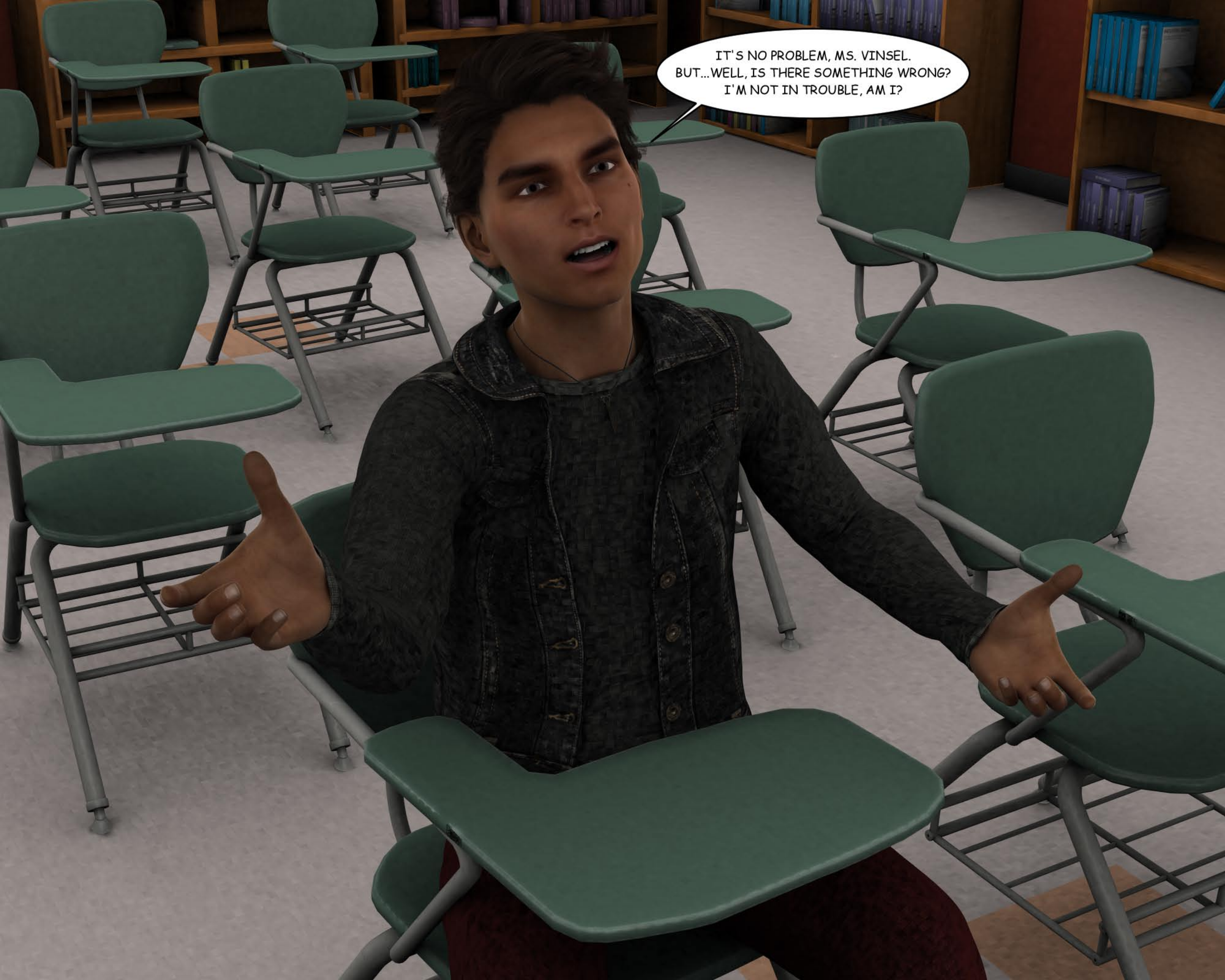


IT'S AFTER DARK IN THE CLASSROOM OF KATE VINSEL. AN AFTERSCHOOL MEETING WITH ONE OF HER STUDENTS...THE NIGHT BEFORE HALLOWEEN...


Class Room 101!

THANKS FOR STAYING AFTER CLASS, CODY. I PROMISE THAT THIS WON'T TAKE LONG.



A young man with dark, wavy hair and a slight smile is sitting in a green classroom chair. He is wearing a dark, textured jacket over a dark shirt. His hands are raised in a questioning gesture. The classroom is filled with similar green chairs and desks. In the background, there are wooden bookshelves filled with books. A speech bubble is positioned above his head, containing text.

IT'S NO PROBLEM, MS. VINSEL.
BUT...WELL, IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?
I'M NOT IN TROUBLE, AM I?



TROUBLE? OF COURSE
NOT! I KNOW THAT, AS A TEACHER,
I REALLY SHOULDN'T BE PLAYING FAVORITES.
BUT IF I COULD, THERE'S NO DOUBT
THAT YOU'D BE MINE.

HOWEVER, I COULDN'T HELP
OVERHEARING YOU AND SOME OF THE BOYS
TALKING A COUPLE DAYS AGO. ABOUT THE BIG
HALLOWEEN PARTY TOMORROW.

AND YOU MENTIONED...
THAT THERE WAS A PROBLEM? ABOUT...
NOT HAVING A COSTUME?

OH. THAT.

IT'S...REALLY
NOT THAT BIG OF A
DEAL. SO...

DON'T BE SO
BASHFUL, CODY. I'M JUST
ASKING BECAUSE YOU SEEMED
UPSET ABOUT IT
BEFORE.

AND AFTER EVERYTHING
YOU'VE DONE TO HELP OUT
AROUND HERE, I'M MORE THAN HAPPY
TO RETURN THE FAVOR IF
I CAN.

WELL...OKAY.
IT'S LIKE THIS.

THIS HALLOWEEN PARTY
IS GOING TO BE A MAJOR EVENT.
LIKE THE BIGGEST THING SINCE
HOMECOMING.

SO YOU KNOW
THAT EVERYBODY IS GOING
TO BE LOOKING TO MAKE A
BIG SPLASH.

AND THAT MEANS
THE KIND OF COSTUME THAT
I CAN'T AFFORD AND MY PARENTS
WON'T WANT TO PAY FOR.

NOW DON'T GET ME
WRONG! I GET THAT IT DOESN'T MAKE
A LOT OF SENSE TO SPEND A LOT OF MONEY
ON AN OUTFIT YOU'RE PROBABLY ONLY
GOING TO WEAR ONCE!

BUT LAST YEAR?! WHEN I WENT
IN THAT DIY OUTFIT THAT I WHIPPED UP?!
THAT I SLAVED OVER FOR DAYS, AND ALL THAT IT
MANAGED TO DO WAS GET ME LAUGHED ALL
THE WAY BACK HOME?!

I DON'T WANT
TO GO THROUGH THAT
AGAIN EVER!

SO...THAT'S IT. I WANT
TO GO TO THE PARTY. AND I'M FREAKING
OUT BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BE LAUGHED
AT AGAIN.

MUST SEEM
PRETTY STUPID,
HUH?

OF COURSE NOT, CODY.

NOBODY ENJOYS BEING LAUGHED AT. ESPECIALLY AFTER WORKING HARD ON SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO THEM.

GO FURTHER

SURE I DO. I WAS A HIGH SCHOOLER MYSELF ONCE.

I REMEMBER WHAT IT'S LIKE. FEELING LIKE AN OUTSIDER. LOOKING IN. WORRYING ABOUT HOW THE EVERYONE ELSE SAW ME. NOT WANTING TO BE A FREAK OR OSTRACIZED.

I ALSO REMEMBER HOW IT FEELS TO FAIL. WHEN IT FELT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE WAS JUST LOOKING FOR SOME EXCUSE TO ATTACK AND MAKE YOU FEEL SMALL.

JUST BECAUSE I ACT ALL PRIM AND PROPER IN CLASS DOESN'T MEAN THAT THERE ISN'T ANOTHER SIDE TO ME.

A SIDE THAT UNDERSTANDS HOW YOU FEEL.

WAIT! SO... YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING?


EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

WOW. I...I
NEVERED FIGURED THAT
YOU'D...

...ALTHOUGH...
MAYBE I SHOULD'VE...

EVER SINCE WE MET,
I'VE FELT LIKE...YOU ACTUALLY
GET ME.

LIKE YOU
REALLY UNDERSTAND...
WHAT IT'S LIKE.

A woman with short, vibrant red hair and black-rimmed glasses is shown in a classroom. She is wearing a black, textured blazer over a red top and a white pearl necklace. An American flag is visible in the background to her left. The scene is lit with soft, indoor lighting.

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
I FEEL...MUCH THE SAME WAY. OF
COURSE, I CAN'T SAY THAT SORT OF THING
WHILE IN THE ROLE OF A PRIM,
PROPER TEACHER.

NOT UNLESS
I WANT TO GIVE THE PEOPLE
THAT CAN FIRE ME REASON TO
DO JUST THAT.

NOW...ABOUT YOUR
COSTUME PROBLEM. I ACTUALLY
HAVE AN IDEA AS TO WHAT WE
CAN DO ABOUT IT.




ABSOLUTELY.

DON'T FORGET
THAT I'LL BE AT THIS
PARTY AS WELL. TO HELP
SUPERVISE.

AND I'VE ALREADY
GOT THE PERFECT COSTUME.
READY AND WAITING FOR THE
BIG NIGHT.

WHAT?!
REALLY?!






WELL, THAT'S GREAT!
BUT...YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF
GIVING ME YOUR COSTUME,
ARE YOU?

NO OFFENSE, BUT...
I'M NOT SURE A COSTUME FOR
A WOMAN WOULD...

RELAX, CODY.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I
WAS THINKING.



I WAS JUST THINKING
THAT...YOU COULD GET YOUR COSTUME
THE SAME WAY I GOT MINE.

NOT ONLY DOES MINE
LOOK GREAT, BUT IT ALSO WON'T
COST MUCH. I'M SURE YOU COULD
AFFORD IT.

REALLY? THAT...
SOUNDS ALMOST TOO GOOD
TO BE TRUE...



ALTHOUGH...I DON'T
SUPPOSE IT COULD HURT TO
CHECK IT OUT.

ANY CHANCE I
COULD SEE YOUR COSTUME?
SEE HOW IT LOOKS?



ABSOLUTELY.

IN FACT,
I'LL GET CHANGED
RIGHT AWAY.

OH, GREAT!
I'LL WAIT HERE, AND...
AND...