




*Beta Test
Part 4
Preview*


*By Areg5 and
TinyThea*



This is quite a
setup you have
here, Nan ...

Thanks. Despite all of
this *gear*, I don't know
how many *answers* I
can give you.

I appreciate
you *trying*.


A screenshot from a video game showing two female characters in a futuristic, metallic hallway. The character on the left has shoulder-length brown hair and is wearing a black long-sleeved top and a light blue skirt. The character on the right has long black hair and is wearing a purple crop top and black jeans. There are four white speech bubbles overlaid on the scene, containing text. In the background, there is a grey wall with a yellow 'CAUTION' sign and a computer terminal on the right.

Why are we
even *here*?

Jess ...it's ok.

You *always*
say that!

Mom just wants
to *check out* a few
things, that's all.



It is kinda cool, though.

*It's like *Star Trek* or something.*

*That thing looks like it belongs in the *Enterprise Sick Bay!**

*Yeah ...or the *holodeck!**



What do you think it *does*?

I dunno.

Analysis mode ready

Analysis:

DNA structure:

Estimate physiologic age:

It's got a *touch screen* ...

Maybe we shouldn't *mess* with it.



This device will determine your true age.

It should say I'm 38.

It should. Put your hand on the scanner.

Yes.

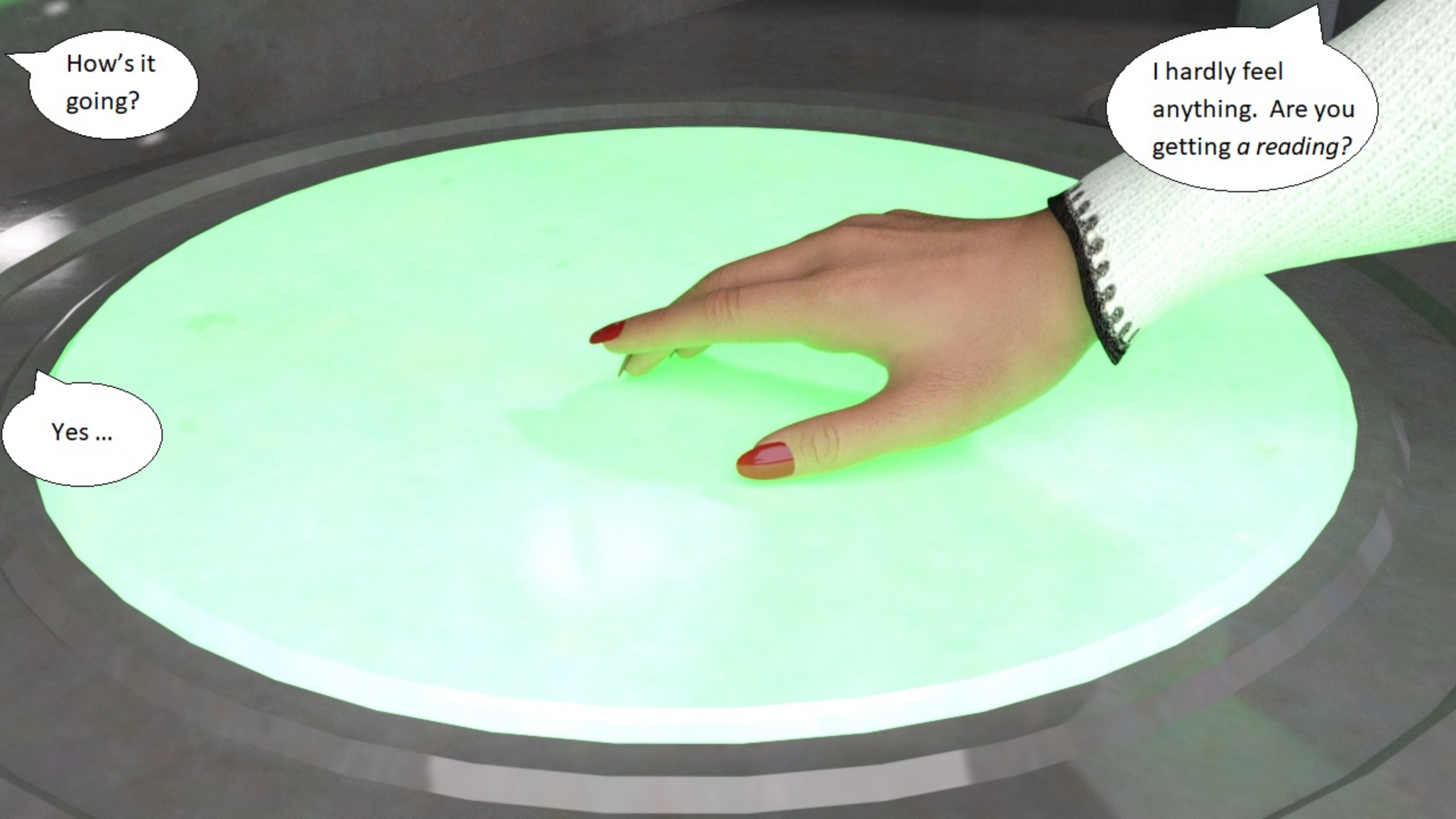
Like this?



Initiating sequence ...

I'm going to start the sequence. You might feel a *slight tingle* ...

I'm ready.

A hand with red nail polish is hovering just above a large, glowing green circular surface. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with the index and middle fingers slightly extended. The green surface has a subtle, textured appearance and is surrounded by a dark, metallic-looking rim. The background is dark and indistinct.

How's it going?

I hardly feel anything. Are you getting a *reading*?

Yes ...


...your *physiologic age* is
38 years 4 months. So
your *perception* of your
age is *correct*.

subject physiologic age ...

calculating...

Subject physiologic age: 38 y 4m


*That's a
relief ...*



That would correspond with the perceptions of your daughters ...or rather, your husband and daughter.

So we're all being affected by the same process, whatever it is.

So it appears.

A woman with short brown hair and black-rimmed glasses is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a grey t-shirt with a black floral pattern. She is looking slightly to her right. In the background, there is a control panel with several buttons and two large knobs with green rings. The setting appears to be a laboratory or a medical facility.

I would like to use my *more advanced* sensor to examine the girls, *especially* Jessica. Her changes are more profound than your own.

Whatever you think is *best*.


Don't worry, Hon ...
in analysis mode it's *completely safe*.

I trust you, Nan ...
you know I do.

*Pretty cool,
huh girls?*

*It sure is! What
does it do?*

*It's an *advanced body scanner*. It can tell me things about your *physiology*.*



*What kinds
of things?*

*Your age, your DNA
structure ...*

Your mother would like me to *examine* you girls with it.

Examine us? But ...

Analysis mode ready

Analysis:


DNA structure:

Subject physiologic age:

...you *already* examined me! I don't wanna go through *that* again! *No way!*

Relax ...it's not that kind of examination ...





...this won't be
anything like that.
I promise.

I dunno ... no
speculums?


No *speculums*.

I think it might be cool! What do we have to do?

Well, first I need you girls to undress.

Un ...undress?


C'mon Jess ...it's just us girls here.



*Bow chicka bow chicka ...
gettin' pretty racy, huh
froggo?*

*I can't believe she
would show that!*


*I think I like this
Nancy chick!*



Maybe I'll *tune up her scanner ...*

Don't you dare!

You can leave *your underwear* on. Lie on the table, Dana.

A woman with long black hair, wearing a black lace bikini, is lying on a grey medical table. She is looking upwards with a slightly confused expression. The table has a control panel on the left side with buttons labeled 'RCA', 'CLC', 'TVR', 'LOG', 'NAT', 'INT', 'DIF', 'IMG', and 'OBJ'. The floor is made of brown square tiles. Two white speech bubbles are overlaid on the image. The first speech bubble is near her head, and the second is near her feet.

Now what?

Take slow deep breaths. This will only take a second.

This might tingle a bit ...

Analysis mode ready
Analysis:
DNA structure:
Subject physiologic age:



Nancy?

Oh!

Er ...Dana ...



Analysis mode ready

Analysis: Running

DNA structure: Stable

Subject physiologic age: 26 y 5 m

*...is 26 and a
half years old.*

I knew you looked older! You're 10 years older! You're like totally a woman!

I guess I am ...

That is so cool!



You don't even
hafta go *to school*
anymore! Maybe
I'm older too!

Hop on the
table and *we'll*
see, Jessie.

Ok!

*My daughter ...is a grown
woman ... and I'm too
young to be her mother ...
she's too old for school ...*

*What did
you do?!*

Haha ...*nothing!* I swear!!
It's their *stupid app* that did
it! That's what *they* get for
trusting *technology!*

Yeah,
right ...

Would I *lie?*

Yes!

Mom? Um ...

...are you ok?

You can call me *Lauren* ... you're old enough to be my *sister*. Do you even have to *ask*? What are we going to *do*?!

What's the *big deal*? So I'm a *little* older. I don't mind, really ... *Lauren*. Jessie doesn't seem to either.

*She doesn't ...
but I'm worried
about her.*

I know ...

*I was hoping ...well, if
you were 18 ...at least
you could look after her
at school.*



*Now she'll be all alone ...
and she's so new to
being a girl, even if she
doesn't know it.*

She'll be ok.

*I wish I could ... I
dunno ... keep an eye
on her there. I'm just
so scared.*

Maybe you won't
have to, Mom ... I
have to call Thea ...