

FRIDAY NIGHT, AT SOME NOT-SO-POPULAR BAR...





THAT'S IT, GUYS! THIS IS
ROCK'N'ROLL!



FORGET IT,
MAN.

Don't
pay
attention!
It's free

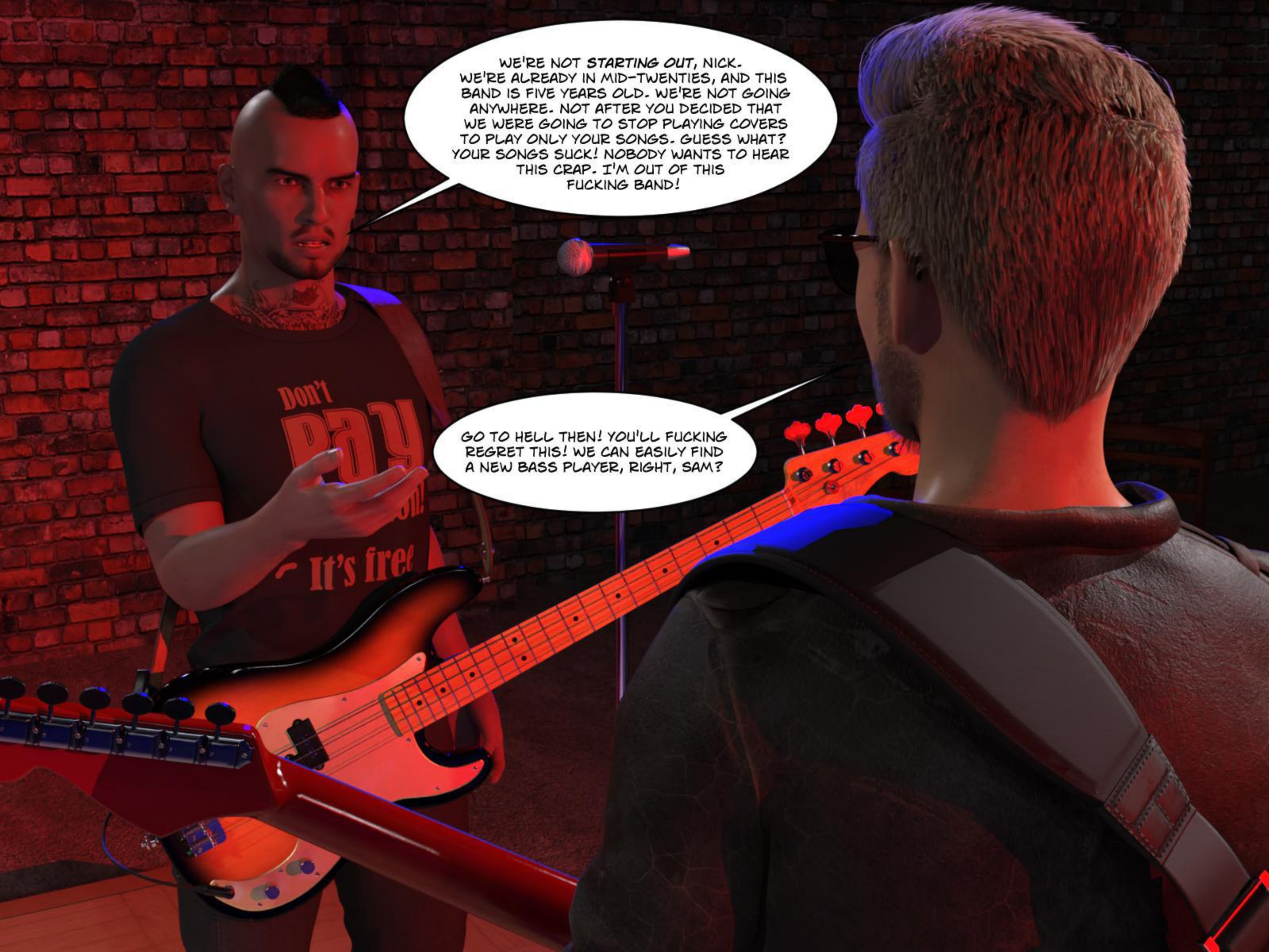
NONE OF THE FOUR PEOPLE WHO WERE CRAZY ENOUGH TO SHOW UP TONIGHT GIVE A SHIT ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

RESTROOMS




FINE, MAN, WE HAD A BAD NIGHT.
SO WHAT? EVERY LEGENDARY BAND
HAS PLAYED TO HALF A DOZEN PEOPLE
WHEN THEY WERE STARTING OUT!





WE'RE NOT STARTING OUT, NICK. WE'RE ALREADY IN MID-TWENTIES, AND THIS BAND IS FIVE YEARS OLD. WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE. NOT AFTER YOU DECIDED THAT WE WERE GOING TO STOP PLAYING COVERS TO PLAY ONLY YOUR SONGS. GUESS WHAT? YOUR SONGS SUCK! NOBODY WANTS TO HEAR THIS CRAP. I'M OUT OF THIS FUCKING BAND!


GO TO HELL THEN! YOU'LL FUCKING REGRET THIS! WE CAN EASILY FIND A NEW BASS PLAYER, RIGHT, SAM?



ACTUALLY, I'M LEAVING THE BAND
TOO, NICK. DON'T GET ME WRONG.
I DON'T EVEN THINK YOUR SONGS
ARE THAT BAD... THE THING IS...
I GOT BILLS TO PAY. I CAN'T
KEEP PLAYING TO EMPTY BARS.
SORRY, MAN!



YOU TWO ARE... TRAITORS!
GO AWAY THEN. BUT LISTEN
TO WHAT I'M SAYING, I'M GOING
TO BE FAMOUS, AND I'M GOING
TO BE FAMOUS PLAYING
MY SONGS!



I DON'T NEED THOSE LOSERS.
FOR TONIGHT, I GUESS WHAT
I HAVE LEFT IS TO TRY AND
HAVE SOME FUN...

RESTROOMS

RESTROOMS




HI THERE, PRETTY LADY!
CAN I BUY YOU A DRINK?



RESTROOMS


OH, HI! YOU WERE THE ONE SINGING, RIGHT? YOU'RE SO GOOD. I REALLY ENJOYED THE CONCERT!



A man with short, light-colored hair, wearing sunglasses, a dark jacket, and a dark t-shirt, stands in a dimly lit club. He is smiling and gesturing with his right hand. A woman with long, dark, wavy hair, wearing a white, off-the-shoulder, ruffled dress, stands in front of him, her back to the camera. The background features a brick wall, several tables with chairs, and a bar area. The lighting is a mix of blue and red, creating a moody atmosphere.

REALLY? THAT MAKES YOU MY
BIGGEST FAN TONIGHT. I GUESS
I'LL HAVE TO BUY YOU TWO DRINKS
THEN! I'M NICK, BY THE WAY.
NICK MOORE.


TEE-HEE NICE TO MEET YOU, NICK,
I'M MIN-JI. SORRY FOR MY BAD ENGLISH.
I'M HERE ON AN EXCHANGE PROGRAM
AND I DON'T KNOW THE LANGUAGE
VERY WELL YET.



나는 당신의
영어가 훌륭하다고
생각합니다!

WOW, SO YOU SPEAK KOREAN?
LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A LOT IN
COMMON NICK-OPPA. I ALSO
LIKE TO SING AND WRITE SONGS,
YOU KNOW?

*I THINK YOUR ENGLISH IS GREAT!

A man with short, light-colored hair, wearing dark sunglasses and a black leather jacket over a dark t-shirt, stands in a dimly lit bar. He is looking towards a woman with long, dark hair who is partially visible on the right side of the frame. The background features a brick wall, several wooden chairs, and a row of small lights. A thought bubble is positioned to the left of the man's head.

GOD BLESS THE LOCAL COLLEGE
FOR THIS EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH
KOREAN STUDENTS. AREN'T KOREAN
GIRLS THE HOTTEST IN THE WORLD?
JUST HEARING THIS CHICK CALL ME
'NICK-OPPA' MAKES ME SO EXCITED!
IT REALLY PAID OFF TO LEARN HALF
A DOZEN SENTENCES IN KOREAN...




CHAPTER ONE

FINGERTIP

THREE DAYS LATER...






ONCE AGAIN, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR INVITING US INTO YOUR STUDIO, NICK-OPPA. WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR PRODUCING AND RECORDING OUR SONG WITHOUT CHARGING US A PENNY! YOU'RE TOO KIND!

A man with short, light-colored hair and a goatee, wearing a black t-shirt with a white graphic, stands in a recording studio. He is gesturing with his right hand. In the background, there is a wooden piano and a mixing console with a small robot on it. The walls are covered in acoustic panels. Two speech bubbles are present: one pointing to the man and another pointing to the robot on the mixing console.

THAT WAS MY PLEASURE,
MIN-JI. IT'S ALWAYS NICE
TO HELP FELLOW ARTISTS
AND SONGWRITERS!

THANKS ANYWAY! IT'S
A REALLY NICE STUDIO YOU
HAVE HERE. I BET YOU'VE
SPENT A FORTUNE
BUILDING THIS.

A woman with dark, wavy hair, wearing a black choker and a light pink floral dress, sits on a brown couch. She is looking towards a man whose back is to the camera. The man has short, light brown hair and is wearing a black t-shirt. The background features a textured wall and a wooden door. A speech bubble is positioned in the lower-left corner of the frame.

I'VE INVESTED SOME MONEY IN EQUIPMENT AND SUCH, SURE, BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT I INHERITED THIS PLACE FROM MY UNCLE. GREAT GUY, UNCLE FRANK! HE HAD SOME ISSUES WITH GAMBLING, BUT HE MANAGED TO KEEP THIS PLACE UNTIL THE END, AND IT WAS HIS GREAT PRIDE! HE WAS THE ONE WHO GOT ME INTO ROCK MUSIC AND TAUGHT ME HOW TO PLAY GUITAR. MAN, I REALLY MISS THAT GUY!




WE'RE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS,
NICK-OPPA. IT'S ALWAYS SAD TO LOSE
SOMEONE WE LOVE. I IMAGINE YOU STILL
HAVE YOUR PARENTS, THOUGH, AND THAT
THEY ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU. FAMILY IS
EVERYTHING, AFTER ALL.

MY PARENTS, PROUD OF ME?!
NOT IN A MILLION YEARS!


LET'S JUST SAY MY PARENTS WERE NEVER VERY HAPPY WITH MY LIFE CHOICES, SO WE WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS. I THINK THIS WAS BETTER FOR EVERYONE.



A man with short, light-colored hair and a beard is sitting in a wooden chair in a recording studio. He is wearing a black t-shirt with a white geometric design. He is gesturing with his hands as he speaks. In the background, there is a piano, a mixing console, and soundproofing panels. A woman with dark hair is seen from the back, looking towards the man. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the man and one from the woman.


BUT LET'S PUT THAT ASIDE, OKAY?
IN ANY CASE, I'M NOT AN EXPERT ON
POP MUSIC, BUT I FOUND THE SONG
YOU GIRLS RECORDED... INTERESTING!
FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, YOU WERE
ONCE TRAINEES AT A RECORD LABEL IN
KOREA, RIGHT?

THAT'S RIGHT. WE TRAINED TOGETHER
FOR LIKE FOUR YEARS, BUT THEN, SADLY,
THE COMPANY WENT BANKRUPT BEFORE
WE COULD DEBUT. AS YOU CAN GUESS,
WE WERE HEARTBROKEN!



LIKE IN YOUR FAMILY, MY PARENTS WEREN'T TOO KEEN ON MY MUSIC CAREER EITHER, AND FOR A FEW YEARS I PUT THAT IDEA ASIDE AND WENT TO COLLEGE. JUST RECENTLY I GOT BACK TO WRITING SONGS, AND DASOM, EUNJOO AND I STARTED PRACTICING SOME CHOREOGRAPHIES AGAIN. IT WAS A GREAT LUCK THAT WE WERE CHOSEN IN THIS EXCHANGE PROGRAM TOGETHER. WE'RE STILL VERY CLOSE TO THIS DAY.

AT FIRST, WE WERE JUST DOING IT JUST FOR FUN, BUT THEN AN OPPORTUNITY AROSE...

A man with short, light-colored hair and a beard is sitting in a recording studio. He is wearing a black t-shirt with a white graphic of a crown and a face. He is gesturing with his hands as he speaks. Two women are sitting in front of him, one on the left wearing a red top and one on the right wearing a pink floral top. The background shows a mixing console and soundproofing panels.

YEAH... FROM WHAT YOU GIRLS TOLD ME, IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT T-PANDA GUY, RIGHT? I REMEMBER HIM EVEN THOUGH I'VE NEVER BEEN INTO K-POP. THAT FUNNY SONG HE WROTE BLEW UP ALL OVER THE WORLD A FEW YEARS AGO, AND WHEREVER YOU WENT IT WAS PLAYING NONSTOP!

EXACTLY. AND T-PANDA HAD ENOUGH OF THE IDOL LIFE AND DECIDED TO START HIS OWN RECORD LABEL. BUT THE THING IS, HE'S TRYING TO DO THINGS A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY THAN THE NORM IN KOREA. INSTEAD OF TRAINING IDOLS FOR YEARS AND YEARS ON END, HE IS LOOKING FOR "AMATEUR" GROUPS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN DEBUTING.

HE JUST ANNOUNCED A CONTEST TO CHOOSE THE COMPANY'S FIRST GROUP. SORT OF LIKE "THE VOICE", YOU KNOW? WITH GROUPS BEING VOTED ON WITHOUT PEOPLE SEEING THE MEMBERS' FACES.



THAT'S WHY WE NEED YOU TO
BE BRUTALLY HONEST WITH US,
NICK-OPPA.

DO YOU REALLY THINK OUR
SONG IS GOOD ENOUGH?




HMM... LIKE I SAID, I'M NOT A POP MUSIC EXPERT. I DO THINK, THOUGH, THAT THE SONG YOU GIRLS RECORDED IS... QUITE CATCHY...

BUT...?

WELL, BEING HONEST, I THINK SOMETHING IN THE VOCALS IS MISSING. DON'T GET ME WRONG, YOU GIRLS ARE IN TUNE AND CLEARLY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, BUT THE SONG NEEDS SOME HIGH NOTES AND A MORE VIBRANT VOICE, ESPECIALLY IN THE LAST CHORUS.

WHEN WE WERE TRAINEES, WE HAD
A MAIN VOCALIST, A GIRL CALLED JIHOO.
YOU HAD TO HEAR HER SINGING... SHE WAS
GREAT! UNFORTUNATELY, THOUGH, SHE
LEFT THE GROUP EVEN BEFORE THE
COMPANY WENT OUT OF BUSINESS.



A man with short, light-colored hair and a beard, wearing a black t-shirt, is sitting in a recording studio. He is looking towards a large, professional mixing console with many sliders and buttons. A vintage-style microphone is positioned in front of the console. The background features wood-paneled walls with acoustic foam. Two speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing text.

I SEE... WELL, WITH JIHOO OR NOT,
I BELIEVE YOU GIRLS CAN DO BETTER. LET'S
TRY FEW MORE TAKES. MAYBE YOU WERE JUST
A LITTLE NERVOUS BEFORE. JUST REMEMBER
TO FEEL WHAT YOU'RE SINGING, OKAY? THIS IS
REALLY IMPORTANT. I ONCE WITNESSED A GUY
DRINKING A WHOLE WEEK TO RECORD A SONG
ABOUT A MONSTER HANGOVER. FUN TIMES...
I WONDER HOW TOM IS DOING IN REHAB.

ANYWAY, ABOUT THE HIGH NOTES,
I THINK THE SONG WOULD NEED
SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

♪ ANNNNNN! ♪





WOW, MINJI-UNNIE WASN'T LYING WHEN SHE SAID YOU HAD AN AMAZING VOICE, NICK-OPPA!

HALF AN HOUR LATER...



OK, GIRLS...


I SHAVED OFF MY BEARD LIKE
YOU GUYS ASKED ME TO DO, BUT
I STILL DON'T SEE THE POINT
OF IT, YOU KNOW?





C'MON, NICK-OPPA, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID IT'S IMPORTANT TO FEEL WHAT ONE'S SINGING, RIGHT? AND YOU PROMISED TO RECORD THE LEAD VOCAL IN OUR SONG SINCE THERE'S SOMETHING LACKING, AND YOU CAN SING IN A PITCH AS HIGH AS OURS!


THAT WAY WE WILL HAVE MORE CHANCES IN THE CONTEST. AND UNTIL THE RECORD LABEL MAKES A DECISION, WE'LL HAVE TIME TO PRACTICE AND SING IDENTICALLY, OR AT LEAST CLOSE ENOUGH, TO YOUR RECORDING.

A close-up shot of a woman with long dark hair and bangs, wearing a white top with pink and black patterns. She is in a recording studio with wood-paneled walls and a keyboard on a stand in the background. A speech bubble points to her from the top left.

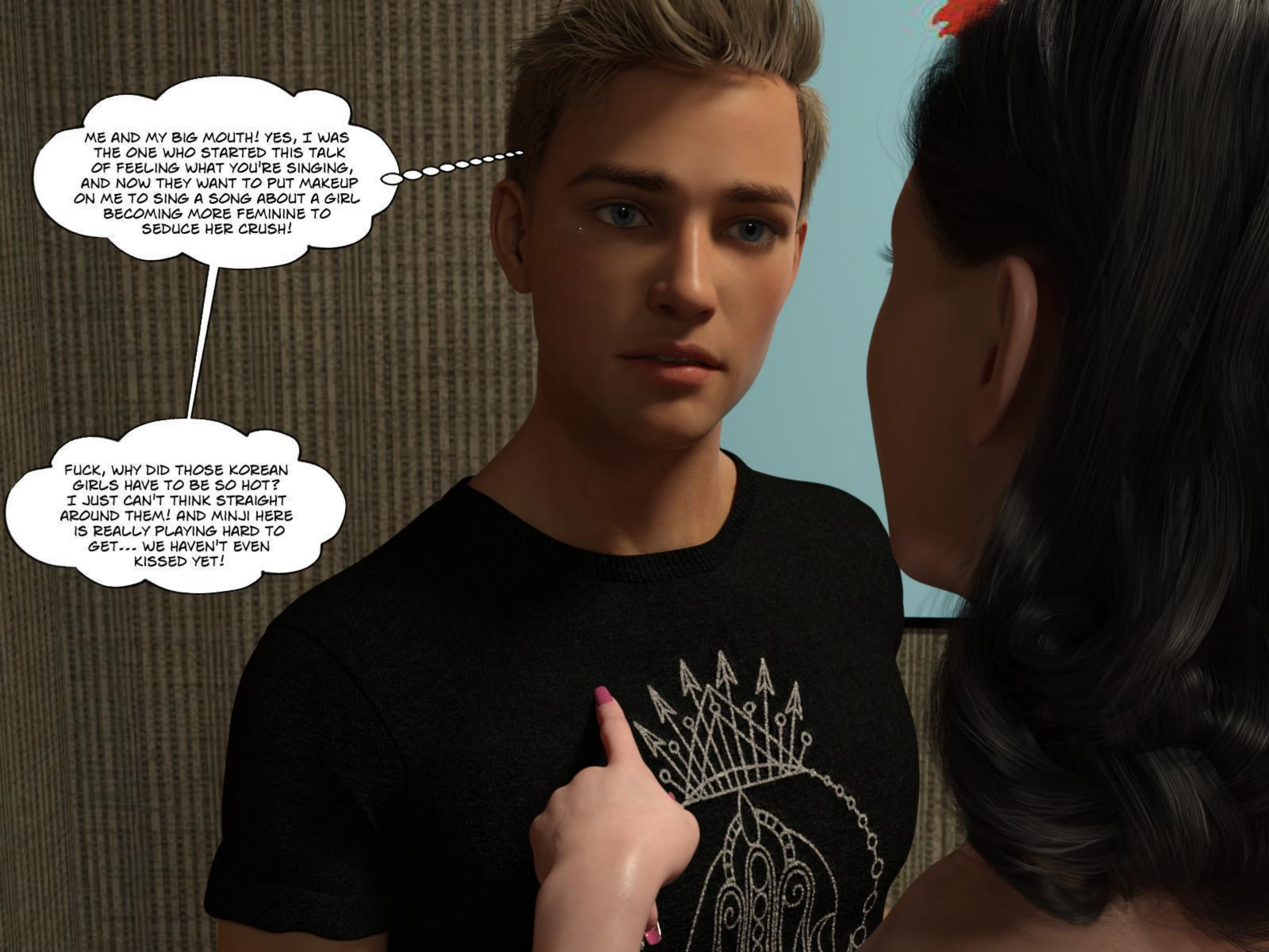
MINJI-UNNIE IS RIGHT. BUT EVEN
THOUGH YOU CAN SING A LOT BETTER
THAN US, YOU'RE NOT SOUNDING GENUINE,
NICK-OPPA. YOU'VE TRIED A LOT OF TAKES,
BUT EVEN SINGING IN A HIGH PITCH, YOU'RE
NOT SOUNDING LIKE A GIRL. THAT'S WHY
YOU NEED SOME... INSPIRATION.



I UNDERSTAND, GIRLS,
BUT... MAKEUP?! ISN'T
IT A LITTLE TOO MUCH?



I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE SO RELUCTANT, NICK-OPPA. HOW HARD CAN IT BE FOR A MAN LIKE YOU? IT'S NOT LIKE A LITTLE MAKEUP WILL TURN YOU INTO A GIRL, RIGHT?



ME AND MY BIG MOUTH! YES, I WAS THE ONE WHO STARTED THIS TALK OF FEELING WHAT YOU'RE SINGING, AND NOW THEY WANT TO PUT MAKEUP ON ME TO SING A SONG ABOUT A GIRL BECOMING MORE FEMININE TO SEDUCE HER CRUSH!

FUCK, WHY DID THOSE KOREAN GIRLS HAVE TO BE SO HOT? I JUST CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT AROUND THEM! AND MINJI HERE IS REALLY PLAYING HARD TO GET... WE HAVEN'T EVEN KISSED YET!



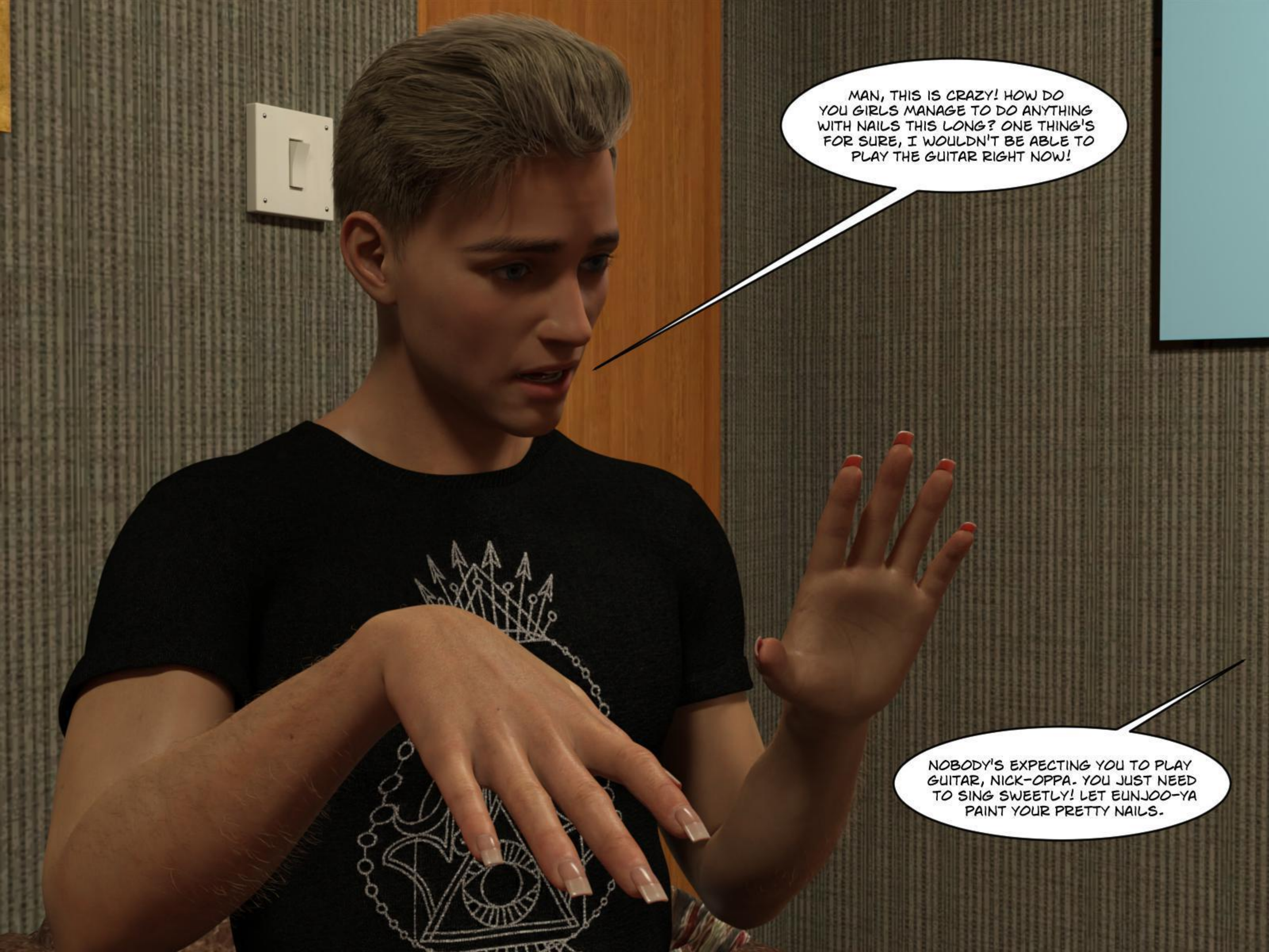


FABULOUS! I THINK WE SHOULD START WITH YOUR NAILS, THEN!

N-NAILS?!



I ALWAYS HAVE SPARE NAILS IN MY PURSE BECAUSE A GIRL NEVER KNOWS WHEN SHE'S GOING TO HAVE AN ACCIDENT... ONE NAIL GLUED, NINE TO GO!

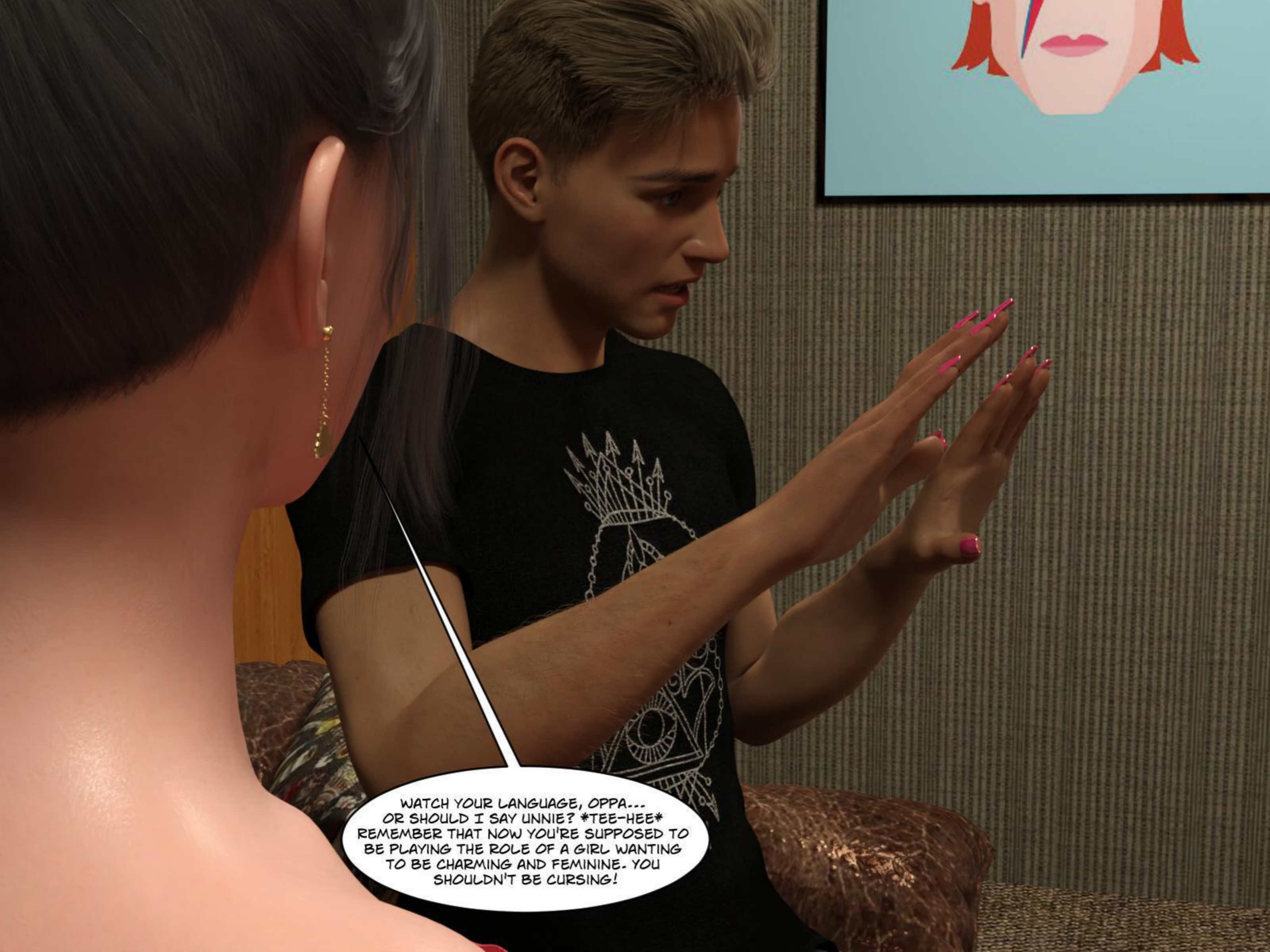


MAN, THIS IS CRAZY! HOW DO YOU GIRLS MANAGE TO DO ANYTHING WITH NAILS THIS LONG? ONE THING'S FOR SURE, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PLAY THE GUITAR RIGHT NOW!


NOBODY'S EXPECTING YOU TO PLAY GUITAR, NICK-OPPA. YOU JUST NEED TO SING SWEETLY! LET EUNJOO-YA PAINT YOUR PRETTY NAILS.



OH FUCK...



WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE, OPPA...
OR SHOULD I SAY UNNIE? *TEE-HEE*
REMEMBER THAT NOW YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO
BE PLAYING THE ROLE OF A GIRL WANTING
TO BE CHARMING AND FEMININE. YOU
SHOULDN'T BE CURSING!



I KNOW WE'RE PUSHING A LOT,
OPPA, BUT THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT
TO US! WE'LL OWE YOU A BIG ONE.
SO, COULD YOU START TALKING LIKE
A GIRL? TO GET INTO CHARACTER,
YOU KNOW?

WHEN YOU KOREANS GET AN IDEA
IN YOUR HEAD, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
TO MAKE YOU FORGET
ABOUT IT, RIGHT?

CORRECT! COULD YOU TRY
THIS, PRETTY PLEASE?




L-LIKE THIS?

HMM... NOT BAD...

A woman with dark hair and bangs, wearing a red off-the-shoulder top, is holding a makeup brush. She has a slight smile and is looking towards the camera. A speech bubble points to her mouth. The background is a textured, dark green wall. A patterned pillow is visible on the right side.

NOW LET'S DO YOUR
MAKEUP, SHALL WE?



DON'T LOOK SO SAD, LUNNIE!
MAKEUP IS A LOT OF FUN!



I'M NOT GOING TO WORRY ABOUT FOUNDATION BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE ANY OF YOUR SHADE HERE, BUT LET'S TRY SOME BLUSH, OKAY?

YOU STILL HAVE SOME HAIRS ON YOUR FACE. NOT GOOD. MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT ELECTROLYSIS!
TEE-HEE



NOW SOME MASCARA AND EYESHADOW.
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT ME TO
PLUCK YOUR EYEBROWS? YOU COULD
LOOK EVEN PRETTIER!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOUR VOICE?
REMEMBER THAT YOU MUST SPEAK
LIKE A GIRL!

YES, I'M SURE.



AND, OF COURSE, WE CAN'T FORGET THE LIPSTICK! IT FEELS GOOD, DOESN'T IT? LET ME DO SOMETHING WITH YOUR HAIR TOO. IT DOESN'T LOOK SO STYLISH .



THERE, MUCH BETTER!
DO YOU WANT TO SEE
HOW YOU LOOK?

WHATEVER... *AHEM*
I'M SURE I LOOK
RIDICULOUS, ANYWAY.

DON'T BE SO SURE!





YEAH, LIKE I SAID,
RIDICULOUS!




NOT EVEN FIVE MINUTES AS A GIRL,
AND YOU'RE ALREADY ACTING LIKE
ONE, HUH? YEAH, WE ALWAYS THINK
WE CAN LOOK BETTER, DON'T WE?



ABSOLUTELY, LUNNIE!



I KNOW I ASKED YOU TO PRETEND TO BE A GIRL, BUT I WASN'T PICTURING YOU AS A BITCHY ONE. YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SARCASTIC WITH ME, OPPA.



C'MON, NICOLE, DON'T BE LIKE THAT. I KNOW YOU'RE MAD, BUT LET'S JUST RECORD THIS SONG SO WE CAN HAVE FUN...

FUCK, I JUST CAN'T RESIST
HER WHISPERING IN MY EAR
LIKE THIS. IT'S SO
DAMN HOT!



O-O-KAY...



THAT'S MY
GOOD GIRL!



CHAPTER Two
Knock Knock

THE NEXT MORNING...



A close-up photograph of a person's hand pointing towards a dark door. The hand is in the foreground, with the index finger extended. The door is in the background, set into a light-colored wall. A speech bubble is superimposed on the image, containing a threatening message. The scene is lit with soft, indoor lighting.


NICK, OPEN THE DOOR RIGHT NOW
OR I'M GOING TO KILL YOU, YOUR
SON OF A BITCH!

HMM...?



madean
of
duant






WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
WHO IS MAKING SUCH A DRAMA?

MAN, I FEEL LIKE I GOT HIT
BY A TRUCK. THOSE KOREAN GIRLS
MAY LOOK CUTE AND ALL, BUT THEY
SURELY DRINK LIKE LUMBERJACKS!



OUCH, WHY THE HELL
DID I JAB MY EYE?





OH, OF COURSE, IT'S THOSE
DAMN FAKE NAILS! EUNJOO SAID
SHE DIDN'T HAVE THE SOLVENT WITH
HER YESTERDAY. SHE REALLY SHOULD
HAVE CHECKED THIS OUT BEFORE
GLUING THOSE THINGS
TO MY FINGERS!




FUCK, I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER FORGET HOW HUMILIATED I FELT YESTERDAY...



C'MON, NICOLE, WE'VE TRIED THIS ABOUT THIRTY TIMES ALREADY!

I'M DOING MY BEST, OKAY? THAT'S NOT EASY SOUNDING LIKE A GIRL. TO MAKE IT WORSE, I HAVE TO SING IN KOREAN, A LANGUAGE I BARELY KNOW. DO YOU REALLY NEED TO KEEP CALLING ME NICOLE, ANYWAY?



YES, I DO. NOW MORE THAN EVER!
YOU SEE, THAT IS THE PROBLEM, YOU'RE NOT TRYING HARD TO BELIEVE THAT YOU'RE NICOLE, A GIRL BECOMING MORE FEMININE AND CONFIDENT TO SEDUCE HER CRUSH. IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT YOU CAN SING BETTER THAN US IF YOU CAN'T PLAY THE CHARACTER. YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, GIRL!

SO NOW I WANT YOU TO LOOK AT YOUR PRETTY NAILS AND BE PROUD OF THEM... THINK OF THE TASTE OF YOUR LIPSTICK AND HOW GIRLY IT MAKES YOU FEEL... WHAT ABOUT THE WEIGHT OF YOUR EYELASHES? YOU JUST LOVE THE WAY THEY FLUTTER CHARMINGLY... IT'S ALL SO EXCITING KNOWING YOU'RE ONE STEP CLOSER TO WINNING YOUR CRUSH'S HEART...



AND YOU DO WANT
TO WIN YOUR CRUSH'S
HEART, DON'T YOU?



A-ALRIGHT... LET ME
TRY AGAIN.



I WAS ONCE SOMEONE WHO HAD NO PLACE,
HIDING MY SMILE, A MASK OVER MY FACE.
BUT NOW I'M STEPPING OUT, BREAKING FREE,
UNLEASHING THE GIRL I'M MEANT TO BE.

I'LL SLIP ON HEELS, REACHING FOR THE SKY,
WITH EVERY STEP, I'LL CATCH YOUR EYE.
IN SHADES OF ROSE, MY LIPS WILL SHINE,
OH BOY, YOUR HEART WILL SOON BE MINE.




HEY, HEY, HEY, BOY,
YOUR HEART WILL
BE MINE!





OH, NICOLE, THAT WAS GREAT! I THINK YOU DESERVE A REWARD.





AND THAT WAS ALL I GOT... ONE KISS.
THE SWEET MINJI CONTINUED TO RESIST
MY ADVANCES AFTERWARDS, WHEN WE WERE
HAVING A DRINK TO CELEBRATE RECORDING THE
SONG, SAYING IT WAS TOO SOON. WAS ALL THE
HUMILIATION WORTH IT? MAN, I KNOW IS
THAT WAS A FUCKING HOT KISS!

I CAN HEAR YOU, YOU MORON!
OPEN THE FUCKING DOOR THIS SECOND
OR I'M GOING TO BREAK IT DOWN AND
STICK THE DOORKNOB DOWN
YOUR THROAT!



OH, GO FUCK
YOURSELF!



CAN'T YOU WAIT
A FUCKING MINUTE?!




YOU?! WHAT THE HELL
ARE YOU DOING HERE?



I WANT TO KNOW WHERE MY STUFF IS, YOU PIECE OF SHIT!

YOUR STUFF? WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



I'M TALKING ABOUT THE DRUGS,
YOU ASSHOLE! YOU WERE THE ONLY
ONE BESIDES ME WHO KNEW WHERE THEY
WERE HIDDEN, AND NOW THEY ARE GONE!

LISTEN, ROY, I DON'T
KNOW WHY YOU THINK...


WAIT A MINUTE, WHAT THE
HELL HAVE YOU DONE TO
YOUR NAILS?!



MAN, I'M BEING SO STUPID TODAY! WHY DID I OPEN THE DOOR WITH MY NAILS LOOKING LIKE THIS?

UMM... IT WAS ALL ABOUT
A STUPID BET I LOST AND...

A BET MY ASS! I ALWAYS KNEW
YOU WERE A FUCKING SISSY, NICKY.
A SISSY PRETENDING TO BE
A WANNABE ROCK STAR!



YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL WHAT
YOU TALK ABOUT, ROY!

WHY? WHAT ARE YOU GONNA
DO? CALL YOUR BOYFRIEND
TO DEFEND YOU, SISSY BOY?



I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S
SISSY HERE!






OUCH!

WHAT'S WRONG? DID YOU BREAK A NAIL, POOR SISSY? YOU REALLY HAVE FAIRY HANDS, DON'T YOU? LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT A REAL PUNCH LOOKS LIKE!







NOW TELL ME WHERE
THE DAMN DRUGS ARE!

I DON'T KNOW SHIT, MAN.
I DON'T DO DRUGS.



I DON'T EITHER... NOT ANYMORE.
BUT I WAS STRAPPED FOR CASH, AS OUR
GODDAMN BAND WAS GOING DOWNHILL, AND
I TOOK SOME TO SELL. YOU KNOW I HAVEN'T
PAID FOR THAT CRAP YET, RIGHT? AND I GOT
THE STUFF FROM VERY DANGEROUS PEOPLE.
IF I GET SCREWED, I SWEAR I'LL TAKE
YOU DOWN WITH ME. JUST IMAGINE WHAT
JP AND HIS GANG WOULD DO TO A SISSY
LIKE YOU?


YOU HAVE UNTIL
TOMORROW. AFTER THAT...
YOU ALREADY KNOW.



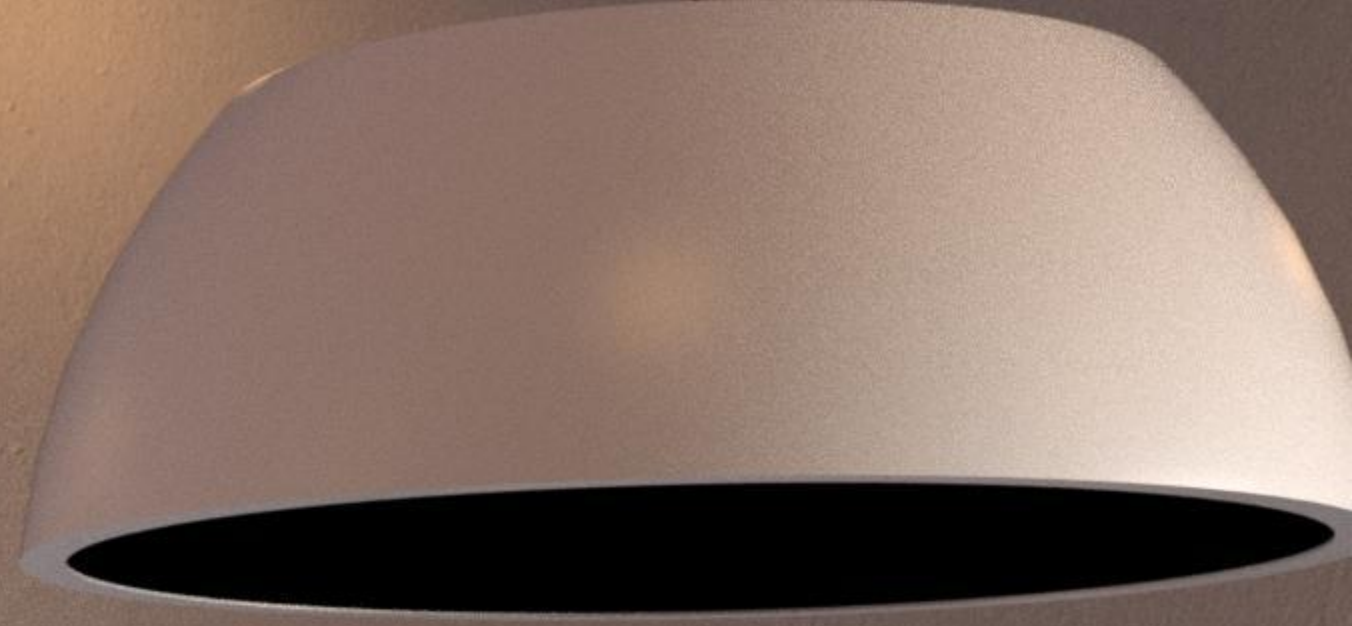




FUCK...

A person wearing black pants and black shoes stands in the foreground, their legs and feet visible. In the background, a person is lying on a light-colored wooden floor. The person on the floor is wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and grey pants. A white speech bubble with a black border is positioned to the left of the person in the foreground. The room has a wooden floor and a white wall in the background. A decorative white spherical object is visible on a shelf in the background.


HELLO. ARE YOU MR. BAXTER?
DID I COME AT A BAD TIME?



CHAPTER THREE
ALONE?

A FEW HOURS LATER...






THAT'S AN ABSURD IDEA, MINJI!
I'M TELLING YOU, I WON'T DO
THAT IN A MILLION YEARS!



YOU'RE NOT BEING REASONABLE, OPPA. LET'S RECAP EVERYTHING, SHALL WE? YOUR FORMER BEST FRIEND IS ACCUSING YOU OF STEALING SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO HIM, AND YOU BELIEVE THAT DANGEROUS PEOPLE ARE AFTER YOU BECAUSE OF IT.

AS IF THAT WEREN'T ENOUGH, YOU'VE BEEN INFORMED THAT YOUR UNCLE, WHO BEQUEATHED YOU THE STUDIO AND THE HOUSE YOU LIVE IN, HAS UNPAID GAMBLING DEBTS, AND YOU'VE RECEIVED A COURT ORDER TO VACATE THE PROPERTY. NONE OF YOUR FRIENDS AGREED TO HOST YOU AND I'M THE ONLY ONE OFFERING YOU A HAND.




YES, YES, I KNOW ALL THAT,
AND BELIEVE ME, I AM VERY
GRATEFUL TO YOU, MINJI! BUT
WHAT ARE YOU SUGGESTING...

A woman with dark, wavy hair styled in a bun, wearing a red spaghetti-strap dress, is looking towards a man. The man is wearing a grey, textured sweater and is mostly out of frame on the right. They are in a room with large windows overlooking a lush garden with a wooden bench and greenery. A speech bubble is directed at the woman.

IT'S THE ONLY WAY, OPPA.
UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU WANT
TO ASK YOUR PARENTS FOR HELP.

NEVER! I ALREADY TOLD YOU
THAT THIS IS ABSOLUTELY OUT
OF THE QUESTION!





THEN I SEE NO OTHER OPTION.
AS I EXPLAINED TO YOU, WHEN WE CAME TO
THE US FOR THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM, THERE
WERE NO FREE ROOMS IN THE COLLEGE DORM,
BUT WE MANAGED TO RENT THIS COMFORTABLE
HOUSE FOR A VERY GOOD PRICE. THE LANDLADY'S
ONLY RULE WAS THAT BOYS COULDN'T LIVE HERE.
SO IF YOU WANT TO STAY FOR A FEW DAYS,
YOU'LL NEED TO BE A GIRL.




BUT MINJI, EVEN IF I AGREED TO THIS CRAZY PLAN, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN PASS AS A GIRL. IT GOT CLEAR YESTERDAY!

YESTERDAY WE HAD NEITHER THE TIME NOR THE SUPPLIES TO TRULY WORK ON YOU, SILLY! BESIDES, EVEN IF THE LANDLADY REALIZES YOU WERE BORN A MALE, IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN'T BE A FEMALE, RIGHT? SHE JUST NEEDS TO BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE A TRANS GIRL IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSITIONING. HOW HARD CAN IT BE, OPPA? THIS IS JUST FOR A FEW DAYS, RIGHT?

NOT LONG AFTER...

RELAX, OPPA! NOW THAT THE GIRLS HAVE GOTTEN RID OF YOUR BODY HAIR, THEY CAN GET ON WITH THE WORK. I KNOW EVERYONE HERE. EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT.

YOU SEE, SABRINA EVEN AGREED TO OPEN THE SALON ON HER DAY OFF SO YOU'D BE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH NO OTHER CLIENTS AROUND. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, OKAY? I JUST NEED TO BUY SOME STUFF.

A man with short, light brown hair and blue eyes is shown from the chest up. He is wearing a shiny, pink robe with a floral pattern. He has a surprised expression. The background is a bright, modern spa or salon with white chairs and a counter. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing text.

W-WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SABRINA?!

TRUST ME, SWEETIE. YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS. DO YOU SEE HOW AMAZING THE CREAM I APPLIED ON YOU IS? YOUR SKIN LOOKS CLEARER AND I'VE EVEN MANAGED TO DISGUISE THE BRUISE UNDER YOUR EYE!

NOW THAT I'VE WORKED ON YOUR EYEBROWS, I'M JUST USING SOME SURGICAL GLUE TO MOLD YOUR EYES INTO THE DESIRED SHAPE. NOTHING PERMANENT, OF COURSE! IN JUST A FEW WEEKS EVERYTHING WILL BE BACK TO NORMAL! I'VE DONE THIS BEFORE FOR FASHION SHOWS AND PLAYS.



YOU NEED TO LISTEN TO ME!
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT'S GOING ON!

TRY NOT TO TALK FOR A MINUTE,
HONEY. BECCA IS GOING TO WORK
ON YOUR MAKEUP NOW. OH, AND
YOU'LL DEFINITELY NEED SOME
FILLING ON THE LIPS!




THERE, MUCH BETTER!



OUCH!


CALM DOWN, DARLING! I KNOW THAT PIERCING THE EARS IS A BIT OF A PAIN, BUT DO YOU SEE HOW CUTE YOU LOOK WITH PRETTY EARRINGS?

A close-up shot of a woman with short, straight black hair and bangs. She has large, expressive eyes, pink lips, and is wearing a shiny, pink floral-patterned jacket with a wide white collar. Her hands are visible, showing long, pink, pointed fingernails. She is in a modern, brightly lit hair salon with white chairs and mirrors in the background. A speech bubble is positioned to her right.

ALRIGHT, YOUR HAIR IS
DONE TOO. OH, IT SEEMS THAT
MINJI IS BACK. JUST IN TIME!



OH MY... I CAN'T BELIEVE
HOW BEAUTIFUL YOU LOOK,
NABI-YA!



WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON, MINJI?
WHY DID THOSE CRAZY BITCHES DYE
MY HAIR BLACK AND PUT CONTACTS
IN MY EYES? THEY EVEN PIERCED MY
EARS THREE TIMES! AND WHY ARE
YOU CALLING ME NABI?




NOW, YOU NEED TO CALM DOWN, DOLL!
FIRST OF ALL, YOU SHOULD CALL ME UNNIE
FROM NOW ON, BECAUSE I'M OLDER THAN
YOU AND WE'RE BOTH GIRLS. YOU KNOW THAT
SHOWING RESPECT TO THOSE OLDER THAN
YOU IS SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT
TO KOREAN PEOPLE!



OLDER THAN ME? WHAT
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I'M TWENTY-FIVE!

NO, YOU'RE NOT. NICK IS TWENTY-FIVE,
BUT YOU'RE NOT NICK, RIGHT? YOU'RE
KIM NABI, A NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD
KOREAN GIRL.



WHAT?! WHY DO I NEED TO
PRETEND TO BE KOREAN?

BECAUSE THAT WAY IT'LL BE
EASIER TO CONVINCE OUR LANDLADY
TO LET YOU STAY WITH US. WE'LL TELL
HER THAT YOU LEFT KOREA TO FINALLY
BE ABLE TO BE YOUR TRUE SELF, AS YOU
WERE FACING A LOT OF RESISTANCE AT
HOME, AND THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ANYONE
ELSE HERE. GOT IT? NO MORE QUESTIONS
NOW, NABI-YA. WE STILL HAVE A LOT
OF WORK TO DO!

FIVE MINUTES LATER, IN A CHANGING ROOM...

WHY ARE YOU TAKING SO LONG? IS EVERYTHING OKAY THERE, NABI-YA?

YES YOU DO! THIS IS A GAFF, A SPECIAL UNDERWEAR FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU. NOW PUT THIS ON!


DO I REALLY NEED TO WEAR THESE PANTIES? MAN, THIS IS SO HUMILIATING!



A woman is shown from the waist down, sitting on a toilet. She is wearing a black bikini bottom. Her right hand is resting on her right thigh. A speech bubble is positioned above her head, and another is positioned below her hand. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

FUCK, THIS IS PAIN IN THE ASS, OKAY?

WHAT DID I TELL YOU ABOUT BEING RESPECTFUL, GIRL? YOU DEFINITELY HAVE A LOT TO LEARN. ALRIGHT, I'M COMING IN!



AH, AMAZING! YOU'RE COMPLETELY
FLAT DOWN THERE. JUST PERFECT! THERE'S
A PART OF YOUR BODY THAT WE DON'T WANT
TO BE SO FLAT, THOUGH. LUCKILY, I HAVE
THE SOLUTION FOR THAT.

YOU'LL UNDERSTAND
IN A MINUTE.


W-WHAT ARE
THOSE THINGS?



STOP MOVING SO MUCH, GIRL!
WE NEED TO WAIT FOR THE GLUE TO
DRY! THEN I'LL USE SOME MAKEUP
TO HIDE THE EDGES.


W-WAIT, MINJI,
I DON'T THINK...

GLUE?!



WHAT THE FUCK? THESE
BOOBS LOOK SO REALISTIC!
THIS IS INSANE!

YOU CAN ADMIRE YOUR "GIRLS"
LATER, NABI-YA. NOW IT'S TIME
FOR YOUR FIRST BRA. ISN'T
THAT EXCITING?



IT ALL FEELS SO
FUCKED UP, MINJI!


YOU KNOW, I SHOULD START
PUNISHING YOU EVERY TIME YOU
SWEAR AND NOT CALL ME LUNNIE.
NOW STOP WHINING. YOU'LL WEAR
YOUR PRETTY LINGERIE ALL THE
TIME AS LONG AS YOU'RE A GIRL!
AND I HAVE ANOTHER SURPRISE
FOR YOU...



OH, IS THERE SOMEONE
TALKING TO ME?

STOP IT, MINJI! THIS
IS TOO TIGHT! I CAN'T
FUCKING BREATH!

PLEASE, STOP...
UNNIE!

A woman with short black hair and pink lips is wearing a black lace corset. She has a speech bubble coming from her mouth. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

THAT'S BETTER! YOU SEE,
NABI-YA? GOOD THINGS HAPPEN
WHEN YOU'RE A GOOD GIRL!

ABSOLUTELY NOT, GIRL!
BEING BEAUTIFUL REQUIRES CERTAIN
SACRIFICES. DON'T WORRY, THOUGH.
YOU'LL GET USED TO THE CORSET...
IN TIME. NOW LET'S GET
YOU DRESSED!

I WOULDN'T CALL ANYTHING
THAT'S HAPPENING A "GOOD THING".
COULD YOU LOOSEN THIS FU... THIS
FREAKING CORSET, PLEASE, UNNIE?





OH MY... THIS IS SO MUCH FUN!
I FEEL LIKE I HAVE MY OWN
LIVING BARBIE DOLL, NABI-YA!



C'MON, LUNNIE, EVEN YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THIS IS TOO MUCH! YOU CAN'T REALLY EXPECT ME TO WALK OUT OF THE SALON DRESSED LIKE THIS!





YOU HAVE NO CHOICE, NABI-YA,
UNLESS YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE
WEARING ONLY YOUR PRETTY LINGERIE!
I'VE GOT RID OF THE CLOTHES YOU
WERE IN WHEN YOU GOT HERE.



YOU WHAT?! YOU HAD
NO RIGHT TO...

I THINK YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, NABI-YA. DO YOU
REALLY WANT TO MAKE IT WORK? THEN YOU
NEED TO START LISTENING TO ME. I'M YOUR
UNNIE AND I KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU.
I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOUR RUDENESS.



B-BUT...

FOR THE LAST TIME, SILLY GIRL,
IF I'M SAYING YOU CAN GO OUT WEARING
THIS OUTFIT IT'S BECAUSE I KNOW WHAT
I'M TALKING ABOUT. THERE'S JUST ONE
THING WE STILL NEED TO FIX, THOUGH.
OPEN YOUR MOUTH, PLEASE.






W-WHAT THE HEEL WAS...



OUCH! WHAT DID YOU DO TO
COUGH MY THROAT? IT HURTS
COUGH LIKE HEEL!



OUCH!



DON'T BE SUCH A DRAMA QUEEN, NABI-YA. YOU'RE JUST USING YOUR VOICE THE WRONG WAY, SO TO SPEAK. BUT DON'T WORRY, YOU'LL GET THE HANG OF IT!

TWENTY MINUTES LATER...





YOU KNOW, GIRL, IF YOU TRULY WANT TO AVOID DRAWING ATTENTION, YOU SHOULD WALK MORE DELICATELY. ANYONE WHO SEES A CUTE LITTLE THING LIKE YOU WALKING AROUND LIKE A BRUTE WILL STOP TO TAKE A SECOND LOOK!



HUMPH!



WHAT'S WRONG, DOLL? ARE YOU STILL MAD ABOUT THE SPRAY? YOU KNOW THAT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO. YES, YOU'VE ALREADY PROVEN THAT YOU CAN SPEAK IN A PRETTY FEMALE VOICE, BUT YOU'VE BEEN TOO STUBBORN. WHAT IF DURING YET ANOTHER TANTRUM YOU DECIDED TO USE A MALE VOICE, PRETENDING YOU'RE A MAN IN FRONT OF MY LANDLADY?




REMEMBER THAT I AM RISKING A LOT TO HELP YOU. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT EVERYONE BELIEVES THAT YOU'RE A TRANS GIRL WHOSE BIGGEST DREAM IS TO BE AS GIRLY AS POSSIBLE. WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO SAY SOMETHING? REMEMBER, THE DEAL FOR ME TO LET YOU WEAR A MASK IN PUBLIC TODAY WAS THAT YOU WOULD COOPERATE!



MAN, I HATE THAT FUCKING SPRAY SO BAD! IT FORCES ME TO SPEAK IN AN EVEN HIGHER VOICE THAN THE ONE I USED TO SING YESTERDAY. I NEED TO SOUND A LOT CUTER AND GIRLIER THAN EVEN MINJI AND THE OTHER GIRLS IF I DON'T WANT TO BE IN EXCRUCIATING PAIN!

THIS IS AS EMASCULATING AS THESE RIDICULOUS CLOTHES I'M WEARING. I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M WALKING IN PUBLIC DRESSED LIKE THIS!



WHEN *AHEM* WILL THIS
SPRAY WEAR OFF, UNNIE? YOU SPRAYED
IT DOWN MY THROAT ALMOST HALF AN
HOUR AGO, SHOULDN'T I ALREADY BE
ABLE TO SPEAK NORMALLY AGAIN?

MY SWEET NABI-YA, YOU'RE SPEAKING
NORMALLY RIGHT NOW! AND YOU SOUND
SO FREAKING ADORABLE! GOSH, I LOVE IT!
GET USED BEING THE CUTEST GIRL AROUND
BECAUSE THE SPRAY WON'T WEAR OFF
FOR AT LEAST TWO WEEKS!



TWO WEEKS!??



CHAPTER FOUR
YES OR YES

THREE DAYS LATER...




Knock!
Knock!





HMM?



IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP, NABI-YA!
THE OTHER GIRLS HAVE ALREADY LEFT
FOR CLASS. I MADE BREAKFAST!

AL... *COUGH* *COUGH*
ALRIGHT, GIVE ME A MINUTE!





YAWN!

FUCK, I HATE THIS VOICE SO MUCH! I HATE GETTING UP AT THIS HOUR TOO. I DON'T KNOW WHY MINJI-UNNIE ALWAYS WAKES ME UP SO EARLY!



WAIT... WHY AM I CALLING HER UNNIE WHEN SHE ISN'T AROUND? HAS SHE SCREWED UP MY MIND THIS MUCH ALREADY? IN JUST THREE DAYS?

MAN, I DEFINITELY NEED
SOME COFFEE!





AH, HERE'S
SLEEPING BEAUTY!

HUH?!





UNNIE! Y-YOU DIDN'T
SAY... G-GUEST!



CRAP, I'M SO NERVOUS I CAN BARELY SPEAK! I CAN'T BELIEVE THERE'S A STRANGE WOMAN SEEING ME DRESSED LIKE THIS. IT JUST GETS MORE AND MORE HUMILIATING!



YOU SEE, MRS. GOMEZ,
AS I TOLD YOU, THE POOR
NABI-YA CAN BARELY
SPEAK ENGLISH!



NICE TO MEET YOU,
HONEY! YOU DON'T NEED TO
BE ASHAMED. MINJI ALREADY
TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU.
I'M THE GIRLS' LANDLADY.



I GOT VERY TOUCHED BY YOUR STORY AND I DECIDED TO HELP YOU. I WON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER!



CHAPTER FIVE
NAVILLERA

TWO WEEKS LATER...








MAN, THIS IS SO UNFAIR!



I WAS SURE BY THEN THINGS WOULD HAVE CLEARED UP AND I'D BE BACK HOME, BUT EVERYTHING IS GOING FROM BAD TO WORSE! JB AND HIS GANG ARE INDEED AFTER ME BECAUSE THEY THINK I STOLE THEIR DRUGS. WITH THAT HAPPENING, I HAVE NO WAY OF FIGHTING TO GET BACK THE HOUSE AND STUDIO I INHERITED FROM MY UNCLE!

A woman with dark hair is lying on her back on a blue tufted sofa. She is wearing a bright pink, ribbed, short-sleeved top and blue shorts. She has a serious expression and is looking towards the camera. Her right hand is raised to her forehead. The room has light-colored walls decorated with a string of white light bulbs and several Polaroid photos. Sunlight streams in from a window on the left, casting shadows on the wall and floor. A bed with a striped pillow is visible in the background.

MEANWHILE, HERE I AM, LIVING
IN HIDING AS A SUBMISSIVE SISSY!

I MEAN...





...IT'S INSANE HOW DELICATE
AND WEAK I LOOK THESE DAYS!
AND THAT'S NOT ALL...





FUCK!






MINJI-UNNIE INSISTS THAT I'M SEEING THINGS, BUT I'M ABSOLUTELY SURE MY CHEST IS GETTING MORE AND MORE SWOLLEN. THIS ALL STARTED AFTER I WENT TO THAT DAMN DOCTOR!

THAT'S THE STUPIDEST THING
I'VE EVER HEARD! I'M NOT TRANS
AND I DON'T NEED A DOCTOR TO
HELP ME WITH MY TRANSITION.
YOU KNOW IT VERY WELL!






THE IMPORTANT THING HERE IS
THAT MRS. GOMEZ BELIEVES YOU'RE
A TRANS GIRL, OKAY? AND SHE WANTS
TO HELP YOU FOR SOME REASON. SHE NOT
ONLY REFERRED YOU A DOCTOR BUT ALSO
OFFERED TO PAY FOR THE APPOINTMENT.
YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE, NABI-YA.
YOU WILL HAVE TO GO.

THERE'S NO REASON FOR SO MUCH
DRAMA, THOUGH. WORST CASE SCENARIO,
THE DOCTOR WILL PRESCRIBE YOU PILLS
THAT YOU CAN SIMPLY NOT TAKE.
SEE? SIMPLE!


YES, I DIDN'T TAKE ANY
PILLS BUT STILL....

MOAN



A woman with short dark hair, wearing a bright pink, ribbed, strapless dress, stands in a room. She has a shocked expression on her face, with wide eyes and an open mouth. Her hands are raised in a gesture of disbelief. A window to her right shows a lush garden with green grass, rocks, and various flowers. The room has light-colored walls and a patterned radiator cover. A thought bubble is positioned above her head, containing text.

WHAT THE HELL!
DID I GET TURNED ON BY
TOUCHING MY NIPPLES?!



YOU KNOW WHAT? ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!
I NEED TO GET MY LIFE BACK. I'LL TELL MINJI
I'M LEAVING TODAY!

DING DONG!

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL... SHE MUST
HAVE FORGOTTEN HER KEYS AGAIN!





THAT'S IT! IT'S TIME FOR ME
TO STOP ACTING LIKE A SISSY
AND BE A MAN AGAIN!



AHHH...?!




WHERE'S NICK?


N-NICK?

A close-up photograph of a person's arm and hand slapping a white door. The person is wearing a dark, textured long-sleeved shirt. A prominent tattoo is visible on the forearm, featuring a stylized face with large eyes and a wide mouth. The hand is pressed against the door, and the door has a brass doorknob. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, and a shadow of the hand is cast on the wall to the right. The word "SLAM!" is overlaid in red, bold, italicized text in the center of the image.

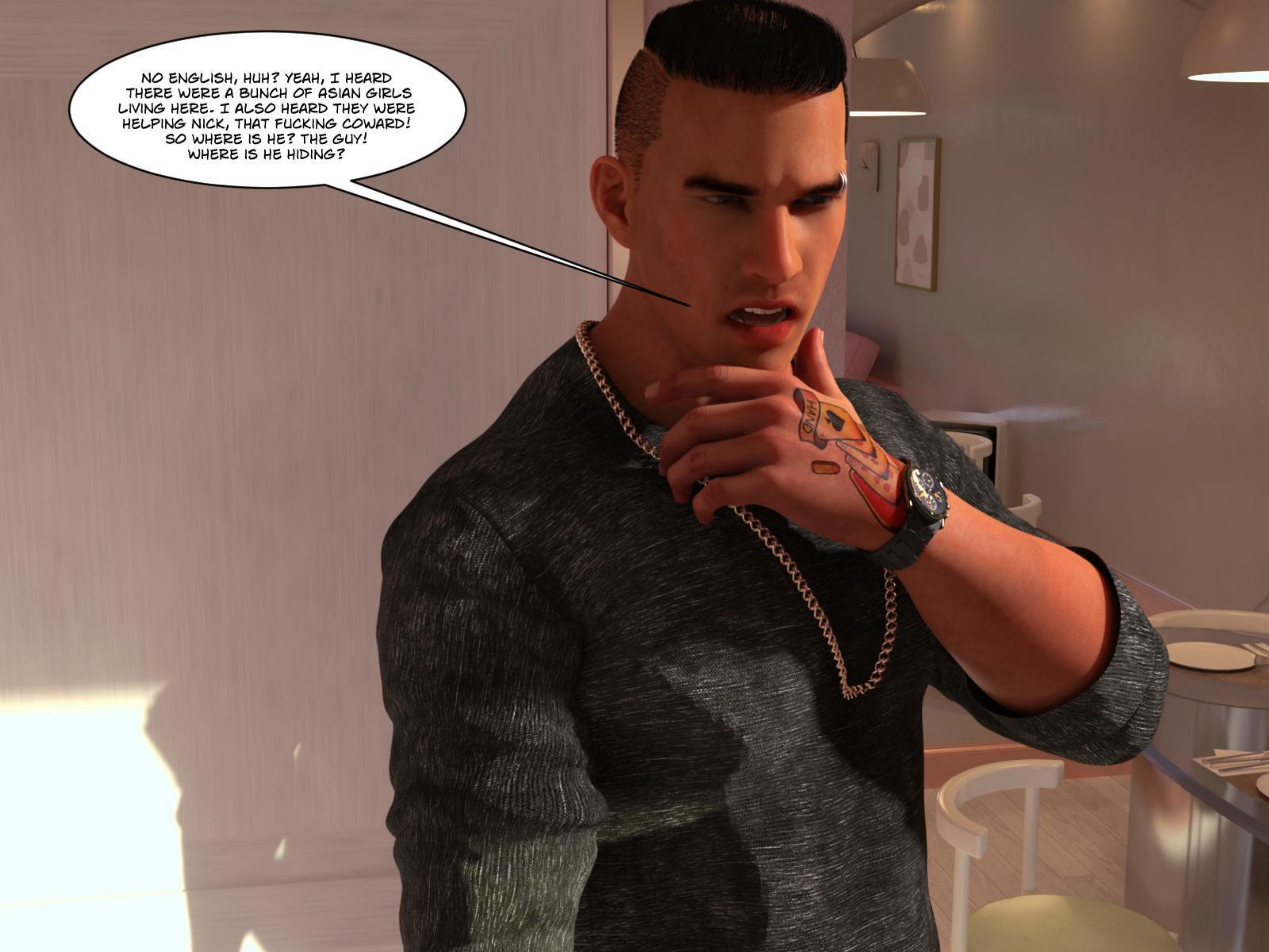
SLAM!




LISTEN TO ME, I DON'T HAVE
TIME TO WASTE! JUST TELL ME
WHERE THAT MOTHERFUCKER IS
IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD
FOR YOU!

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a pink lace-trimmed spaghetti-strap dress, is speaking to a man whose profile is visible on the left. She has her hands raised in a questioning or explanatory gesture. The man is wearing a dark, textured shirt. The scene is set in a modern living room with a pink sofa, a patterned rug, and a window with vertical blinds. A speech bubble is directed at the woman.

SOW-LEE,
NO ING-LISH!



NO ENGLISH, HUH? YEAH, I HEARD
THERE WERE A BUNCH OF ASIAN GIRLS
LIVING HERE. I ALSO HEARD THEY WERE
HELPING NICK, THAT FUCKING COWARD!
SO WHERE IS HE? THE GUY!
WHERE IS HE HIDING?

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a red, ribbed, spaghetti-strap dress with a lace-like pattern on the bodice, is shown in a living room. She is looking to her left with a slightly surprised or playful expression. Her hands are raised near her chest, with her fingers spread. She has red nail polish and a ring on her left hand. The room features a pink sofa, a patterned rug, and a vase with a plant. A speech bubble is positioned above her head, containing the text "NO GAI! JUS GULS HEE-UH!".


NO GAI! JUS GULS
HEE-UH!



JUST GIRLS HERE... FUCK I JUST TOLD MYSELF IT WAS TIME, TO STOP ACTING LIKE AN SISSY AND BE A MAN AGAIN! NOW I'M SAYING THERE'S NO GUY IN THE HOUSE!

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a red spaghetti-strap dress with lace detailing on the chest, is shown in profile. She has a thought bubble above her head. In the foreground, the back of a man's head and shoulder is visible, wearing a dark, textured garment with a gold chain. The background features a pink sofa, a framed abstract painting, and a white vase with a branch.

BUT LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THIS BASTARD! I LOOK EVEN MORE GIRLISH NEXT TO HIM. HE WOULD KILL ME WITH JUST ONE FINGER IF HE KNEW WHO I REALLY AM!



VERY WELL, IF THAT'S THE TRUTH,
YOU DON'T MIND ME TAKING A LOOK
AT THE HOUSE, RIGHT? ALSO, KEEP IN MIND
THAT I'LL BE AROUND FOR AWHILE. I HAVE
ORDERS TO FIND THAT SON OF A BITCH
AND THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA DO!



AND LET ME TELL YOU, IT WON'T HURT TO KEEP AN EYE ON A HOT CHICK LIKE YOU. MAYBE WE CAN EVEN HAVE SOME FUN!



DID HE REALLY CALL ME
A HOT CHICK?!



CHAPTER Six
NEXT LEVEL





OLANGERIE

OLDEST BOULANGERIE

PREMIUM QUALITY BAKERY

Kiss Me

YOU NEED TO RELAX NABI-YA. YOU LOOK LIKE A SCARED KITTEN!

OF COURSE I'M NERVOUS!
IT'S ALWAYS SCARY LEAVING
HOME DRESSED AS A GIRL!


PREMIUM QUALITY BAKERY

COFFEE SHOP

Kiss Me

WHAT ELSE DID YOU EXPECT
TO BE WEARING, SILLY?
YOU'RE A GIRL!





SIGH FINE, BUT I STILL
DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU
GUYS MADE ME GO OUT TODAY!


C'MON, NABI-YA, AREN'T YOU
TIRED OF STAYING AT HOME ALL
THE TIME? BESIDES, MINJI-UNNIE
HAS A SURPRISE FOR YOU.

CRAP... WHATEVER MINJI-UNNIE
HAS IN MIND, IT DEFINITELY CAN'T
MEAN ANYTHING GOOD FOR ME!



A WEEK BEFORE...





...THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED, UNNIE.
THAT SHADY GUY SHOWED UP EARLIER
TODAY LOOKING FOR ME, AND BY SOME
MIRACLE I MANAGED TO TRICK HIM.
I DON'T THINK I'LL BE SO LUCKY NEXT
TIME, THOUGH, SO I'LL GO AWAY.

THIS STUPID SITUATION IS TOO
DANGEROUS NOT ONLY FOR ME,
BUT ALSO FOR EVERYONE
AROUND ME. I NEVER WANTED
TO PUT YOU GIRLS AT RISK!



WHAT A CUTIE!

I DON'T THINK SHE REALIZES IT,
BUT IT SEEMS THAT SOME GIRLY
MANNERISMS HAVE ALREADY BECOME
NATURAL TO HER. YES, THE TRAINING IS
PAYING OFF. MY SWEET NABI-YA...
MAYBE THIS WILL WORK, AFTER ALL!



YOU CAN'T LEAVE, DOLL.
NOT NOW. THAT'S DEFINITELY
OUT OF THE QUESTION!

WHAT? DID YOU HEAR WHAT
I JUST TOLD YOU?

SHHH... CALM DOWN, NABI-YA.
YOU NEED TO TRUST ME, OKAY?
I'M TELLING YOU EVERYTHING IS
GOING TO BE ALRIGHT.





B-BUT...

JUST THINK ABOUT IT FOR A MINUTE. IF THE HOUSE REALLY IS BEING WATCHED, DON'T YOU THINK THOSE MEN WOULD FIND ONE OF THE GIRLS DISAPPEARING OVERNIGHT SUSPICIOUS? THAT'S IT. IF YOU WANT TO SEE US SAFE, YOU MUST STAY.



OF COURSE, WE NEED TO PERFECT YOUR DISGUISE. YOU WERE LUCKY TODAY, AS YOU SAID YOURSELF, BUT WE CAN'T COUNT ON LUCK AGAIN.



AND WHAT DOES THAT MEAN, UNNIE?

OH, DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD ABOUT THAT, I HAVE SOME IDEAS IN MIND!



OH, HELLO!

A woman with dark, wavy hair is standing in a locker room. She is wearing a purple sports bra and matching purple leggings. She has a surprised expression and is gesturing with her right hand. A speech bubble points to her, containing the text: "I THOUGHT YOU GIRLS WEREN'T GOING TO COME ANYMORE!". The locker room has purple lockers with numbers 2 through 10 visible. A wooden bench is in the foreground, and a red bag is on the left.

I THOUGHT YOU
GIRLS WEREN'T GOING
TO COME ANYMORE!

WELL, IT WASN'T EASY
GETTING NABI-YA OUT
OF THE HOUSE. THAT'S
WHY WE'RE LATE.



I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT I'M DOING HERE, UNNIE!



A woman with dark, wavy hair, wearing a maroon sports bra, stands in a locker room. She is looking slightly to her left with a subtle smile. The background consists of rows of purple lockers with white numbers. A speech bubble originates from her mouth, containing text. Her fingernails are painted in various colors (pink, green, red).

YOU'LL UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING
SOON, SWEETIE. GIRLS, COULD YOU
LEAVE NABI-YA AND ME ALONE
FOR A MINUTE?


SO, CAN YOU EXPLAIN WHAT'S
GOING ON NOW, UNNIE?





YOU SEE, NABI-YA, YOU'VE BEEN IMPROVING A LOT SINCE YOU STARTED COOPERATING. I LIKE THE FACT THAT IT'S BEEN MANY DAYS SINCE YOU LAST FORGOT TO ADDRESS ME CORRECTLY! YOU CAN BE SUCH A GOOD GIRL WHEN YOU WANT, DON'T YOU?

HOWEVER, THIS ISN'T ENOUGH YET!



W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF,
NABI-YA.

W-WHAT?!!!

Kiss Me

YOU HEARD ME, DOLL!
LET ME GIVE YOU A HAND.

W-WAIT, UNNIE...

DON'T BE SILLY, NABI-YA.
WE'RE ALL GIRLS HERE, RIGHT?
THERE'S NO REASON TO BE SHY.





WELL, LOOKING AT YOU NOW, IT REALLY LOOKS LIKE YOUR CHEST IS A LITTLE PUFFY, YOU KNOW? MAYBE YOU WEREN'T SEEING THINGS, AFTER ALL. LET ME CHECK IT OUT!



GASP



YES, YOUR CHEST IS DEFINITELY SWOLLEN! AND FROM YOUR REACTION, IT ALSO SEEMS TO BE VERY SENSITIVE. DOES IT FEEL GOOD, NABI-YA?

AHHHH...





YES, I SEE YOU'RE HAVING A LOT OF FUN, YOU NAUGHTY GIRL!




A LOT OF FUN
INDEED!

W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING, UNNIE? WHY DID YOU PUSH ME?

MY SWEET NABI-YA...



A woman with dark hair, wearing a maroon bikini, stands in a locker room. She is gesturing with her right hand towards another woman whose back is to the camera. The locker room has pink lockers with numbers 3, 6, and 6 visible. A red exercise machine is also present. A speech bubble points to the woman in the bikini.

...LET'S JUST SAY I WANT
TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK
AT YOUR CHEST, HUH?










AHHHH...



YOU REALLY LOVE IT WHEN
I PLAY WITH YOUR BOOBS,
DON'T YOU, NABI-YA?



B-BOOBS?!! I... I DON'T
HAVE BOOBS, UNNIE!

OH, REALLY?







AHHHHHH...!



JUDGING BY THE VOLUME DOWN
HERE, YOU DO HAVE BOOBS, AND
YOU DEFINITELY LOVE IT WHEN
I PLAY WITH THEM!

ADMIT IT THIS SECOND
OR I WON'T TOUCH YOUR
BUDDY HERE EVER AGAIN!





ALRIGHT... I ADMIT! I LOVE IT
WHEN YOU PLAY WITH MY BOOBS!
DON'T STOP, PLEASE!

GOOD GIRL! NOW KEEP
YOUR EYES CLOSED. I HAVE
A SURPRISE TO YOU!

A MOMENT LATER...



WHAT'S GOING ON, UNNIE?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



NOW, NOW, BE PATIENT, GIRL.
AND KEEP YOUR EYES CLOSED
OR YOU'LL BE PUNISHED!





OUCH! IT FEELS COLD!

WE'RE ALMOST THERE,
GIRL!

B

B-BUT...





GOOD...



NOW THAT THE ICE PACK IS DOING ITS JOB, I THINK YOU'RE ALMOST READY FOR THE SURPRISE.

LET ME GET THIS FROM MY BAG.



Click!



HUH...?!





WHAT THE...

GET THIS THING OFF MY COCK
RIGHT NOW OR I...







AHHHH...



OR YOU WHAT, SISSY BOY?



I'M NOT A SISSY!



YOU SURE? ARE YOU
A GIRL THEN?




NO! I'M A MAN!



A MAN? DO MEN WEAR PRETTY PANTIES? WOULD A MAN SPEAK WITH A HIGH, SWEET VOICE LIKE YOU? AND MOST IMPORTANTLY...



DO MEN HAVE SUCH
PRETTY, SOFT BOOBS?

A woman with dark hair styled in a bun, wearing a purple halter-neck top, is looking down at a long, dark wig on a white stand. To the right, a red suitcase with white straps sits on the same stand. A speech bubble originates from the suitcase area.

WE'VE ALREADY TALKED ABOUT THIS, NABI-YA. THERE ARE DANGEROUS PEOPLE AFTER YOU. YOU NEED TO BE A GIRL. MY PRETTY GIRL! IF YOU BEHAVE, THEN LATER YOU CAN BE MY HUNKY MAN! YOU KNOW I'VE ALWAYS HAD A CRUSH ON YOU, RIGHT? CAN YOU DO THIS, NABI-YA?



I... I...


JUST SAY IT, NABI-YA.
JUST SAY IT AND EVERYTHING
WILL BE ALRIGHT!

I'LL BE YOUR
PRETTY GIRL!



YOU SEE? THAT WASN'T
HARD, DOLL!







AND YOU KNOW THAT GIRLS
DON'T USUALLY HAVE COCKS, RIGHT?
SO, WE CAN KEEP YOUR BUDDY HERE
LOCKED UP FOR NOW. THAT REALLY IS
A SHAME... YOU USED TO HAVE A BIG,
MANLY MEMBER, BUT IT LOOKS SO
USELESS NOW, DOESN'T IT?



B-BUT, UNNIE, I'M SO TURNED ON...
THIS THING IS HURTING LIKE HELL!
PLEASE, I REALLY NEED TO...



WHAT DID I JUST SAY, NABI-YA?
WHEN YOU DESERVE IT, I CAN FREE
YOUR BUDDY, BUT YOU'RE NOT DOING
YOUR PART, ARE YOU? THE MORE YOU
COMPLAIN, THE LONGER IT'LL
TAKE TO HAPPEN!



I DIDN'T WANT TO GO THIS FAR,
BUT YOU YOURSELF SAW THAT ONLY
THE GAFF WASN'T ENOUGH TO HOLD YOUR
MEMBER, RIGHT? WHAT IF THIS HAPPENS AGAIN
IN FRONT OF THE WRONG PERSON? NO, WE
CAN'T RISK IT. NOW YOU'RE UNDER CONTROL.
AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR BOOBS.
WE'LL SEE THE THE DOCTOR AGAIN TO
FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON, ALTHOUGH
YOU LOOK KINDA CUTE LIKE THAT
GIGGLES



NOW GET UP, GIRL...



IT'S TIME FOR THE REAL
SURPRISE I HAVE FOR YOU.



CHAPTER SEVEN
High Heels



C'MON, NABI-YA!
DON'T BE SHY.


I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING.
HOW DID I LET THIS GET THIS FAR?
WHY CAN'T I REACT AS MINJI-UNNIE
KEEPS BOSSING ME AROUND?





I FEEL COMPLETELY HELPLESS
AROUND HER. I DIDN'T USE TO BE
LIKE THIS... A SUBMISSIVE SISSY!

NOW, THOUGH, JUST THINKING
ABOUT FIGHTING BACK MAKES ME
WANT TO CRY!



THIS CAN ONLY BE A SIDE EFFECT OF THOSE DAMN HORMONE PILLS, THE SAME ONES THAT ARE MAKING ME GROW BOOBS! BUT HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE IF I DIDN'T TAKE ANY OF THE PILLS THE DOC GAVE ME?

IS MINJI-UNNIE PUTTING THEM IN MY FOOD OR SOMETHING? WHAT WOULD SHE HAVE TO GAIN FROM DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT?



ALL I KNOW IS THAT I'VE LOST
EVEN MY COCK, WHICH IS NOW
LOCKED UP IN A FUCKING CAGE!



WE DON'T HAVE ALL DAY, GIRL. MOVE!



COME ON, NABI-YA!

WE'RE STILL JUST STRETCHING,
SO YOU HAVEN'T MISSED
ANYTHING YET!



I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT I'M DOING HERE, GIRLS.

THAT'S VERY SIMPLE, SWEETIE. AS YOU
KNOW, WE'VE BEEN PRACTICING SOME
CHOREOGRAPHIES RECENTLY, AND WE'VE
DECIDED IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO JOIN
THE FUN!



WHAT?!! THIS MAKES NO SENSE,
UNNIE! I... I DON'T KNOW HOW
TO DANCE!

DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY
LITTLE HEAD ABOUT THAT,
NABI-YA. WE ARE HERE
TO HELP YOU.



B-BUT...

JUST THINK ABOUT IT, SILLY. PEOPLE WILL START TO FIND IT SUSPICIOUS IF YOU NEVER LEAVE THE HOUSE. IT'LL LOOK LIKE YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY OR HIDING FROM SOMEONE. BESIDES, WE NEED TO CREATE A PERSONALITY FOR YOU. A BELIEVABLE PERSONALITY - SOMETHING THAT COULD FOOL MRS. GOMEZ OR ANYONE ELSE SPYING ON YOU.

SO NOW, FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, YOUR BIGGEST DREAM IS TO BE A DANCER AND PERFORMER. THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL TELL ANYONE WHO ASKS. NO ONE WILL SUSPECT ANYTHING SINCE WE ALL HERE LOVE TO DANCE. PERFECT, RIGHT?



GOSH, THIS JUST COULDN'T GET MORE HUMILIATING! NOW THEY WANT ME TO NOT ONLY LOOK BUT ALSO DANCE LIKE A SISSY! I NEED TO FIND A WAY TO GET RID OF THE GANG THAT'S AFTER ME. UNTIL THEN, I'M COMPLETELY STUCK. I MEAN, IF THEY FIND OUT WHO I REALLY AM, I'M A DEAD GIRL...



DID I SAY DEAD GIRL?!
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG
WITH ME? MAN, I'D BE
A DEAD MAN!

LET'S START WARMING UP, NABI-YA.
JUST FOLLOW MY MOVES, OKAY?









FUCK...

FIVE MINUTES LATER...





OKAY, GIRLS, WE'VE STRETCHED ENOUGH. NOW LET'S LINE UP IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR.


LET'S START WITH SOMETHING BASIC,
JUST SO YOU CAN GET THE HANG OF IT,
NABI-YA. PUT YOUR HANDS ON YOUR
HIPS AND KEEP YOUR LEGS
SLIGHTLY APART.





LIKE THIS?

YEAH, THAT'S GOOD!



NOW WATCH ME AND TRY
TO MEMORIZE MY MOVES.
FIVE, SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT...



ONE, TWO...

THREE, FOUR...






FIVE, SIX...

SEVEN, EIGHT...






PRETTY EASY, HUH?
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.

I... I DON'T THINK
I CAN DO THIS, UNNIE.

DON'T BE SILLY, DEAR.
I HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE
IN YOU!

TWENTY TRIES LATER...



A digital illustration of two women in a dance studio. The woman on the left is wearing a maroon sports bra and leggings with three white stripes down the side. She has dark, wavy hair and is gesturing with her hands as if speaking. The woman on the right is wearing a pink sports bra and leggings, with purple sneakers. She has short black hair and is standing with her hands on her hips, looking towards the first woman. A speech bubble points from the first woman to the second, containing the text: "NO, NO AND NO! AREN'T YOU LISTENING TO WHAT I'M SAYING, NABI-YA? YOU NEED TO WALK WITH GRACE AND ELEGANCE. NOT LIKE A LUMBERJACK!". The studio has a wooden floor, a black barre, and a door in the background.

NO, NO AND NO! AREN'T YOU LISTENING TO WHAT I'M SAYING, NABI-YA? YOU NEED TO WALK WITH GRACE AND ELEGANCE. NOT LIKE A LUMBERJACK!

A 3D rendered character with short black hair and bangs, wearing a pink sports bra and bright pink leggings, stands in a dance studio with her hands on her hips. A speech bubble points to her mouth.

I'M TRYING MY BEST, UNNIE.
I TOLD YOU THIS WASN'T
A GOOD IDEA. I'M NOT
MADE FOR DANCING!

A woman with dark, wavy hair and a purple sports bra stands in a dance studio. She has a speech bubble above her head. The studio has a wooden floor, a black ballet barre, and large windows. There are framed pictures on the wall, including one of a ballerina. The woman's right hand is raised, showing pink and green nail polish.

OH, NOT SO FAST CLEVER GIRL!
I HAVE AN IDEA TO MAKE YOU
WALK THE WAY I WANT.



WHERE'S THE SHOEBOX,
GIRLS?



A woman is shown from the waist down, wearing bright pink, ribbed leggings and matching pink high-heeled sandals. She is standing on a wooden floor in a dance studio. In the background, there is a dark wood wall with a black ballet barre and a window with white trim. A speech bubble is positioned to the left of the woman.

C'MON, GIRLS...

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
DO YOU REALLY EXPECT ME
TO WALK ON THESE THINGS?



YOU REALLY HAVE A THING FOR BEING
A DRAMA QUEEN, DON'T YOU, NABI-YA?
I GUESS THAT MAKES SENSE SINCE
YOU'RE OUR MAKNAE.




A woman with short black hair and bangs, wearing a pink sports bra, stands in a dance studio. She has a surprised expression. Her hands are raised, showing colorful nail polish. In the background, there is a large window with a white grid pattern and a black ballet barre. A speech bubble points to her face.

MAKNAE?


THE YOUNGEST IN
THE GROUP, SILLY.

I'M NOT YOUNGER
THAN YOU GIRLS!

WE'VE ALREADY TALKED
ABOUT IT, DOLL.

A woman with dark, wavy hair, wearing a purple leotard, stands in a dance studio. She is looking to her right. In the background, another woman in a purple leotard is standing with her back to the camera, looking out a window. The studio has a wooden floor and a black ballet barre. A speech bubble is directed at the woman in the foreground.

NICK WAS OLDER THAN US, BUT YOU, MINJI, IS ONLY NINETEEN, SO YOU'RE OUR SWEETIE MAKNAE! IT MEANS YOU NEED TO OBEY AND BE GOOD TO YOUR UNNIES. YOU KNOW HOW IMPORTANT RESPECTING YOUR ELDERS IS IN KOREA, RIGHT?

A speech bubble containing text, positioned below the first one.


YOU'LL BE A GOOD GIRL WHILE WE TEACH YOU HOW TO WALK ON HEELS. OTHERWISE YOU WILL BE PUNISHED, UNDERSTOOD?

FORTY MINUTES AND MANY ACCIDENTS LATER...






THAT'S BETTER,
NABI-YA!



YOU'RE FINALLY GETTING THE HANG OF IT. ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER, KEEP YOUR FISTS LOOSE AND MOVE YOUR SHOULDERS AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE, LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD, CHEST OUT, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, DON'T FORGET TO MOVE YOUR HIPS!

A woman with dark hair and bangs, wearing a pink tank top, is balancing a large, thick book on her head. She is in a dance studio with a wooden floor and a black barre. The book has a red cover and a black spine with gold lettering. She has a slightly frustrated or determined expression. Two thought bubbles are overlaid on the image, one connected to her head by a dotted line.

FUCK, THIS JUST GETS MORE AND MORE HUMILIATING! WHAT WOULD MY BAND THINK IF THEY SAW ME NOW, WEARING HEELS AND WALKING LIKE A SISSY? MY FEET ARE KILLING ME BECAUSE OF THESE DAMN SHOES! I FEEL LIKE I'M TRYING TO WALK ON STILTS.

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED SEEING HOT CHICKS WEARING HEELS BUT IT'S DIFFERENT WHEN I'M THE ONE WEARING THEM! I NEVER THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE SO DAMN HARD!



YOU SEE HOW YOU CAN DO IT
WHEN YOU TRY HARD AND LISTEN TO
YOUR UNNIES, NABI-YA? I HOPE YOU
HAVE LEARNED YOUR LESSON AND WILL
BE A GOOD MAKNAE FROM NOW ON.


UNFORTUNATELY, THOUGH, YOU DROPPED THE BOOK EIGHT TIMES, AND I TOLD YOU THAT YOU WOULD BE PUNISHED IF THAT HAPPENED. HERE'S YOUR PENALTY: TWO DAYS IN HEELS PRETTY MUCH ALL THE TIME FOR EVERY TIME YOU DROPPED THE BOOK. I THINK AFTER SIXTEEN DAYS YOU'LL DEFINITELY BE A MASTER AT WALKING IN HIGH HEELS, GIRL!






WHAT?!!

FOCUS, DEAR, YOU DON'T WANT TO DROP THE BOOK YET AGAIN, DO YOU?




니콤포빠가 정말 여자가 되길 원하고,
그것도 한국 여자가 되길 원한다는
생각이 미쳤지 않아, 은주야?*

*ISN'T IT CRAZY TO THINK THAT
NICK-OPPA ACTUALLY WANTS TO
BE A GIRL, AND A KOREAN ONE,
EUNJOO-YA?



닉이라고 부르지 마세요, 언니. 그녀는 나비아예요.
민지언니가 우리에게 나비아가 항상 여자가 되길 원했다는
확실한 증거를 보여줬잖아요, 맞죠? 그런데 왜 그녀는 아직
우리에게 이것을 고백하기를 부끄러워하는지 이해가 안 가요.
그녀는 심지어 갱단에 쫓기고 있다는 이야기를 날린
적도 있어요.*

*DON'T CALL HER NICK, UNNIE. SHE'S NABI-YA.
MINJI-UNNIE SHOWED US UNDENIABLE PROOFS
THAT NABI-YA HAS ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A GIRL,
RIGHT? I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY SHE'S STILL
EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT THIS TO US. SHE EVEN
MADE UP A STORY THAT SHE'S BEING CHASED
BY A GANG OR SOMETHING.



어쨌든, 우리가 할 수 있는 최소한은 그녀를 지원하는 거예요.*

*ANYWAY, THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS TO SUPPORT HER!