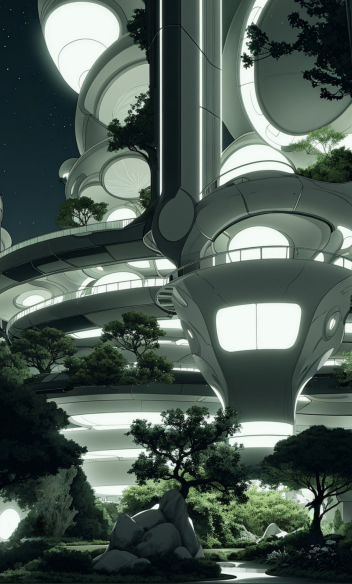




WARLOCK



UMMA, THE CROWN JEWEL OF THE EMPIRE.

WHILE THOUSANDS OF IMPERIAL LIVES ARE LOST IN THE WAR, FAR AWAY ON THE FRONTIERS, THE CAPITAL IS THRIVING IN CALM POISE.

DOWN ON THE SURFACE, A RECENTLY GRADUATED STUDENT IS CROSSING A SIDEWALK. HER HANDS ARE TREMBLING IN ANTICIPATION OF A DATE.

ELZA RECOGNIZED THE RENDEZVOUS SPOT. SHE STOPPED TO ENJOY THE EVENING BREEZE.

HELLO, MY WHITE SUGAR!

MAMA!
ARE YOU KEEPING UP ON THE ARMY?



YES I ENJOY OBSERVING MY FIRST SPECIMEN IN HER NATURAL HABITAT.



I'M SOOO GLAD THAT OUR COURSES ARE OVER!

TELL ME! WHERE ARE WE GOING TONIGHT?

TO SEE THE DUSK OFFERT OF THE NEW COLLECTION OF HOUSE SHAW?



HOPE NONE OF THAT. THERE IS ONE PLACE I WANT TO SHOW YOU!



WHAT... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO IN A DARK ALLEY WITH YOU DRESSED AS A...



"TAM-TAM-TAM." SOMEBODY IS A CONTROLLING MONKEY...



SHESH, ELAY TOEYU YOU JUST NEED TO RELAX AND ENJOY THE FLOW!



SPLASH

SPLASH

CHAP!! THE TIME IS FLEETING!



WOM, WHAT IS THIS LABYRINTH?

DURRO, MAYBE, AN ANCIENT DAMAGE SYSTEM.

FROM TIMES WHEN OUR BLUE JEWEL WAS A DRYING WORLD.

Y'KNOW, INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION, CLIMATE CHANGE AND SHIT.



AND WHY ARE WE EXPLORING THIS STINKY HOLE WHEN THERE IS SUCH A LOVELY WEATHER OUTSIDE?

DEAR, YOU ARE INSUFFERABLE AT TIMES!

WHA! HEARD IT IS!



A MUSTY AIRTIGHT HATCH?

NO! THE ENTRANCE DOOR TO THE UPSIDE!

MAN, I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

WHAT IS BEHIND THAT RED DOOR?

YOU'LL SEE WHEN WE'LL GET INSIDE!

TODAY IS A SPECIAL NIGHT!

I DON'T LIKE IT DOWN HERE.

SHHH!
DON'T SAY A WORD!

AHH.

OUR MINDS ARE CUT,
BUT WE STILL FLY ABOVE THEIR MINDS,
BENEATH THEIR EYES

KLICK

KLICK

NO GUARDS?
NO CONCERNS?

NOPE,
IT'S ALL AUTOMATIC.

LOOK THERE!
AWAY!



WHOW!
I HAVE NEVER
SEEN A PLACE
LIKE THIS!

I KNOW!
WELCOME TO THE UPSIDE,
A PLACE THAT DOES
NOT EXIST...

IT IS THE LAST
REFUGE FOR URBAN
FREE THINKERS, ARTISTS
AND INTELLECTUALS



WHY WOULD ANYONE
NEED A REFUGE HERE AT
BENEATH CAPITOL?

ELZA, YOU
DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WORLD
WITH THREE STARS!
ROTS LIKE A SEALED WASTE
CHAMBER!

I DOUBT
THAT ANY OF THESE
PEOPLE RISK TO BE
CONSCRIPTED.



DOWN HERE THOUGH,
EVEN THE WINE IS IMPORTED
STRAIGHT FROM THE LAND
OF THE FREE!



LADY OF THE FREED
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS,
RIGHT?

IF THIS IS A DEN
OF IMPERIAL CULTURE,
EVERYONE HERE IS ONE CALL
AWAY FROM THE SPANIOUS
BLIND HARBOR...


OF MORSE.



SHERSHY
DON'T LOSE IT, MOMMY
THERE ARE NO COMMONERS
NEED TO DEBATE
ON US!



LOOK! BY THE BAR IS A SON OF
ARABOL-TARAL. PERFECT... HE IS
FLIRTING WITH THE ONLY BOY OF
LEGNOWANE HIGH ADMIRAL...



...AND THERE, IN THE CORNER, IS THE
MURDERESS HERSELF! AS AN IMPERIAL
WIFE, SHE WARES MORE AUTHORITY
THEN THE LEGNOWANE ADMIRAL!



MAMA, DON'T
YOU REALIZE THAT
IMPERIAL PEOPLE DIE TO
KEEP THIS POISON AWAY
FROM OUR HANDS...

I COULDN'T
IMAGINE THAT CORRUPTION
WOULD SPREAD SO DEEP
WITHIN THE EMPIRE...



NO, DEAR
THEY DIE SO THAT
WE COULD ENJOY
THIS "POISON"!

IT'S NOT CORRUPTION,
DEAR. IT IS EMANCIPATION!
BOTH DECAY AND EVOLUTION
SO ALWAYS BEGIN AT
THE TOP...



THAT IS NOWLAY
ONE OF THEIR TOP
ARTISTS.

AND HE IS ALSO MY
LOVELY PRESENT TO... US!
A CERTAIN GOOD STRAIGHT
FROM THE FEDERAL SPACE!

WHAT IS
THAT REDICULOUS
TRIST?



MONEY'S WHAT WE LIVE FOR!

PLEASURE'S WHAT WE DIE FOR!

FREEDOM'S WHAT WE FUCK FOR!

WHAT ELSE THERE IS TO BREATHE FOR?



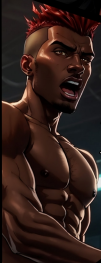
HOW IS IT POSSIBLE
THAT AN ADVERSARY CAN
JUMP ON THE STAGE HERE, AT
CAPITOL AND SHOUT ALL
HIS NONSENCE?

FREEDOM!

MONEY!

FREEDOM!

FREEDOM!



AAH!

A! A! AH!

YEAH!



I DON'T KNOW HOW, ELZA, BUT HE IS REALLY SOMETHING OUT OF THIS...

...OUT OF THIS WORLD...



AND, YOU ARE GETTING ALL LOST HERE.



I HATE THIS JIM'S PARLOUR, AND I SHOULD HATE YOU FOR BRINGING ME HERE, BUT... I CAN'T HELP MYSELF.

I LOVE YOU, ELZA.

IT IS ALL THAT MATTERS...



I KNOW.



ELZA, JUST ONE THING BEFORE WE GO...



WILL YOUR LOVE TO ME BRING A SHORT DANCE BY THE BACKSTAGE?

TIME IS A RELATIVE MEASUR. FOR SOME HOURS FLY IN A BLINK OF AN EYE. FOR OTHERS MINUTES DRAG ON LIKE DAYS.

ANNA.

NO WAY!
DID THEY SHUGGLE YOU
IN A CRATE FULL OF
WEDD?

YOU'RE BRAGGING!
HOW COME SHE ISN'T
SERVING YOU NOW?

OH, HURRY
THEY ARE.

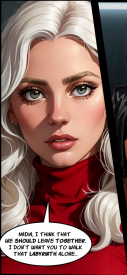
YEAH! AND THAT
BIG CHICK WHO HANDLED IT
STATED THAT IN SOME
RS HER "WEDDERS".

I HAD TO RUN AWAY...
FYKNOW, NOT EVEN YOUR
IMPERIAL MATCHBOSS
ARE AS HURRY!

WEDD? LOVE?
IT'S PLENTY OF FUN HERE...
BUT I WANT TO START MOVING
TOWARDS HOME.



SURE, DEARY
WE HAVE A TALK GONG ON, SO... GO!
I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!



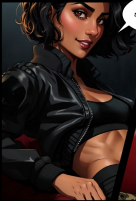
MMA, I THINK THAT
WE SHOULD LEAVE TOGETHER.
I DON'T WANT YOU TO WALK
THAT LABYRINTH ALONE.



ALWAYS WORRYING,
MOMMY! IT'S SURELY SAFE -
I'M GONNA BE THE HUNGRIEST
THING OUT HERE!

IF YOU LEAVE...
CAN WE HAVE A
COUPLE OF
PURPLES?

SURE THING, LOVE.
SURE THING.



SORRY FOR HER.
SO, IN WHICH DIRECTION
SHOULD WE STRIKE?



WITH YOU IT
IS ALL STRAIGHT
AND VERY FAST.
FOR SURE!



I HOPE THAT THE STAGE DID NOT DRAIN ALL JUICES FROM YOU.

WELL YOUR GIRL JON LIST?

YOU, IMPERIALS ARE DAMN OF A TROUBLE!

NO WELL LEAVE SOON!

LET'S DO IT SUCK!

ZZZZ



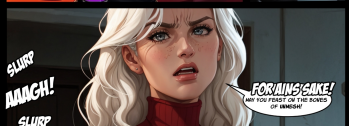
HELLO, FRESHIE! LOOK LIKE A MANCLOUDY DO SOMEBODY UPSET YOU?



IT'S NOTHING. THANKS. CAN I HAVE TWO SHAMP BEERS?

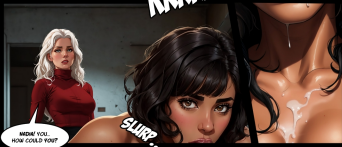


AUGH!





KRRRACK



SLURP...

WHY! YOU,
HOW COULD YOU?



ELZA, WAIT!




**ELZA,
WHY? I,
IT IS NOT.**

**DAM,
THIS ONE WAS REALLY
HARDCORE!**



MONIGHT, EASTERN DISTRICT, CENTRAL CAPITOL.



THE HOUSING UNIT #100 IS SHINING BRIGHT
WITH ITS DECORATIVE LIGHTS. ALL OF ITS
UNITS ARE DEAD SILENT, EXCEPT FOR ONE.

ELZA EXPECTED TO STAY WITH MIRA AFTER THE GRADUATION, NOW SHE PACKS HER BAGS WHILE CONSOLEING HERSELF FOR CHILDISH MIRTH. MIRA'S BETRAYAL IS UNFORGIVABLE.



SHE HAS DECIDED TO MOVE OUT PROMPTLY!



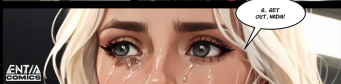
HEY...



ELZA,
PLEASE, CAN WE
TALK?



6. GET
OUT, MIRA!





YES... ELZA, I... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT...

TO SAY WHAT? WHERE IS THAT CONFIDENCE OF YOURS? TRYING TO MANIPULATE ME?

FOR A REMEMBERED SUIT LIKE YOU EVERYTHING IS JUST A SILLY GAME, HUNT?

ELZA, WHAT... WHAT DID YOU SAY? I NEVER THOUGHT...

AM I CURSE YOU... AND ALL WHO WERE BORN HERE? FAR, FAR AWAY FROM ANY REAL PROBLEMS!

YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN SHIT! NEVER SEEN PAIN!



THROUGH ALL MY LIFE I WANTED TO FIND A HOME, TO CREATE A FAMILY...

...AND I GAVE MY HEART TO THE MOST SPENTLE SPOILED COURT IN THE WHOLE OF THE GREAT EMPIRE!



ELZA... I KNOW, WHERE YOU COME FROM, AND I WHY RELATE TO YOU WHY TOO WELL...

THIS MUST BE A REASON FOR ME BEING CARELESS AROUND YOU LIKE THAT...

I SIMPLY WANTED TO SHOW YOU THAT THERE IS SOMETHING MORE OUT THERE...

...AND I GOT LOST IN THE PROCESS...



NEVER SPT, MOM!



I KNOW THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR FROM ME.

I KNOW THAT YOU JUST WANT TO PICK YOUR THINGS AND RUN.

BUT IF YOU DO, YOU WILL ONLY MAKE IT WORSE.

THIS IS WHY I CAME HERE, DESPITE I KNOW THAT YOU WILL NOT FORGIVE ME.



SPARE ME FROM YOUR OVERDUE GUILT.

I'VE FED UP WITH YOUR SPARTAN SQUEEZING!

ALMOST TWO CYCLES, ELZA. A WINTER AND TWO SUMMERS OF US TOGETHER! ENDLESS DAYS FULL OF LAUNHS, LOVE AND JOY.

BUT, HAVEN'T WE MISSED SOMETHING? HAVE WE EVER REALLY TALKED?



ELZA, IT'S LATE. YOU ARE PISSED BEYOND REASON.

BUT WHAT I DID WITH HIM FELT... RIGHT IN THAT MOMENT.

ELZA, I HAVE TO EXPLAIN MYSELF. I WANT YOU TO GIVE ME THIS NIGHT.



JUST ONE LAST NIGHT BEFORE WE END IT.

DAMN! HOW DID I GET MYSELF INTO THIS.



FINE, NINA.
BE IT YOUR WAY. LAST NIGHT,
WHAT WAS IT THAT YOU WANTED
TO TELL ME ABOUT?

MY WHOLE STORY, SLZA.



I KNOW
THAT YOU SEE ME
AS A SPOILED PLAYBOY
BOSS AND RAGED AT
THE OPULENT
CAPITOL...

BUT THERE IS MORE, SLZA.
THERE IS A WEIGHT ON MY CHEST
THAT I HAVE TO SHARE.

I'LL CARE, NINA.

THEY DO AND MAKE A DARK BREW
FOR YOURSELF TOO. WE HAVE A LONG
NIGHT AHEAD OF US!

TO BE CONTINUED...



SPECIAL ACCESS CLEARANCE REQUIRED. DO NOT VIEW
BACKGROUND

AN OPERATOR BY THE NAME [REDACTED] DESIGNATED HUNTERS, HAS
GAINED DISTRACTION FOR VERY SIGNIFICANT COUNTER-INTelligence
INTENTIONS NAMED BID DOOR.

FOR THREE CYCLES, UP TO THIS DAY, HUNTERS HAS CULTURED ANALOGICAL
ESTABLISHMENT INSIDE OLD FLOORING TUNNELS SITUATED IN THE SOUTH
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL. THIS ANALOGICAL ESTABLISHMENT
WAS DEDICATED TO WOODWORKING ADVISORIAL CULTURE. ALMOST
IMMEDIATELY, THE BID DOOR GAINED THE ATTENTION OF SOME DISCREET
INDIVIDUALS ACCESS THE CAPITAL.

BOTH FCC AND NOBILITY WITH A CRIMINAL AFFECTION FORWARDS
ADVISORIAL IDEALS BEGAN TO MEET AT THE BID DOOR INSTEAD OF
GASTRONOMY IN ROMANTIC AREAS. THIS FACT WAS EVIDENCED BY A SHARP
DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DISINTEGRATIONS BY RELATIVES AND
NEIGHBOURS, CORRELATED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BID DOOR.

WHEN THE SUCCESS OF THE BID DOOR WAS REPORTED BY HUNTERS TO HIS
CONTACT BY THE NAME OF [REDACTED] IMPERIAL NAVAL INTELLIGENCE SAID
FOR ALL THE SUPPORT NEEDED TO SPARK THE OPERATION ON EVEN
SUPERVISOR CONTROLLED DISCUSSIONS OF ADVISORIAL SAUCER USE NEED
IMPERIAL SINCE TO SUPPORT HUNTERS WITH FOREIGN DISCREETS.

THE INFLUX OF AUTHENTIC CULTURAL AND GASTRONOMIC PRODUCTS FROM
ADVISORIAL SINCE AND NUMEROUS VISITS OF ADVISORIAL INDIVIDUALS
TO LAMARCA HAS COMBATED THE REDUCTION OF THE BID DOOR AS THE
ONLY PLACE WHERE UNTRUSTWORTHY IMPERIALS CAN SEEK CONTACT WITH
ILLUSAL CULTURE.

AS OF NOW, THE BID DOOR PROJECT HAS PROVIDED US WITH A LIST OF 244
IMPERIAL INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY ADVISORIAL CULTURE AND THEREBY
SEEM AS ACTIVE DEPENDENTAL TRAITORS BY THE NAME. THE SECRET LIST
WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO CREATE WITHOUT THE DISTRACTION OF THE BID
DOOR INITIATIVE HIGHLIGHTING THE COHEMITY AND DISCREETION OF THE
OPERATIVE HUNTERS.

DECISION

BASED ON THE ABOVE-MENTIONED CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPERIAL
SECURITY OF OUR SOLE AND SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE IMPERIAL OPERATIVE
BY THE NAME [REDACTED] IS AWARDED A DISTRACTION IN THE FORM OF A
FIRST GRADE MEDAL FOR SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE SERVICE, SINCE THE
CLASSIFIED CHARACTER OF HIS OCCUPATION, OPERATIVE HUNTERS WILL
BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFITS CONNECTED TO HIS DISTRACTION ONLY BY
THE END OF HIS SERVICE OR IN THE CASE OF HIS DEATH.

GROUP

BY THE IMPERIAL WILL AND THE POWER OF THE IMPERIAL MONARCH
HEREBY I DECLARE THAT THE OPERATIVE BY THE NAME [REDACTED]
DESIGNATED HUNTERS, SHOULD BE AWARDED A FIRST GRADE MEDAL FOR
SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE SERVICE BY THE END OF HIS SERVICE TO THE
IMPERIAL MONARCH. THIS GROUP SHOULD BE ARCHIVED UNDER
CLASSIFICATION WITH UNTIL THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DECISION OCCURS.

ISSUANCE

RAJAP TUSUM, OVERSICING ADMIRAL, IMPERIAL NAVAL INTELLIGENCE



Classification: [REDACTED]
Date: [REDACTED]
By: [REDACTED]
Title: [REDACTED]
Signature: [REDACTED]