

# THE WOODS™

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I WANT YOU TO IMAGINE HER FACE...WHAT WAS HER NAME?

RACHEL.

IMAGINE RACHEL'S FACE. IMAGINE WHAT HER LIPS FELT LIKE AGAINST YOURS. IMAGINE REACHING UP AND GRABBING ONE OF HER...



WE...WE NEVER...



SERIOUSLY, KID? AND YOU'RE THIS HUNG UP??



SHE MUST'A BEEN SOMETHING SPECIAL, THEN...

SHE... SHE WAS PERFECT...



THE SMELL OF HER HAIR, THEN YOU'D PULL HER CLOSE AND BREATHE DEEP, WOULDN'T YOU? HER BODY PRESSED UP RIGHT AGAINST YOURS.

CAN YOU SMELL IT, BARRY?

YES...



HOLD IT IN YOUR MIND. FOCUS AND YOU CAN SEE HER...NO? WANT ANOTHER BUMP?



SEE, THAT CRAZY RAMIREZ CHICK. SHE THINKS THIS IS BAD FOR YOU, AND SURE, YOU MIGHT GET A BIT DIZZY HERE AND THERE...

BUT DOES ANYTHING ELSE HELP YOU REMEMBER? DOES ANYTHING TAKE YOU BACK HOME LIKE THIS?



N-NO...

'COURSE NOT. HOW COULD IT?



HEY, BUD, THOSE TWO WERE FREE, BUT YOU KNOW THE PRICE FOR THE REST.

P-PLEASE.



I MIGHT BE PERSUADED... I JUST NEED YOU TO DO A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR ME...



UGH, CARLIE. I NEED A **SHOWER**. TALK ABOUT PATHETIC.

HE'LL GET THAT WHOLE LITTLE GEEK CREW ONBOARD. THE ONES STILL PLAYING THEIR MUD-STAINED **MAGIC CARDS**.



ANY WORD FROM THE BRAT?

NOT YET.

≡SIGH≡ FIGURES. SHOULD'A BEEN BACK HOURS AGO. STILL WAITING FOR THE OFFER.



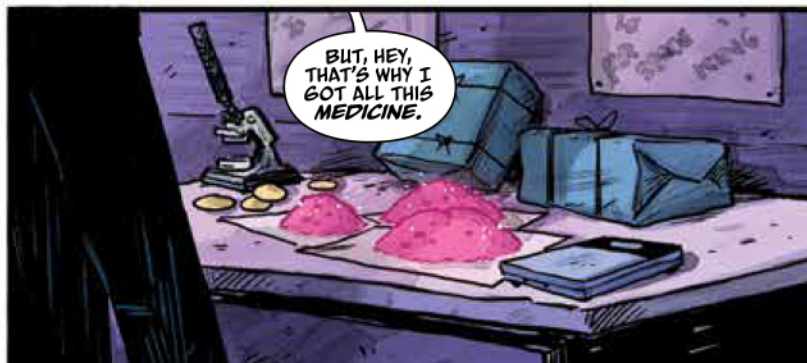
DIDN'T EVEN **KISS** HER. GOD.



THE █████ TOOK A **SICK DAY**, CAN YOU EVEN IMAGINE? GO HOME WITH A FLU, AND YOU MISS ALL OF THIS! YOU MISS THE **BIG ESCAPE**. YOU MISS THE CHANCE TO BECOME **ANYTHING** YOU EVER WANTED TO BE.



THEY ACTUALLY WANT TO **REMEMBER** THE OLD WORLD. IT'S SICKENING. THEY'RE SICK.



BUT, HEY, THAT'S WHY I GOT ALL THIS **MEDICINE**.



I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

I'M SORRY, I CAN'T EXPLAIN. IT'S IMPERATIVE I GET TO NEW LONDON IMMEDIATELY.



SOMETHING IS HAPPENING, ISN'T IT?



... MARIA, I CARE ABOUT YOU A GREAT DEAL, BUT THIS ISN'T SOMETHING I'M AT LIBERTY TO DISCUSS.



WE HAVE THE CULTURAL EXCHANGE NIGHT IN JUST A FEW DAYS...WE'RE COUNTING ON HALF OF NEW LONDON COMING OUT...YOU KNOW WE NEED THE COMMERCE TO JUMP-START TRADE HERE.

I UNDERSTAND...



SANDER WILL BE HERE IN MY STEAD. HE'LL TAKE CHARGE OF THE FLOCKS AND THE HUNTERS. HE'S ALREADY OUT FOR A MORNING KILL.



YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS.



I DON'T LIKE BEING KEPT IN THE DARK, NIGEL.



TRUST ME, MARIA.



"SOMETIMES THE DARK IS EXACTLY WHERE YOU WANT TO BE."



ALRIGHT, KAREN...



WHERE ARE YOU?