

In a tavern somewhere...

Barkeep,
another!

Right away
sir...



'Alrauni Creo'...

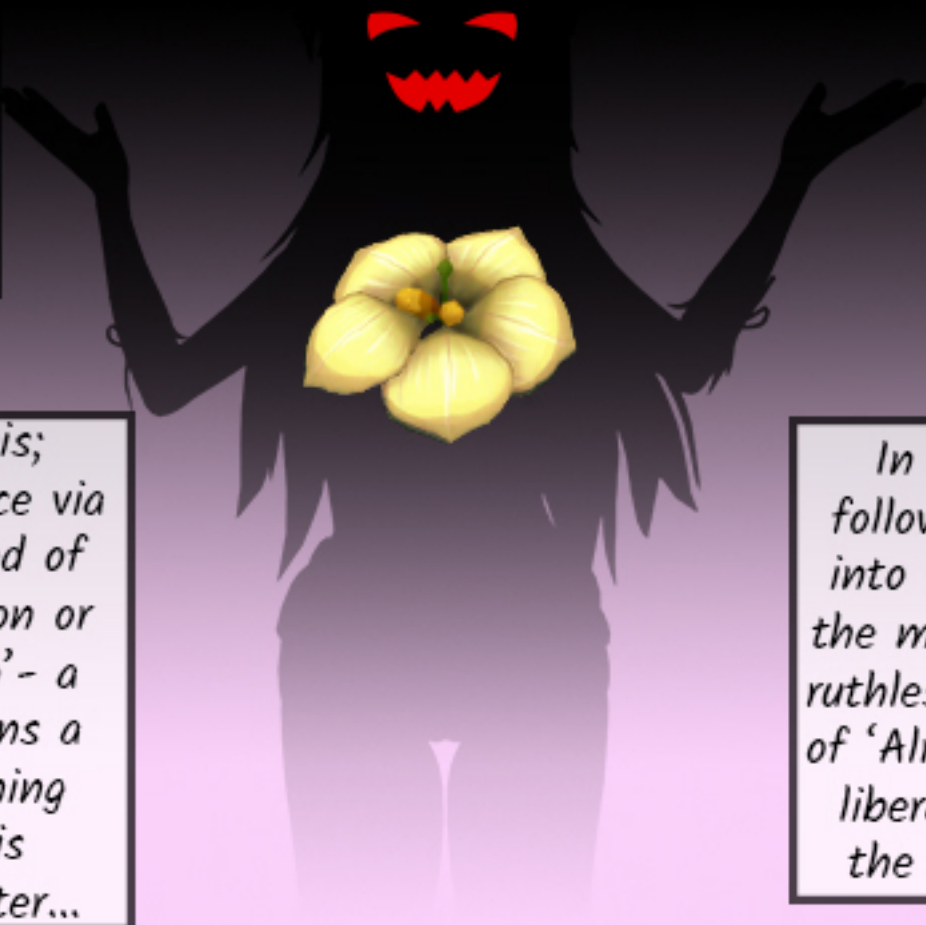
Wanted



His Royal Highness has placed
a bounty for a specialist to
destroy a dangerous specimen of
flora. Genus: 'Alrauni Creo'. Do
not attempt to destroy unless
knowledgeable in magical
horticulture...



Alraunes have the ability to ensnare men and women with their sweet perfumed scents, ridding those affected of their will to fight.



Ever since the convergence of the monster world and our own, human and elven life has gotten considerably more difficult.

Worse than this; they can reproduce via the usual method of human procreation or by 'Alrauni Creo' - a plant that poisons a body, transforming them into this humanoid monster...

In the wars that followed the invasion into our world one of the most effective and ruthless races was that of 'Alraunes', who were liberally deployed by the 'Monster Lord'.

In the past it was much easier to deal with alraune as they were slow, being half flower. But... they've changed, moving easily now on two legs and planting their evil flowers where they go... My friend Brian went after this bounty three days ago... I can't help but worry.



Hey kid, you okay? You've been burnin' a hole through that parchment a while.

Kid? My name's Jack and I'm 18!



Oh, excuse me!
So watchya got there?
A bounty?

Look old timer,
I get that you must
be lonely but I'm not
interested in a-



snatch

Your friend?
Now ya got me
plumb interested. What
are you going for?
A slime?

What?
Hey!

I noticed that
sword o' yours.
So you must have
to be a bounty
hunter.

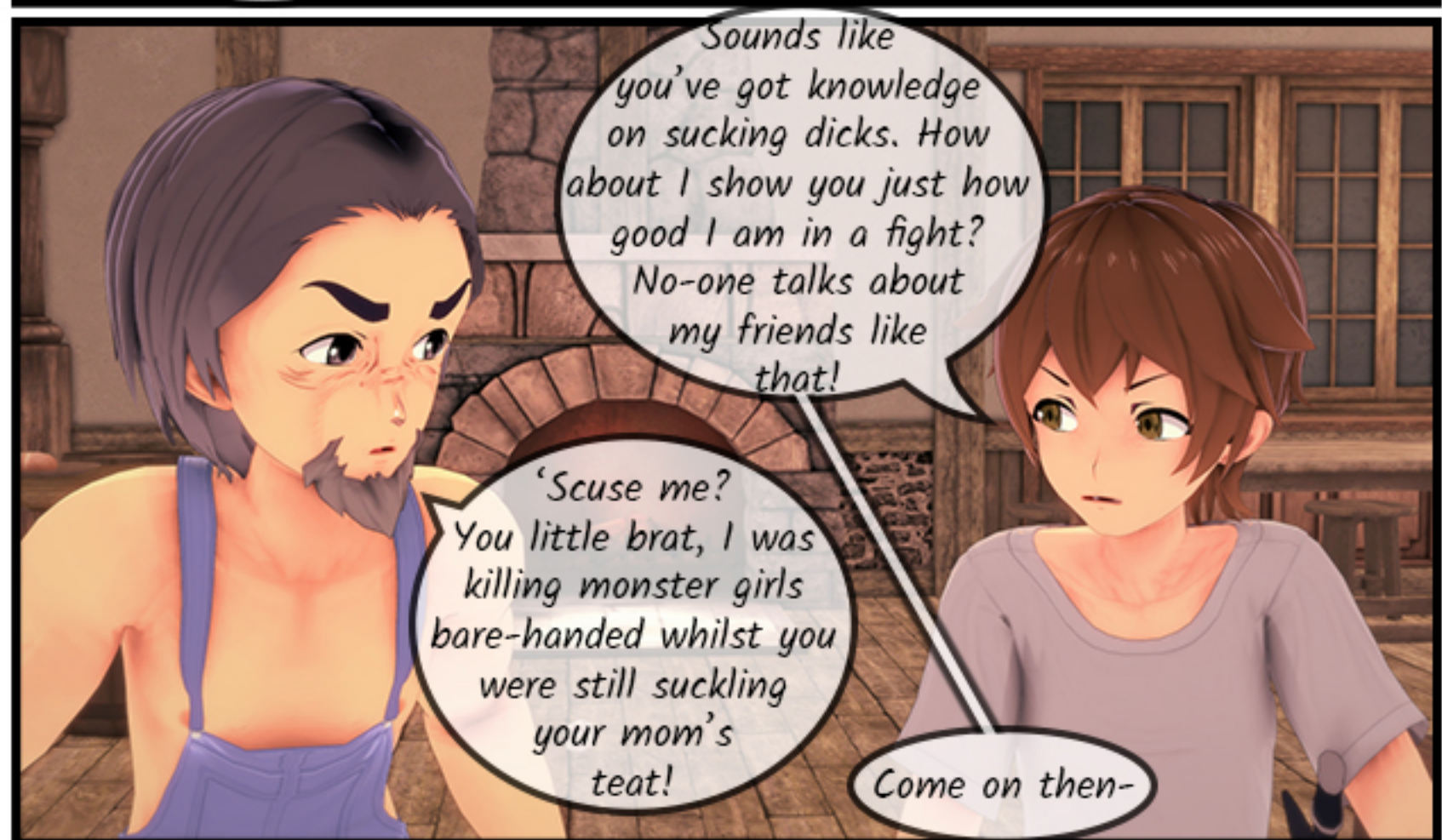
I'm not
a bounty hunter
old man, I only
bought this to save
my friend.



Bwahahaha!

What?
Why are you
laughing?

Hrm?





Hey! No Fighting! If you wanna do that take it outside!

Dumb kid, couldn't fight or take a hit! How are you gonna take on an Alraune if one's out there huh?!

Uhhhhhhhhhhh....

The old man was right; I couldn't fight to save my life. If there is a chance to save Brian from whatever danger he's gotten into, no matter how slim, I have to take it.



Alraune often use magic to grow fields of flowers...



'Alraune are dangerous at close range due to their scent'...

I should be closing in on where the bounty target is...



After licking his wounds...

This encyclopedia's helpful...

I searched around for a couple of hours hoping to find any signs of Brian all the while thinking about the irony of bounties luring people into danger after specifically warning them of how dangerous a target can be. Hidden in the flowers I finally found something...

I... think I may be here...
Let's be careful now...



Brian!

Brian it's gonna get dark soon, are you out there?

The Alrauni Creo... I don't want to get closer. The bounty asked for the flower to get the reward. It looks dead but I value my life more than coin, unlike Brian.



I continued on, not caring for the dwindling light. I had a sinking feeling that the longer Brian was out here the less of a chance I would find him alive... or in a worse condition. My search found me at a long abandoned home when, at long last, I found something.



Brian...

Please Gods,
don't be an Alraune
nearby...



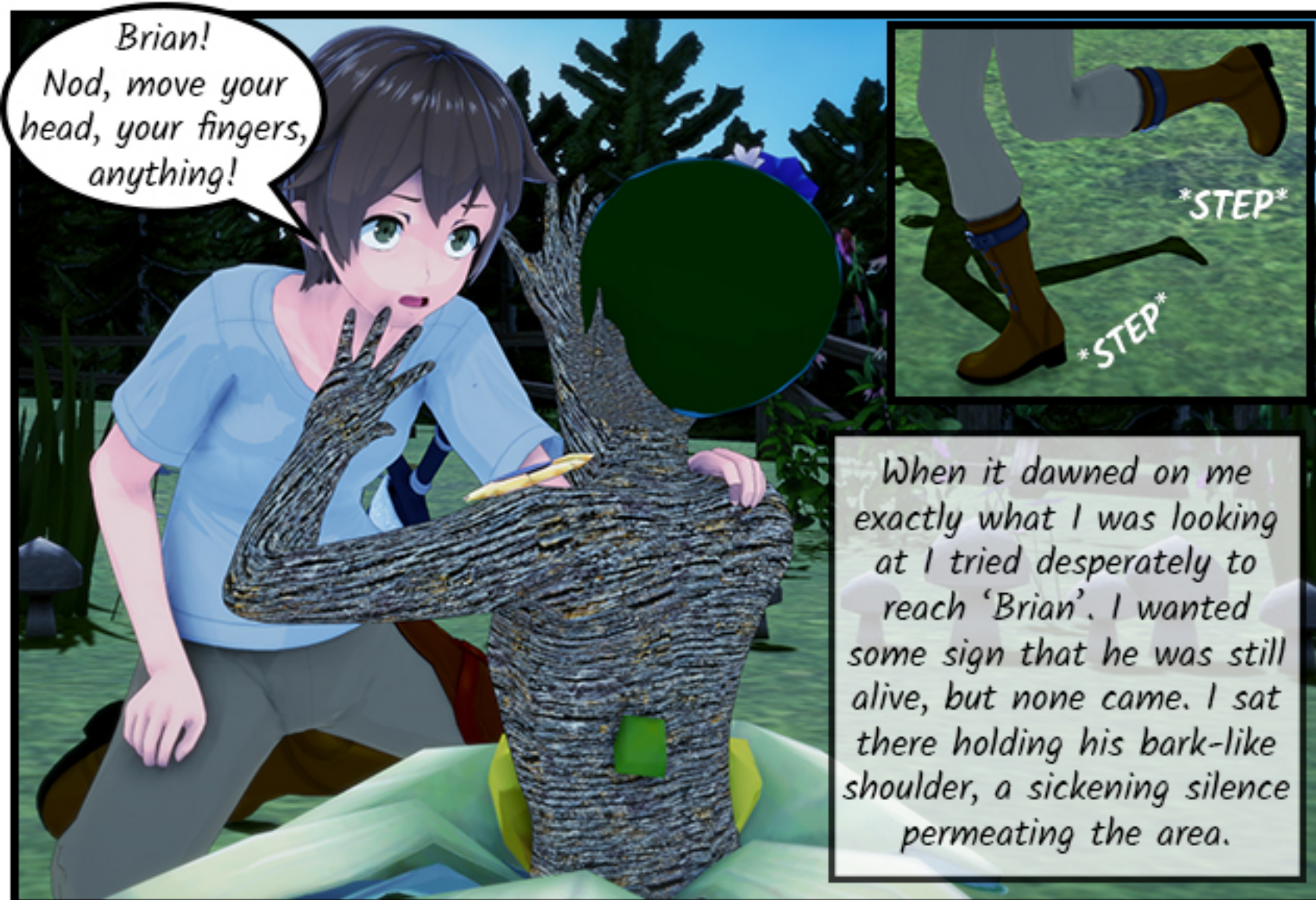
Wha-



There's something over
there... is it a statue?



No...



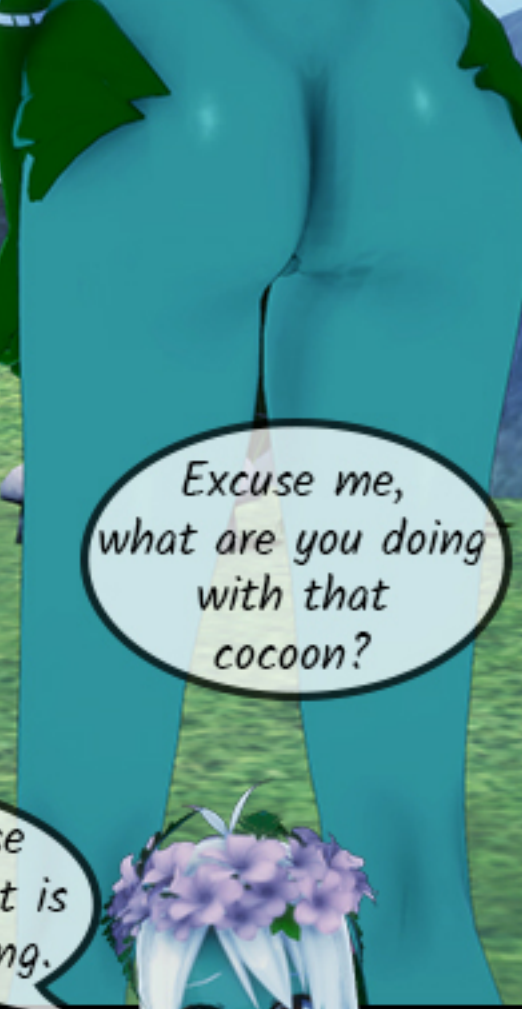
When it dawned on me exactly what I was looking at I tried desperately to reach 'Brian'. I wanted some sign that he was still alive, but none came. I sat there holding his bark-like shoulder, a sickening silence permeating the area.



I-
I'll tell your parents
buddy, rest
easy.



Brian's death didn't look peaceful, his arms were out seemingly in defence and his wooden face had some semblance of fear to it.



Excuse me, what are you doing with that cocoon?



Could you please not stare at it? It is quite embarrassing.

I don't know how to fight, but I don't have to; a lucky swing is all I need.


I knew I wouldn't have the luck to avoid an Alraune. I bet this is the same bitch that killed my friend!



GRIP

Alright...





Hyaaaahhhhhh!

One hit,
one hit shall
do it!



STOP!
PLEASE!

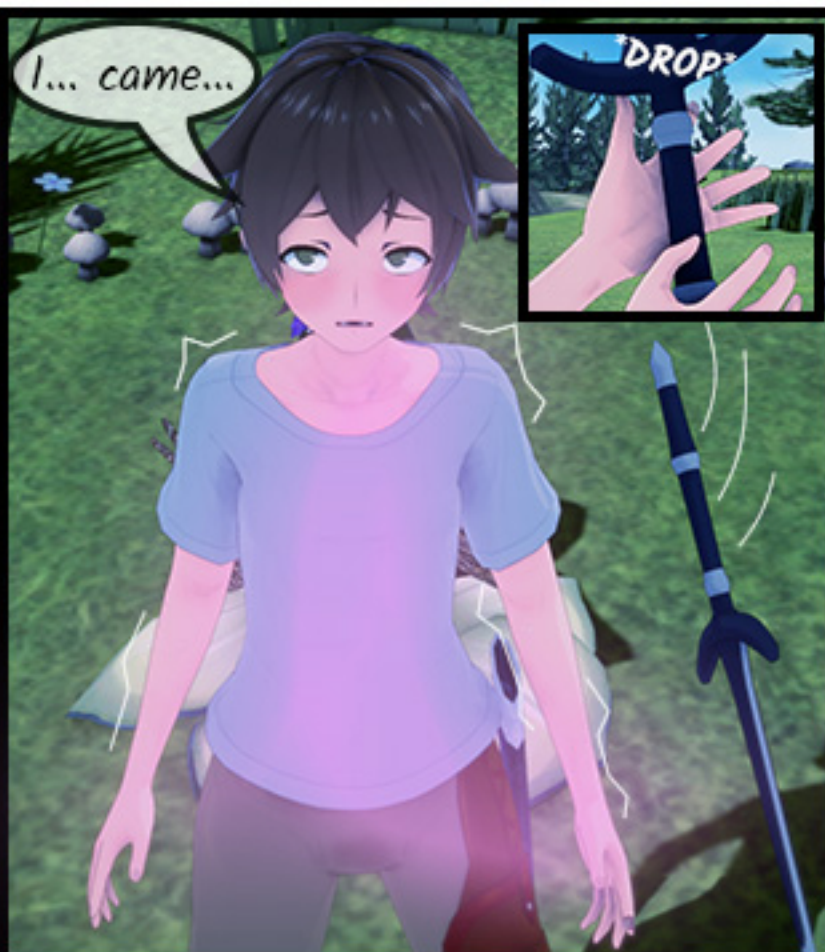


Just one
hit! Come
on!

What are
you doing with
that?

HRRGHHHNN!!!

That sweet smell-!



There there child. I understand why you attacked me now; you must've been frightened due to your missing friend.

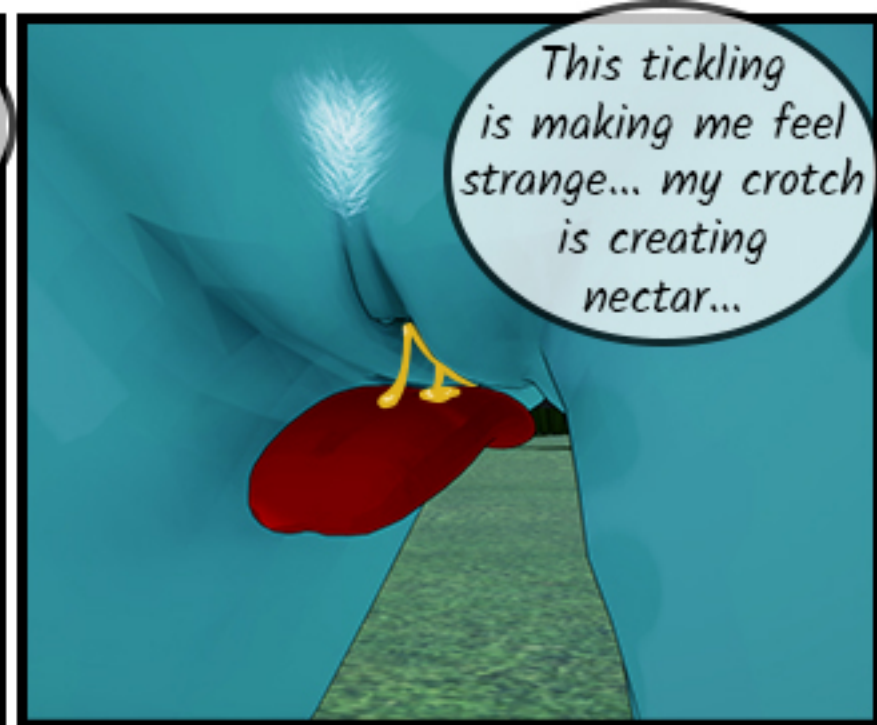


fondle

I don't want to be coddled by you! Get away from me, your scent is-!







Several minutes of thorough licking later.



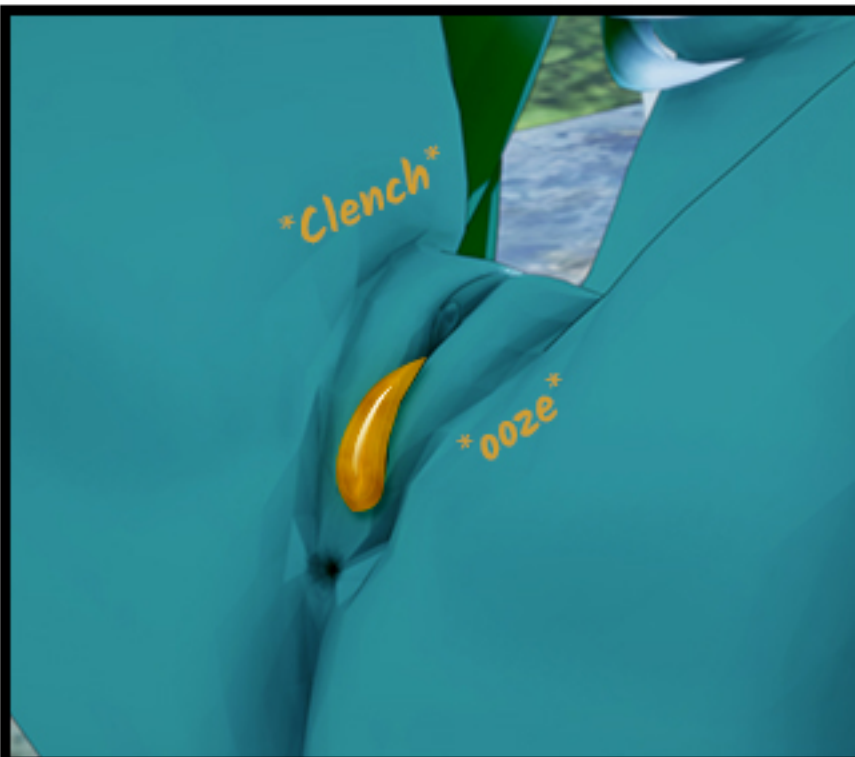
This is... making me feel awkward, must you put me in this position to get nectar?



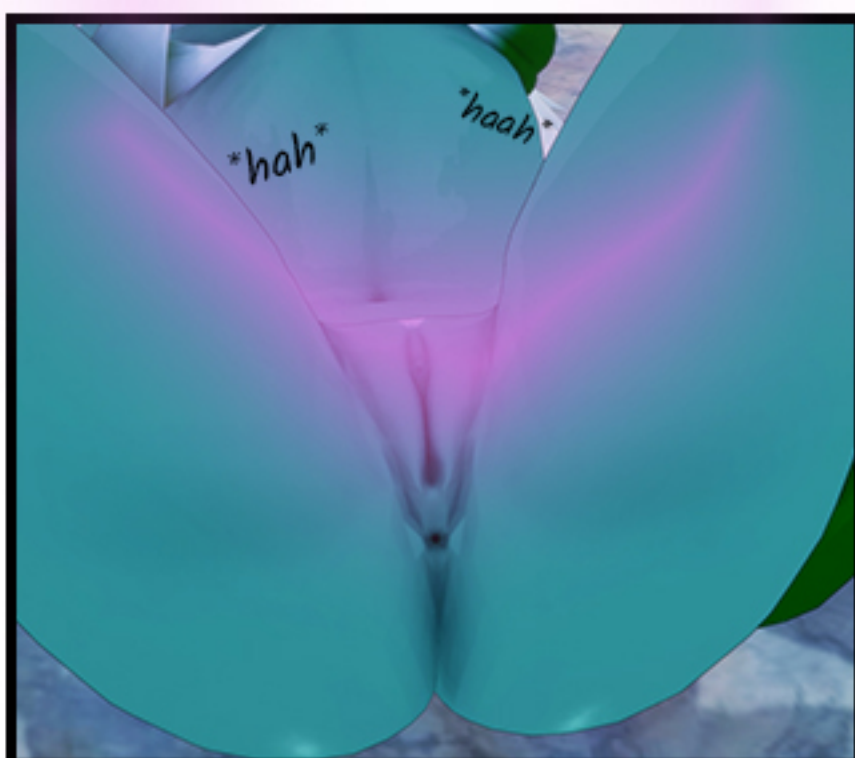
So I wouldn't mind sharing with you more of my sweet juices.



It looks like you want more, you have tried to apologize... so...







***THUMP!**

The next morning.






WHAT THE HELL ARE
YOU DOING?!



"Dope you"?
I don't know
what that means,
wasn't the flower bed
comfortable, is that
why you're
mad?



Get back!
Y-you tried
to dope me
last night!

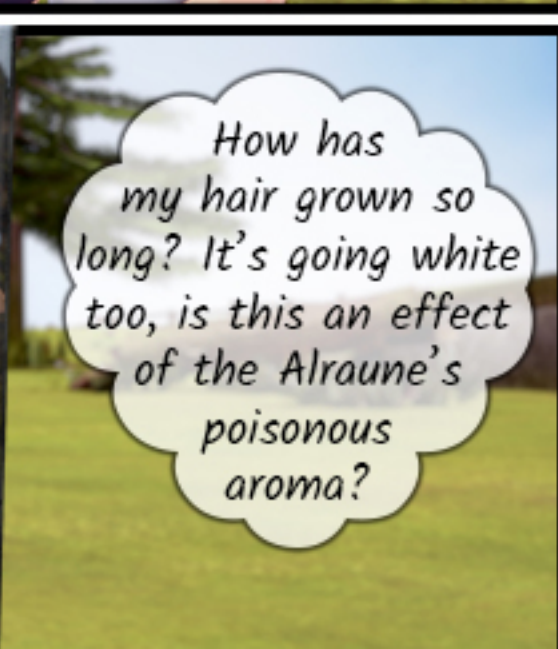


My sword,
where is it?

"Sword"?
Is that the pointy
thing over
there?



Huh?!





Wh-
What? How
did-

Hello again
cocoon. I think
it's time to say
goodbye, I can't stay
here, I hope you
understand.

How did
she get past
me?!



I
wouldn't count
on it.

I
met a new
companion, he's
a bit grumpy
because he's lost
a friend.

The only
reason that happened
was because of her
weaponized
scent!

He apologizes
really well and his
'tickling' is very enjoyable,
I hope we're going to do
it again as he has his
'sword' back.



"Trust me"?

This Alraune must be defective or slow, this shall be more of a mercy killing than revenge, I have a great opportunity right now.

drool

When I am near him he makes me feel warm and hot in my tummy... I want to go with him.

I don't even mind him seeing you! Well, I do a bit... but I feel that I trust him.



Wish us luck for any hardships we may face my cocoon.



More importantly; I think we'll have some fun!

STAB





Shh...
Sh...



You... can't
remember?

He really is
lost then.

Sniff
What are you
doing? I don't
want a-




Um, Brian is
a man's name,
right?


Sob



Everything
shall be alright
child. I'll help you
find him. I'm sure
wherever he is
right now he's
happy.




If it would calm you down you can have some of my nectar again... I wouldn't mind some 'tickling'...



There must be a chance to get Brian back...

There there...



No, not again!

Listen here 'Buddleia'; we're going on a journey, at the end of this journey I'll have found my friend. You want to come with me and have fun? Then you'll have to listen to what I say and do it immediately. Understood?





You're not behind me, you're **downwind** from me. I don't want your perfume drugging me again.

Noo!
Why have you done this to Buddleia? I want to walk next to you, why must I follow behind you?

I still don't know what you mean!



Why am I tied up? Why are you being so horrible to me?

Just can it!
You promised to follow what I said, so just follow it!

Please wait! Buddleia is struggling to keep with you!



I would need to travel to the nearby town where I began this story to get some food, water, healing; the usual. I would then head to this 'wizard'. I'm going to need all the luck in the world to pull this off but it's worth it if I get my pal back.

I decided on a plan, more of a half-plan actually. In the encyclopedia there wasn't anything that suggested an Alraune could return to human or anything to explain the whiteness in my hair roots. But monster girls haven't exactly been studied greatly due to their innate aggression. I knew of a 'wizard' that could maybe help me get Brian out of Buddleia. A long shot, but I couldn't think of anything else.

*Jack's mind's eye of the wizard's home.



Listen to me,
we're going to be on a
town soon, you need to wait
where I tell you otherwise
we're going to be in trouble.
Do you understand?

Buddleia?



Crap...



Hahn!

Ah!



