

Beau-Regarded as a Winner

Written by jm0364

"Stop the Boat! I want to show you guys something!" blared the audio from the TV. The image on the screen soon cutting to a room full of all sorts of amazing and odd looking machines, creating all sorts of new candies and sweets for people to consume. "Heh heh, what I wouldn't give for a machine like those to make MY stuff faster." Said a 20 year old woman with light brown hair, as she swept and reorganized the items in her magic shop. She hummed a small tune as she soon swept up the last patch of dirt in the corner and tossed it out the window. "Phew, all clean. And I didn't even have to resort to a clean-up spell this time. New record!" She smirked as she walked behind the front counter and lounged back in her chair; the broom somehow moving by itself towards the supply closet. "Mmmph, feels good getting some work done on a slow day. Congrats Ellie, you've earned a moment to just kick back and rela-" **"DING DING!"** "-ah. Spoke too soon I see." She said as she sat back up and looked towards the front door.

Walking inside was a tall young man, slightly older than Ellie with dark black hair and light blue eyes. Going by his attire, which currently consisted of a pair of blue running shoes, a white shirt and a pair of dark blue shorts, this man must've been the "athletic" type of tourist. "Oh jeez, one of "THESE" people..." She mumbled as she leaned on the counter, as the young man looked around. "Man, this place looks freaky..." "You call it freaky; I call it "amazing"~" Ellie said with a chuckle. "Whoa! Chill out with that, you kind of surprised me, lady!" The young man exclaimed as Ellie reached out and grabbed his hand. "Just all part of the experience dear. Name's Ellie. Ellie Hazel. Proud owner and manager of "Ellie's Mystical Mystery Shop"; the best place in town for all kinds of voodoo, spells and magic related merch this side of town!" The young man just blinked at her confused, but just rolled with it. "Erm... right, I'm Vincent. Charmed to meet you..."

"So, what can I do ya for?" she asked. "Uh well, look... "Ellie" was it? I'm not really into this kind of novelty magic stuff. Okay? I think its cute that someone like you decided to open up a shop like this for tourists to buy all this weird, silly joke stuff..." Ellie cleared her throat to interrupt him. "This ain't "novelty" stuff. This all 100 percent authentic, buddy." Vincent rolled his eyes as he listened to her talk. "Yeah, okay. You believe that. The point I'm trying to make is that I'm not here to purchase anything. I'm just here to cool off, okay? I just beat my girlfriend, in a friendly little footrace earlier, and I'm not waiting for her in the heat. So, if it's fine with you, miss-" "No need to ask." Interrupted Ellie. "Clearly someone of your "athletic" build needs some time to recharge. Feel free to wait as long as you wish... maybe even browse a bit if you'd like~." Vincent simply sighed as he leaned against the counter, wiping the sweat from his

forehead. "No thanks, I'll pass." Ellie shrugged and sat down in her chair; looking up at the TV hanging on the wall to watch in the meantime. "Your loss, "sport-boy" she said jokingly.

Vincent groaned as he looked around the shop, taking in the weird and mystical atmosphere that surrounded him. Ellie must've been so obsessed with magic and witches if she was able to make everything look so real and "authentic" as she put it. "Sheesh, what a geek..." he mumbled to himself. "*Hey Mr. Wonka! What's this?!*" shouted a character from the TV. Vincent curiously looked up at the TV, only to roll his eyes and shake his head at the film that was playing. "Hey, is there anything good on? Y'know like a game or something?" Ellie looked over to him, chuckling as she did. "Maybe there is, but I think this is fine. Nothing like a movie to liven up the room a bit." "Well if that's the case then you probably should play something more action oriented... none of this kiddie stuff." Ellie sat back up and glanced directly at the runner. "Hey, come on, I know it's aimed towards younger people, but I'll have ya know a lot of people my age like to watch this stuff too you know." Vincent chuckled at the girl's response. "Yeah, I can tell. My girlfriend actually enjoys this movie too. It's... "fine", but I'm not really a "kids movie" guy, alright? Besides, I never understood why older people come back to it... well, other than that one scene where that one girl becomes a giant blueberry. I'm well aware of "that" reason..." Ellie simply chuckled and laughed a bit as if to tease Vincent. "How cute, looks like we have a Violet fan here~" Vincent groaned as he gave Ellie a stern look. "As if! I'm just know that character cause of that weird "quirk" on the internet, okay?! Now can you please just change this dumb movie to something else?!" Ellie simply smirked as she looked down at the bottom of the counter. "...Sure thing, "Mr. Athlete". She said as she reached down and pulled out a remote for the TV. "Here ya go. Choose whatever you like." She giggled, sliding it towards him. "Heh... Thank you." He said, taking it from her. "Now that's what I call service!"

As Vincent held the TV remote up towards the TV, Ellie quietly grinned as she wiggled a single finger behind her back. "Where's the guide button on this thing?..." Vincent asked as he looked through the buttons. "Ugh, screw it. I'll do this the long way." Sliding his thumb downwards, Vincent held out the remote and tapped the down arrow on the channel change setting. "OUCH!" The young man instantly dropped the remote as a bright blue spark of electricity shocked his fingers. "H-Hey! What the hell was that?! Is this your way of playing a prank?!" Ellie chuckled as she walked over to him. "Normally, it would but this time no." she said as she picked up the remote from the ground. "Oh dear. Looks like the poor thing shorted out. Not to worry though..." she said "...I have a replacement in the storage room in the back. If you're okay with waiting a bit..." Vincent groaned as he shook his hand from the shock. "Yeah I don't mind. Besides, if I can deal with the heat on my afternoon runs then I sure can handle having to be stuck with some stupid kids flick..." Ellie turned around and made her way to the back room. "If you say so~" she said, chuckling to herself as she left Vincent with the movie.

"Guh! This sucks. First the damn summer heat and now the appliances shock me..." Vincent said as he leaned back on the counter. "Alright, just calm down Vincent... Just relax and bear with it for a bit. You're a first place track and field winner after all." He said, bolstering his

ego a bit. "It'll take more than a hunk of plastic and circuits to throw you off! Heh heh heh..." While leaning back, he slid his hands into his shorts pockets. But while he knew his left pocket had his phone, he was caught off guard as his hand bumped into a small object inside of his right pocket. "Hmm? What the...?" Vincent dug through and grabbed the object before pulling it out. "Didn't I give the car keys to...?" His words were silent as he held up the object in question; a small box that was full of thin strips of bubblegum. "Oh! When did these get here?" he asked himself. There were about 8 strips of gum in the box. Those 8 would soon become 7 as Vincent curiously slid a strip out from the pack. Opening the wrapper showed the thin blue strip underneath; its scent coming off as sweet and fruity. "Heh heh. Sneaky gal..." he said, referring to his girlfriend. "She must've slipped a small something for me while I wasn't paying attention. Well... thanks either way." He chuckled before popping the piece into his mouth.

Much to Vincent's surprise, the gum itself was nothing like what he thought. He expected some sort of minty, fresh flavoring to it but no; what he got was a cavalcade of fruity flavors spreading across his taste buds. "Whoa! This is pretty good stuff." He exclaimed. "So much flavor packed into a small strip of gum? This is crazy!" He chuckled and chewed before taking a deep, deep breath. With one hard blow, the young man blew a big blue bubble from out his mouth. He watched wide eyed as the edible, elastic strip stretched and expanded at amazing speeds. Vincent couldn't help but chuckle as the bubble grew bigger and rounder with each puff he gave it, until finally it burst with a loud "POP!". "Damn, this stuff sure can stretch!" he chuckled, as he pulled the gum back into his jaws. "Mmph~ And it STILL has its flavors after all of that.. Cherry, Orange... Oop! L-Lemon too. Heh heh..." Vincent kept on chewing and chewing the seconds away, the gum still providing him with an endless well of flavors. However, his chewing slowed down a bit as he suddenly felt a strange itch building on his head. "Hmmp?" He scratched at it a bit before it finally vanished. "There we go. Must've been nothing." With a small shrug, he continued his chewing spree, unaware of what was really going down...

Vincent's short black hair was starting to grow brighter, and even a tad longer too. With each chew, his hair gradually changed from his dark black color to a brighter and blonder hue. The chewing also began to affect his hair, as it began to grow longer and longer... at least for a while. Once his hair reached the end of his head, it stopped its growth; now reaching just below his chin and above his neck. As for its color, the darkness of its original shade was now gone and in its place was a bright blonde head of straightened out hair. And yet despite this sudden change, Vincent paid no attention towards it. He was too fixated on chewing that single piece of gum, just to see what flavor came next. "Mmph~ Gotta see what's next! I bet it's gonna be something real sweet and fruity!" he exclaimed with a smile. Vincent giggled and grinned as he continued to chew, and as such, another odd phenomena began to arise; this time having an effect on his clothing.

His dark blue shorts were not only starting to become a much brighter shade of blue, but the leg sleeves were slowly stretching lower to the floor; covering more of his legs in the process. His plain white shirt, while once possessing no color to it, was now starting to gain a single color as it changed into the same shade of bright blue as his shorts. In fact, if one was to look at him, they'd see that they now matched his sneakers in terms of color. Much like the shorts, Vincent's shirt also began to stretch in various areas. The sleeves that came up to his upper arm were stretching lower, while the body of the shirt was only stretching just enough so that it was touching the edge of his shorts. Or pants, seeing as how the shorts had now covered his knees and were now descending towards his feet. As expected, Vincent wasn't paying attention, but a brief deviation soon hit him as he suddenly felt an odd tightness hit his body. "Hmmp! Hey, what was that?" Soon, these loose and comfy exercise attire began to grow tighter, but softer in looks. The long sleeves of his "shirt" and pants were now gripping tightly at his body; tight enough not to fall off, but loose enough to where it was still comfy to wear.

"Weird... why do my clothes feel so... Mmph..." Vincent rubbed his head as the last details of his outfit appeared. Plain white stripes stretched up the sides of his legs and arms, while a small zipper stretched down the middle of his "shirt". By the time the changes were done, Vincent's clothing was nothing like how it was before he came in; now resembling a bright blue tracksuit than his old clothes. "Hmmp... Eh... I'm probably just imagining things..." He said woozily, as he proceeded with chewing his beloved gum. "At least I got this stuff to keep me relaxed." He said with a smile. "I'm really starting to love this stuff... all these flavors both normal and new... It doesn't seem like it's going to stop~!" He exclaimed with a giggle. Completely unaware that he was nearing the final stage of this strange metamorphosis.

"Hmm... what if it DOESN'T stop?" he pondered. "What if it just keeps going? A-And more flavors keep coming?! Ooooh that sounds so exciting to think about... but it sounds so impossible." He crossed his arms as he thought to himself, unaware of an odd blue glow that slowly surrounded his form. "And how many flavors could there be?" he asked, "I must have counted like... 20 so far! Already that sounds like a lot, so the idea that there may be MORE?! That's just **crazy**!!!" He blushed a bit as he held a hand to his mouth; his voice cracking a bit much to his surprise. "That was weird... But either way, someone has to know just how long this stuff can last, as well as what other flavors there are." He said, pulling out the small package of gum. He turned it in every direction possible and yet there was no information on it. "And from the looks of it, there's nothing on the pack that says **otherwise**" His voice cracked once more, prompting him to clear his throat. As he continued his chewing, he placed the pack on the counter... That's when an idea suddenly hit him.

"Hey... Maybe *I can figure it out~*" He said, not noticing that his voice was now a lot higher and feminine than before. "*Nobody else seems to be interested in figuring this stuff out... So why not me?*" he said, smiling as he continued to chew the gum. "*Besides, if there's one thing I love more than winning, it's gum~*" Vincent chuckled to himself as the glow around his body became brighter. His tall, masculine frame slowly beginning to shrink smaller in size and

stature. However, it wasn't just his size that was changing. *"I'll just keep chewing this piece. I'll chew and chew and chew as much as I have to, and when the flavor changes, I'll write a big list of all the things I taste from it!"* He giggled at the thought, not noticing how his voice was now starting to get even higher and more child-like as he shrank. *"Oh wait... I still have to eat though. Can't survive on gum alone."* As Vincent thought, he continued to shrink; his more muscly and male physique suddenly getting thinner and smaller as he did. *"Oh, duh! I can probably just stick it somewhere for safe keeping. Maybe behind my ear so that I don't lose it?"* It sounded weird... but if it meant that she didn't have to start over then she didn't care.

"Sounds like a plan! Ha ha!" Vincent laughed as her body continued to shrink and change more in appearance. As her eyelashes grew longer, and her skin became smoother, her outer appearance only made her look younger and younger with each inch lost. *"I'll have all those flavors listed down in no time!"* she exclaimed. *"It could take days... weeks... Months, maybe? Heh heh, I... I kinda like the sound of that..."* she said, woozily as she placed a hand to her head. *"Just chewing... chewing... chewing all day long~"* she giggled. *"Oh but... but why stop at just getting these dumb flavors listed? If it DOES run out, why stop chewing? Why, I bet I could set a world record just for chewing this one piece~ Heh heh heh"* As "Vincent" leaned on the counter to keep herself balanced, her shrinkage and her regression soon began to slow. *"I've been winning all kinds of sports for years... now's the time for me to go even BIGGER!"* She smiled and giggled dizzily as her thoughts began to cloud up, while her body shrank one last time. *"I can see it now... Vi... V-Vi... Violet Beauregarde: Athelete. W-Winner. And World Record Gum Chewer... I like the sound of that~ Hee hee!"* And as she giggled and chewed, the girl's body soon stopped shrinking, leaving her at a childish height of 4 feet.

As her head finally cleared up, and the dizzy feeling in her mind vanished, the young child athlete and chewing gum aficionado, Violet Beauregarde rubbed her head as she looked around the unfamiliar shop. Still chewing the same piece of gum that had made her the girl she was today... even if she was completely oblivious to how literal that was. "Huh? What is this weird place? Wait... why'd I even walk in here to begin with?" she asked herself, blowing a bubble as she tried to remember. *"Heh heh heh... Lesson One when dealing with a witch: You don't insult the things she likes to watch~"* Ellie thought to herself as she walked out from the back room; having witnessed the whole thing from the security camera. "Hello there, young lady! How may I help you today?" she asked, with a smirk on her face. "Huh? Oh. Hey there." Said the girl. "I'm Violet. Violet Beauregarde. World famous junior athlete and soon to be World Record Gum Chewer!" she exclaimed, sounding so proud but full of herself. "And for the record, I'm not really interested in all this weird, fake magic stuff... Actually, I don't even remember why I came in here." Ellie chuckled as she gave the girl a pat on the head. "Oh, don't worry your little head off. I'm sure you'll remember eventually." Just then, the bell soon rang, alerting the witch of another customer walking into the store. "Excuse me for a second. Business calls~!" Violet just scoffed and rolled her eyes as she watched Ellie walk off. "Whatever..."

"Hello? Is anyone in here?" Asked a 20 year old woman, with long brown hair and wearing some exercise clothes of her own. "Right here, ma'am!" shouted Ellie. "Pleasure to meet you. Name's Ellie!" she said, shaking the woman's hand. "Um hey there..." she said, feeling a bit exhausted. "...I'm Denise. Phew... sorry if I look like crap... I just finished a long run through this scorcher of a day..." Ellie chuckled as she let go of her hand. "Nah, it's fine. Totally get it~" Once she wiped her face with a rag, Denise looked around the store; seemingly looking for someone. "Hey, you didn't happen to see an older man in a white shirt and blue shorts come in here did you?" she asked. "Hmm... Was his name Vincent, by any chance?" Ellie replied. "Y-Yeah! That's him!" "Oh right~ He said he was waiting on ya..." Ellie said with a giggle. "Yeah, sorry but you may need to wait a bit. He got tired of waiting for you, so he took off to get something to eat." Denise groaned as she rubbed her face. "Really?! Ugh, Figures! He always was too impatient..." "Well, that's what happens when the losers can't keep up." Violet quipped with a giggle. Denise looked down towards her with a frustrated glare. "Nobody's asking you, kid!" Violet simply responded back with a cocky little smile as she continued to chew her gum. "Any idea when-" "-He'll be back?" finished Ellie. "I dunno, it could be a while." "Oh, come on!" Denise sighed, before Ellie gave her a pat on the back. "In the meantime, how about ya cool off here? Oh, would ya like some water? I have some in the back." Denise looked up at the witch with a smile. "Yeah... thanks, I'd like that." Ellie nodded as she began to walk off; leaving Denise alone with Violet. "Ugh, I can't wait till that jerk gets back, so I can teach him a lesson." She said. "I wouldn't worry." Said Ellie "I think "he's" going to get his comeuppance pretty soon~" With a giggle she vanished into the back room...

While Denise waited at the counter, Violet couldn't help but chuckle at the woman's current condition. "Sounds like your boyfriend couldn't wait for a slowpoke like you to catch up. No wonder he took off on his own." As the bratty girl giggled, Denise groaned, shooting a glare down at her. "You have quite the mouth, kid. But that doesn't mean you should always use it!" Violet simply rolled her eyes and shrugged her off. "Yeah well, this "mouth" is gonna make me the world record holder for chewing gum. So, I'm not scared of a loser like you~!" Denise sighed as she leaned her head back and looked at the ceiling. "Why'd I have to be stuck with this brat?" she said to herself, before looking back at Violet. "Okay, listen you! You need to... t-to..." Violet looked up at her, raising an eyebrow in confusion as Denise's words trailed off. "....Stop staring at me like that, weirdo!" "Uh... are you okay kid?" Violet tilted her head, now even more confused. "Uh, yeah? I feel fine." Denise blinked as she got closer to her. "You sure? Cause your face is kind of... erm..." Violet, growing a bit frustrated glared up at her in response. "Kind of" what? Are you trying to make fun of me?!" "No, no! It's just... your face is all... purple!" Violet's confused glare, quickly changed into a look of pure curiosity and concern upon hearing this. "...Wh-What do you mean?"

In the backroom, Ellie chuckled as she watched from the security camera monitors. "Kind of a shame... I just cleaned up the place too... Oh well~ I think it's worth it to knock that boyfriend of hers down a peg." With a chuckle and a laugh, she leaned back in her chair; watching as Violet's skin began turning a dark shade of blue... and eagerly awaiting the familiar events that would follow.

The End