



THIS IS ME MEETING HIM FOR DINNER TWO DAYS LATER AND PRETENDING NOT TO KNOW ABOUT IT AS WE ENJOY SOME REALLY NICE KOREAN FOOD TOGETHER.



THIS IS THE OFFICE WHERE I WORK AS AN ASSISTANT TO THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR ON HYPOTHYROIDISM TODAY, THE THIRD-BIGGEST AUTO-IMMUNE PERIODICAL ON THE EASTERN SEABOARD.



THIS IS ME TAKING [REDACTED] FROM MY AFRICAN-AMERICAN BOSS.

AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M SMILING AS SHE INSULTS ME, BUT IT'S ONLY BECAUSE I'M EMBARRASSED BY THE SITUATION AND MORE THAN A LITTLE AFRAID OF THE SCARY [REDACTED]

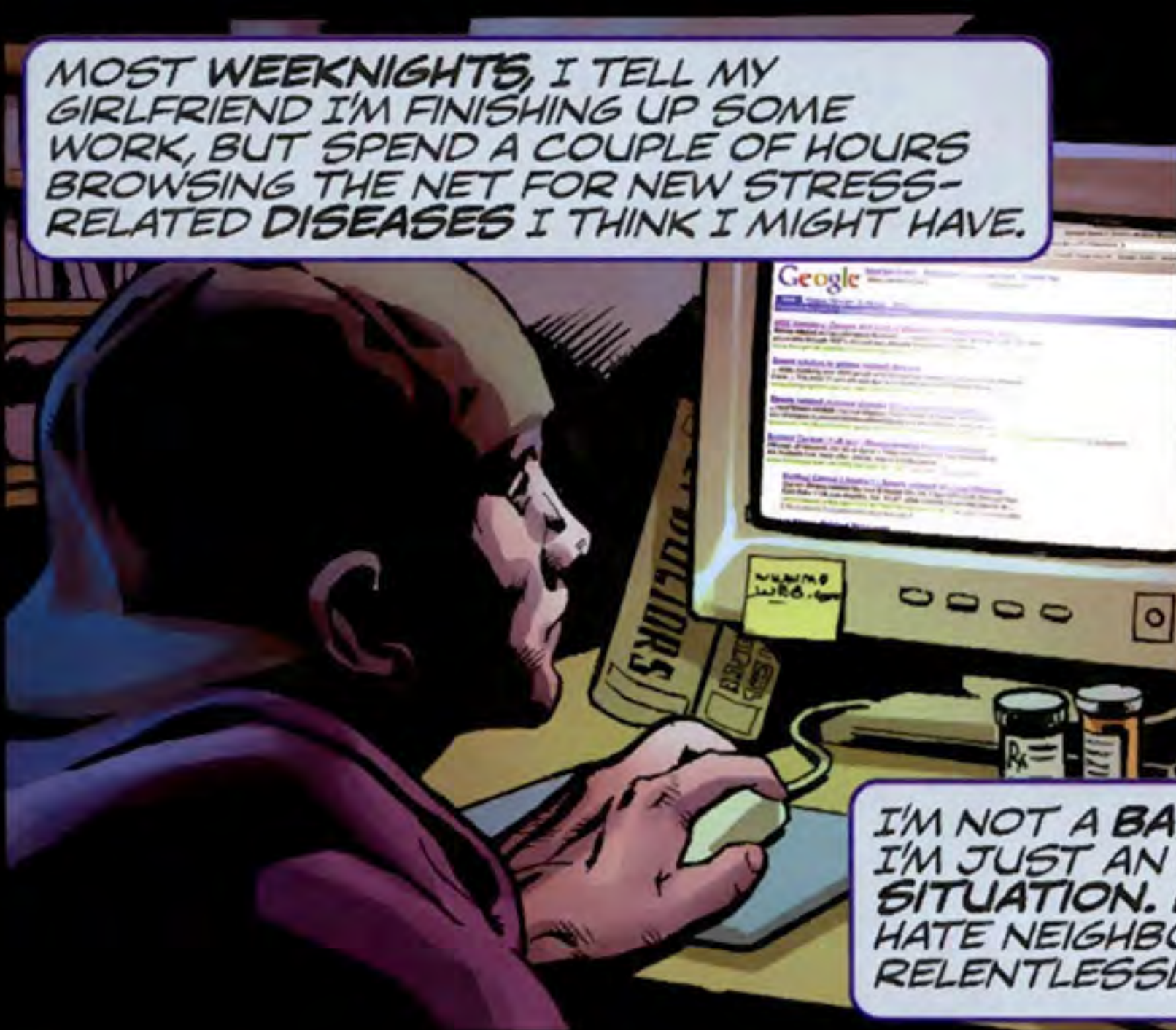


THIS IS THE SESAME-CRUSTED SALMON OVER SOURDOUGH WITH MUSTARD GREENS AND WASABI MAYONNAISE I LIKE TO HAVE FOR LUNCH JUST TO PROVE I'M DIFFERENT FROM THE HERD.

MOST WEEKDAYS, THESE SEMI-LITERATE, CHOLO ██████████ MEET ME OFF THE BUS AND WALK BEHIND ME HURLING INSULTS ABOUT MY BAGGIES OR MY OLD-SKOOL PUMAS.



MOST WEEKNIGHTS, I TELL MY GIRLFRIEND I'M FINISHING UP SOME WORK, BUT SPEND A COUPLE OF HOURS BROWSING THE NET FOR NEW STRESS-RELATED DISEASES I THINK I MIGHT HAVE.



I'M NOT A BAD PERSON OR ANYTHING. I'M JUST AN ORDINARY GUY IN A BAD SITUATION. DOESN'T EVERYONE HATE NEIGHBORS WHO EXHIBIT A RELENTLESSLY CHEERY DISPOSITION?




CHEER UP, WESLEY. IT MIGHT NEVER HAPPEN, KIDDO.

MY NAME IS WESLEY GIBSON AND MY DAD WALKED OUT ON MY MOM WHEN I WAS EIGHTEEN WEEKS OLD.



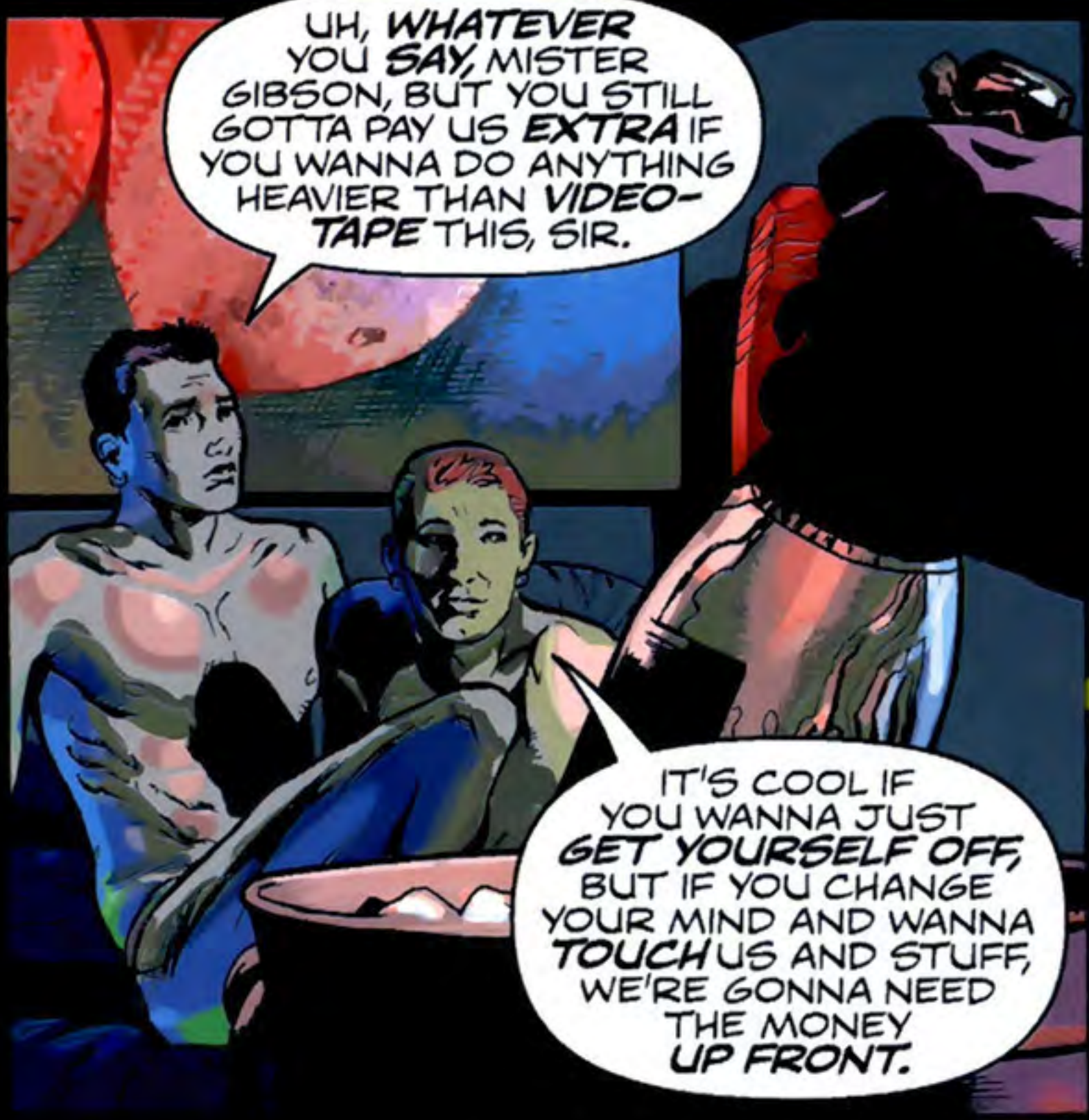
DID HE LOOK INTO MY BABY-BLUES AND REALIZE THAT HE'D JUST FATHERED ONE OF THE MOST INSIGNIFICANT ASSHOLES OF THE 21ST CENTURY?



I'M NOT A **HOMOSEXUAL**, YOU UNDERSTAND. IN FACT, I'VE BEDDED OVER **FIVE THOUSAND WOMEN** IN MY FIFTY-EIGHT YEARS WHICH MAKES ME QUITE THE **OPPOSITE**, I BELIEVE.


I JUST LIKE TO DO THIS **GAY** THING EVERY OTHER YEAR TO **WHET MY APPETITE** FOR THE PLEASURE OF THE FAIRER SEX.

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE **PERFUMED TOUCH** OF A WOMAN AFTER TWELVE MONTHS OF HEAVING, SWEATING **MAN-FLESH** WRITHING BETWEEN ONE'S SHEETS, YOU KNOW.



UH, **WHATEVER** YOU **SAY**, MISTER GIBSON, BUT YOU STILL GOTTA PAY US **EXTRA** IF YOU WANNA DO ANYTHING HEAVIER THAN **VIDEO-TAPE** THIS, SIR.

IT'S COOL IF YOU WANNA JUST **GET YOURSELF OFF**, BUT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND AND WANNA **TOUCH US** AND STUFF, WE'RE GONNA NEED THE MONEY **UP FRONT**.



MY BOY, WHEN YOU'VE KILLED, CARESSSED, OR **[REDACTED]** JUST ABOUT ANYTHING THAT EVER WALKED OR CRAWLED, SOMETIMES IT'S **ENOUGH** JUST TO SIT BACK AND WATCH FOR A CHANGE.