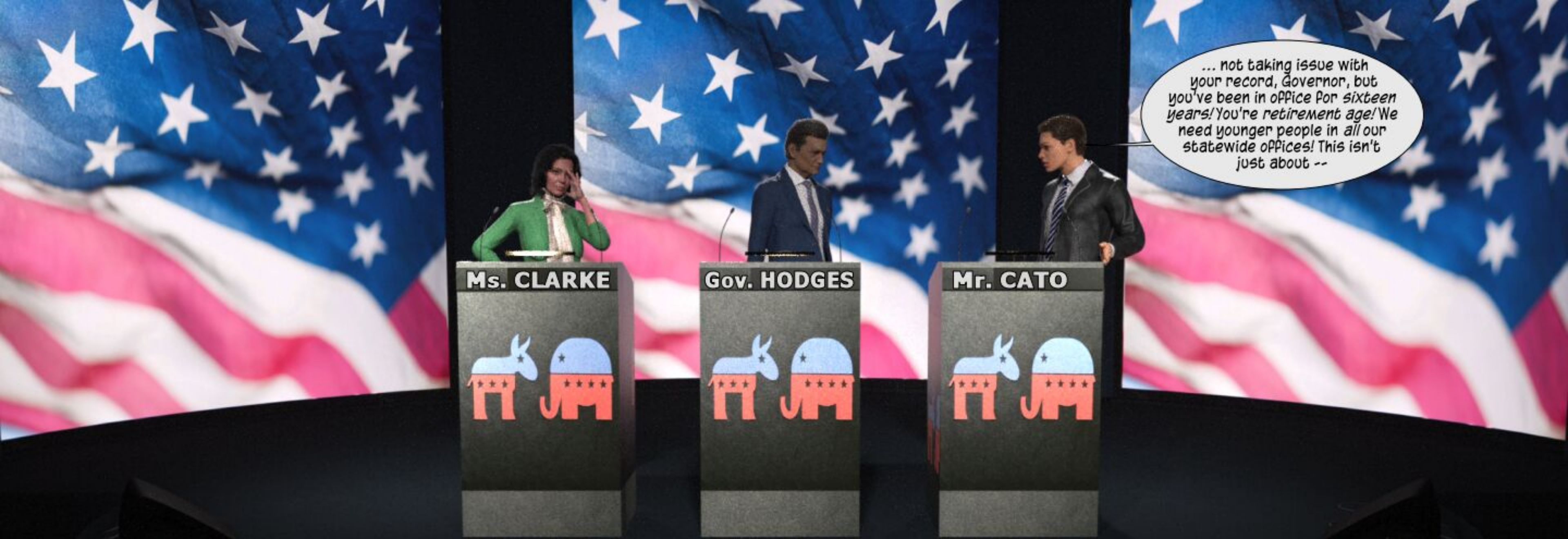
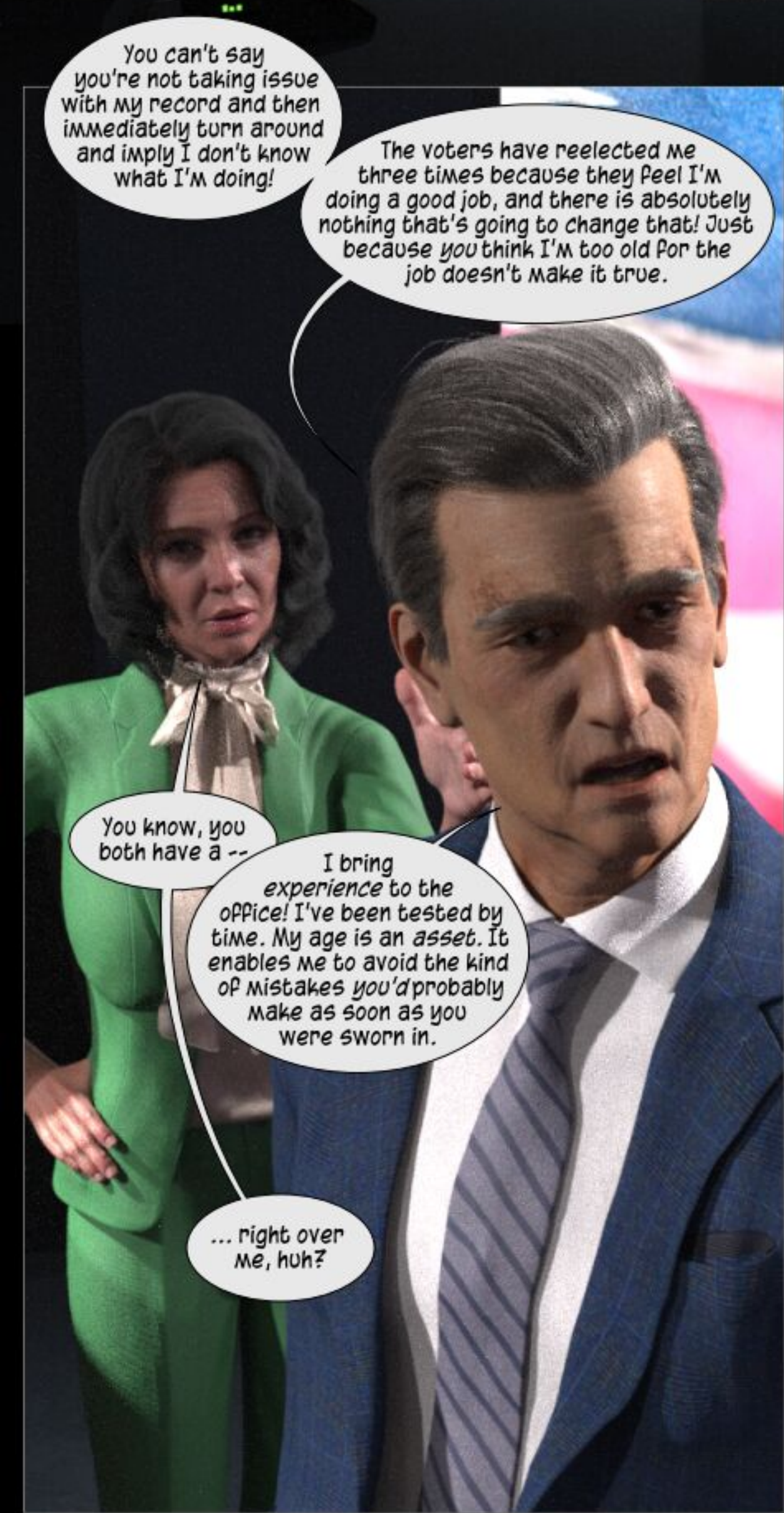




... not taking issue with your record, Governor, but you've been in office for *sixteen years!* You're retirement age! We need younger people in all our statewide offices! This isn't just about --



You can't say you're not taking issue with my record and then immediately turn around and imply I don't know what I'm doing!

The voters have reelected me three times because they feel I'm doing a good job, and there is absolutely nothing that's going to change that! Just because you think I'm too old for the job doesn't make it true.

You know, you both have a --

I bring experience to the office! I've been tested by time. My age is an *asset*. It enables me to avoid the kind of mistakes you'd probably make as soon as you were sworn in.

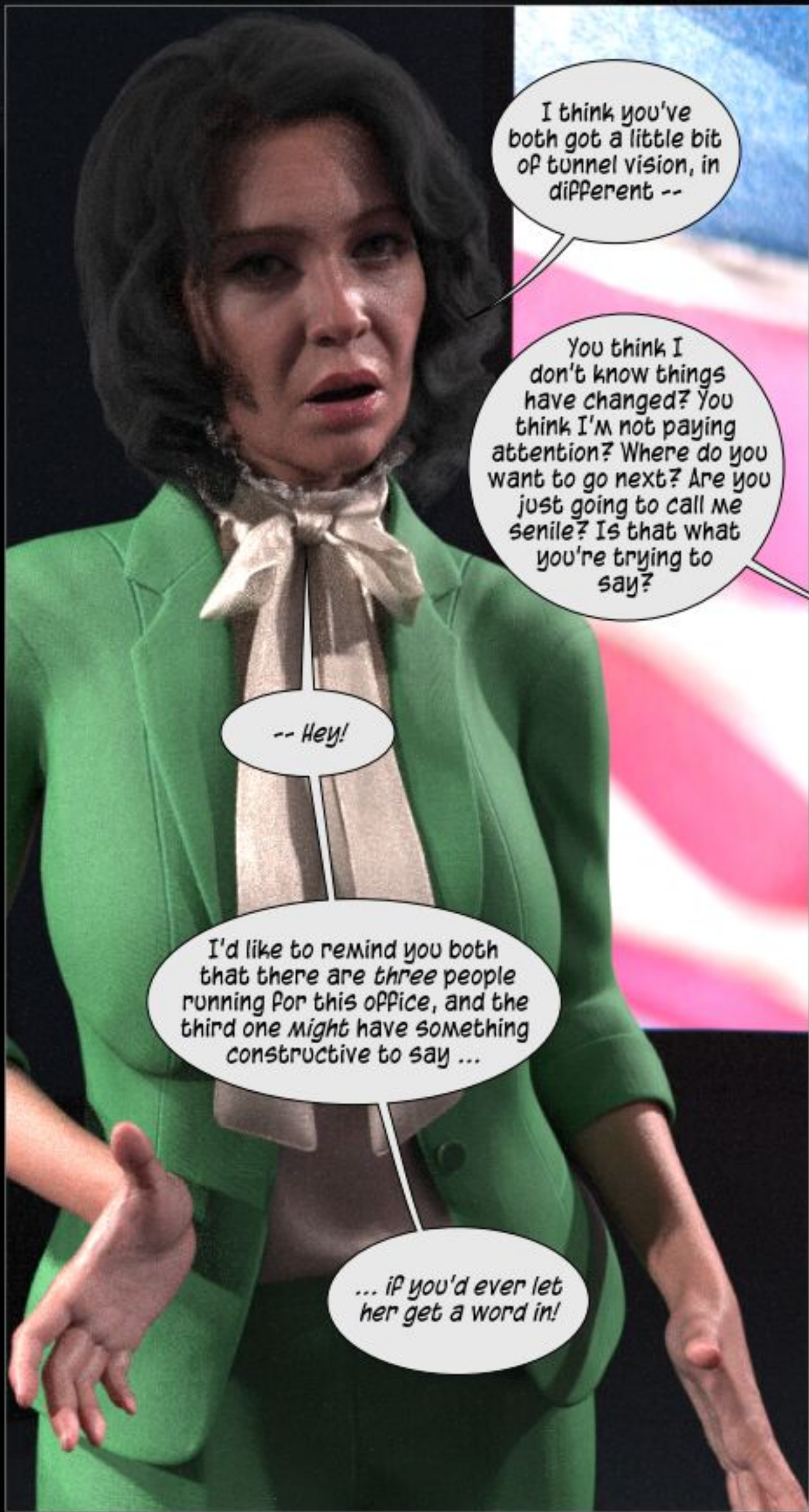
... right over me, huh?



Your age also locks you in time, Governor.

The world has changed around you. Look at our national politics! Are you even aware what they've become?

Your thinking is thirty, forty years in the past, and it's killing us.



I think you've both got a little bit of tunnel vision, in different --

You think I don't know things have changed? You think I'm not paying attention? Where do you want to go next? Are you just going to call me senile? Is that what you're trying to say?

-- Hey!

I'd like to remind you both that there are *three* people running for this office, and the third one *might* have something constructive to say ...

... if you'd ever let her get a word in!



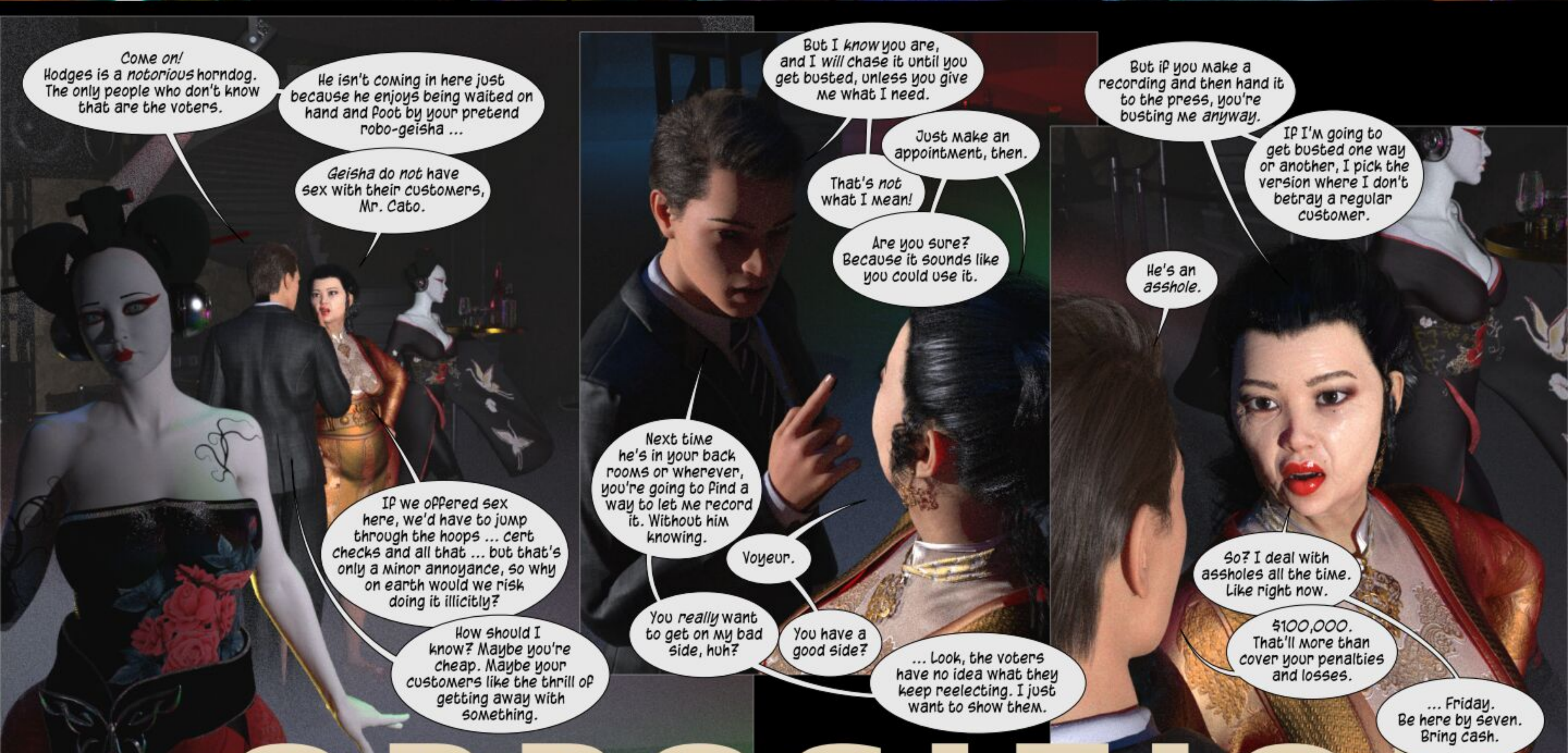
This is *not* going the way it needs to go.

I knew all the old Parts would vote for him, but I didn't realize how many young voters would be fooled by a few good lines and a bad hairpiece.

Clarke's gonna siphon off half the women even though she has no chance, and what's going to be left is a lot closer than I can afford it to be.

I've got to get some oppo on him, and I've got to get it fast.

And I think I know where to look for it.



Come on! Hodges is a notorious horndog. The only people who don't know that are the voters.

He isn't coming in here just because he enjoys being waited on hand and foot by your pretend robo-geisha ...

Geisha do not have sex with their customers, Mr. Cato.

If we offered sex here, we'd have to jump through the hoops ... cert checks and all that ... but that's only a minor annoyance, so why on earth would we risk doing it illicitly?

How should I know? Maybe you're cheap. Maybe your customers like the thrill of getting away with something.



But I know you are, and I will chase it until you get busted, unless you give me what I need.

Just make an appointment, then.

That's not what I mean!

Are you sure? Because it sounds like you could use it.

Next time he's in your back rooms or wherever, you're going to find a way to let me record it. Without him knowing.

You really want to get on my bad side, huh?

Voyeur.

You have a good side?

... Look, the voters have no idea what they keep reelecting. I just want to show them.



But if you make a recording and then hand it to the press, you're busting me anyway.

He's an asshole.

If I'm going to get busted one way or another, I pick the version where I don't betray a regular customer.

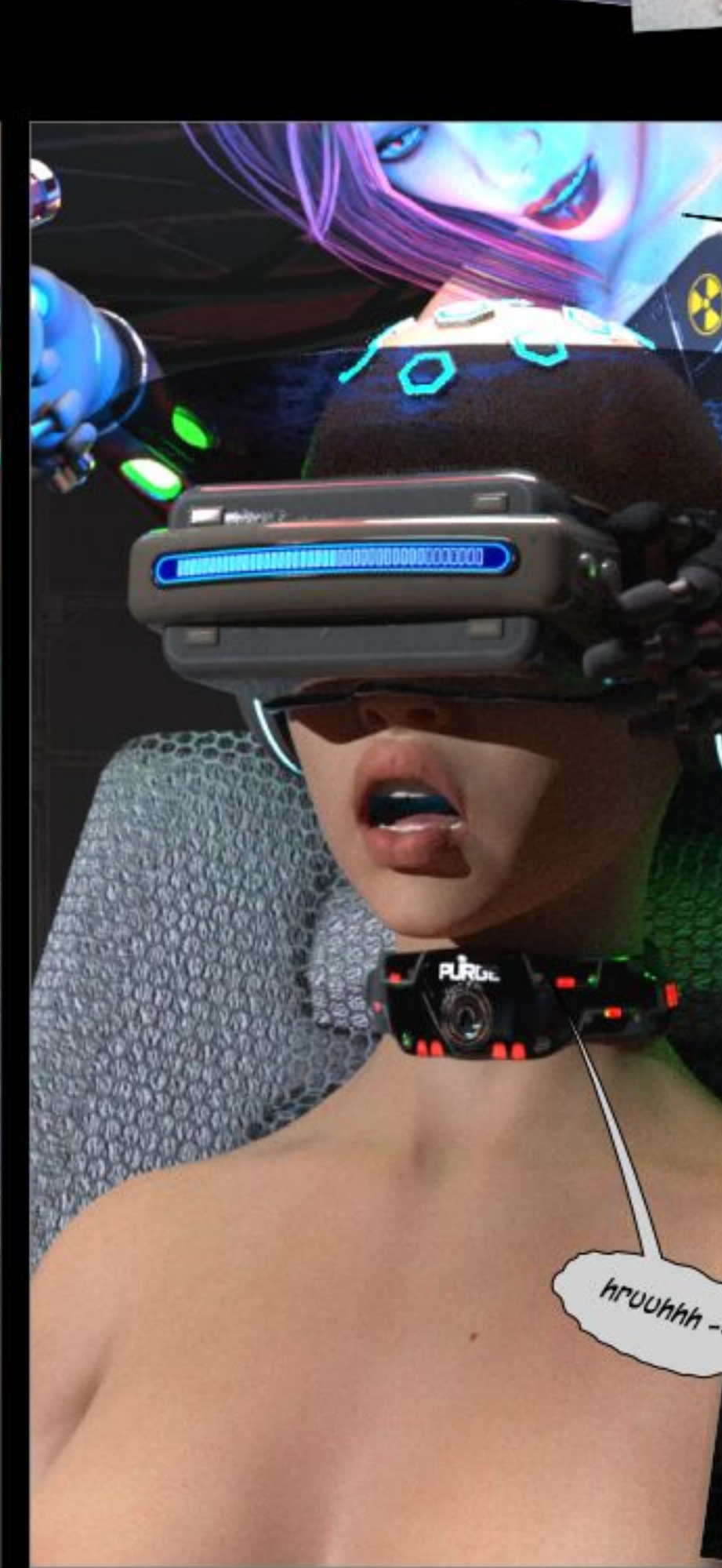
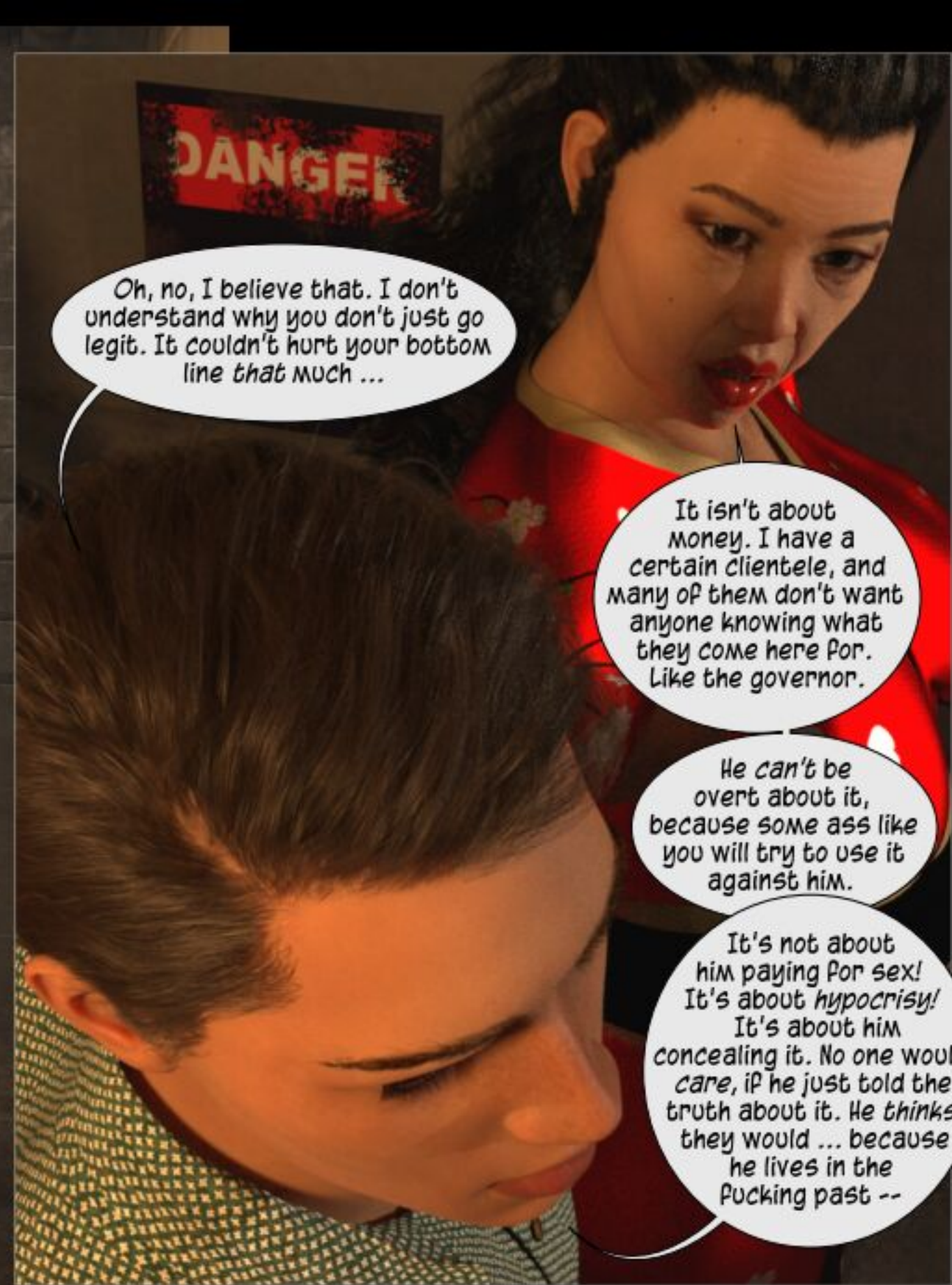
So? I deal with assholes all the time. Like right now.

\$100,000. That'll more than cover your penalties and losses.

... Friday. Be here by seven. Bring cash.

OPPOSITION

STORY AND IMAGES BY TRILBY





We were coming to the point where we needed to lose that. I took it off a few minutes ago. It'll take a while to fade.

You'd have a much harder time getting her into the spray booth with it on.

Don't worry, I don't think she'll give you any trouble. She's had a lot of reinforcement.



Good. Put her back in the chair. You have just enough time for the makeup, I think.

Bella, do you mind doing it? I think your hands are steadier.



She's going to need to close her eyes ...

Oh, you can talk!

Of course I can talk.

I'll come help with that, one second.



She's still having enough trouble moving that if we close them, it'll take her a while to figure out how to open them again. But work fast.



Yes. I think she's recovering ...



... What ...

Bev!!

... what are you doing? why are you ...



No worries. It's ready.

Just have to keep her still long enough for me to hook it up.



Oh, thanks. These connections are pussy.

The reinforcement needs reinforcement.

no ... no ... you can't ... stop ...



Mmm. Almost there ...

... perfect.

You can't do this to me! You'll be sorry you --

...



Come along, now. Still lots to set up.

And for heaven's sake, don't look so upset!

That's not a face a customer wants to see.

You're getting what you wanted, after all. You should be more positive about it.



That's better.

