

God It
COMICS



NO.5
OCT

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

The ADVENTURES of **DEANNA TRACEY**

← G
LOCKER

Jessica was supposed to meet us!

Where is she???

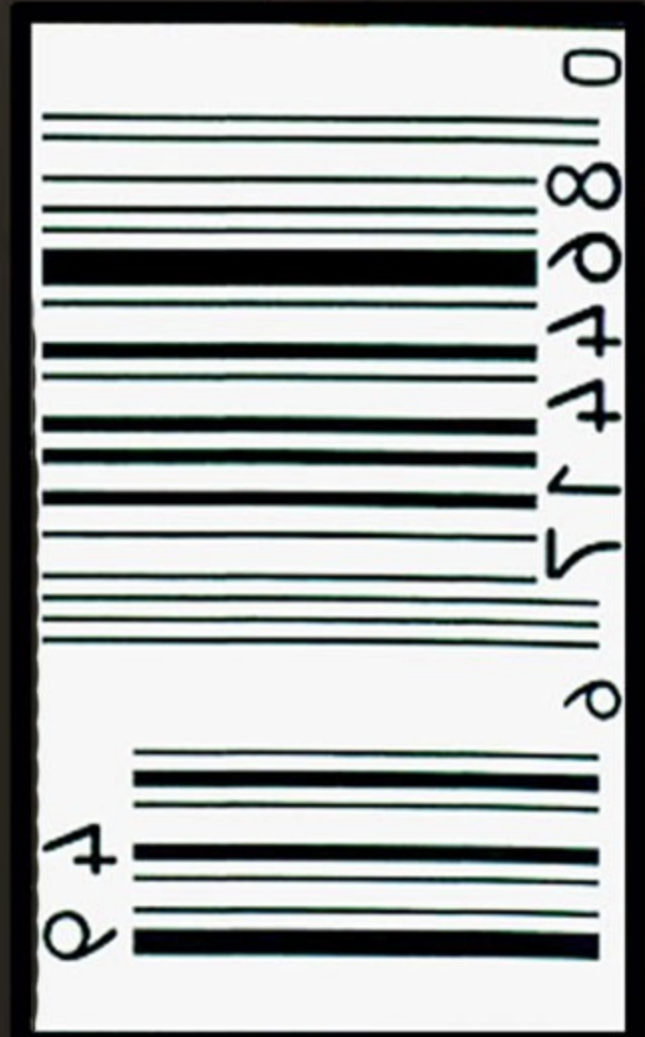
MMMPHHN...
MMMMMMMPHHHN...
MMMMPPPPPPHHN...

**DEANNA &
TRACEY**

RACE

**THE CLOCK
TO SAVE**

**FEEL
TENNIS
STARR**



Last Thursday, Erin, Tracey and I were in the cafeteria when...



Deanna!
Look who just walked in!

"Isn't that Jessica Starr, the girl who transferred cross toen from Weaver?"

"Yeah, she won the state singles championship in tennis two years in a row. Her parents moved across town, now she's going to school here."

"And that made Watertown High a tennis power!"

Hey guys, it looks like she is coming over here.



THE TENNIS STARR

Story:
Deanna and Tracey
adaption:
Erikson



Aren't you Deanna Taylor from the school tennis team?

Yep, that's me.

And you do detective work part time, right?

Can I join you?

Sure.

Something weird is happening...

Last year my coaches were acting really strange, always getting nervous if we came close to losing, not like dissappointed, but afraid!

Last night a guy called me and offered me money to throw the match tomorrow against Weaver. When I said no way he hung up on me.

Did you recognize the voice?

No, but I think my old couaches are involved.

Hmmm...sounds like a gambling ring is involved.



Well, we'll have to find out some information on them.



I know how to get into their office, I can go over there tonight, but I need help cracking their computer.

That's me!

I can help out with that, hacking computers is easy if you know how!

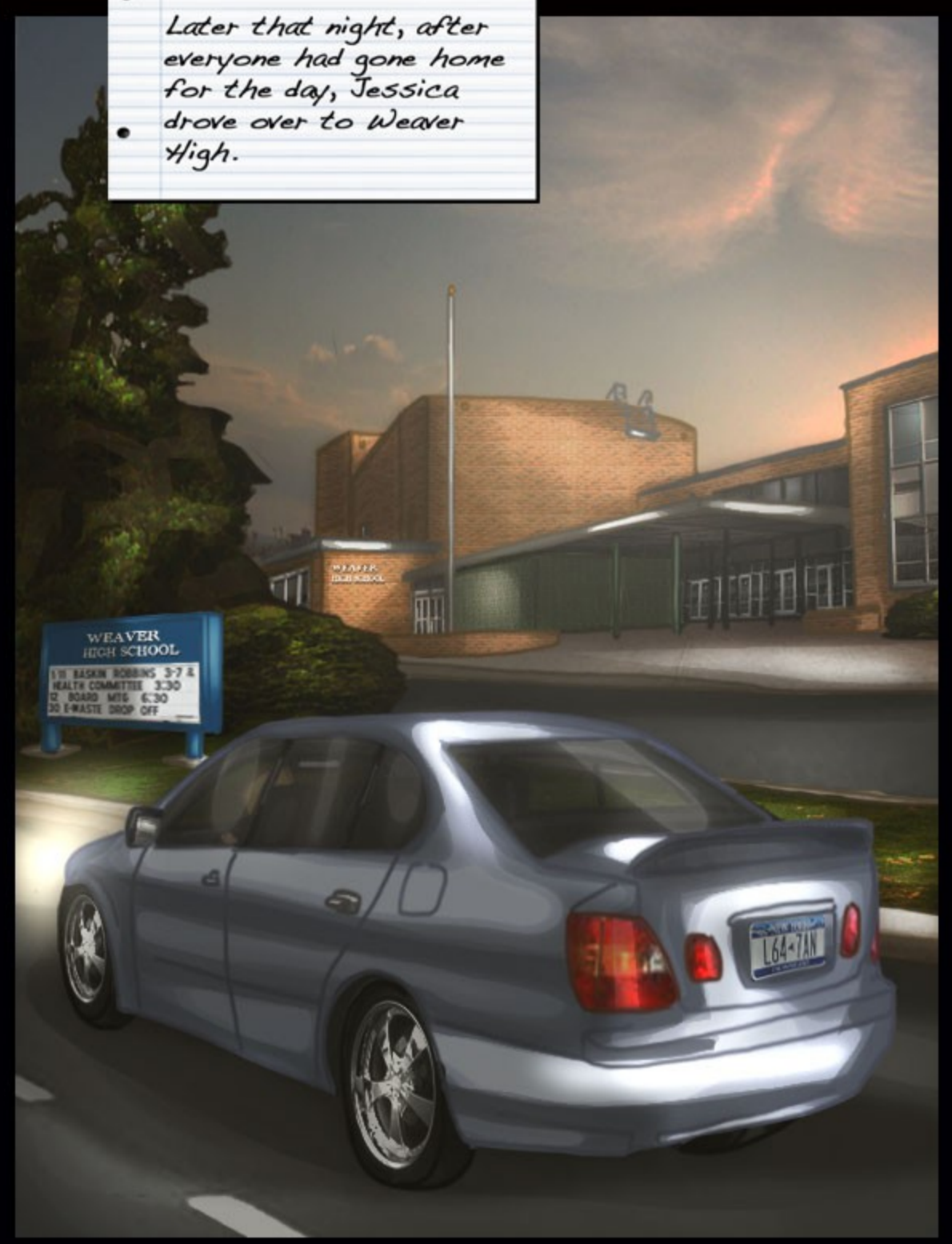


Ok, Call us tonight and tell us if you find anything, but be careful.

Of course!

The match against Weaver is tomorrow, and I wouldn't miss it for the world.

Later that night, after everyone had gone home for the day, Jessica drove over to Weaver High.



Jessica knew that the janitor left the door open when he went to buy some smokes.

She waited until she saw him walking out then snuck up to the door.

It was unlocked! Just like she expected.

She snuck down the hall to the back of the school where the gym, and the coach's offices were located.

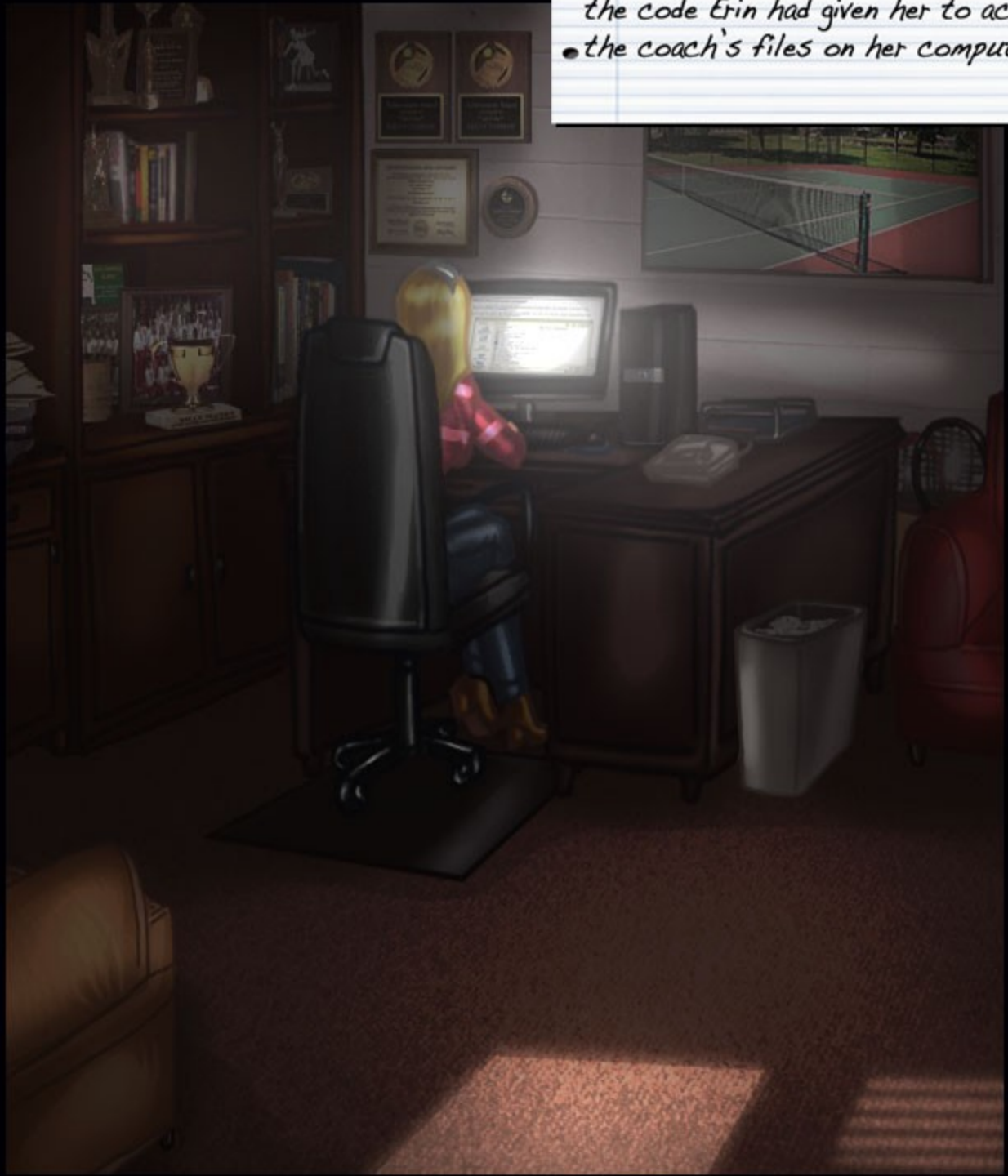


She slipped into the office, and used the code Erin had given her to access the coach's files on her computer.



ohmygod...that's what they are up t-

Suddenly Jessica was faced with hr former coach, Susan Weston, and her husband Jerry, the assistant coach.



Look what we have here...



The prodigal daughter comes home.

Don't let her scream!

Yes dear...

Jessica made a desperate run to teh door, but Jerry was too fast for her.



Stop struggling, you're not going anywhere!

Mmmph... Mmmpphhh...



What do we do with her?

W...we won't h...hurt her will we?

Why would we do that? It would be such a waste!

Her parents are loaded, I'm sure they'll pay through the nose to get her back!

Mmmphhh!



Ransom?

Exactly-get some rope out of the closet and tie her up!

Mmmphhh... Mmmphhh...

Weston sat Jessica in the chair, and wrapped rope around her tight.

He then pulled out a blue bandanna and pulled it in her mouth, gagging her.



OUCH!
Let me go!
That's too tight!



This'll quiet you down!

You won't get away with this!
My dad will-
Mmmmmphhhh...
Mmmmmphh...



It's a good thing with that match tomorrow we have her.

We couldn't afford to lose a game, or we'd be screwed!

Right, but Watertown is still strong in doubles, we'll need one more insurance policy.

Mmmmmphh!



Kidnap Deanna Taylor!

Great!
Without her we should win 3-2!

Mmmphhh...
MMmmppppphhh...



The coach picked up the phone...

It's Susan...we're still going through with the plan. Are you think us?

...good, it's still on for tomorrow!

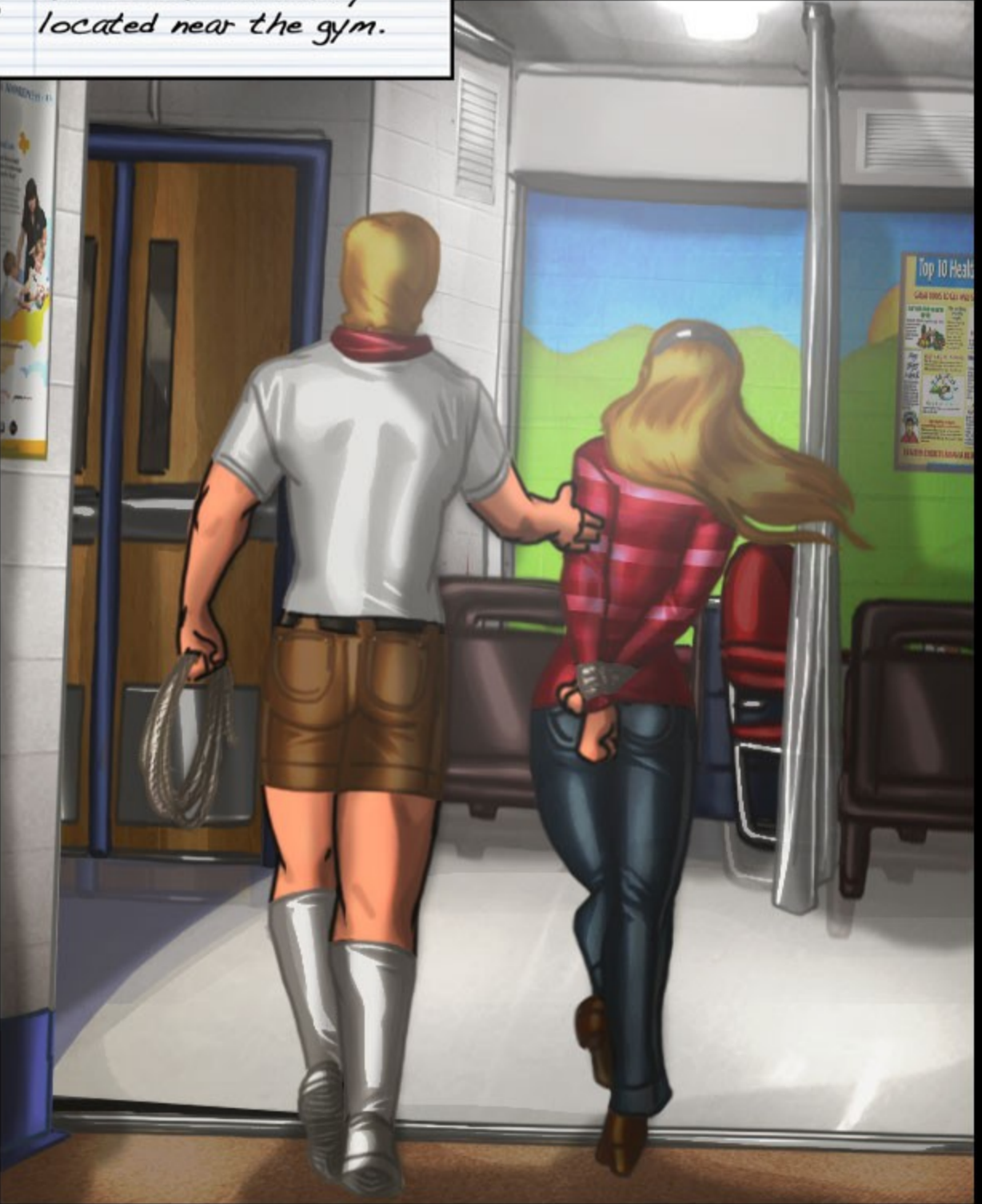


What do we do with her?

Tie her up in the infirmary.

We'll stash her away tomorrow before school.

Weston untied Jessica from the chair and led her to the infirmary located near the gym.



He laid her down on the bed and hogtied her, and ran a rope from her ankles to the bedpost.



MMMphh...
mmmphhh...

Hold still! Stop wiggling around!

He then removed a small brown bottle and soaked a handkerchief with the liquid inside.



That should hold you, but I'm sorry, we'll need a little more assurance you won't wiggle free.

Mmmph...
Mmmmmphh...

Weston then clamped the handkerchief over Jessica's mouth and nose.



mmmmpghhh...
mmmmpgh...



Don't struggle-

mmpgh

mmpghh



Just go to sleep...

sleeeeeeeeeeep...

Meanwhile, Tracey and I were at home, waiting anxiously by the clock.



Something's wrong, I know it!



Jessica should have called hours ago!

Maybe she just got distracted...

As worried as she was in the cafeteria today - no way!

Something has happened to her-

Just then Mom and Dad came down the stairs.



Girls, it's nearly midnight, it's time for bed...

But dad...

No buts, listen to your father.

Remember you have that big tennis match tomorrow.



sigh
Ok Mom, we're going...

We'll check up on her tomorrow morning...

Next morning Jessica began to come out of the chloroform



mmmmmmm...

As she her mind was still clearing, Coach Weston and her husband entered,

It was 6 AM and they needed to get Jessica out of the school before the students and teachers arrived.



Mmpgh...
mmpgh...

Rise and shine sweetie, this is your big day!

Jerry Weston untied Jessica, and groggily stood her up, on her feet.



mmpghh

As long as we don't hurt her...

Grow a pair Jerry!

If I knew you were such a wuss when we got married I'd have-

Take her to the safe house.

Ernie will join you after he is done fixing the match at Watertown High

As they argued, Jessica noticed the door the Weston's had come through was open.



Suddenly she broke away and ran to the door.



Jessica was fast, and she ran down the hallway with her mouth gagged and her hands still bound behind her.



Stop!
You can't get away!

Jessica was sure the door that led to an exit in front of the school was up ahead.



As Jessica ran by she tripped on a foam life buoy beside the pool.

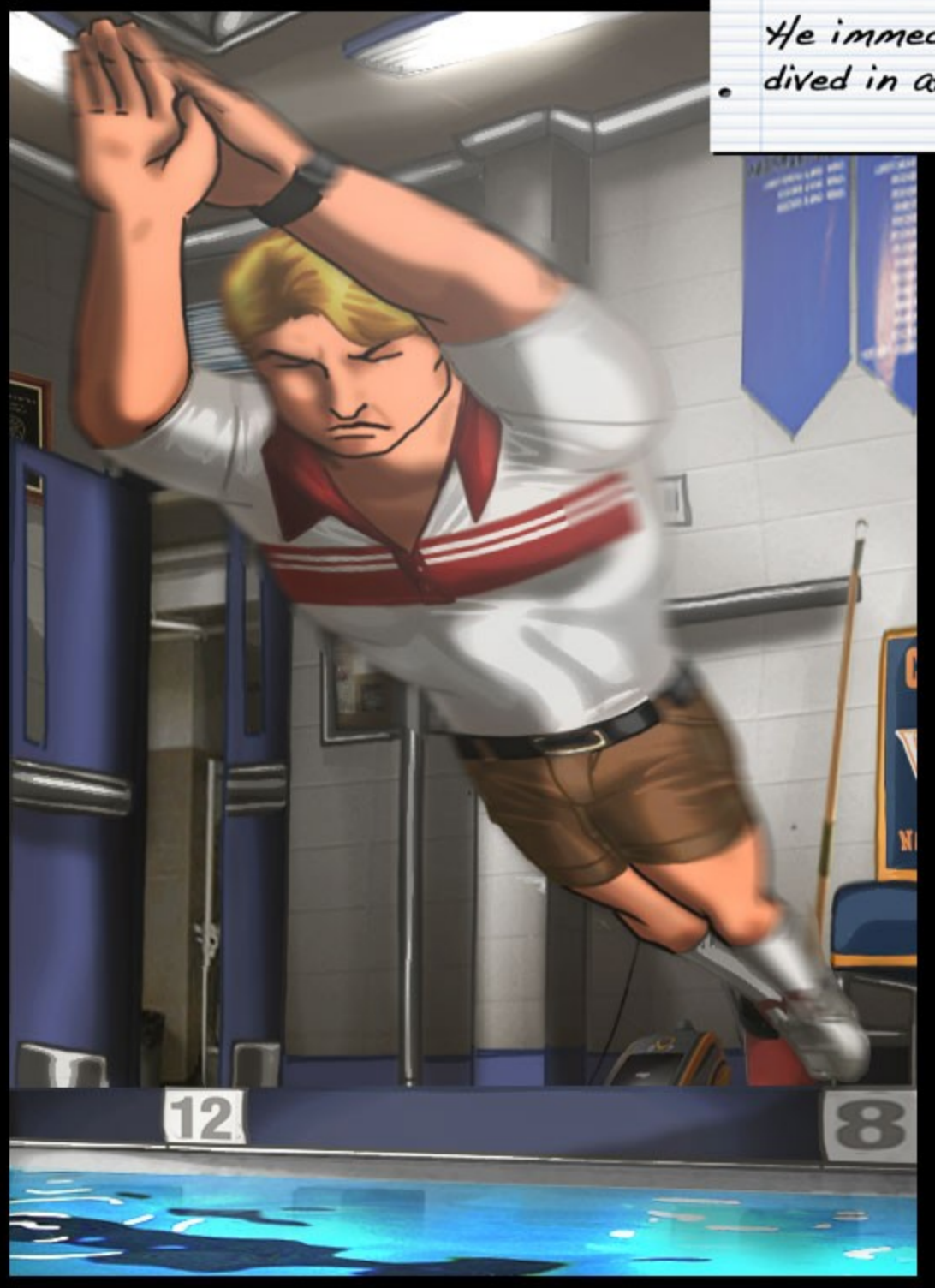


She had her hands tied... and was wearing jeans... she was sinking quickly...

Jessica started to panic.

But as she slipped through she was that it was the entrance to the swimming pool.

Jerry Weston looked in horror as he entered the door.

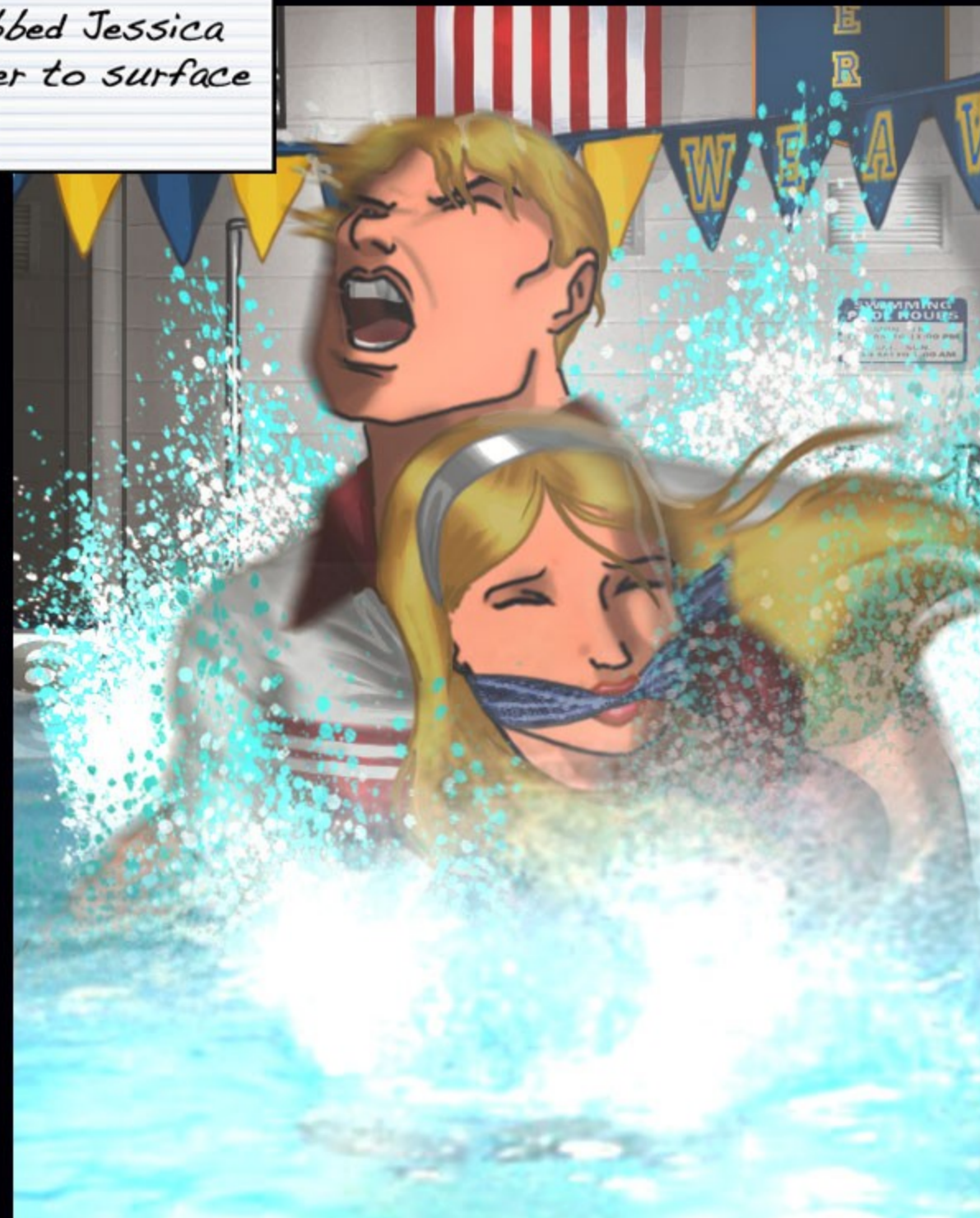


He immediately dived in after her.





Weston grabbed Jessica and swam her to surface with her.



He immediately began to perform CPR on her until she coughed up the water she had swallowed.



hak!



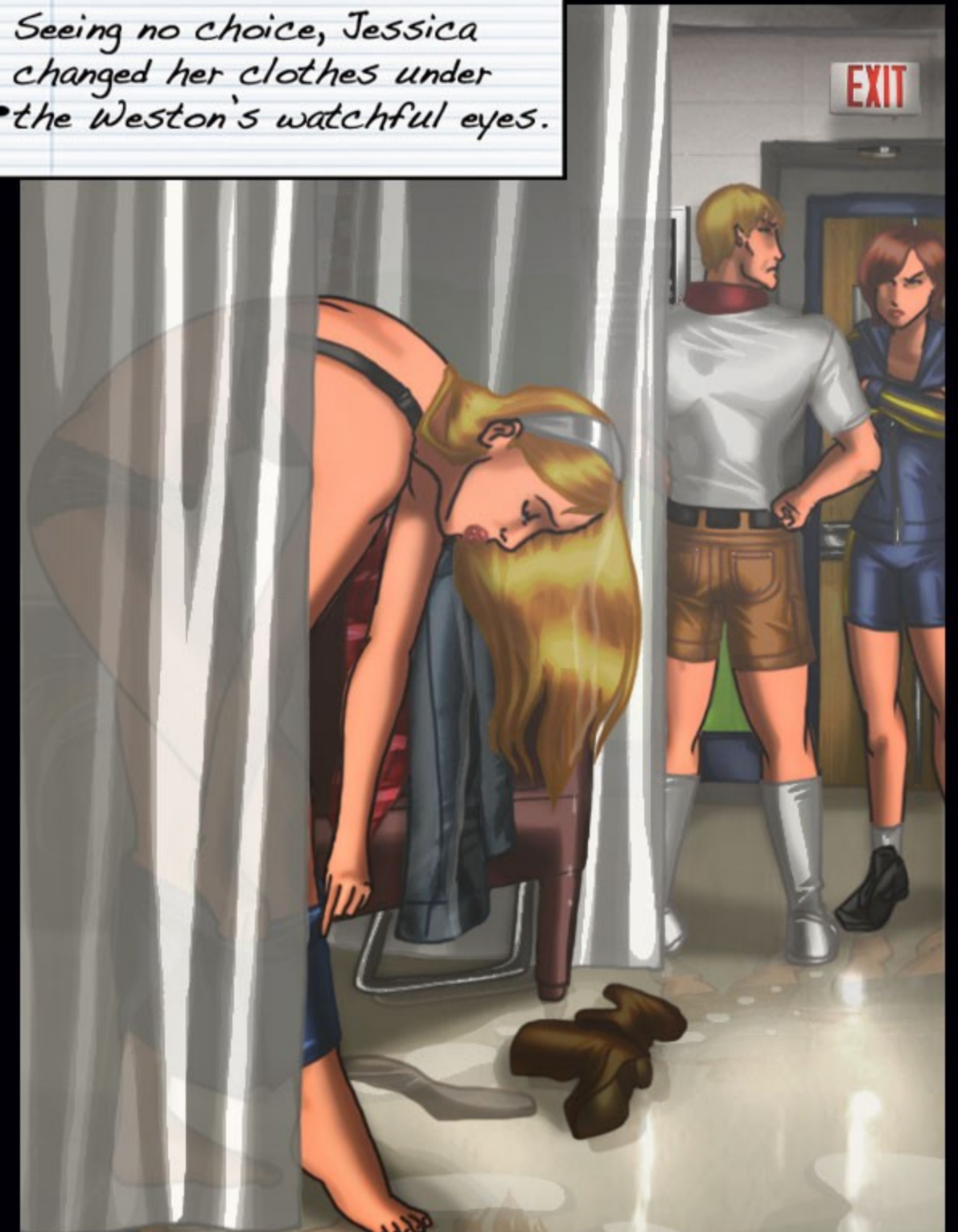
Stupid girl! You almost got yourself killed!
Come on!

Since she was sopping wet, the Couch brought her a tennis outfit from the locker room.



Here, put this on!

Seeing no choice, Jessica changed her clothes under the Weston's watchful eyes.



When she was dressed she saw the Westons approach her, and Jerry Weston removed the same brown bottle and handkerchief he had used on her before.



Y-y-you don't have to-
I won't run again, I promise...

Sorry girl, but we just can't trust you.

He clamped the damp cloth over her mouth and nose, and as much as she struggled she could not resist the sweet smell.



mmmmphhh...
mmmmphhh...

As soon as she was asleep, he carried her out to the Weston's minivan behind the school.



RESERVED FOR FACULTY AND VISITORS

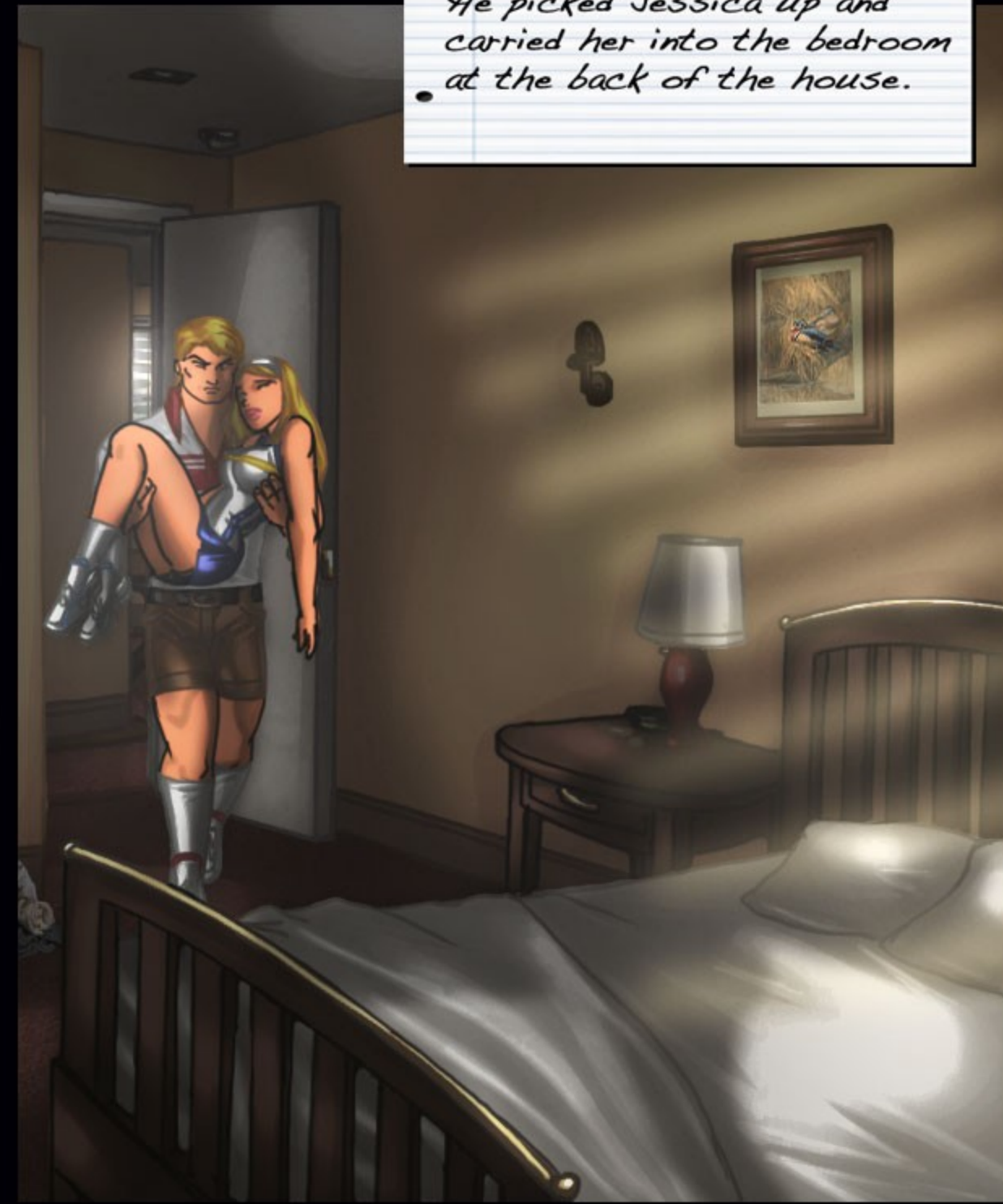
Weston laid Jessica in the back of the van then drove outside of town down a rural road past a few scattered houses.



When he reached an old ranch house off the road he pulled into the driveway.



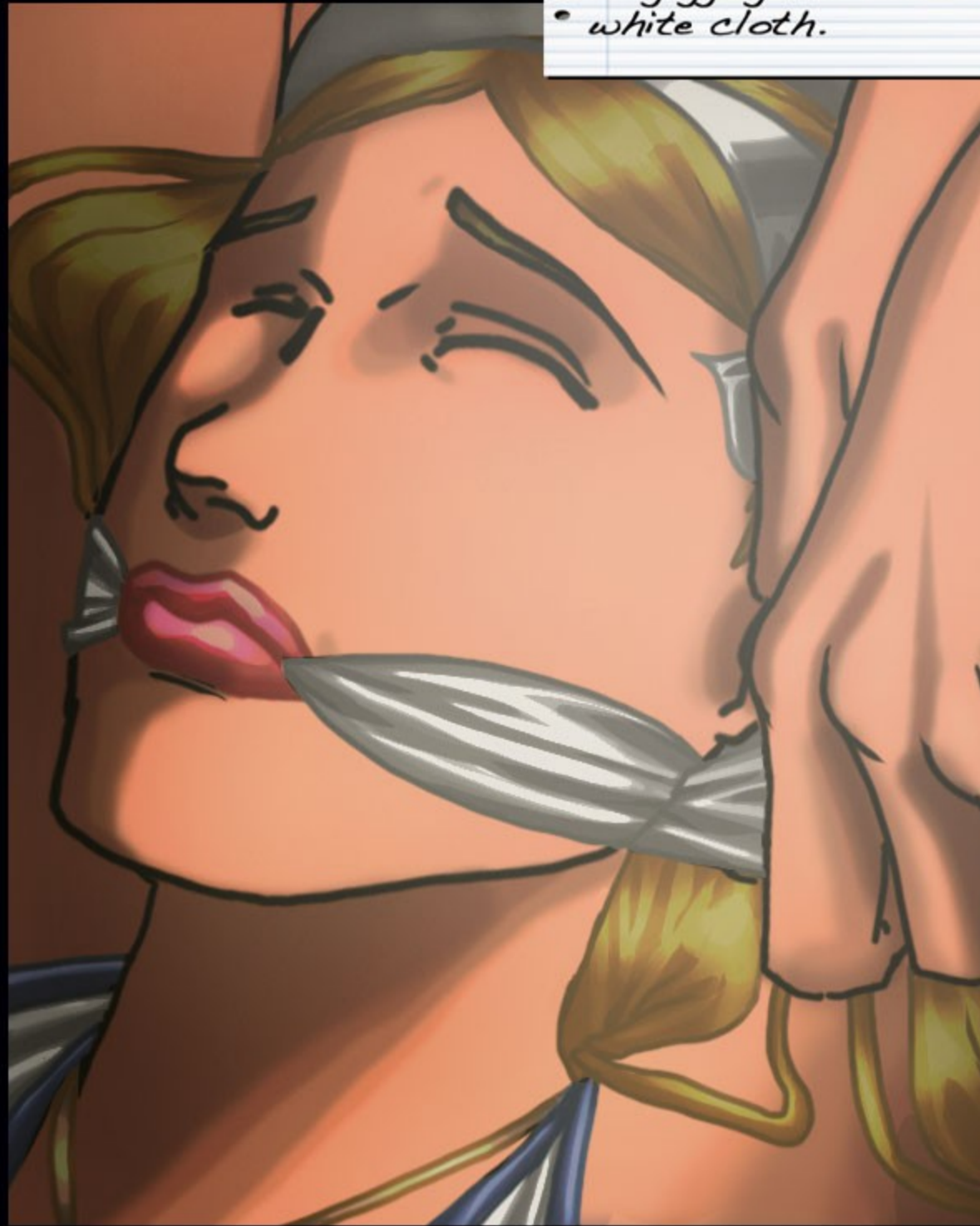
He picked Jessica up and carried her into the bedroom at the back of the house.



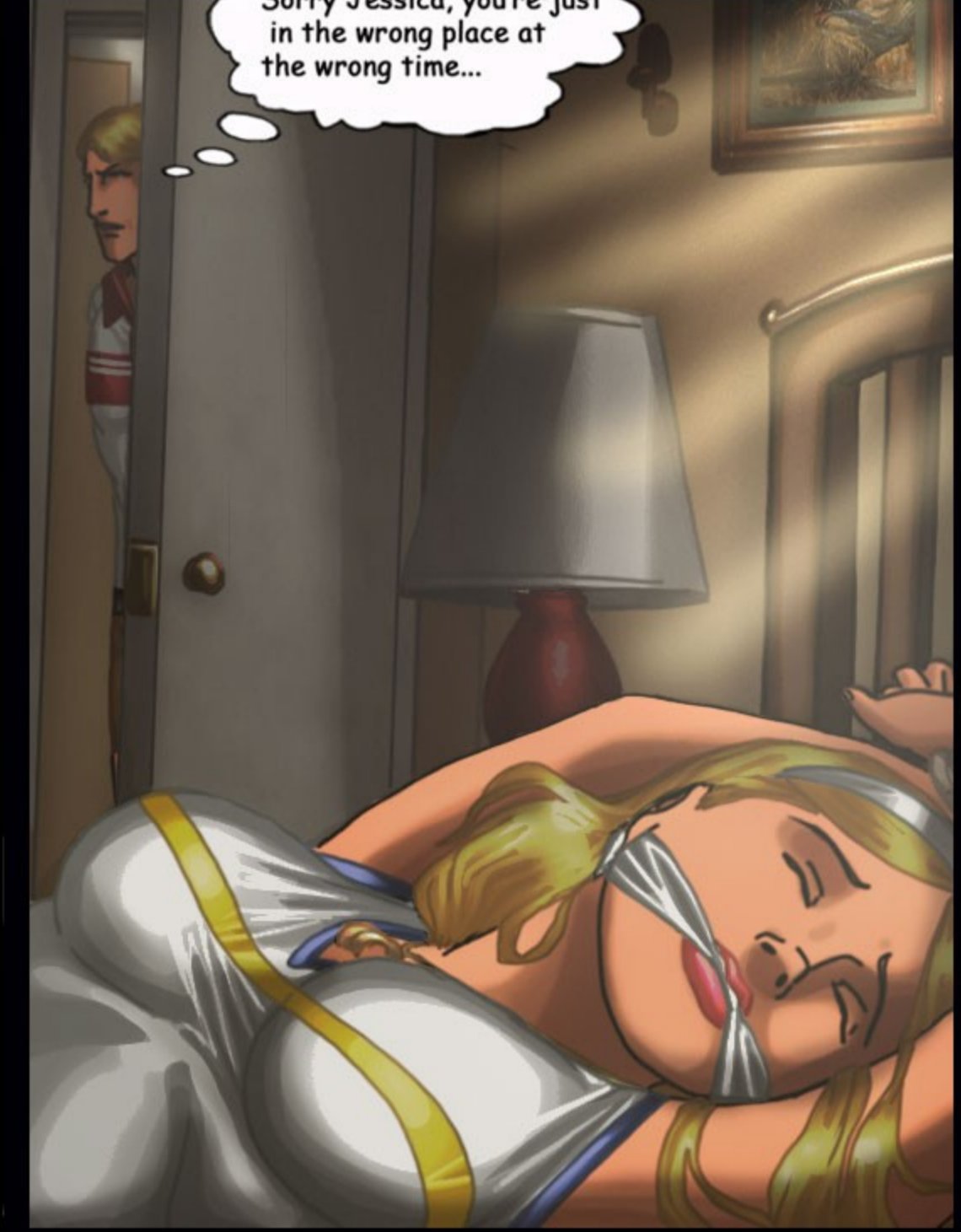
He laid her on the bed, then took some rope and tied her arms and legs to the bed posts.



Then he finished her by re-gagging her with a white cloth.



Sorry Jessica, you're just in the wrong place at the wrong time...



Meanwhile, Tracey and I were waking up, and getting ready for school...



WOW!
You look great Deanna!

Since it's a match day I thought I'd wear a dress instead of a skirt,

Easier to get in and out of.



Still no word from Jessica?

No, there's still no answer on her cell phone.



What should we do?

"I have homeroom with Jessica, I'll look out for her."



"If she's still a no show we'll know for sure she's in trouble."



I waited for Jessica to appear until the clock on the classroom wall read 8:00.

Now I knew Jessica was in trouble.



After 3rd period I met up with Tracey and Erin to decide what to do.

We should call the police.

No good.

You have to wait 24 hours before placing a missing person's report.

I hate it when you're right.



Erin and I have study hall in last period, we'll slip off early and go over to Weaver to check things out.

Ok, meet me after the match after school tell me what you dig up....

but BE CAREFUL, I don't want to have 3 girls gone missing..

Later that afternoon, Tracey and Erin drove to Weaver High and I got ready for the tennis match.



I was late, and while I was changing, the teams manager, a short 12 year old named Katie, who everyone called "Mousey" because she was so short, came in.



The match is about to start and coach sent me to find you.

She said to hurry up!



.Mmmphh!

Sorry I'll be right there...



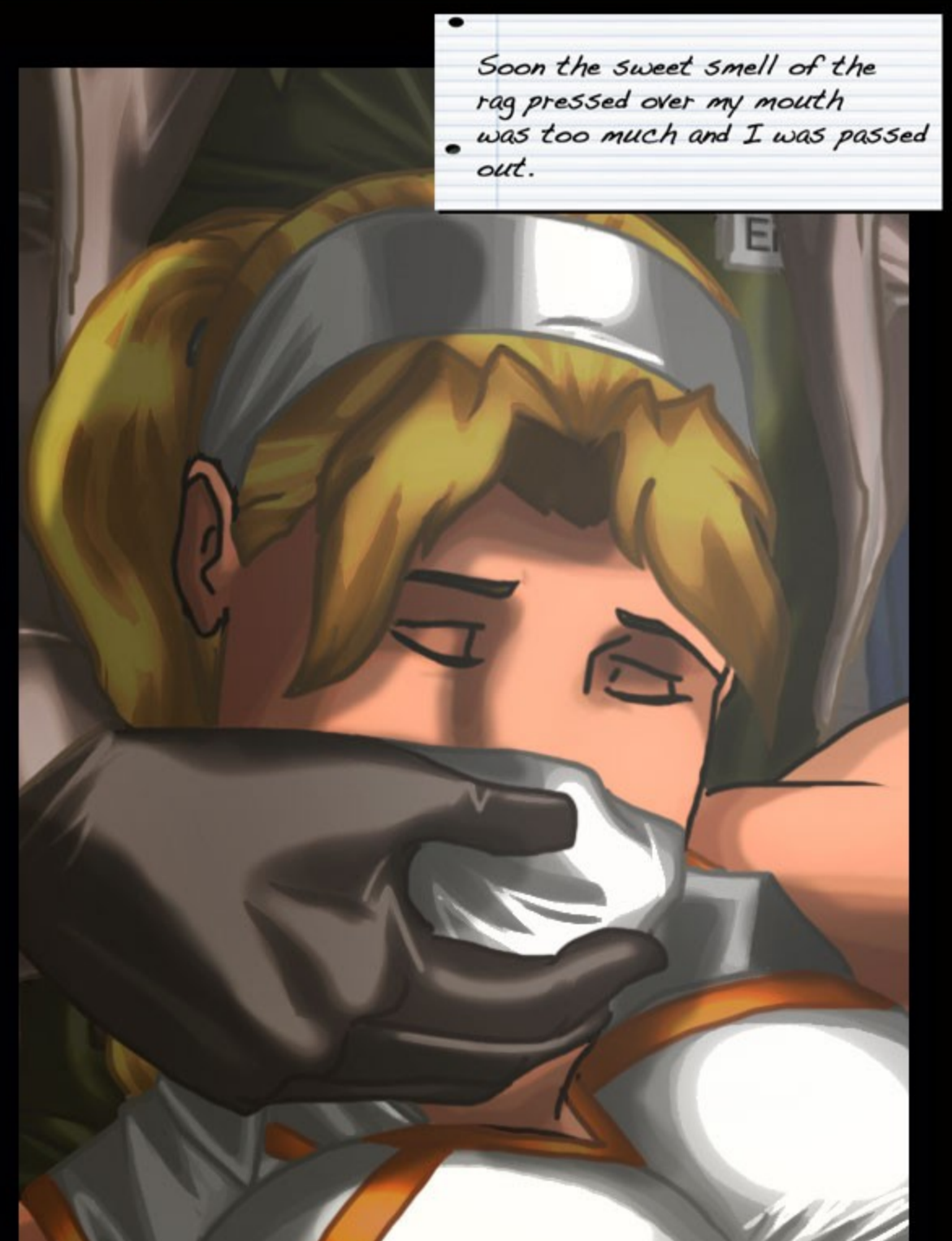
Mousey? Are you th-

MMphh!



I recognized the chloroform immediately and tried to struggle against the man who was gripping me.

MMmmphh... Mmmmmphhh...



Soon the sweet smell of the rag pressed over my mouth was too much and I was passed out.



Hey Ernie, what are we gonna do with this one?

Don't say my name, stupe!

We'll tie her up and stuff her in a locker, the we'll deal with the big girl here...

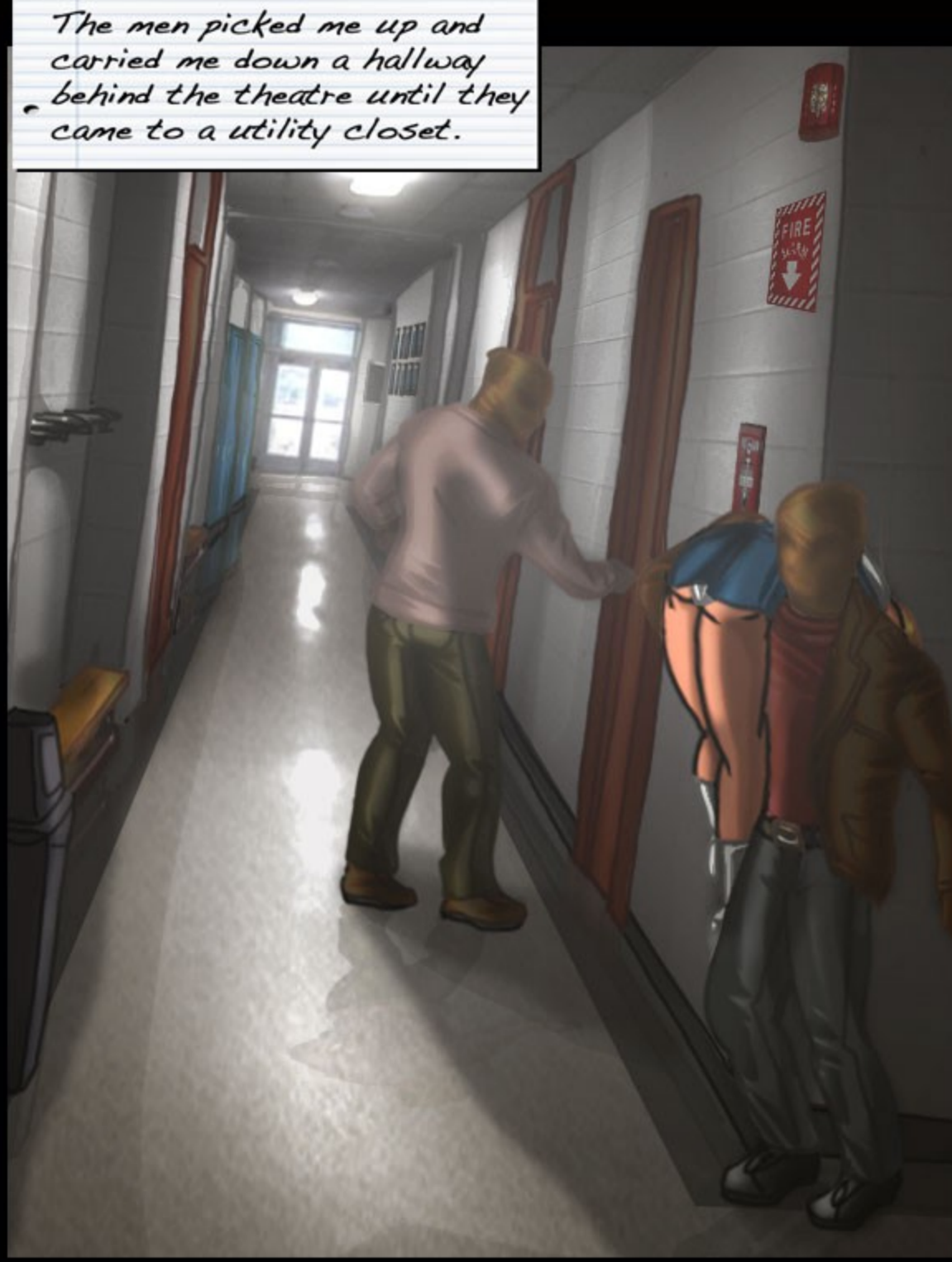
Mmmphhh... mmmphhh...

The two hooded men gagged and tied up Mousey with tape and stuffed her inside a locker



Mmmphhh... mmmphhh... *

Wang!



The men picked me up and carried me down a hallway behind the theatre until they came to a utility closet.



They laid me down on the floor and then bound me with duct tape.

Keep yer mind on the business!

God! This one has great legs!

They wrapped tape over my mouth around my head under my hair.



Then, as a last precaution, they blindfolded me and then left me in the closet.



That'll hold her!

Weaver'll be a shoe in now!

heh heh heh heh



Meanwhile, the coach and her assistant coach were stressing over where I had gone..

Where is Deanna? First Jessica now her!

sigh...we can't keep waiting-

send in the substitute players from the j.v. team...

and say a prayer.

I sent my sister Katie after her and now I can't find her now either...



While all this was going on, Tracey and Erin had arrived at Weaver.

Let's go around back.

Jessica said they usually leave the doors unlocked there.



wow! Jessica was right!

Now lets find the coach's office.



The girls snuck down the hall, trying not to be seen, until they found Coach Weston's office.

It's locked!

How do you even know it's the Weston's office?

Well, the sign on the door to start with...

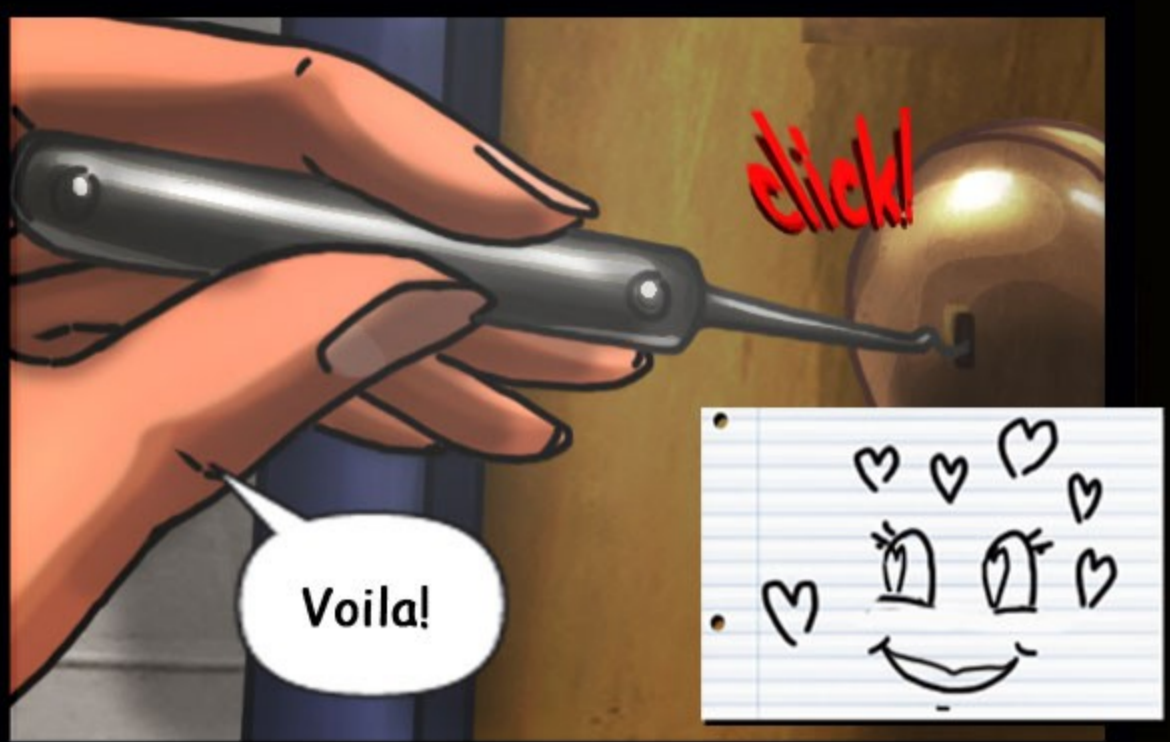
ok..ok then how do we get in?



Thankfully I always carry one of these on me.

Wow! you sure come prepared!

A regular girl scout!



Voila!

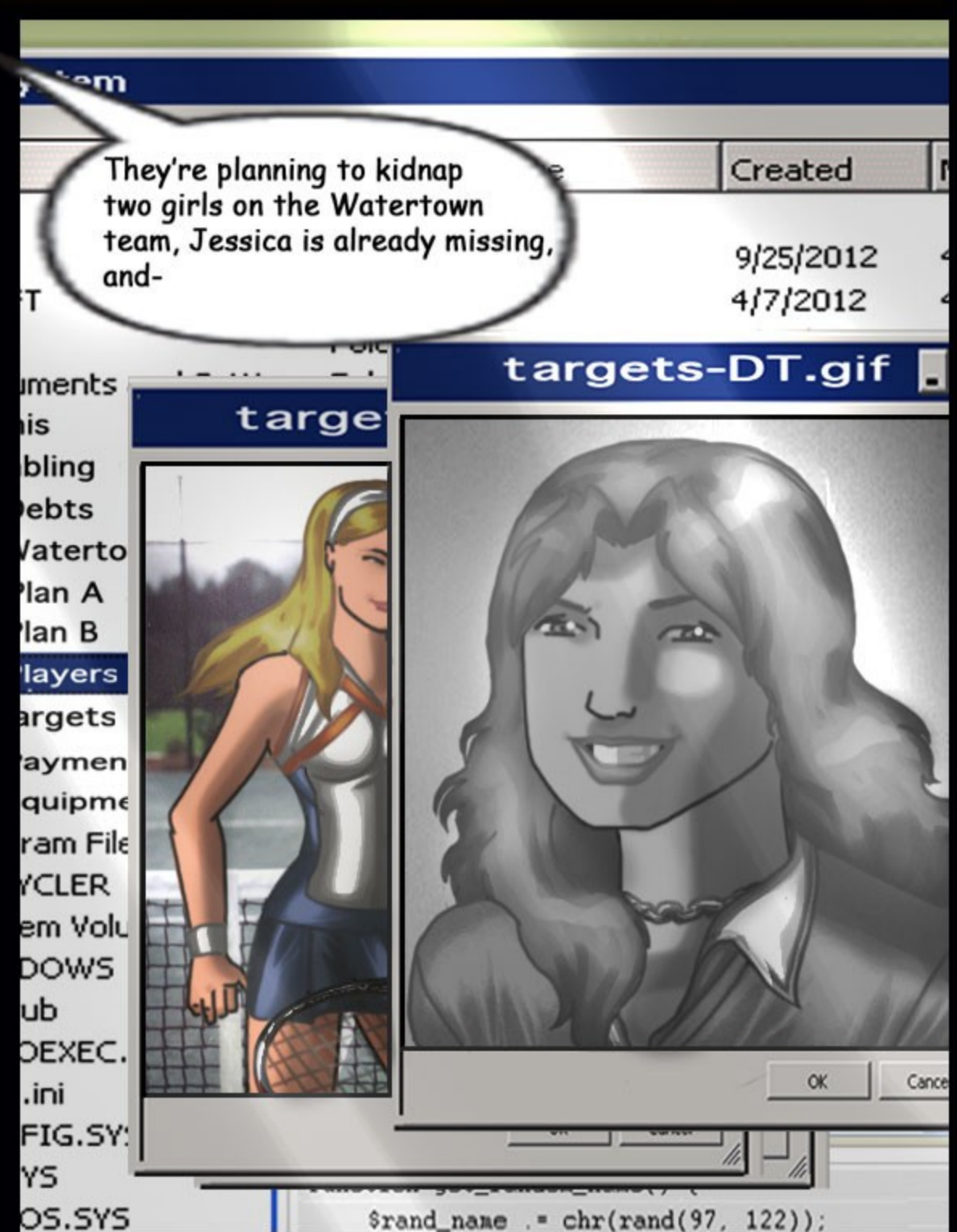


Erin sat down at the coach's computer and lickety split cracked into the harddrive

You sure are a wizard on that thing!

It's a gift!

Here let me get into the files...looks like the Weston's have a huge pile of gambling debts! They're gonna try to fix the tennis match today to pay off their bookies.



They're planning to kidnap two girls on the Watertown team, Jessica is already missing, and-

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targets-DT.gif



OH MY GOD!

DEANNA IS IN TROUBLE!



Meanwhile I began to wake up from the chloroform.

Mmmm...mmm mmmphhh...Mpphh!!!

I tried to move, but suddenly found I was bound and gagged.



I struggled and tried to yell for help, but my tape bonds and gag were too tight.

Mmmph!!!
MMmmmmmmph!!!

Since I was blindfolded I couldn't tell where I was

Just then I heard a humming sound-the dimmers! I was in the room with the dimmers that control the lights in the theatre.

I knew the dimmer panel was made of metal and had edges that were sharp enough to cut my tape bonds.



Mmmph... mmmphh...

I began to wiggle and squirm across the floor towards it.

Tracey and Erin arrived back at Watertown High and ran to the tennis court.

Quick!
We have to get to the tennis match and make sure Deanna is ok!

It's so hard to run in this skirt...

Jo, Did Deanna ever show up? Where is she?

I have no idea, I sent my sister to find her and now she is missing to.

First Jessica, then Deann and now Mousie, it's crazy!

Ernie, it's Weston.

Get back to your package, initiate back up plan B!

They went back to the locker room but couldn't find any sign of me.

Deanna?
Are you there?

It's Deanna's tennis racket, she must have been here

But, the question is where is she now?

Suddenly they heard sounds and banging coming from the lockers.

What's that noise?

It sounds like it's coming from the lockers.

Mmmphhh...
Mmmmmphhhh...
Mmmppppphhh...

Mousie!

Erin began cutting off Mousie's bonds, and Tracey peeled the tape off her mouth.

I was grabbed by two men who tied me up and stuffed me in here!

Mousie, where is Deann?

Thye took her, I heard them saying they were gonna hide her in the utility closet behind the theatre!

Quick, go tell the coach what has happened, we'll get Deanna!

But I..

Katie-now!

No one ever calls me Katie...

EXIT

I picked up the bandanna that had blindfolded me, and held it over my mouth and nose.

Hang on Tracey!
Don't breathe the gas!

T...to laaaaaaaate..



I...I have to warn...the team...
I have to.....



Soon all of us were sleeping in a pile on the floor.



As we lay sleeping on the floor of the utility room, the tennis match continued.

The girls played hard, but without Jessica and I they were outmatched.

Game-set-match!

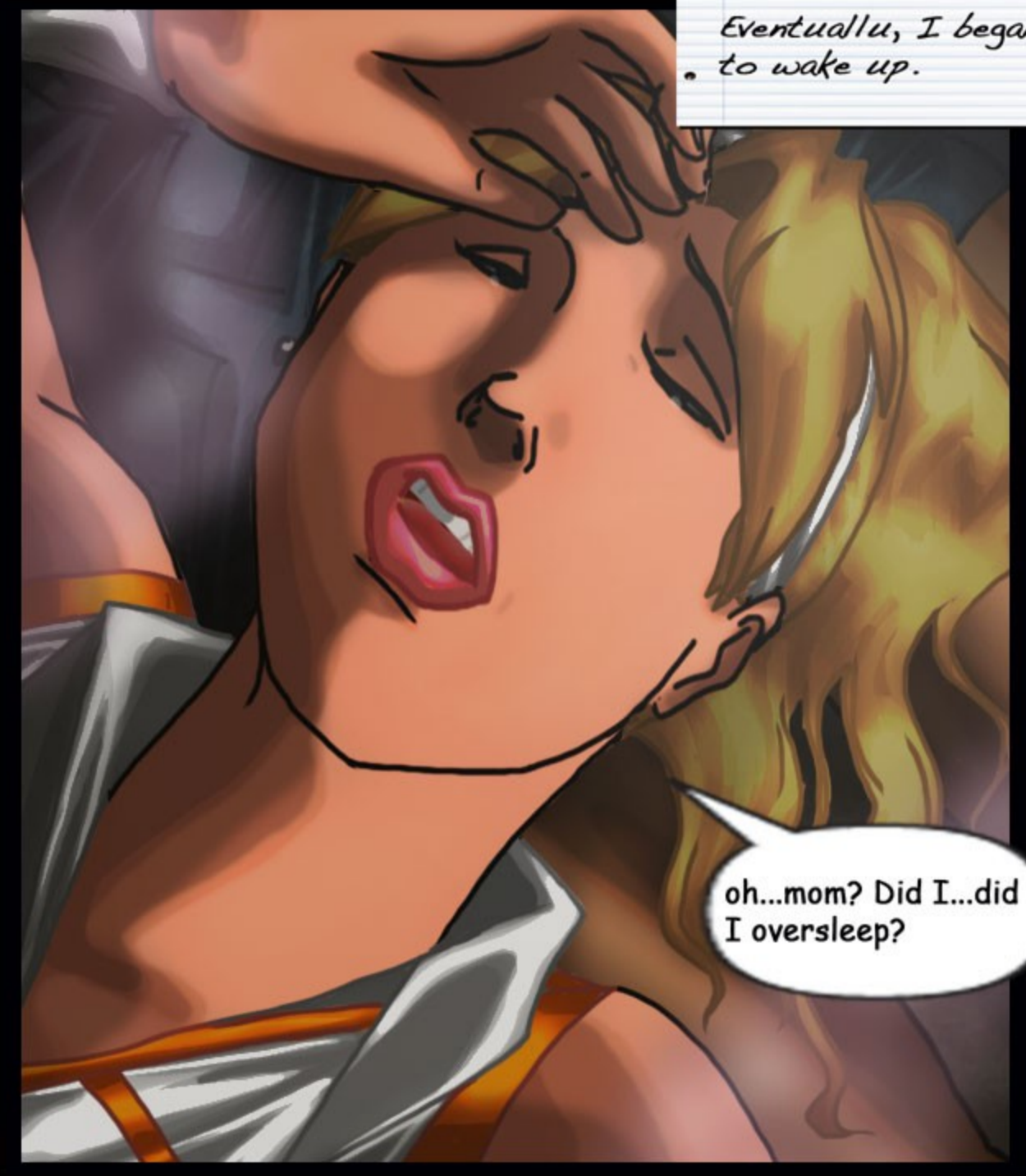


It was close, Weaver won the match 3-2.

Couch Weston's sinister plan was working...



Eventually, I began to wake up.



oh...mom? Did I...did I oversleep?

Soon, I remembered what happened, and began to shake Tracey.

Tracey!
Wake up!
Wake up!



ooooooo...What happened.
Where am I?

We were gassed!
Erin? How much time has passed?

2 and a half hours

ohmygod! The match is over by now!



This was done on purpose!

We have to call the police and let them know what is going on right now!



We ran back to the locker room, and I pulled out my cell phone.



No time to explain-meetus at Weaver High School in twenty minutes!

Lt. Tom Benton...

This is Deanna Taylor, we have information about the kidnapping of Jessica Starr!

Wait...how do you know about this? Her parents haven't-

After driving Mousie home, Tracey, Erin and I drove over to Weaver High to meet Lt. Tom.



Why is it ever time there is trouble I find you three girls in the middle of it...

Just lucky I guess...



Let us do the talking...

Breaking and entering is illegal, you'd better hope the Weston's don't press charges...



Can I help you?

I'm Lt Tom Benson, this is my partner Sgt. Demado.

We'd like to ask you some questions

We have reason to believe you have been involved in illegal activities, specifically gambling.

May we have a look at your computer?

Of course you can look at our computer, we have nothing to hide from the police.



Suddenly, Erin looked like she'd seen a ghost, and ran forward into the office.

N...no this isn't right!

This is a Dell! Before they had a Hewlett-Packard!

They switched the computers!



How would you know? Have you ever been in my office before young lady?

Did you?

Come here Lt. And I'll show you all the files on our computer...

Um...no...I mean... yes...I mean...I knew Jessica Starr...last year ...I visited her here before...

Coach Weston opened up her files and allowed Lt. Tom and his partnerto look through them



Looks clean to me...

Can you prove that your computer wasn't switched out today?

Of course I can Lt...

Coach Weston called into the office a janitor that was mopping the floor outside the office.



Ernie!

Yes Ma'am?

Tell these good men, if I always have a Dell computer in my office or not?

Sure has Ma'am...

It's standard issue. All the computers in the school are Dells. I should know. I installed them...took me a whole week, longest job of my life...

Something didn't feel "right" about the janitor



I looked at him over and thought he looked like that man who had grabbed me before, but since, but I couldn't be sure...



Sorry to bother you.

But...

Come on girls-

No problem officer.

We always like to help out the police.



Lt. Tom and his partner led us out to their car and prepared to get in.

There isn't anything more we can do.

We could trace their internet, but without that computer we'd have no case.

You're going to just do nothing?



The Lt. is right.

All their files are going to be separate. They're not going to put anything in e-mails that could be traced.



Listen, we'll be on the case. Call us if you find out anything else-

But please, don't do anything stupid. We might not be in time to save you this time.



They drove off, leaving us behind in the parking lot.

We go back in and find that computer!

So what are we going to do now?

What about not doing anything stupid?



When was I ever the kind of girl to take good advice like that?



These nosy girls know too much, we have to take care of them!

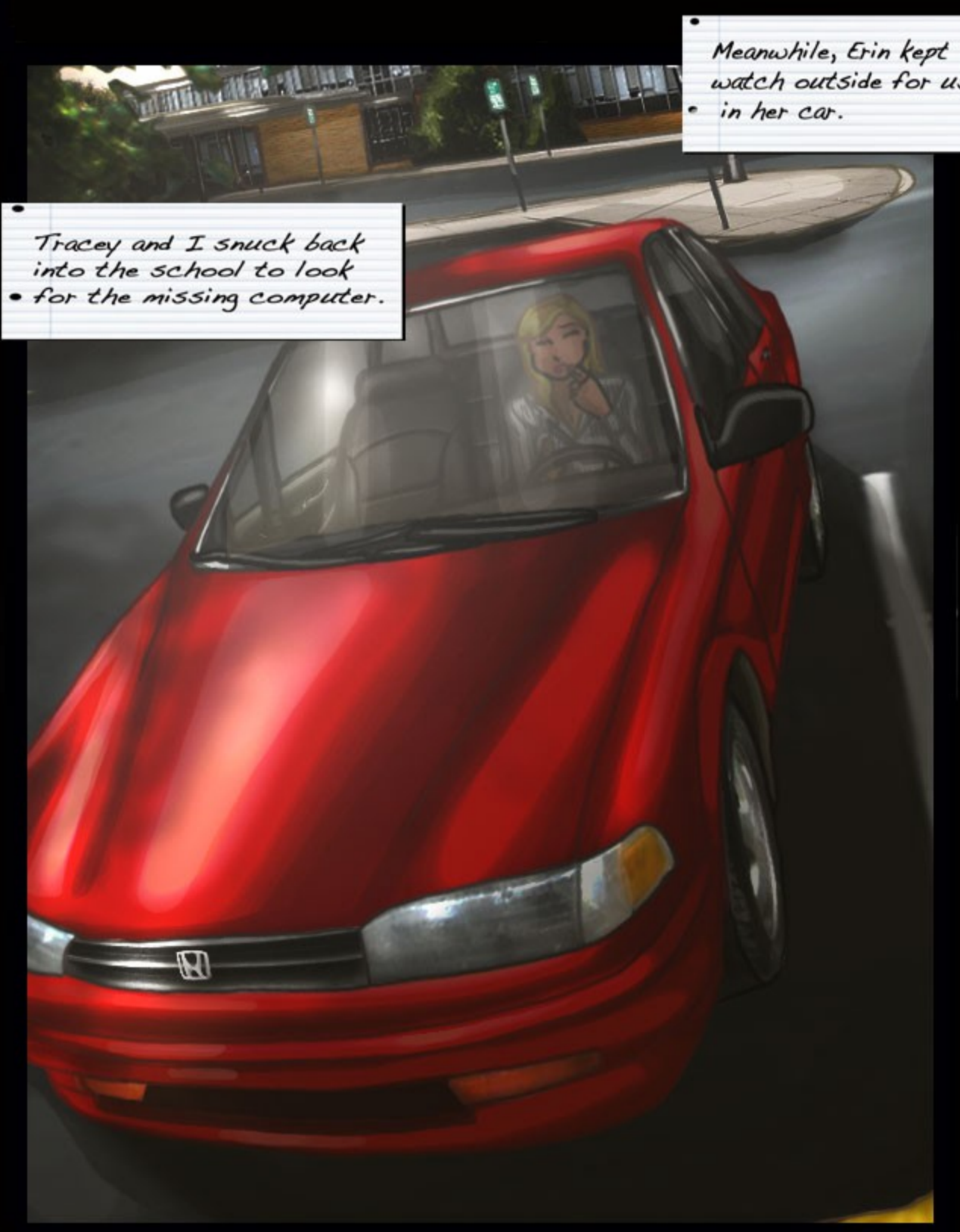
Jerry and I will deal with the big blonde in the black miniskirt. You two grab the other two.



Think you're up to taking out Deanna and Tracey?

Definitely!

heh heh heh heh heh heh
heh heh heh heh



Meanwhile, Erin kept watch outside for us in her car.

Tracey and I snuck back into the school to look for the missing computer.



Come on!
Why do I always get look out duty?



*



M...Mr Weston?

What do you want?

I need your help!

I think my wife is behind Jessica's kidnapping, and I just can't take it anymore! This was supposed to be just simple gambling, but it has gone too far!

I don't know...

Why don't you call the police?

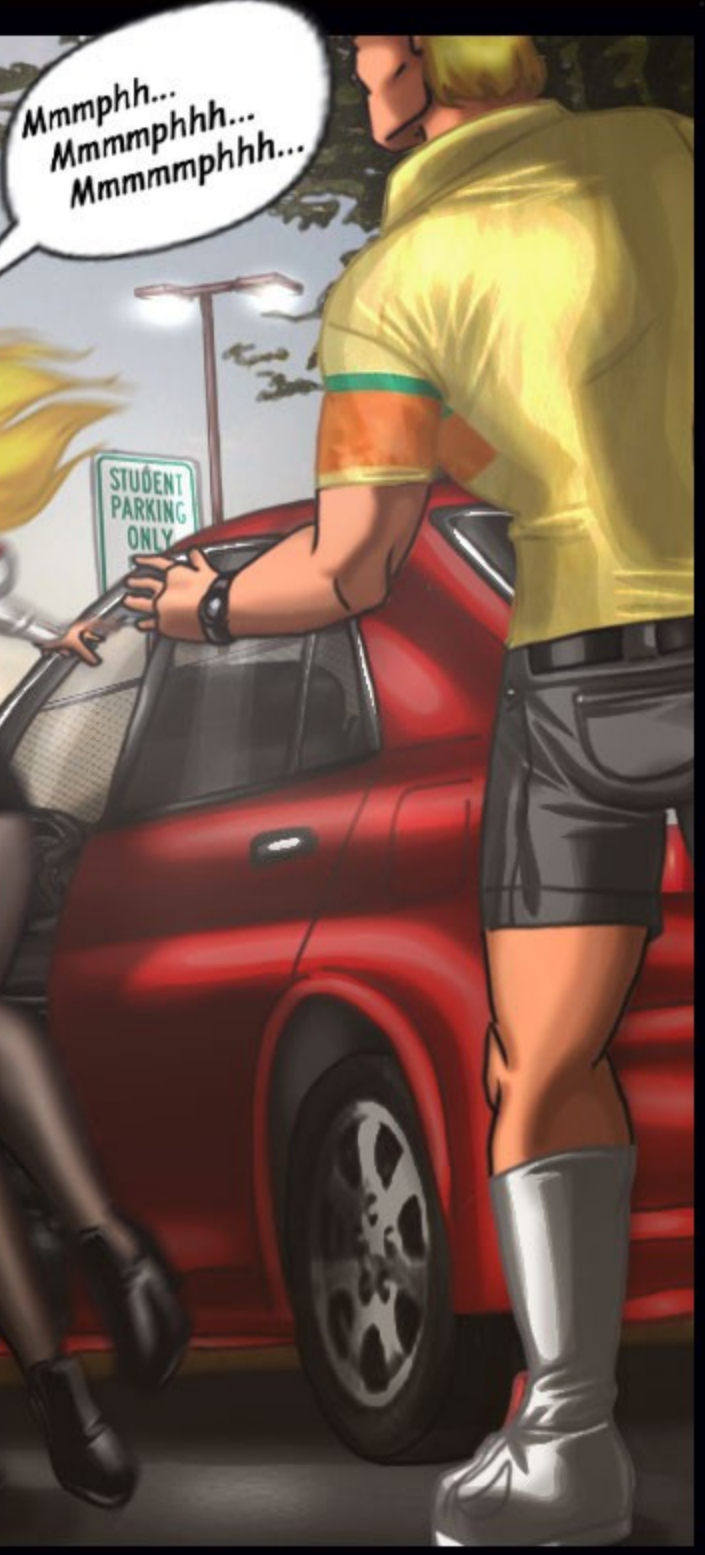
I can't! I'm afraid of what she might do to Jessica if she finds out! She's gone nuts!



Ok...ok I'll go get Deanna and Tracey...

Thank you...than-

Erin didn't see Susan Weston till it was too late, and she was grabbed and had a chloroform cloth clamped over her face.



Mmmphh...
Mmmmmphhh...
Mmmmmphhh...

Erin tried to struggle, but soon she slumped to the ground unconscious.



Help me carry her to the minivan then we'll take her to the safe house and wait for Ernie...

Y...yes dear...

The coaches lifted the big blonde and carried her to their minivan, and laid her down in the back.



Jerry Weston took out rope and bound Erin's wrists and ankles, then he blindfolded and gagged her with two white cloths.



One down, two left!

sigh...

This is becoming depressingly predictable.

Meanwhile, Tracey and I had snuck back into the school.



We should split up, we'll cover more ground that way.

Good idea.

You take the left, I'll take the right.

Using her lock pick, Tracey jimmied the lock of a storeroom near Coach Weston's office, and stepped in.



She was concentrated on searching that she didn't notice the figure coming up behind her...



Come on... They had to hide that computer somewhere-
MMPHhh!



I've got the blonde!

Mmmphhh... mmmphhh...

Mmmmph... Mmmmmmmph...



What'd we do with them?

Mmmmph... Mmmmmmmphhh...

Get the rope, well tie em up and stash them in here!



You'll never get away with-

Mmmmph... mmmmmphh...

The school janitor, and another of Weston's goons, bound and gagged Tracey and me, and then tied us back to back.



Tie her up tight, she's a real fighter!

Gawd! I don't know which has cuter legs, blondie here or the dark haired one!

Mmmmph... Mmmmmmmphhh...

The two henchmen were walking out, when one of them turned back.



Lets go meet the boss back at the safe house!

Before I go I want to introduce the girls to my friends....



MMmpphhh... mmmphh...

Black Widow SPIDERS!



mmmmmmmmphhhhh... mmmph...mmph...mm...

Enjoy my beauties girls!

HAI HAI HAI HAI HAI HAI

The Westons arrived at Ernie the janitor's friend's house (which they were using as a base of operations), and carried Erin from the Van.



Hurry up!

We're in the middle of nowhere, but I'm still not taking a chance someone sees us carrying a tied up girl into the house!

Y...yes dear.

Inside, Jerry Weston pulled up a chair and tied the still unconscious Erin to it.



Ernie, this is the coach, are the two trouble makers out of the way?



Oh yeah, they're all tied up nice and tight, won't be goin anywhere!

And even if they can get untied, they won't in time to stop my "babies" from saying hi!

he he he he he...

Back in the storage closet, Tracey and I were desperately struggling as the two spiders kept crawling closer.



Great! By this time tomorrow we'll be on our way to Puerto Vallarta.

Everything is working out as planned!



Mmmphh... Mmmmmphhh... mmmph...mmph...mm...



Mmmphh

Can they bite us through our nylons?



Mmmmmphh...

Male Black Widows are harmless, it's females that are poisonous...which gender are these?



MMphhh... Mmmmmphhh...

One of the spiders crawled up on Tracey's leather boot, and we froze in horror.

We struggled and cried out but our ropes and gags were too tight, and we knew the school was already closed. We were sure we were goners!



What are those sounds?

Just my luck that first day on the job I've got trouble!

Mmmphh... Mmmmmphhh... mmmph... mmmphh...

Luckily...someone was passing by at that moment.



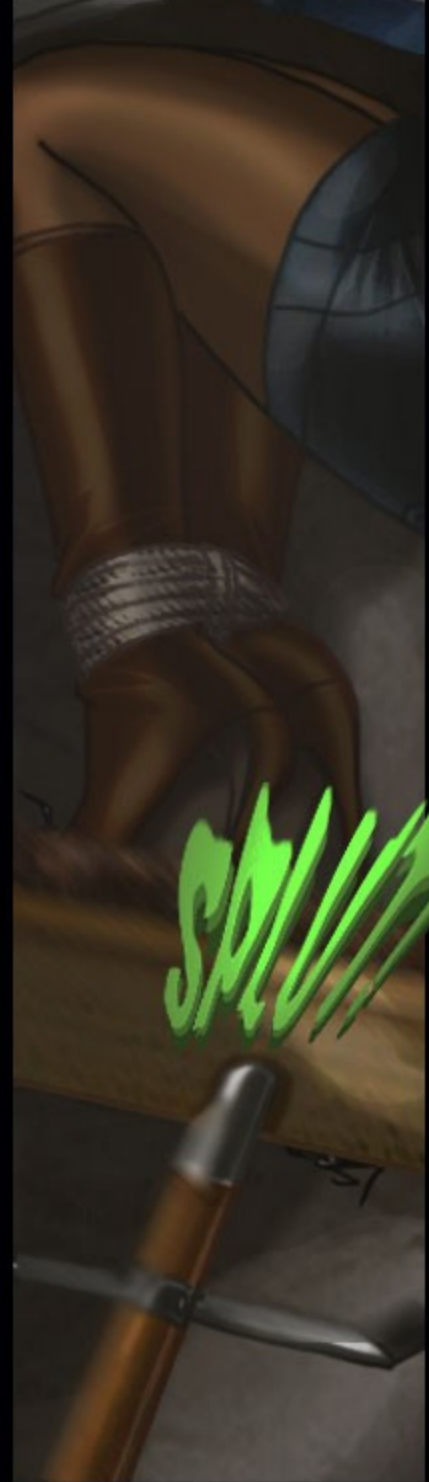
OH MY GOD!

mmmmmmphhhhh... Mmmph...Mmmmmphhh...

The guard grabbed a broom that was leaning beside the door and lifted it over his head.



Don't move!



Soon, the security guard had Tracey and I untied.



Thanks!

What was going on here?

A prank that went wrong, it's a long story.

By the way, did you see our friend? She's a tall blonde in a black miniskirt?

No, sorry... I think I'd remember if I saw a girl dressed like that.

After thanking the guard we ran out to look for Erin.



I recognized one of those guys!

It was Ernie the janitor. That proves the Weston's are behind it all!

We have to find Erin and then call Lt. Tom!

We found Erin's car empty, and the door ajar, like she had been grabbed from it.



Erin's gone!

Where did she go?

Tracey, I have a bad feeling about this...

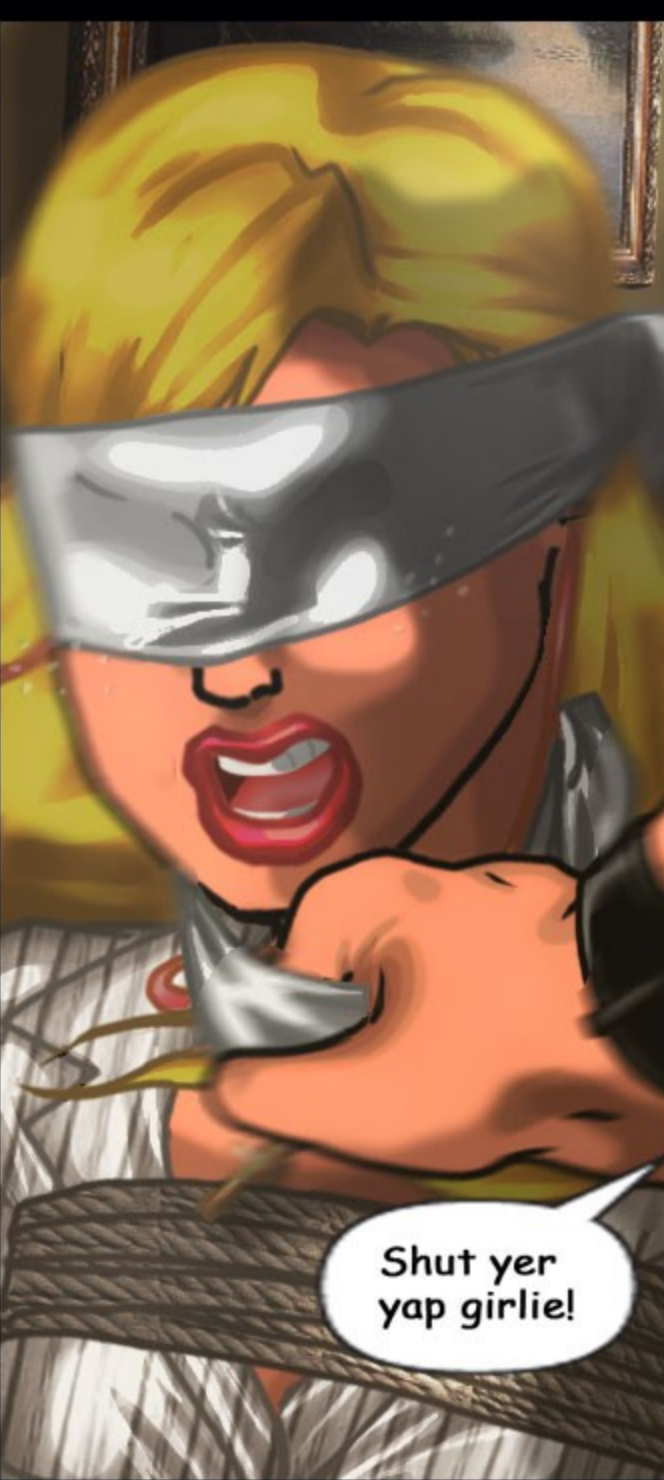
I think Erin has been kidnapped!



Meanwhile, Erin was waking up and began struggling in her ropes and gag.



Mmmphh... Mmmphh... Mmmpppppphh...



Shut yer yap girlie!

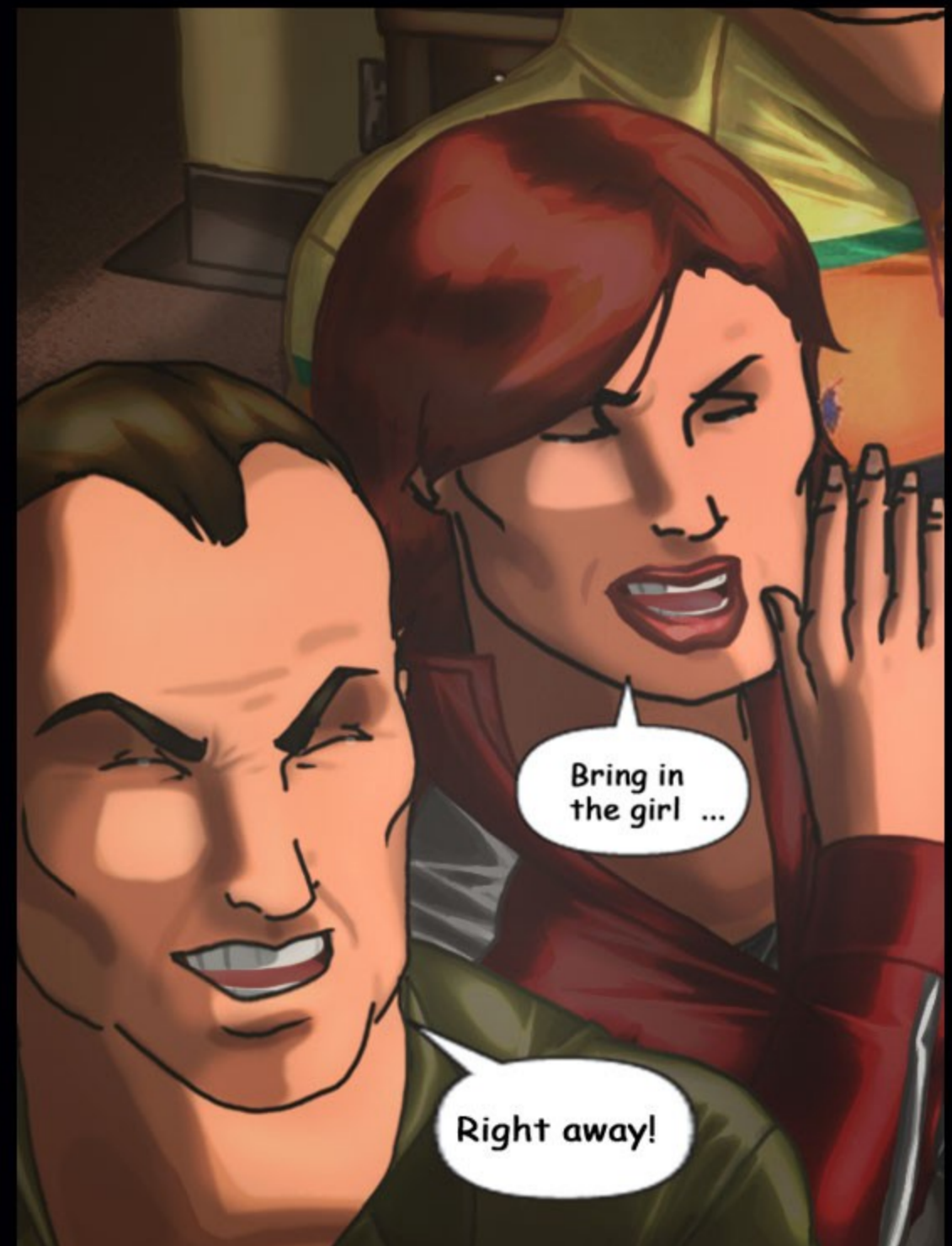


What do you want? Where is Jessica?



You're not in any position to ask questions- Tell us what you saw on the computer!

I'm not telling you anything till I see Jessica!



Bring in the girl ...

Right away!



Ernie dragged in a bound and gagged Jessica.

The poor girl had been tied to a bed all day.

Mmmph... Mmmphh...

ohmygod!
Jessica!



They forced Jessica into a chair beside Erin and tied her to it.

You won't get away with this!
The police are gonna find out about this!

The police? *hear hear hear*
If you knew...

Shut up Arnie!

You have your friend back-
Now tell us what you know.

No way!



The odious Coach Weston grabbed Jessica by her hair and pulled hard!

No? Maybe your friend here can persuade you-

Susan!
She's only a child!

Mmmphh...
MMmmppppphh...



Stop!
.I'll tell you what you want to know, just don't hurt her!



Good choice.

Now, what did you find on the files you looked at?

Your gambling debts, you owe thousands of dollars...

Nothing about a "Mr Big"?

No...



And Jerry, if you screw this up for us you'll be wearing your family jewels as a necklace!

Y...yes dear...

She doesn't know anything-
Gag her, and get ready to send out the ransom demands-



Jessica looked at Erin trying to tell her "I'm so sorry I got you into this" but all she could do was plead with her eyes

Mmmphh...
MMmmppppphh...

mmmmphh...
mmmmmmph...



Meanwhile, Tracey and I ran back into the school looking for the security guard.

Girls? What are you doing back?
Did you find your friend?

Not exactly...
We need your help!



Oh Jeez...

That's against the rules...and I just got this job.

Our friend is missing and we think we know how to find her-

But the info we need is in Couch Weston's office.

Could you maybe let us in?

I could tell he was going to be a hard nut to crack.

I decided to pull out my secret weapon, what my dad always called my baby blues.



Couldn't you be a peach and help us...

I'm Deanna Taylor and this is my friend Tracey Brown.

We'd both be grateful if you could maybe "accidentally" leave the office door open?



O...ok...but you gals gotta do me a solid and not tell anyone about this...ok?

Girl Scouts honor!



wow! You sure had him wrapped around your finger

"Use what you've got" I always say.

The security guard left us alone in the Westons' office and Tracey and I began ransack the drawers, looking for any clue we could find.

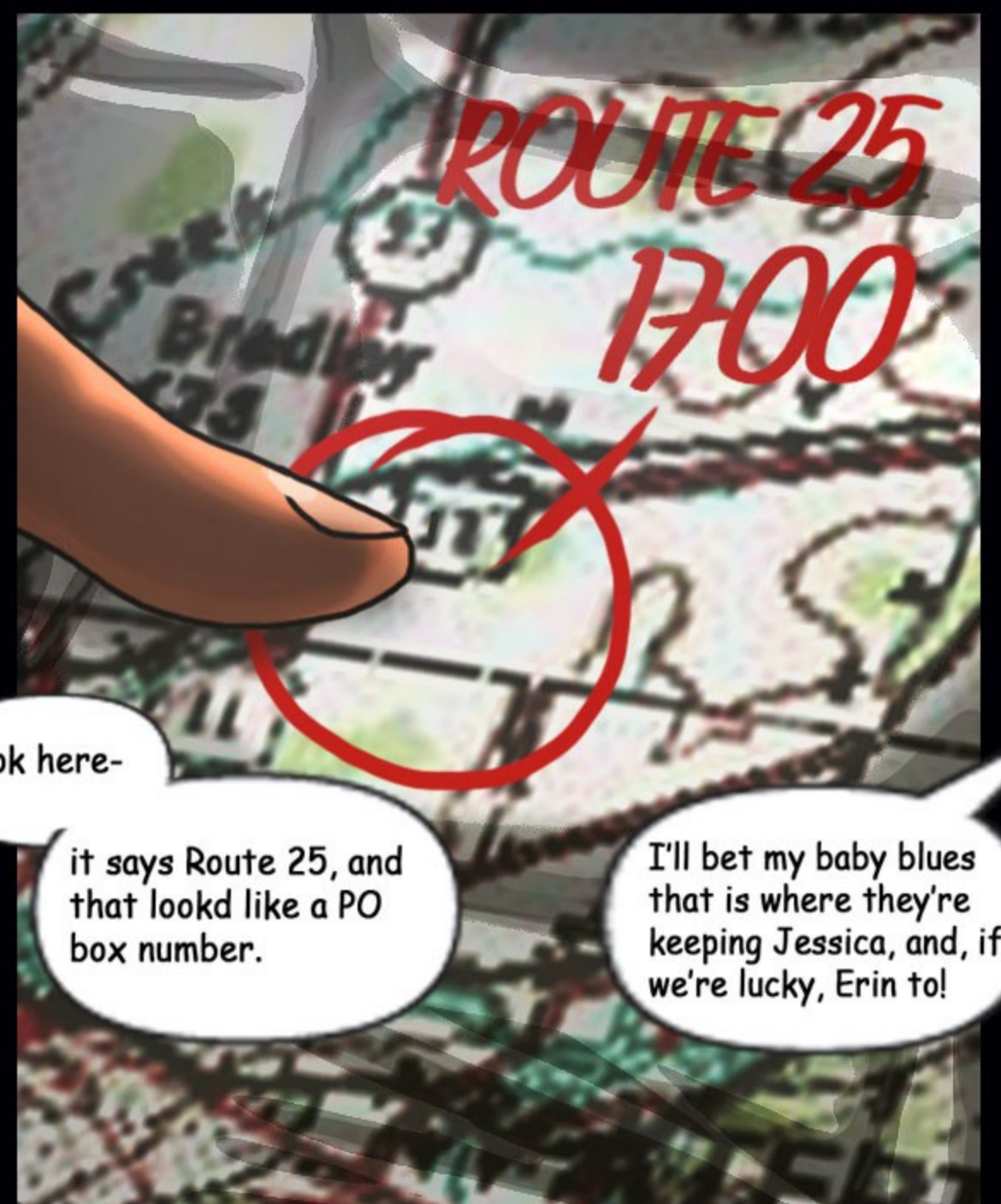


Tracey! I found something!



What is it?

It's a map of Watertown!



Look here-

it says Route 25, and that looked like a PO box number.

I'll bet my baby blues that is where they're keeping Jessica, and, if we're lucky, Erin to!

Tracey and I scurried to the car and I pulled out my cell phone and dialed up the police.



This is Deann Taylor, can I speak with Lt. Tom Benton?

He's not available?

The Assistant Police Chief? Sure I'll talk to him-

Hello? Chief Lawrence? We have information about the Jessica Starr kidnapping!

We think we know where she, and another girl are being held... Route 25 Box 1700.

You'll send some officers to meet?

A dark blue Honda Accord, license plate GRLDTV.

Great! We'll meet them there-thanks!

We jumped into my car and soon we were driving down Route 25.



Turn on the radio-

Let's hear if there is any news about Jessica out yet.

In the news, just in...a ransom demand has been sent to authorities concerning the recent disappearance of Jessica Starr, daughter of Maxwell Starr, founder and CEO of JT Max clothing.



Details are sketchy, and the police are not making any commnet as of yet. Stay tuned to this station for any further de...

It sounds like the kidnappers are making their move...

I hope we're not too late-

Police lights!

It must be the officers Chief Lawrence said he'd be sending.

Youd better pull over.

I pulled over the car, and the police car stopped behind us, and two officers got out.

Suddenly one of the officers grabbed me and wrenched my hands behind me.

CLIK!

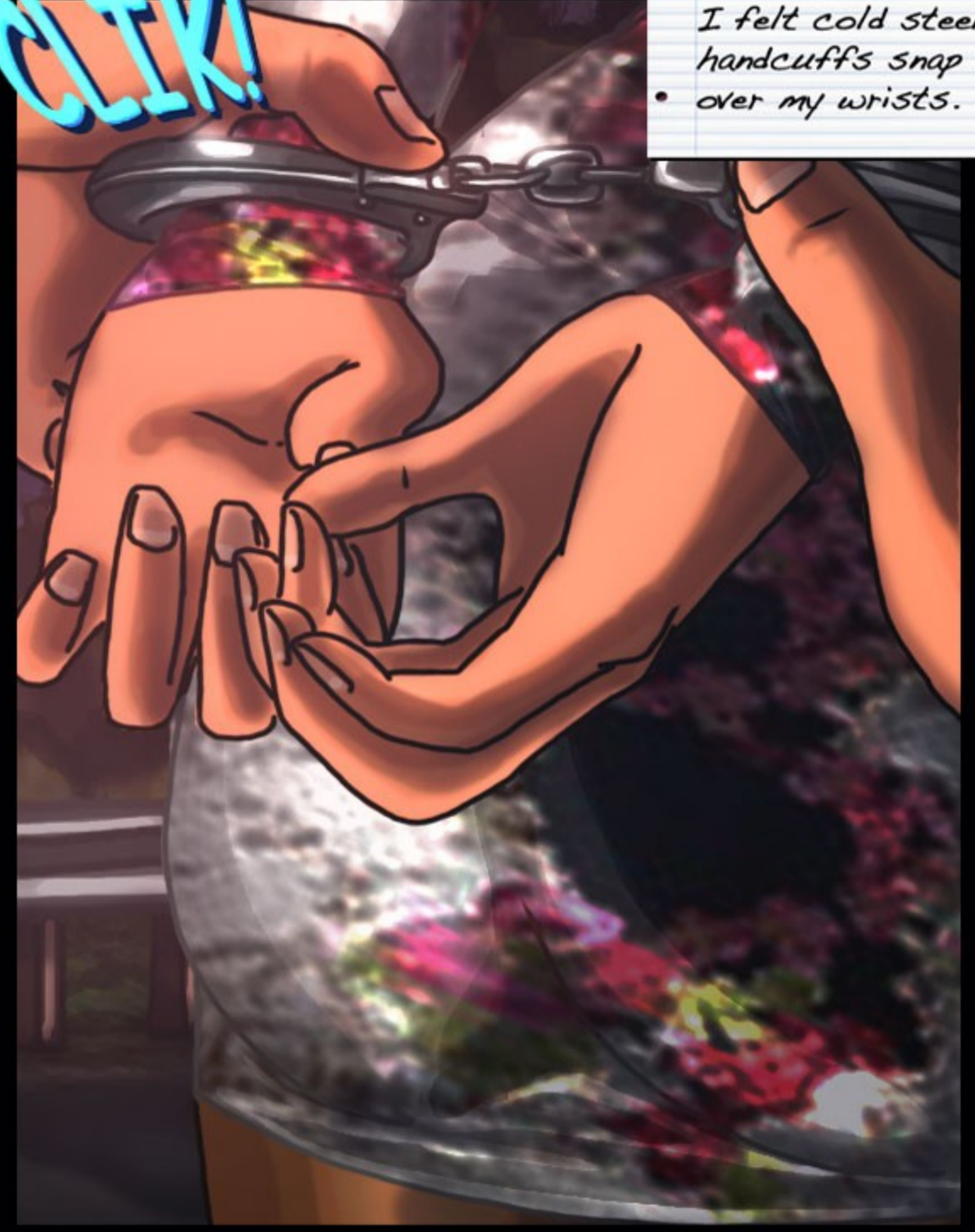
I felt cold steel handcuffs snap over my wrists.



Deanna and Tracey?

Yes, I'm Deanna and this is Tracey-

HEY!



I heard the tearing of duct tape, and suddenly the officer slapped a piece across my lips.

I looked over and saw Tracey being cuffed and gagged just like me.

The officers then forced us into the back of the police car.



Wha-

Mmmphhh!



Mmmphhh... Mmmphhh...

Mmmph... Mmmphh...

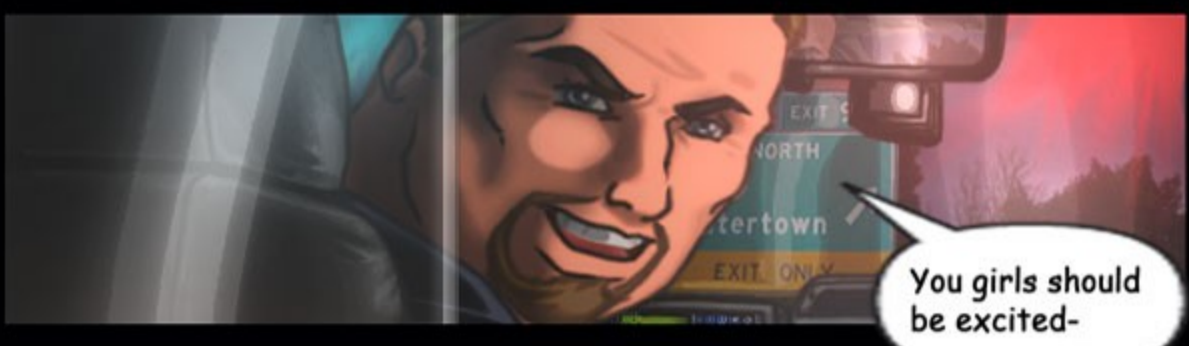


Get in the car-

No funny business!

They led us through a side door and down a hallway.

We didn't make it easy for them, but with our hands cuffed behind us and their tight grips we were helpless.



You girls should be excited-



you're about to meet "Mr Big".

Mmmphh...

Mmmphh...



We were driven in the patrol car to the precinct that was on that side of town, while the second officer drove my car behind us.



Stop struggling!

Your little trip is almost over-

Mmmphh... Mmmphhh...

They pushed us into an office where a fat officer sitting behind his desk greeted us.



Mmmph!

mmmmphh!

Deanna and Tracey! I've heard so much about you.

Welcome to the North End precinct-

oh no!



We were so boned!



mmmmph!



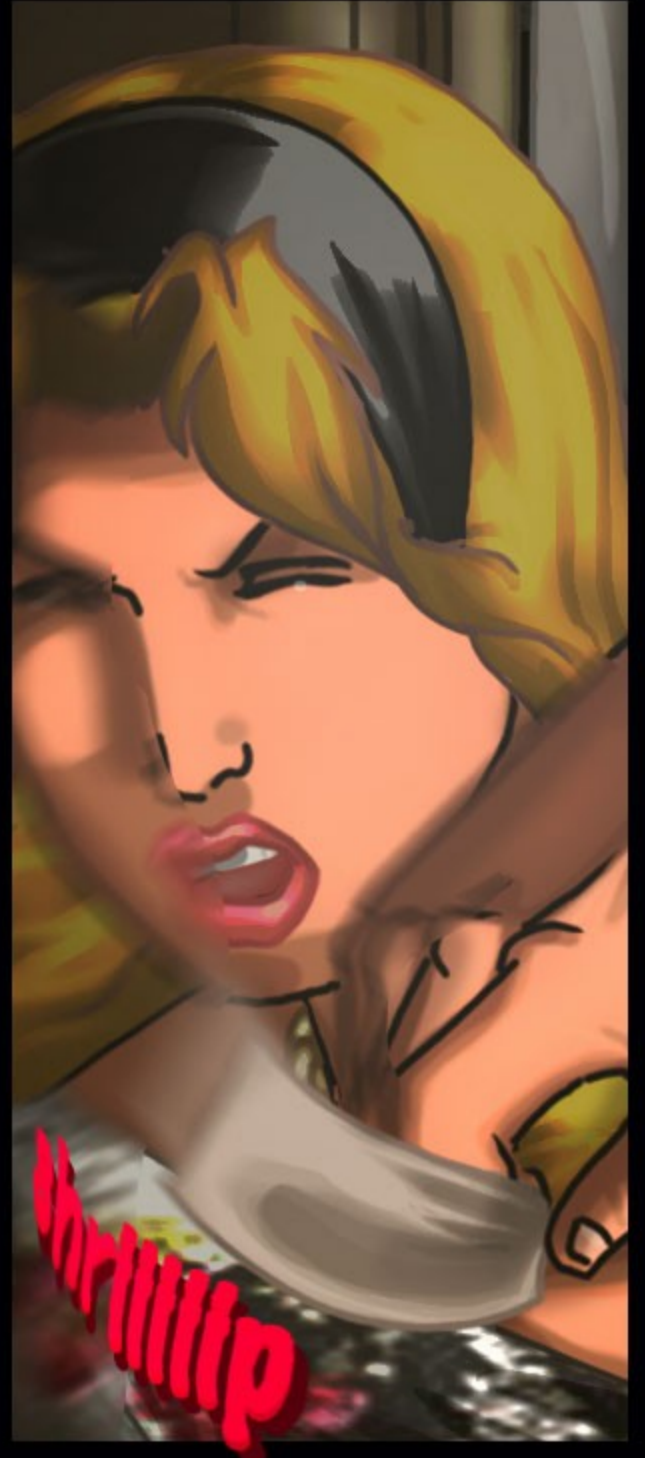
You two have caused us a load of problems!

It's lucky I made sure all Lt. Benton's calls were routed to me or you could have blown everything.

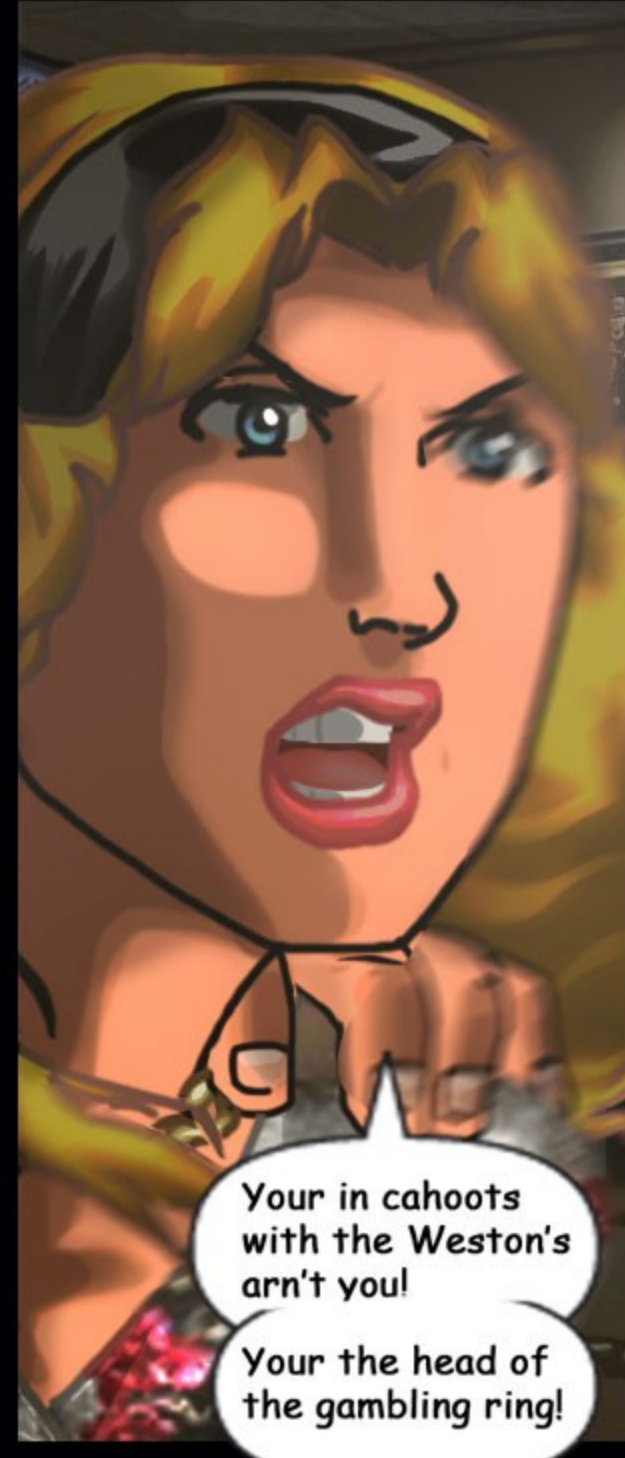


Mmmph! mmmmmph!

Sounds like our pretty guest has something to say...



mmmmph!



Your in cahoots with the Weston's arn't you!
Your the head of the gambling ring!



Gambling ring? You have no idea-

I was investigating the Weston's racket activities when they made a deal with me to split the profits.

Since it was a better payday then a policeman's pension I decided to organize one more big score with them before we all disappear to South America!

You won't get away with this you creep!

Lt. Tom will find out what your up to!

This young lady is getting awful mouthy-
Shut it for her-



No d-
Mmmphh....
mmmmphh...

You should have more respect for your elders.



Stick them in the evidence room-make sure they are locked up tight!

mmmmph!

Mmmppph!

The two officers took us down stairs and forced us into the evidence locker.



MMmmpph!

Get in there!

They forced us down on to the floor and handcuffed our ankles together, and wrapped rope around our bodies so we could not slip our ankles through our arms

Then they pulled out two handkerchiefs and pulled them over our already taped mouths to muffle us further.



This is a feisty one!

Mmmph... Mmmpphh...

Mmmphh... Mmmpphh...

Get her tied tight!
We can't have these two getting loose!



MMmphh...

MMMmpph



Mmmphh... MMMPhhhh...

Mmmphh... Mmmphh...

Good luck girls!
Someone will find you...eventually-
heh heh heh heh

Our hearts sank as they shut us in. We failed!



MMmphh...

MMMmpph

We were never going to see Erin or Jessica again!

Back at the kidnapper's hideout, the Weston's and their accomplices walked back into the room where they kept Jessica and Erin.



It's almost time for the ransom drop off!

Get Jessica untied and take her outside, we have to get her to the marina on the southside of town-



What are we going to do with her?
What about the other girl?

We'll leave her here.

I'm sure she'll be found before too long-

No loose ends... understand me?



Yeah boss-
I understand.

Mmmph... Mmmmpphh...

Back at the precinct, Tracey and I squirmed and struggled against the cuffs, but they were too tight.



Jessica was untied from her chair and Jerry Weston flung her over his shoulder

Mmmph... Mmmpphh...

Put her in the back of the van-
Ernie will join us after he cleabs things up here...

Yes sweetie...



Mmmmmphh... Mmmmmpphhhh...

Tracey lifted her head and tried to get my attention.

Even though she was gagged I got what she was trying to say.

I reached around and slipped down and slipped down her handkerchief gag...

...and then peeled the tape off of her lips.

Reach under my skirt, just under the hem is a secret pocket. I have a key in there-see if you can get it.

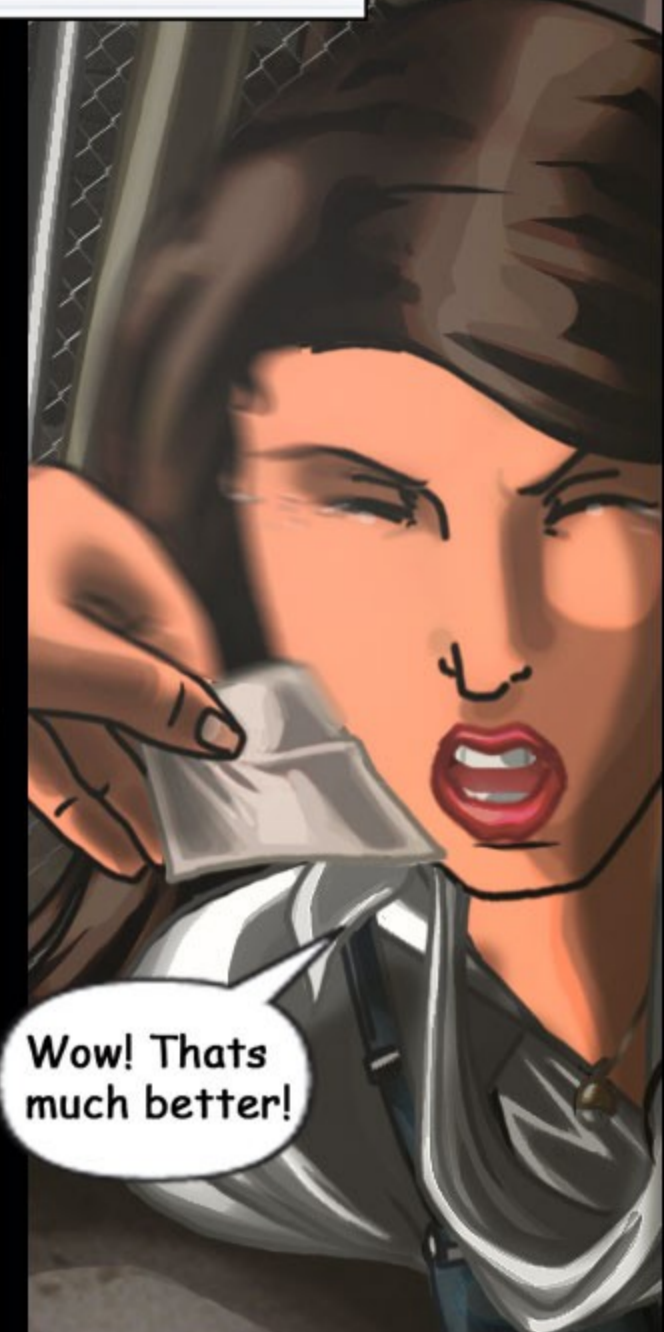


mmmph...

Mmmphh... mmmphh...



mmmph... mmmphh...



Wow! That's much better!



MMmmphh... mmmphh...



I wiggled down and reached my fingers under her skirt...



Great job Deanna! Perfect!

CLICK!

If I wasn't gagged I would have kissed her!

Mmmppph...

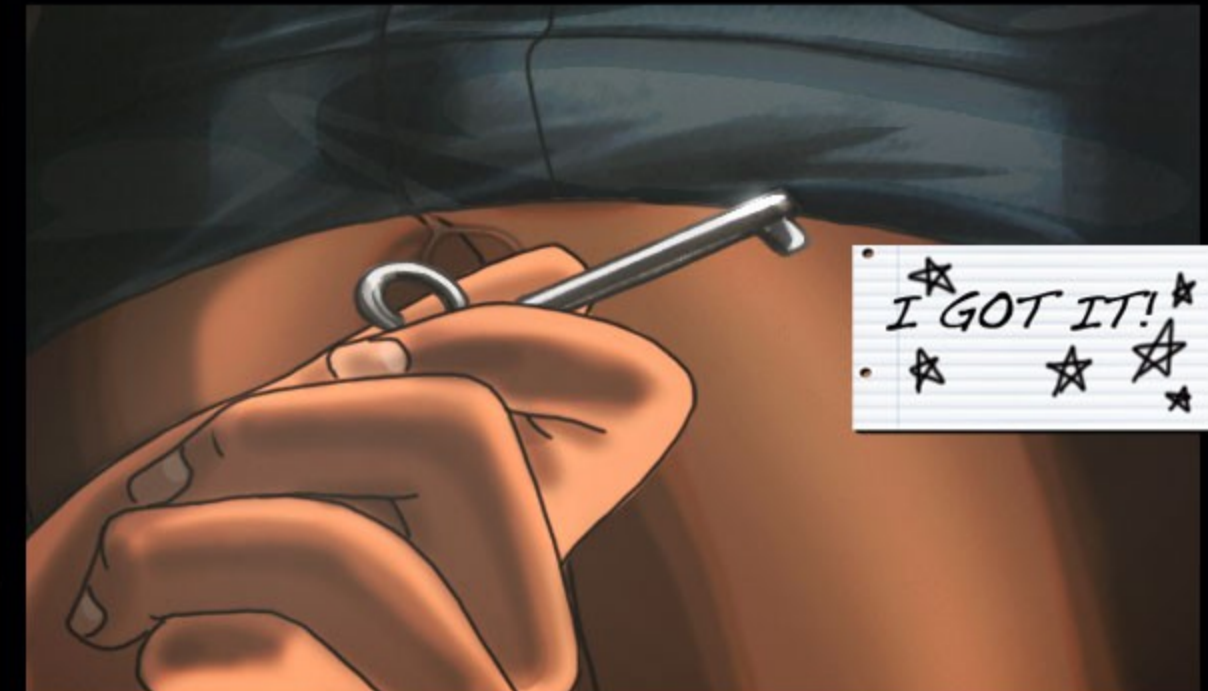


Soon we were both free of our cuffs.

Those cuffs were tight...

I'd rather have rope burns for a week than wear those again.

We have to warn the police about Chief Lawrence!



★ I GOT IT! ★



No Way, we can't tell who we can trust or not. Until we can get a hold of Lt Tom we're on our own!

Meanwhile Ernie and his partner untied Erin from her chair and marched her outside.

Near by the house was an old saw mill that was built in the early 1900s, but that hadn't been used since the 90s.



Mmmph!

Keep marching!



Inside was an apparatus with a conveyor belt and a large saw blade used for cutting logs



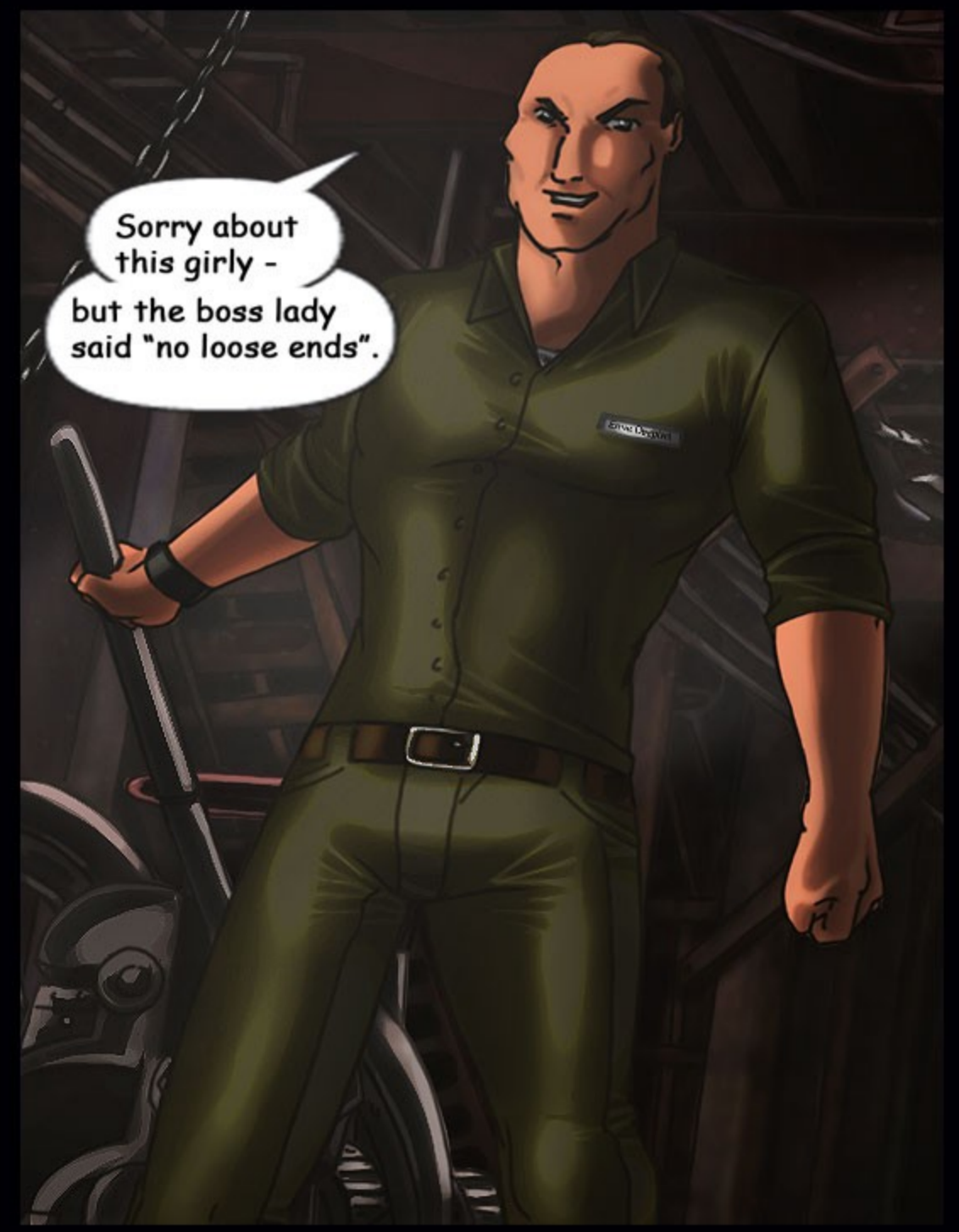
End of the line girly- Get in there!

Mmmphh!

They laid Erin down on the conveyor belt, and bound her up tight with thick straps.



Mmmphh! mmmphh!



Sorry about this girly - but the boss lady said "no loose ends".



Mmmmmphhh... Mmmmmphh...

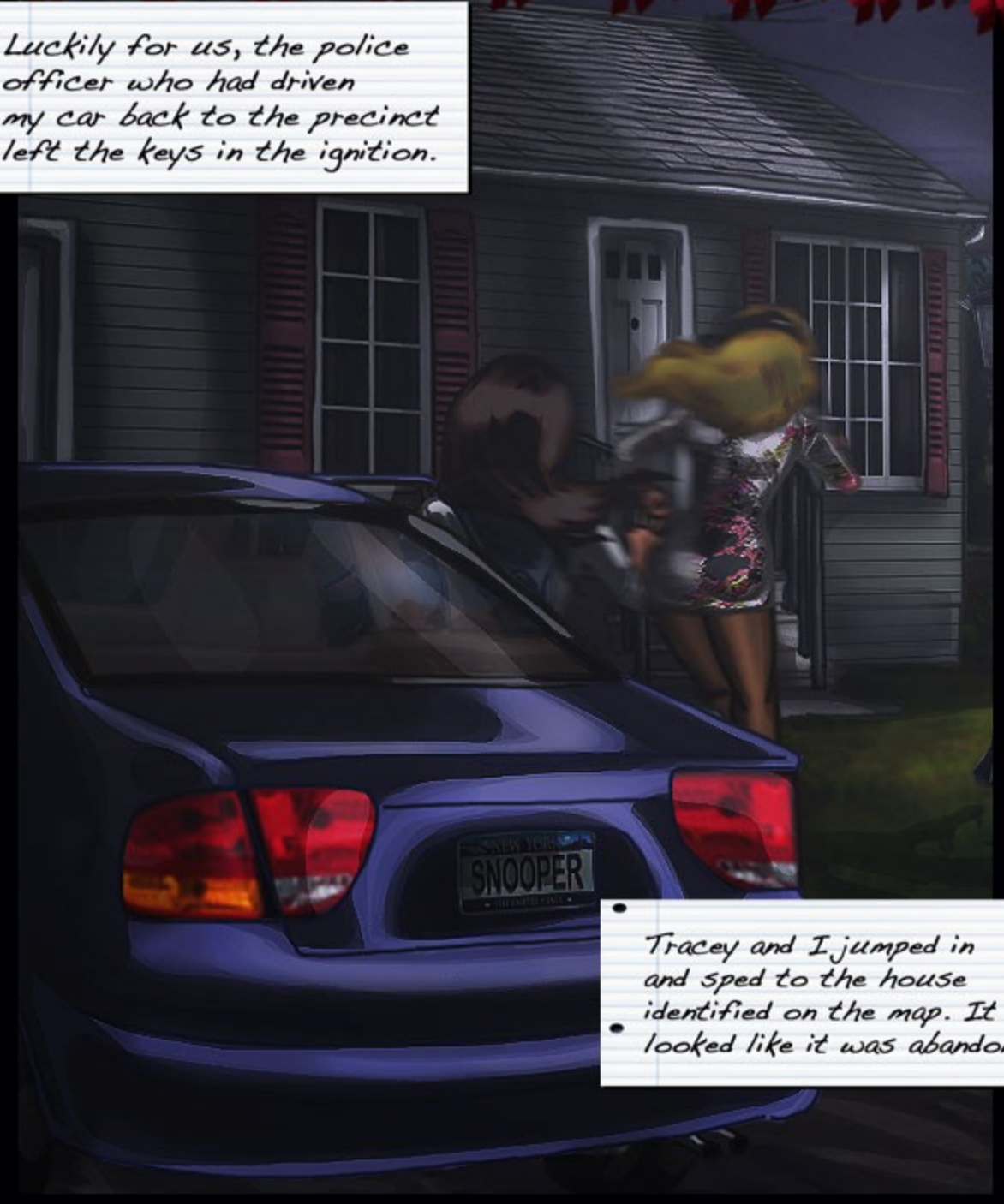


Mmmph... Mmmmmmmph...

MMPhh!

Have a good trip! You'll be kindling in about fifteen minutes- heh! heh! heh! heh! heh!

Luckily for us, the police officer who had driven my car back to the precinct left the keys in the ignition.



Tracey and I jumped in and sped to the house identified on the map. It looked like it was abandoned.



The house's door was left unlocked, and we burst inside.

Erin!
Jessica!

We were crestfallen when we saw that it was empty.



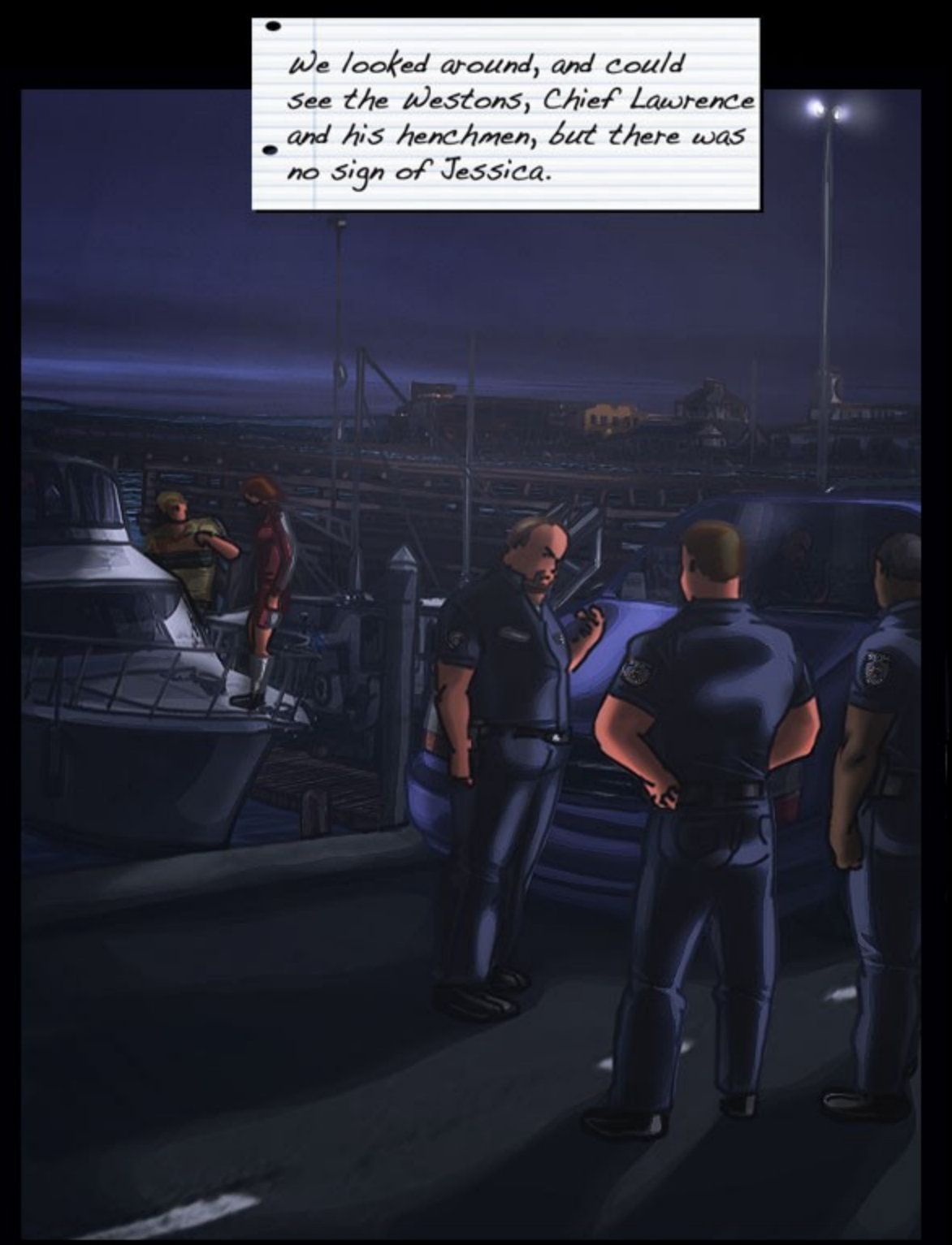
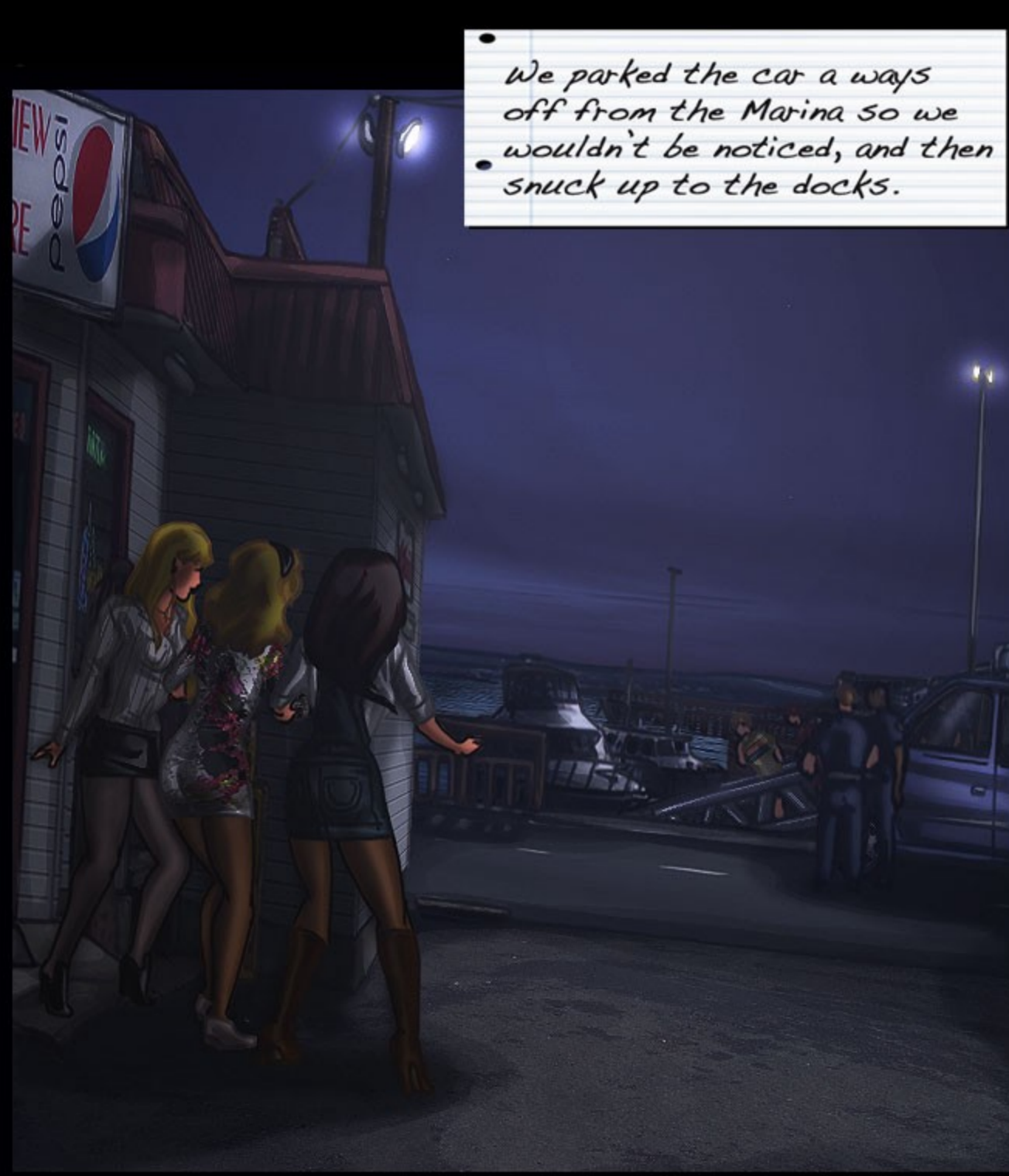
We're too late!

What is that sound?

I don't know- It sounds like it's coming from outside!



Deanna! Look! Across the street! It's an old mill!

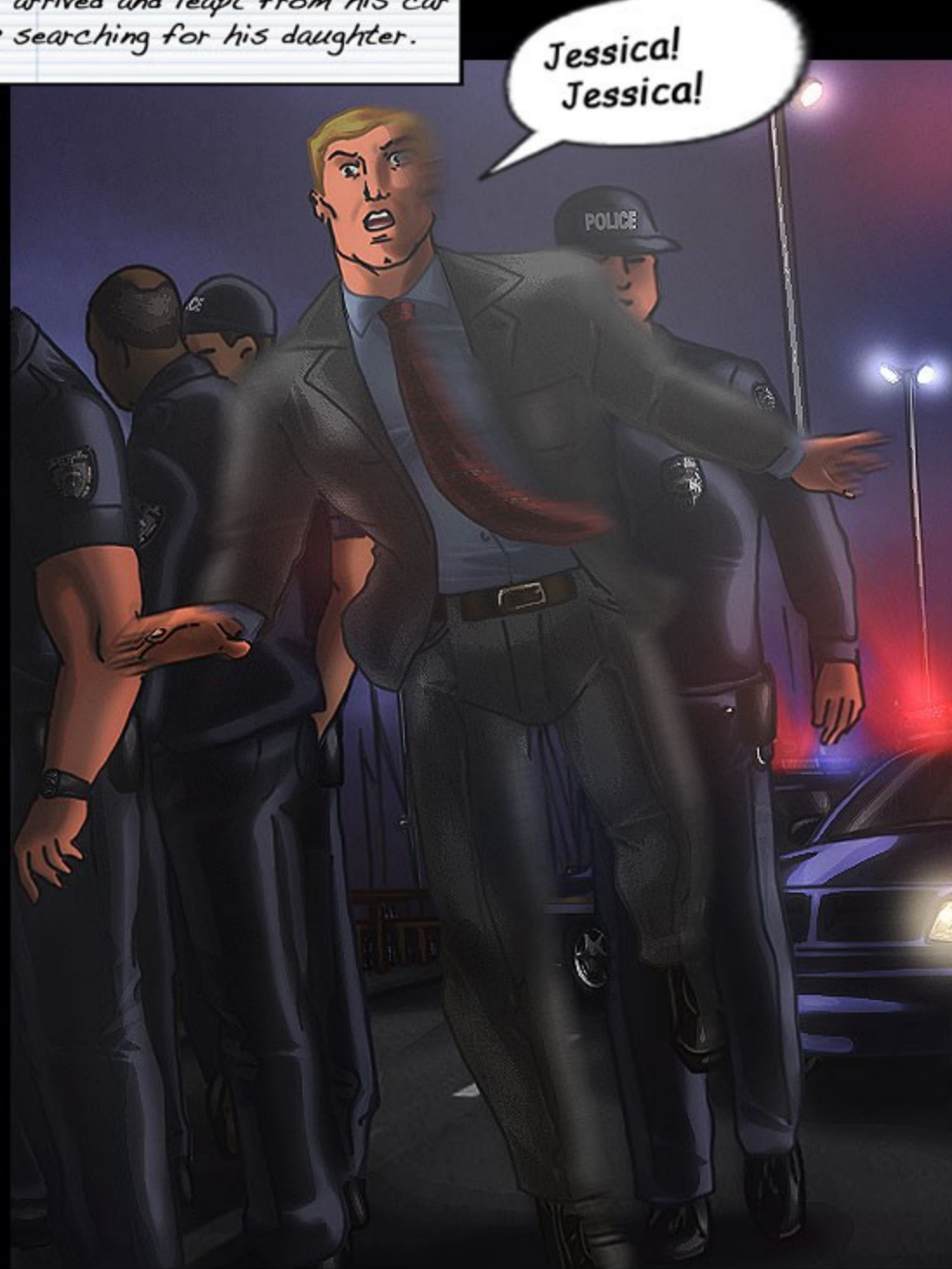


Suddenly Jessica's father arrived and leapt from his car searching for his daughter.



You're one of us now - and we girl detectives have to stick together, right?

Right...



Jessica! Jessica!



Daddy!



Thank God! Your mother and I have been SO worried! We were scared we'd never see you again-

You wouldn't have, if not for my friends.



I've been told you girls are responsible for finding Jessica.

I can't thank you enough, ask me for anything, any amount at all, and it's yours!

Thank you Mr. Starr, but we don't do this for money.

We're just happy Jessica is safe.



No really, I want to express my gratitude to you! If you won't take money then how about an unlimited lifetime charge account at any JT Max store in the country!



No Really Mr. Starr, we couldn't-



Mr. Starr...

I think this is the beginning of a BEAUTIFUL friendship!



THE END

Next THE GLASS RUBY