

A woman in a white lab coat is shown from the chest up, holding a glowing blue energy orb with both hands. The orb is bright and has a textured, crystalline appearance. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a laboratory setting. The text "Laura's Lab" is overlaid in the upper center in a large, bold, white font, and "By BradenGTS" is written below it in a smaller, white font.

# ***Laura's Lab***

*By BradenGTS*

*Years of work have gone into projects for them never to see the light of day. Budget, change in leadership or time are just a few of the reasons something may end up being half finished.*

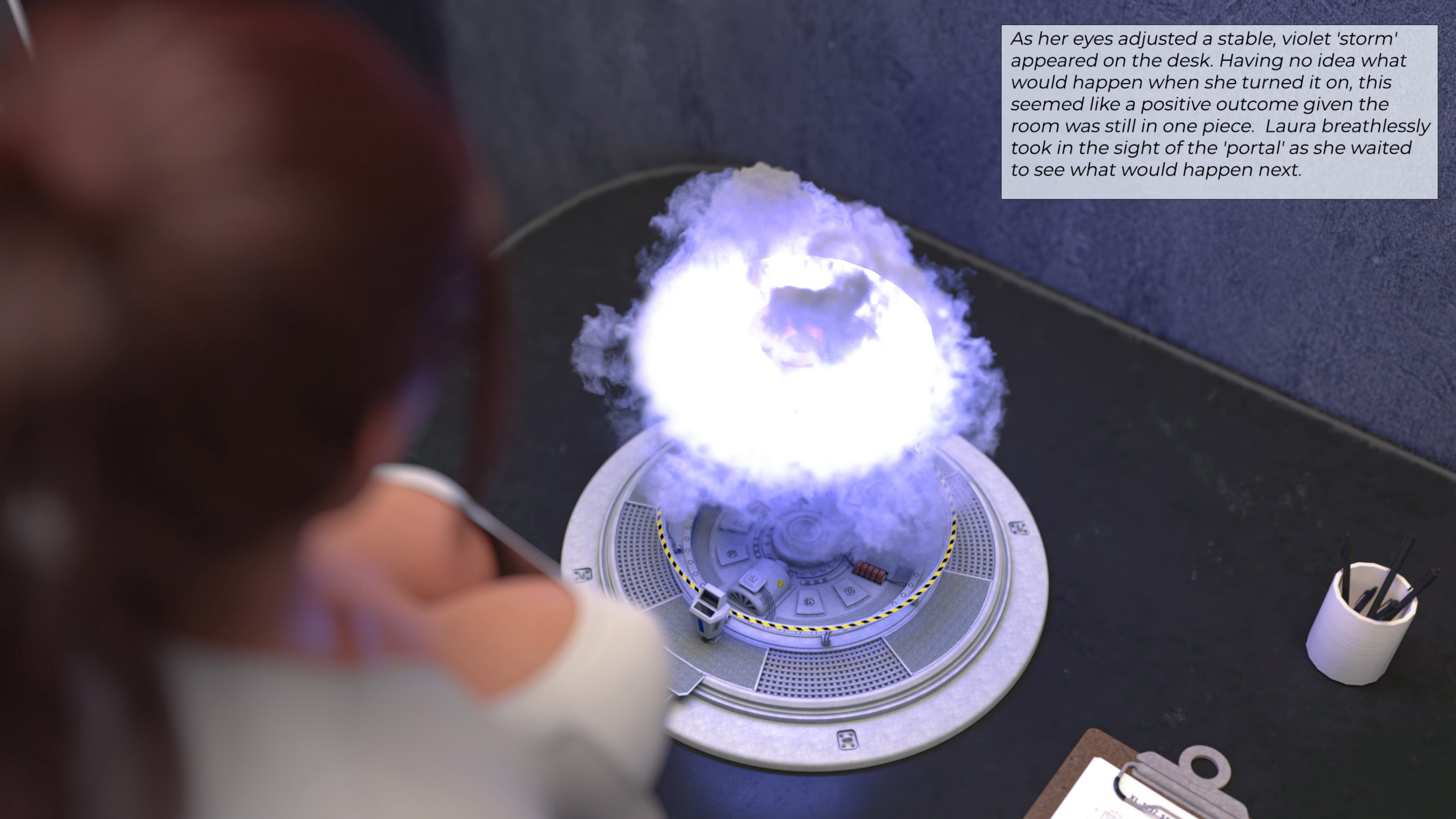
*Laura however was determined to make sure this project was not one of them. The only notes on the cancellation of "Project Portal" was that there were "Unforeseen environmental consequences." Writing this off as a concern over the amount energy needed to power the thing, Laura had set it up ready to turn it on for the first time...*

# Applied Sciences



*The lights in the lab flickered for a moment. This reinforced her idea about the energy consumption. Before she could ask a question, all the energy humming in the base of the contraption exploded into a brilliant light, almost knocking Laura off her feet.*

*As her eyes adjusted a stable, violet 'storm' appeared on the desk. Having no idea what would happen when she turned it on, this seemed like a positive outcome given the room was still in one piece. Laura breathlessly took in the sight of the 'portal' as she waited to see what would happen next.*





*As minutes passed and nothing but small changes in the smoke surrounding it occurred, Laura lifted a pen for a very unofficial test of the portal's stability.*

*"Well I didn't risk my career for a bunch of smoke. It's time to see how this thing works." Laura said, her hand cautiously lifting the pen over the 'storm.'*

*With a long exhale, Laura dropped the pen having no idea what would happen once something entered the portal.*



*Nothing happened. The pen passed through the visible part of the portal only to disappear before hitting the metal underneath. Laura was shocked at the anti-climax of the pen drop.*

*"That... can't be it. There must be more to what happened."*

*The storm had gathered above the city. What was a bright sunny day instantly became a meteorological phenomenon that no one had ever seen before. The sounds of the storm above were not unlike a thunderstorm but the way in which it appeared out of nowhere had the whole city stunned, looking up at the swirling clouds.*



*The clouds groaned and the first sign that it was not a passing storm became apparent as an object flew through the layers of clouds and came flying down towards the city.*





*Before anyone could move a muscle the giant object slammed into one of the tallest buildings in the city, obliterating it and sending debris flying. The impact could be felt for miles as the oblong object planted itself as a proud new addition to the skyline.*





*As the pen's weight compressed the ground below, the groaning of the structures around could be heard as no city was built to withstand such an addition so quickly. The storm, ominously swirling above did not seem to be done with making today remarkable.*



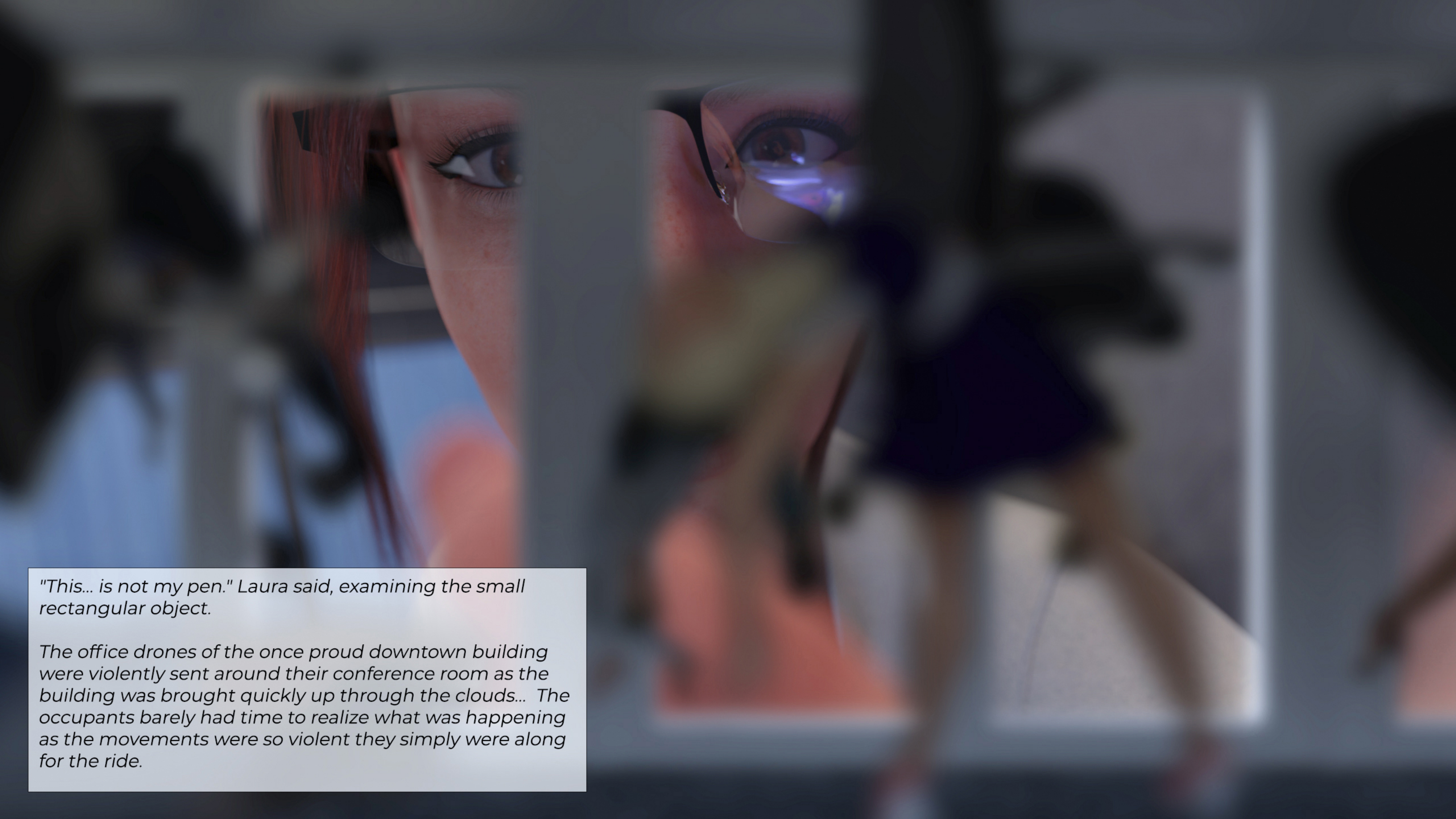
*A well manicured hand came through the portal as if the city was at the bottom of a bag of chips. Looking up from the ground the surreal experience of a human hand dwarfing multiple city blocks froze almost every single onlooker as they braced for impact.*

*"It feels kinda warm inside." Laura noted as her hand passed through the smoke without any sort of pain or resistance. "I think I found my pen!" she said, excited that the portal actually worked. As far as tests go, this one appears to be a success.*



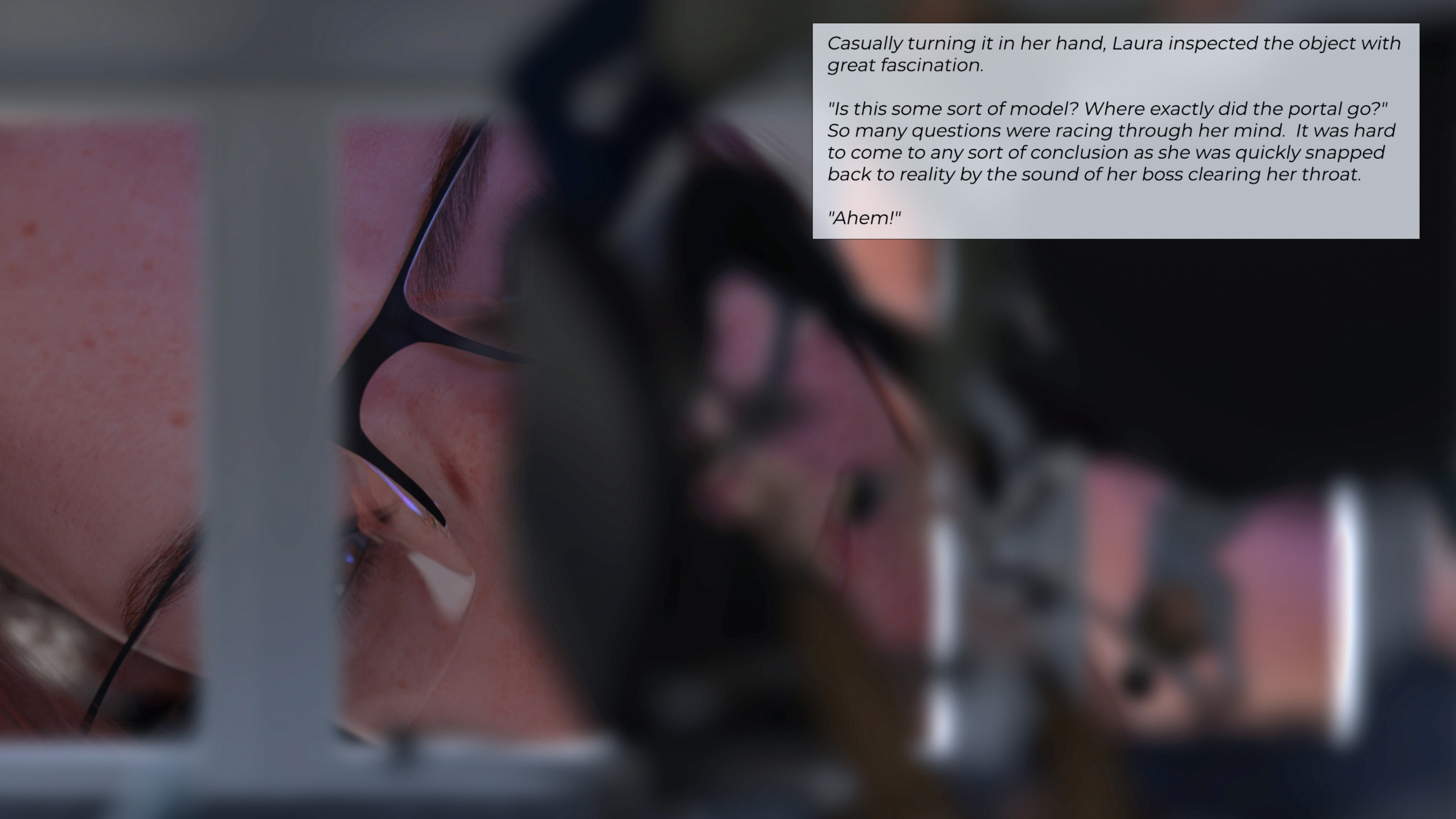


*The building had no way of resisting her fingers' embrace. The pen was cast aside as her fingers pinched and began removing the building from its foundation. The panic in the city was exploding as the roar of stone and metal separating from the earth bounced between the buildings.*



*"This... is not my pen." Laura said, examining the small rectangular object.*

*The office drones of the once proud downtown building were violently sent around their conference room as the building was brought quickly up through the clouds... The occupants barely had time to realize what was happening as the movements were so violent they simply were along for the ride.*



*Casually turning it in her hand, Laura inspected the object with great fascination.*

*"Is this some sort of model? Where exactly did the portal go?" So many questions were racing through her mind. It was hard to come to any sort of conclusion as she was quickly snapped back to reality by the sound of her boss clearing her throat.*

*"Ahem!"*



*Emily, a high level executive, had been called down to the lab when an unexpected power drain alerted the highest levels of management that testing without authorization was going on. She was not pleased to have been called down to the basement of their headquarters and wanted to quickly put an end to whatever was interrupting her from more important business.*



# Applied Sciences

*"I said..." Emily started as she cleared her throat, even louder. Being ignored by a subordinate was not helping improve her mood. She was quickly going from "annoyed" to "someone is about to get fired."*



*"Oh, I'm sorry! I didn't hear you there." Laura said, panicking on what to do. She knew the risks of turning on the portal. Her scientific curiosity had removed those concerns when the bright lights and disappearing pens started happening.*



*Not wanting to share her discovery just yet, Laura looked to stash the finding in the one place with enough room for it. Tugging her shirt forward, she flipped the object and quickly tucked it safely into her shirt. With none of her earlier confidence intact, she turned to face the upset employer.*

*"Ms. Emily, hello! What brings you down to the lab this afternoon?" Laura said, trying to play it as cool as possible.*

*"The massive, unauthorized use of power and a clear disregard for procedures." Emily responded. Her eyes drifted to the object in Laura's cleavage.*

*"What the hell is in your shirt?" Emily asked, eying the foreign object haphazardly stowed in her top.*





*In a panic, Laura grabbed her chest, trying to conceal what she thought was hidden, only to find the object disintegrated against her ample bosom. The crumbling of the building was almost unnoticed as her shirt and breasts ground it almost instantly to dust.*

*Laura was once again captivated as if Emily was miles away. This object that she had almost no time to study, was now gone with a simple squeeze. Staring into the smoke and debris now scattered in her cleavage, Laura's mind raced, thinking about what was on the other end of that portal.*





*"What the hell was that?" Emily said, entering Laura's personal space. "That better have not been something expensive!" She huffed as Laura was still lost in thought surrounding the object no longer able to be recognized in, stuffed into her shirt.*



*Laura was still unable to respond as Emily grew irritated. "Turn that damn thing off, get yourself cleaned up and come to my office. You will report everything your 'test' has discovered and we will decide on whether or not to continue your employment..." Emily trailed off as Laura carefully observed the remains on her bosom.*





*"What was that..." Laura said as she carefully tried to extricate anything that remained. As the portal powered down, Laura only had more questions about the strange phenomenon that just took place. Brushing away the remaining debris, she began to make her way up to Emily's office, not worried about her career... but if she would ever get a chance to 'test' the mysterious portal once more.*