

[RP: Risky Negotiations](#)

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Meanwhile, in the Negaverse...

There were no such thing as reunion parties. But there were, when the boss returned after another mysterious absence, 'sit-around-and-laugh-about-the-most-gruesome-ways-to-squash-your-enemies' parties.

"So that's decided," pronounced Negaduck, slamming down a drink that had been kindly provided by the local gang leader / host. "Jaw will take care of poison supply. Herb's gonna continue running interference in the television department. And Wedge-Face is getting us..."

Pause. Confused glance around the gathered minions at the table.

"Where the hell is Wedge?"

"Oh." Launchpad piped up carelessly from the other side of the room, "I shot him."

Longer, unimpressed pause. "Why?"

"He stole my nachos." Shrug. "I like nachos."

Words could not capture the extra level of unimpressed that radiated from their Overlord.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

By contrast, pains had been taken to make sure the haunt radiated all sorts of promise to impress in painful manners. Things usually ended up looking like the Negaverse as a whole had one very busy and enthusiastic architect who had some awfully strange hobbies.

But for the Negaversians, it was typical inner-city clutter, all par for the course.

One Negaversian in particular was busy fixing her hair and wondering why the occupants of the building had even bothered with the guard at the door. It wasn't as if wandering into a planning session was a mistake that happened often. Or more than once.

Probably force of habit.

All things considered, it could even have been a random passerby trying to break her arm, but she doubted he'd have tried to run inside if that was the case.

"I hope you're ambidextrous," she said with all due concern as she put her knife away. "Or I'll have to owe him a doorman."

Stepping over him lightly, she tilted her head at the sounds of riotous agreements to evil. It certainly sounded like everyone was having a nice time. Surely it was only to confirm that that she opened up the door in a very 'I'm not here by accident manner'.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

And not by accident either, every single weapon in that room was instantly aimed at her. Except for Negaduck's; that's what he had goons for. He cocked an eyebrow at her instead.

"Oh my, sweetie, bursting in unannounced like that is such bad manners," twittered Binky, her absurdly merry manner not quite matching her leather outfit or flame thrower. "I do hope you have a good excuse; I would hate to have to burn all of that lovely long hair right off your head."

There was a reason why only one guard was stationed at the door. Nobody crashed the party of the heaviest armed, most brutal thugs in town. Not if they wanted to leave afterwards.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"And I would -hate- to have to skin you," Lilly said with a duly regretful face, putting a hand to her cheek. "It's terrible, isn't it?"

Folding her arms, she leaned against the door-frame and took a leisurely look over the assortment of weapons, before reaching over and knocking on the open door. "Hi. Can I come in?"

It was an announcement you wanted, yes?

"Don't let me interrupt. I thought you lot would be done cackling by now, that's all."

I mean really, how long does it take all of you to make an evil scheme?

"I'm just here on business."

So if you lot could get ON with it so I can do so?



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

The weapons, oddly enough, were not lowered.

"Get in line, toots." Where did that bossy nasal voice come from? Oh, the small boy with a chains and a bazooka. They started young in the Negaverse.

"You can do business with ME anytime though, sweetheart, heh heh heh," snuffed a tall but lanky fox, who was stupid enough to drop his aim in order to make eyes at the newcomer.

Negaduck, for his part, did not say a word. His gaze was locked on Lilly, as though he was trying to place her. The curves didn't make it easy, however...

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Well isn't that SWEET," she purred as she shifted forward, putting a hand on his arm and smiling up at him. What was even sweeter, of course, was watching his expression as he suddenly experienced a very painful, twisting sensation in his arm until his hand went limp. No worries about the weapon falling and going off, though. Lilly was kind enough to catch it. "And so generous too."

There were practically hearts in that tone. If hearts were rather spiky and unsettling.

"I'll be glad to get in line," she added just as generously as she stepped back to her original position. With just enough space to get the door in front of her in case someone wasn't content with idle posturing after that. "Only it doesn't look like the line's going anywhere, is it darling? Why don't you speed it along, hm? I've got places to be, people to do... things as well, can't forget those."



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

The scream emanating from her new 'friend' filled the shocked silence that followed. Which bought her a few seconds before all hell broke loose.

"Why you LITTLE...!" screamed Honker, which was hilarious considering his size, before the ensuing riot was brought to a halt by one word.

"Stop."

The mob parted as Negaduck stalked forward, a threatening gleam in his masked eyes; judge, jury and a large dose of executioner rolled into one.

"You think you can come in here, all silky words and bedroom eyes, wreak gratuitously unprovoked violence against some brainless lackeys, and get a private audience with me?"

His cold and foreboding deposition dissipated immediately with a wide, sinful smirk.

"Well, you'd be right."

With that, the grimy room quickly emptied. Leaving her with one apparently unconcerned but always volatile dictator. It may have been due to that lack of concern that she was not strip searched, or it may have been that, if one was honest, all the best 'searching a hot chick' jokes had already been done.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

The weapon vanished to who knew where (where could she KEEP anything?), and Lilly put a hand on an artfully cocked hip, inclining her head a bit without taking her eyes off of him. It never hurt to be gracious, She was a lady after all. For a very, very, VERY stretched interpretation of that. It also never hurt to not drop your guard.

"I take it you have a little time for me now?" she asked with a teasing little smile. That voice was so much more impressive in person. High, high approval, to be sure.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

Rather than pay her much attention – teasing, particularly the teasing of an ego, was something he was more than familiar with – Negaduck wandered back to the planning table, idly picking up a place marker. It must have been representing an opponent's location, for somebody had melted its face off with a lighter.

"You couldn't have mown them all down, you know," he reflected, twisting the deformed figure in his fingers; for all appearances, not bothering with keeping his own guard up. Appearances were deceiving however, just like everything else about him. "This may come as a shock, but I don't keep them around for the pleasant after-dinner conversation."

The figure was returned to its original place. Or probably not original. Still nonchalant, the casual pace continued around the table.

"What do you want so badly that you'd be willing to take such a big risk?"

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"I'd be worse off if I didn't come, honestly," she said with a little shrug. "Director Hooter would have been a lot more... creative with a punishment than this lot, and the chances of me actually dying of it would have been a lot less."

That would have been too easy, after all.

"He's such a persuasive man. I just couldn't say no."

Tilting her head, she moved towards the table and gave the planning a cursory once-over. "I also happen to not be bull-headed and quite fast. I would just have come back later."

And certainly get at all of them much later, in more advantageous circumstances. But that wasn't to be. For now, business.

"You asked SHUSH for machinery, but one of the more... creative fellows in charge is still out of commission. They need things only he can build," she said. "So they sent me, helpful girl-scout that I am, to talk to you about it."



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

Which prompted him to meet her eyes with a menacing, wolfish smile.

"You know how much I like girl scouts."

It was true. In the Negaverse, they had been hunted to extinction. Which was one of the great things about Darkwing's universe – the prey was far more plentiful.

Straightening, he placed his palms on the table and faced her off in a more professional manner. Or rather, the manner of a ruler who had a lot on his evil plate and did not appreciate problems being brought to him unless it was utterly necessary. The only business he cared for was ruining everybody else's.

"So? What'd you want me to do about it?" Part boredom, part aggravation. "Tell Hooter to manage his own staffing levels and do what I damn well tell him. Not **MY** fault if one of his supposed geniuses has a little run-in with karma."

Such posturing veiled exactly how much the agency assisted his reign. Luckily the Director found, for what ever reason, Lord Negaduck's control to be beneficial to his own agenda. But if that changed...

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"It wasn't so much karma as a run-in with you," she pointed out. Not that he'd remember, doling out justice left and right as he was. "So the Director felt it was only fair."

Seating herself on a nice clear area of the desk, she crossed her legs and made herself comfortable. "There's only one person that makes things like him, and that's him. I'm supposed to trot on over through a dimensional portal and get them for you, but I understand you're the one who hands out the permission slips...?"

Arching an eyebrow, she picked up one of the little figures that had been tossed aside, not apparently needed to join in on the carnage on the map.

"Not that I expect you to just hand it over like that. But for what it's worth, all I need is ten minutes."



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

A frustrated sigh, and he made sure they were face to face, eye to eye, before he posed the next question. Very much in the fashion of a suspicious parent trying to glean information out of a child – not that he had much experience with that lately:

"Who, exactly, are you talking about?"

Because Big Bad Overlord didn't give out permission slips when he felt he was being given the round around. And that skirt could ride up all it liked; he knew there were some details there yet to be filled in.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Darryl," she said readily enough. What was the point in being coy when all she really needed was permission?

"He was heading the work on your machine before you happened. Of course, we can always wait until he's recovered, but who knows how long that will take?"

Despite the intention to be at least somewhat professional, a smile made itself comfortable on her bill.

"You really did a number on him. I'm impressed. But remind me to stay on your very good side."



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

The surprise was washed off his face by a sort of vicious satisfaction.

"I do hope he's enjoying his new wholesome lifestyle," he sneered, clearly not hoping it for Darryl's sake.

Then surprise washed back onto his face as realisation struck.

"You. I remember you." A half-smile slid onto his bill as he ran a finger along the underside of hers. "Much more fun than your counterpart."

Not that anything had happened in their brief meeting long time past. And not that tormenting the timid bookworm in the Normalverse wasn't enjoyable. But there were certain types of women – normally the charming, heartless manipulators – that just worked with him.

"So what do you plan to achieve in ten minutes, hmm?" purred, seemingly more receptive to the idea once he had a handle on what it was – and who was pitching it. "Steal his idiot double's brain; run off with it in a jar?"

That plan he would have no objections to.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"In ten minutes? Whatever you'll let me do," she smiled.

It was so bizarre hearing intentional innuendo coming out of that bill...

"And while I'd love to make off with his brain, who knows what that'll do to my playful little cousin?" Playful... let's go with that. "But since these are SHUSH plans handed out by a very paranoid bear, I'd like to see how much trouble I can get him into if those papers disappear under very mysterious circumstances he can't satisfactorily explain."

Think how much fun it would be convincing SHUSH he might be a traitor.

"I wonder if I can drop in on this counterpart of mine," she mused, mind drifting off in other directions. The thought of another her was appealing. She did find herself pretty, after all. "See how... open minded she can be persuaded to be."

Let's not dwell on what persuasion she had in mind exactly... Though Negaduck might prefer to dwell.

Then again, it was entirely possible that what she most likely had in mind was someone to try on clothes for comparison.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

Oh Negaduck dwelled alright. His eyes sparkled with evil glee at the very thought. And those thoughts, being the devious plotter that he was, led to a decision.

"Let's go one better than that," he directed. "Bring the girl back here. Not only will it be fun to introduce her to all the Negaverse has to offer..."

Classically evil grin.

"It'll mean all the more trouble for the nerd back home when he's got both disappearing paperwork and a disappearing cousin."

Really, the more serious the consequences for either Darryl, the better.

"One condition though." The seriousness of his tone dropped way as soon as he spoke uttered that sentence, leaning in as if to share a secret with the visiting 'girl scout'.

"Make sure I get to see her expression when the penny drops."

In person, video chat, it didn't matter. That would be too good to miss.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

As if cementing the odd image, she somehow managed to pull off the least innocent rendition of a scout salute. Clearly a different kind of 'Be Prepared'.

"However you like, Lord Negaduck," she purred, looking as pleased as a cat who's just been handed a mouse, eyes promising no good for anyone involved. Well, Lilly and Darryl, at least.

"So, ten minutes?" Though the enjoyment she was getting out of this conversation indicated that there was no hurry at all.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

A similar foreboding smile from Negaduck, and he stepped back. Pacing away, he waved it off nonchalantly.

"Take as long as you need."

You know, as long as you deliver.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

Eeeee this was going to be fun!

I mean... a-hem. Entertaining in a very professional manner.

It was so hard to stay professional when the idea of utter chaos made her as delighted as it did, but those were the trials of representing a company. Grinning from ear to ear, she pushed off from the table and set off on her good business. Well, business, anyway.

Darryl was soon to find himself having a very bad, very confusing day indeed. Agent Grizzlikov's day was no better, but he held a grim satisfaction in being able to say 'I told you so' when it seemed like the young inventor (NOT an authorized part of SHUSH, mind you) had lost the plans.

Lilly's day was just going to be terrible, just as soon as she woke up. A video screen would probably attest to that, but for now it was just being used by NegaLilly to report that she was back, looking for too pleased for someone who had just been gone ten minutes.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

Glancing down, examining them through what was apparently a video watch – all the coolest supervillains had them – Negaduck's brow crept up, first at the time, then at what he could see.

"My, you do good work."

Slight tilt of the head. Increased concentration on what was behind the 'business' woman.

"... are those nipple spikes?"

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Are they?" she said rather vaguely, too busy packing away the plans for delivery. "I swear, getting her clothes off of her was harder than getting the leather on. She must use tape..."

Trailing off, she looked back up at the screen and grinned. "In case you'd like to know, the bear dragged him off by the neck and has him in lock-up."

I'm sure you'd really like to know that.

"Mrgh..." Lilly said softly from behind her, bringing a hand to her head as she tried to sit up. NegaLilly obligingly made some more room on the screen as she did so, the more timid of the two blinking about in confusion. "Wha-..."

Pause. There was a distinct chill all about her. She just sat there for a moment, looking off into the distance with a puzzled, worried 'do I dare look' expression before looking down. All that leather... all of it, from the boots to the corset, buckled and zipped in the best way to flatter the figure, but certainly not to offer any comfort to her mind. And... wait, was that a choker around her neck? Feeling it, looking down again, looking back off into the distance, her mouth worked very hard to noiselessly achieve SOMETHING. Her bright red shock and horror was a wonder to behold. In fact it looked like she was going to pass out again.

Feeling this was too good an opportunity to pass up, NegaLilly made herself comfortable right up next to her twin, invading her personal space the way only a Negaversian could, and cheerfully asking her if she was comfortable. Apparently that was all it took to snap her out of her lock-down and fall off the back of the bed with an agitated sound.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

Laughter from the screen. Oh, what a hoot.

"Fantastic. Be sure to present her with a welcoming basket for me."

A blithe wave, and he signed himself out.

One could only imagine what a welcome pack from him would involve.

Or how regular, kind, soft-hearted Lilly would deal with her introduction to the Negaverse.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

Surely a welcome pack from him involved terror, confusion and humiliation. In that case she'd already gotten more than her fair share. Sadly, she was given to time to fully appreciate this generosity, as NegaLilly had pulled her up from the floor with surprising strength and directed her towards the door.

"Shopping!"

"Wait, what?!"

"I need someone my size to compare things on."

"I can't go out in this! Hey, no! My clothes!"

"Do you have any idea how long those took? No. Let go of the door frame."

"At least a coat..."

NegaLilly sighed in exasperation as Lilly grabbed a long trench-coat from the door and firmly belted it, still burning red from embarrassment and being yanked out into the world as soon as she'd let go of the buckle.

Shopping, yay!



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

It had been a good day, the previous one.

The shipment had arrived all sound and safe, meaning that Fernando was in beyond good spirits, and thus found himself with the time to enjoy this glorious day of a completely wrecked up St. Canard, all thanks to the Lord Negaduck.

His goons/bodyguards were following him up close, but the second he saw that familiar silhouette he shoved them off a few meters, and continued in her general direction.

She was standing with her back to him, but he didn't for one second doubt the owner of that curvaceous body, which he had examined every inch of by the way. No, and if her figure wasn't enough, the leather-outfit attached to her was the last give away needed.

Introducing himself properly, the stout duck placed a firm and strong hand on her thigh and the other on her bust.

"Well, ghello dere guapa."



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

Lilly had already been looking around nervously as her Negaverse twin gradually drifted off, possibly having found something to occupy her attention that didn't require the timid Lilly's participation just yet.

She had not been having a good day. Feeling a pair of firm hands on her did not improve matters one bit. Starting violently, she yanked the trenchcoat closer around herself as if it was a shield against all evil.

"Eek! Wh- hu- I- I'm sorry?" she stammered, trying her level best to turn towards her assailant, and at the same time squirm away from all the extra contact, if possible. "What are you... could you please... um..."

Oh LILLY. REALLY.

"... I don't think we've met..."

Which was about the closest she'd get to HANDS OFF PLEASE.



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

Oh, so that's how she wanted to play?

Well, far be it for him to ruin the mood; instead of removing his hand, he kept groping around getting a bit more exploratory and played along; "Well, what about we do a proper introduction somewhere more... private."

You could almost hear the mans wiggly eyebrows.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Oh... God, could you... you know I'd really rather not..." she tried, trying to push his hands away and wrap her arms around herself at the same time, not an easy feat. "I mean I don't..."

The lightbulb took a moment to flick on, what with her currently being occupied with trying to get away from him, but it suddenly clicked that she DID indeed, bear a very striking resemblance to someone who might not object to this sort of contact in the middle of the market.

"... I think you're mistaking me for someone else," she said with a hopeful smile, as if assuming that was going to make him let go and let her be on her merry way. "I mean... you know, she.... why don't I go off," very, VERY far away, "and look for her for you? Yes? Please?"



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

He did indeed slow down the whole exploration his hands had currently been busy with, a bit taken a back.

This was rarely the direction this roleplaying took, and he was a tad confused – nothing wrong in playing the shy milkmaid, but this wasn't how he normally played it – far be it for him to not try out new plays, but there was something 'off' in her tone of voice, and it definitely wasn't that sultry seductive voice he was used to.

Getting annoyed, at the prospect of having been played for a fool, he forcedly grabbed the duckettes slender shoulder and yanked her, so they were face to face.

But... it was her...



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

She squeaked, undoubtedly shocked at being so suddenly face to face, nearly bill to bill, with this strange man who was frankly starting to scare her. Oh dear, he seemed to be getting annoyed. Why on earth would he...

Feeling very much on the wrong foot and confused, she decided to keep her mouth shut for a but, squeezing her eyes shut as well, hoping very, very hard that once, just this once, fate would be kind enough and oblige her with a way out.

And if that way out required NegaLilly coming back and distracting him so she could run away, well she'd even accept that. The world owed her by now, didn't it? What with all the times nothing seemed to go her way once she'd stumbled into trouble?

"Hello. I seem to have missed a lot of excitement," a familiar, voice sounded out. It was a voice she recognised as technically hers, obviously, but given to the playful, seductive tone Nando appeared to have been expecting. It was also sounding very, very amused. "What ARE you doing getting into trouble on your own again. Hello handsome. I see you've met my twin already. Long lost, let's say."



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

In a proper cartoonish style he swiftly looked at the negaverse counterpart of the duckette, then back to Lilly, then he took a slow turn back to the grinning Lilly as he, himself, contributed with just a smug a smile as anything could ever have produced.

"Well well well, but Negrita – I didn't know you were so privileged to have a twin."

He moved in closer to Nega-Lilly, ignoring the shy duckette for a few seconds, as he grabbed a strong arm around the hostess and let out a very smooth, yet eerie laughter.

He looked back at Lilly, not unlike how a wolf watches a lamb with its three legs broken, and without moving his gaze from Lilly he clearly continued talking to the woman in his arms; "I'm almost hurt you would leave out this lovely little juguete from our 'arrangements'."



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Not by choice," she smiled, putting her arm around his shoulders and making herself comfortable in the crook of his arm. "She lives as far away as possible from me, isn't that strange?"

Yes. STRANGE.

"But I got lucky enough to have her visit." Not by choice, mind you. "I thought you'd like to see her, but she's so shy, I thought I'd have to drag her over."

Lilly's only response was to wrap her arms around herself and hope she wasn't really as red as she felt. "I... I should go, yes? You two seem so, so busy."

"See? She's like a cute, terrified rabbit," NegaLilly murmured in his ear, shooting Lilly a grin as she reached out and ran a finger up the side of her neck to make her squeak. "Ahah. Same sensitive spots."

"Don't DO that! Look, I really don't want to interrupt, so if you could let me..."

Leave very fast? Please?



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

A tad annoyed, he replied not as impressed as negaLilly seemed to be for her sister; what was the point in meeting a sexy twin if nothing exciting was going to come out from it – and something told him, not much would take place between the three of them.

Eyeing negaLilly his face clearly asked if **she** would be up for something... exciting. Not that he needed ask, it had been obvious from the second he saw how he ogled her sister, that she probably already had had that in mind.

He let go of the lady and instead took Lilly's hand as he apologised deeply; "My deepest apologies for this little misunderstanding miss, I really did mistake you for your sister. I do hope you will forgive me my rudeness, and maybe let me make it up to you, by inviting the two of you to dinner at my residence?"

So smooth.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"... oh..." she said, looking almost pleasantly surprised, if still very confused. "That's very kind of you... but I–"

"You're not leaving here yet, you know," NegaLilly reminded her. It would probably take ages for her to find where they had come from. And at the moment, NegaNando's pleasant and welcoming manner was already working on the confused girl. It would only be a matter of time before that illusion fell through and she bolted, but for now, she was just too easy to buy, flushed face, eyes shining with hopefulness that really, are things working out somewhat alright?

"... I wouldn't mind that," Lilly managed. "It's just dinner, after all."

"Not the way you're looking at him."

"I'm not doing anything of the sort!" And maybe I can find better bearings on the way and make a run for it. Nice as he's being... I just don't know...



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

NegaFernando let go of Lilly's hand after having given it a polite peck as served for a proper gentleman.

He turned around, making sure Lilly couldn't see the smug grin he gave NegaLilly, which was intended only for her and she knew exactly how to interpret it.

He closed in, placing a hand on her hip finishing off in a half-embrace as he whispered in her ear, their usual hotel-spot and the time in which he expected them to be there.

Then he left, closely followed by his goons.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"He seems... nice," she said weakly as she watched him walk away. "I mean, there was all of that... but he'd just made a mistake."

"... you really believe that, don't you?" her double sniggered, putting an arm around her shoulders and patting her head. "Oh Lilly. I might not have your most moral intentions at heart, but it's my best interests you don't die, so stick with me around here."

"D-die?"

"Well if you're going to believe EVERYTHING a nice person tells you..."

"I don't..."

NegaLilly stared at the innocently blinking Lilly in amusement bordering on disbelief. "No, you really don't, do you? Main thing, don't follow nice people. Nobody's nice here. Stick with me. I'm not nice either, but we have the same shoe-size, and I need a new pair of pumps."

"You're making very little sense..."

"But you're not afraid now," she pointed out, and it was true that the feeling of being less threatened was starting to relax her.

"Can't I just go home?"

"You want to disappoint poor Nando?" she grinned as Lilly flushed, shaking her head a bit. "I did promise..."

"That you did. And we need to get you something really nice for the handsome fella, no?"

"... if it means I don't have to wear this..."

"Something classy. And stop acting like you want to run away."

"I DO want to run away... I want to get back to Pancho and Rosa."

NegaLilly gave this a bit of thought, playing with a few strands of her twin's here in less of a seductive and more of a playful, actually sisterly manner now that it was just them. "You have them too, of course. Well I'm not keeping you here FOREVER, silly thing. A few clothes to try, a dinner to go to, make nice with my friend, is that too much to ask?"

"You really didn't need to kidnap me for that, you know," she sighed. Her head was starting to hurt a little.

"Would you have come on your own?"

"... no..."

"See? And look, however the dinner goes," and frankly even an optimist like her wasn't all that hopeful Lilly would give in, "you'll be going home. Fair?"

"... fair..."

And as if to seal the deal (deal with the Devil, more like), she was dragged off to shop for a pretty, very flattering dress, and thus was all the time spent before they were expected at dinner. Almost, oddly, like sisters in a way.



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

Meanwhile, Fernando was occupied in his hotel-room, one of the few hotels that wasn't in a complete and utterly wrecked stage, shining up himself.

The dining-room was impressively made up, with drapes, flowers, an old gramophone-recorder, playing that standard seductive music, and wine... loads and loads of wine on the table, just waiting to be popped.

Luck or not, he at least did this with class and style and he knew it.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

And at the appropriate time, because even NegaLilly knew you could only keep NegaNando waiting so long, she had dusted down Lilly's new dress and pulled her into the hotel. "Just in time."

"We didn't even pay for it... um... Lilly."

"Do you honestly think anyone pays for anything here... If it hurts your morals so much, I'll take it after," she rolled her eyes, prodding her further inside. "Nandoooooo."



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

Reacting to that very familiar voice, NegaFernando opened the door, greeting the girls with a broad smile, as he gave NegaLilly a cheek-kiss, and greeted Lilly by grabbing her hand and giving it a sultry kiss, and then – still with her hand in his – he showed them both into the dining-area.

"Ladies, take a seat. What would you prefer, white, red, maybe even champagne?"



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"You always have the best of everything, don't you?" NegaLilly cooed as she made herself comfortable, and Lilly instantly flushed at this show of gentlemanly behaviour, already charmed. "Well?"

"I suppose a little couldn't hurt..."

"Champagne, then."



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

Before Lilly had any chance of objecting a glass had already been forced in her hand, as a suit-clad goon, who, despite his size, had managed to keep himself very unseen, had suddenly appeared from nowhere, pulling out a hair for Lilly.

Fernando and NegaLilly were already busy chatting up on some good old stories, exchanging juicy gossip, which may seem trivial, but that gossip also worked as dirt on those people, if ever he would need anything in the future.

After having exchanged the before-mentioned pleasantries, the waiter came in and introduced the first meal, and dinner could begin.

"So, miss Teal..." he started out, exchanging a glance with NegaLilly – he was no fool, and was very well-aware that his Lilly did not have no twin-sister in any part of the world.

Maybe she had met up with one of those weird mad scientist freaks, that seems to roam around in this place, for better or worse.

"... I hope you will enjoy the dinner, as well as the company." And there was that shiny wide smile of his.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

NegaLilly smiled at him, knowing full well he was no fool, and was already busy wondering where this 'twin sister' had really come from. But then, twins was the easiest way to explain it without getting into too much detail. Blabbing about the existance of a negative universe and portals to those who were blissfully unaware wasn't encouraged, and Negaduck came down rather hard on gossips like that. It encouraged people to go looking for the portals themselves, after all, and one couldn't have that.

"That's... very kind of you," she said graciously, going pink again, and taking a long sip of champagne to try and cool herself down. The very worst of ideas. "I'm sure I will... um. Fernando, wasn't it? Sir?"



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

He reached out lightly cupping her hand with his, raising an eyebrow; "Nando... you may call me Nando, Señorita."

He then let go of her hand and continued his food, throwing a discreet teasing glance at NegaLilly, fully aware that she was more than certainly entertained by this little charade.

"But tell me about yourself, señorita."



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Oh... me? There isn't all that much to tell," she said sheepishly. Why did people always start with that when the speaker really had no idea how to answer it? "I just... I don't know. I'm British, I own a bookshop, and at some point I used to do songs and dances on stage, now I just read for the most part?"

I mean... not much else?

"I'm afraid I never learned how to answer that question, to be honest... oh, this food is lovely... Ah, I'm really just... passing through here."



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

"Songs and dance, I see," he looked at NegaLilly with a worrying look in his eyes; kinda like when a wolf has spied a lamb with broken legs, "our own little actress, it would seem."

"Well, I'm very glad you want to spend a night here, during your 'pass-through', señorita. Here, let me fill that up for you..."

As he poured up more champagne into the glass in Lilly's hand.

"You're not in a hurry to get away from here, though, are you? Saint Canard is a bit... worn, but trust me, it does have its charming sites, Right Lilly" again turning his head giving NegaLilly a raised eyebrow and a smirk.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Of course it does," NegaLilly agreed, heartily amused by Lilly's face when the idea of spending the whole night in the Negaverse clicked. "You just need to be willing to explore a little."

Spend a -night-? No, no, I'm sorry, I'll be speedily on my way after this. Maybe even sooner if I can see an opening, rude as that may be. Nice as this is, I have no intentions of staying in the Negaverse anywhere NEAR when I start getting tired. I need to be able to run and kick and scream and all sorts of things, her brain said.

"Uhm. Well, yes, a bit of a hurry, actually," she said, taking another drink. It was probably that that was making her a little blunter than normal. "I mean no offense, but I wouldn't want to be caught wandering around her after nightfall. Forget not wanting to be in a dark alley, it's ALL dark alleys..."



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

"Well, obviously BECAUSE of the dark dark alleys, there's no need to rush - in fact; I'd be personally..." as he dramatically gestured to his chest with his strong hand, "insulted if you were to place yourself into such danger and get hurt, when you could have stayed safe and sound in our company."

Good thing he had his eyes closed as he gave Lilly this little monologue; it would have seemed less convincing if he had been ogling her boobs at the same time.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

No, I actually think that would just be greater reason to rush, really.

MY her mind worked sensibly and well when she was half drunk. She gave a little non-committal shrug, but smiled all the same, not wanting to offend. "Well aren't you considerate."

She was secure enough in this consideration that she actually enjoyed much of the dinner. At least until she murmured something about feeling very light-headed and laid her head down to quietly pass out for a bit. It wasn't as if she was very used to drinking.

"Oh for heaven's sake," NegaLilly said. No, the irony of using that phrase was not lost on any of them. "She can't hold it all ALL, can she?"

Oh well, it was worth a try, no? Shrugging, she wrapped her arms around NegaNando's neck again. "Leave her, then. Let's you and I put the night to good use, hm?"



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

NegaNando went over and poked Lillys head, with not even the slightest reaction. For all he knew she could be dead... well, he knew she wasn't, he was more than capable of telling a dead person from a drunk.

That was unfortunate, "fine," he scowled back with a grumpy disappointment, "but you have a whole lot to make up for," he said as he slapped her arse, and followed her into the bedroom.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

Well she was MORE than happy to oblige. She'd make up for it all night long if necessary. And happily it looked like it would be VERY necessary. "Oooh, YES boss," she grinned, as the door shut behind them. That was probably the last that would be seen for them for a while.

It was just as well, because that meant Lilly had time to get her head together when she roused herself a while later. Groaning a little and feeling around, she happily stumbled on some cold water and downed as much of it as possible. Okay. Good. Now... nobody around. Excellent. Legs, let's start moving towards the door and back onto the streets. No, no, it's okay, you take it slowly.

And so she made her way as she had intended, and thankfully untroubled, as she had hoped. Now she just hoped there wouldn't be anyone at the door...



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

Luckily for Lilly there wasn't not as much as a single soul; she could easily and without any problems sneak by and find the secret portal home and get back to her normalverse all save and sound...

...

...

Right, as if...

The second she reached the door a huge burly King Vulture walked in on her; clearly confused as NegaLilly rarely left this early. But maybe she had some other arrangements with NegaNando. Clearly intimidated, he bowed his head a bit, not wanting to look her in the eyes;

"Buenas noches Señorita Lilly, hope joo had a pleasant evening."
Size and IQ aside, he was a surprisingly sweet and timid being.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"What? ... o-oh, I mean, yes. Of course. I'll just be on my way now," she murmured, painfully aware that her tone of voice bore little resemblance to her counterpart, and desperately hoping the man was either not quick enough off the mark to realise it, or was reasonable enough to not care and just let her leave. Wincing a little, so glad he wasn't looking at her, she nodded a bit.

"So. Thank you. Goodbye."

Please please please please please stay where you are and just let me edge past.



by [Pintail](#) 7 months ago

She got a few steps, but THEN;

"ESPERA!!!!!!"

"Joo forget joor jacket señora, hace frio tonight... eeh, cold – much cold tonight."
How thoughtful.



by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

She nearly bolted when he called out, but sagged with relief at his explanation. Yes, it was cold out, wasn't it...

Taking her jacket, unable to help herself, she gave with a broad, sweet smile as she put her jacket on. "Thank you so much. I suppose I forgot it in the hurry. Oh dear, yes, I really must be somewhere. Thank you so much. Bye!"

Not leaving anything further to chance, she bolted off into the night, hoping to find someone to explain where on earth she was meant to go.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

And it was ALL dark alleys, as she had noted. Shadows met her at every turn. That weird feeling of being watched. Of being prey...

A feeling that was by no means helped by the sound of something behind.

But there was nothing to be seen.

The noise happened again, of course. Closer. More frequently. Until whatever it was had to be right behind her...

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

Looking nervous, she checked her jacket quickly. Nothing that she could conceivably use as a weapon or a distraction, sadly, as if that sort of thing just magically appeared in pockets when you needed them. Her foot did nudge a rock, though, and she quickly collected it, just in case.

It was very well, just in case, because it was about then that she heard the noise right behind her, and responded by spinning around to face it with a startled squeak, holding the rock tightly. Not in the manner of one about to throw it. Just up in front of her, as if it was the only thing between her and all the evils of the world.



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

And there, behind her, was the single most disturbing sight one could imagine in that dark, dank alley.

It was a little girl.

A tilt of her head as she blinked at the rock sent her red curls bouncing. Unafraid, although somewhat shy, she cast her big, innocent eyes up at Lilly and offered what was hopefully a reassuring smile.

"... you look lost," she stated, folding her hands neatly in front of her sugar-sweet pink dress. "Can I help you, miss?"

TEH HORROR.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"I... I am lost," she managed, feeling the rock fall as relief flooded her limbs and make her fingers rather limp for a moment. It was only a child. Such a sweet, darling looking child. Of course, you could never be too sure, but...

"I just want to find my way home, really, so if you could point me to... to..."

Wait a minute.

"... sweetheart, what are you doing out alone so late? You might get hurt!"



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

To which kindness she responded with a more heartfelt smile.

"Oh don't worry about that!" she chirped. "My friends are watching me."

Indeed, as her gaze drifted up to the windows of an abandoned factory overlooking the street, a figure could be seen to shift in the shadows, and then disappear. Except what little light there was had seemed to pass through him, like.. water?

Back to Lilly, she returned to the matter at hand. "My name is Gosalyn," came the polite introduction. "Where do you live? I'm sure we can help you find your way back there!"

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"Oh... well..." It couldn't hurt, could it? Not really, anyway. "Hello Gosalyn dear. I'm Lilly. Um... I live... well, not really anywhere around here, actually. I'm from... somewhere else. I sort of stumbled here by accident. Through a portal of some sort."

She was just a child... would she really know what Lilly was talking about?

"I know I must sound... mad, but it's true. I just want to go back to my own St. Canard!"



by [Negaduck](#) 7 months ago

"A portal?" Gosalyn perked up. She was a bright child despite the painfully wholesome exterior. "You don't mean... a connection to the other St Canard, do you?"

Without waiting for an answer, her excitement built all of its own accord.

"Where the air is clean? Where people are actually nice to each other? Where there are candy shops and toys and the ponies aren't extinct and—" Excitement reaching bursting point. "—Where Darkwing Duck protects the city?"

Oh such joy! Her little face glowed at the very prospect. Who could tell her no?

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 7 months ago

"I... yes?" she said, confusion mixing with some heartbreak as she heard the excited desire for what she'd thought was normality. What was this child like in her own St. Canard, she wondered.

"I'm afraid I can't find it anymore... and I'm just confused and a tiny bit scared..." she admitted. "I don't suppose you know of anyone who can help me?"



by [Negaduck](#) 6 months ago

With empathy and selflessness beyond her years, Gosalyn let go of her own excitement for heartfelt concern as she took in the other's plight.

"You just don't belong here, huh?" Comfortingly, she held Lilly's hand and gave it an encouraging pat. "Don't worry, my dad controls the cross-dimensional passageways. We'll go speak to him and you'll be home before you can say 'cotton candy!'"

And easy as that, they were on their way, the little girl leading Lilly by the hand. She had to work hard not to skip. Another friend from Darkwing's St Canard! It was like a fairytale, she had heard of those, with princesses and happy endings and everything! Except presumably in the other universe's fairytales, the bad guys didn't always win.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 6 months ago

As easy as that... And Lord help her, she believed it, going so far as to allow herself a broad smile as she gave the girl's hand a loving squeeze.

"Thank you. Thank you darling, that sounds wonderful!"

And... odd, come to think of it...

"ALL the passageways... your father must be very important here..."



by [Negaduck](#) 6 months ago

"I suppose you could say that..." Gosalyn reflected thoughtfully. "But he's important to me most of all."

With that conclusion, she smiled happily up at her new friend.

And everybody threw up in their mouths a little.

Meanwhile, the Negaverse continued to be a horrible place, but thankfully they didn't see much of it as the girl expertly weaved them through alleyways and staircases, past guards and into a sub-level laboratory. Very evil lair, actually. Except in an evil lair there was normally...

... an evil overlord.

There indeed was Negaduck, holding a soldering iron in his teeth to keep his hands free for adjustments he was making to.. whatever that was. In typical Negaduck style it was all over the top leather and metal work. Rather foreboding, and the steel cuffs indicated an unpleasant purpose, and that was without whatever electrical system he was working into it.

"That's my dad," Gosalyn explained as they peered around the corner. "Lord Negaduck." Sensing, somehow, these two statements could be perceived as mutually contradictory, she offered by way of further explanation, "I'm not meant to call him that, because I 'need to have my spirit broken', but I call him that anyway."

Quietly, she watched him work and curse as the hot solder burnt a fingertip.

"He's the only family I have now."

Turning a brave little face up to Lilly, she asked,

"Would you like me to speak to him for you? If you got here in the first place he must have been

happy with you arriving, but I know he can be frightening sometimes."

Not to me though.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 6 months ago

"Thaaaa... tha- he's your father?" she asked in disbelief, staring at him in a somewhat undignified, slack-jawed, manner. "Wait, -Lord- Negaduck?"

The world didn't make sense anymore! Then again, this was apparently opposite world, so it made all the sense in the world? She could feel a headache building. Taking a few steps back around the corner, lest he turn and see them spying RIGHT THERE, she pulled the little girl close to her and gave her the warmest, most loving hug she could while she tried to think instead of scream.

"You... really don't have anyone else? Just the two of you? ... have you been... alright?"



by [Negaduck](#) 6 months ago

Surprised though she was, Gosalyn returned the hug warmly. She loved hugs. From her perspective though, it was almost more to comfort Lilly than the other way around.

"Oh I'm fine!" she beamed as they parted. "I have the bestest friends in the world here! Like Tank and Uncle Quacky and Bushroot..."

Shaking her head clear, she refocused, touching Lilly's knee gently.

"But that's not why we're here, we're here to get you home!" Another smile. "So you can be with your family. That's what you want, right?"

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 6 months ago

"... yes," she said quietly, still looking nervous and uncertain, not wanting to leave the child to what she had learned. "My husband and baby will worry..."

Bushroot? Quackerjack? It... made sense that they would be good here. That helped, knowing they were there for the girl.

"But I don't want you to get into trouble talking to him on my behalf, Gosalyn," she added, which was where the worry and uncertainty lay. "Oh dear, I don't know what to do. It's not as if I can just ask... he's not exactly a good samaritan..."



by [Negaduck](#) 6 months ago

"You have a baby?" Oh more hands clasping and gorgeousness. It was too much. "That's lovely! Well we definitely have to get you home then!"

Glancing to where the moody mallard sat, the challenge of convincing him of anything didn't seem to phase her.

"It's not a trouble, really. I just need to make sure he's in a good mood."

Before she could be stopped, or have it pointed out how impossible such a task would be, out Gosalyn skipped, dropping to a low courtesy in front of her master.

"Good evening, Sir," she greeted brightly. "Can I get you anything?"

The warm and adoration in her manner was sharply contrasted by the utter loathing in his.

"Oh, it's you." A pause as he apparently attempted to make her head explode from the sheer spite in his glare, but it bounced off her like a sickeningly cheerful rainbow. Giving up on that, Negaduck switched to a diversion strategy. "Yeah, you can get out of my face, how about that?" His gaze travelled up and down her spotlessly pink outfit disapprovingly. "You know how the urge to vomit interferes with my work."

To this display of fatherly hate, she smiled harder.

"Now you know you shouldn't be sitting in the dark for hours," she chided, tut-tuting him goodnaturedly. Tut-tuting the Lord of the Negaverse. "Let me fix that..."

The protest had barely made it out of his throat when she zipped off and the lights came on full blast. Vampire-like, he winced in pain, shielding his face with his cape. "No...!" Not the light, the light!

But she was off again, returning in a heartbeat with a tray of food, perfectly set out with biscuits and a flower in a little vase. How she found a flower in such dead earth was a mystery; although considering the company she kept, maybe not. "Would you like something to eat, perhaps?"

Indicating the carefully presented plate, she explained energetically, "It looks like the stuff you normally eat but it's healthy!" See, celery cut into the shapes of bones! A bunny's head made from tofu!

"No...!" Near terrified, the crime boss squirmed back in his seat... to the point of toppling backwards. Unfortunately he took the tray with his flailing, only for it to land splat on his face.

Choking, spluttering, he had barely made it to his feet when out came another 'helpful' offer from the eager mademoiselle. "Maybe I can sort your knives for you?"

But that very eagerness saw her slip and hit the base of table they were scattered across... of course, sending them flying straight at her dead old dad. It was an utter miracle – if miracles saved horrible evil bastards – that it was his hat that was pegged into the woodwork behind rather than his head.

And that was the straw that broke the camel's mind.

"No, NO, **NO!**" the drake howled, holding his head with the physical pain that this child's presence produced. "No more help! Just.. just tell me what I can do to get you OUT of here!!"

"No..?" she repeated, confused but accepting. "Well okay... I did want to see the other St Canard!" Knowing this was a touchy subject, she hastily added, "Just for a little bit."

Growl. Much temple massaging. "FINE. Just for a bit. See it and come home. But that's the last I want to hear of it!"

Oh the happy. It radiated from her. "Thanks dad!" she gushed, giving him a quick hug and skipping away again before he had a second's chance to throttle the life out of her pigtailed head.

The murderous rage shuddered through him for a moment, but brought it under control. He had bigger problems to deal with. "That kid..." he grumbled, righting his seat and getting back to his project. "Now where the hell was I..."

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 6 months ago

She couldn't believe it. What she had just witnessed was the havoc that seemed to be created every time Negaduck ran into Rosa, but oddly weaponised. It was like the little girl couldn't see the disastrous effect she had at all.

... maybe that was all for the best. Still looking astonished, she followed after Gosalyn and took her

hand. "He said yes. Amazing... ... so are you coming with me for a bit? Really?"

Because that would be lovely! We can have lunch together!



by [Negaduck](#) 6 months ago

Gosalyn seemed to know right where she was going, merrily leading Lilly towards one of the city's landmarks that was still standing. The bridge.

Meanwhile, question caught her – pleasantly as everything was in her world – by surprise. "Oh, I suppose I can!" Her whole focus had been on getting things right for Lilly; it had not even occurred to her to take advantage of the situation. "Keen gear, how exciting!"

Cuter than a cute button on cute day, she tapped her free hand against her bill in thought. "But I don't have long... oh what shall I do there?"

Suddenly, inspiration! "I know! I can knit little sweaters for homeless rats!"

She... was not being sarcastic.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 6 months ago

It took so, so much effort to look serious about that. So much.

"As... wonderful as that sounds, you might not have the time sweetheart," she said, trying to sound as reasonable as one could about a comment like THAT. "... oh! Would you like to have lunch with me? Oh oh oh, we can make cookies. You could even borrow some of my books if you like. I've got ever so many."

And you're such a little darling, I just want to spoil you and love you so much.



by [Negaduck](#) 6 months ago

The disappointment at not being able to look after poor, misunderstood creatures was quickly replaced with over the top joy.

"Really?" Bright eyes sparkled up at Lilly as she gushed in disbelief. "That would be lovely. I don't get to bake much at home."

Who woulda thunk it.

Walking continued briefly through the twists and bends, until they ended up... inside the remains of what appeared to be an art gallery?

"Here we are." Gosalyn politely stepped aside, gesturing to the portal contained within one of the frames. "Your home is just through there!"

It was manners telling her she should have given her cross-dimensional companion the option of going first. Manners. In the Negaverse. It was a mystery how she survived. No wonder she had taken a shine to Lilly.

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by [Lilly Teal](#) 6 months ago

"R-really?" So close! And yet, a picture frame? Feeling rather ridiculous, she carefully poked at it and squeaked as her hand went right through. So this was right! Beaming, she turned to the little girl with shining eyes before skipping right through the portal.

"Let's get going, then!" Gosalyn might not get a chance to come back and see the normalverse again, but she was certainly going to have a memorably happy time, if Lilly had anything to say about it.



by [Negaduck](#) 5 months ago

Clapping her hands joyfully, Gosalyn gave a few energy-filled hops of excitement, then followed right on after.

From everything that had come through that portal, everything that had invested and tormented the Normalverse from its darker, twisted sister universe... would it be ready for this?

NegaGosalyn and Lilly in the one place. It would probably be the largest source of positive energy in the cosmos.

The happy would be overwhelming.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

There was SUNLIGHT, and it was warm and golden. The air was clear and bright, oh goodness, goodness me. Luckily, there had actually been a bit of a crowd around the other end of the portal, so the sudden appearance of the girls went relatively unnoticed in the throng.

Holding onto NegaGosalyn's hand, Lilly led her carefully out into a park for breathing space and a little look around. Misch as well enjoy the view while one could, no?

"What do you think?" she asked, in the manner of someone having a guest over to their house for the first time.

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

The light. For a few seconds she blinked, overwhelmed by it. When her vision adjusted, a whole new world opened up to her.

"Wow," she breathed. "It's even more beautiful than I remember."

Wait, remember? As if it wasn't her first trip across.

Happy. In joyous circles she spun, just taking in the sunshine. The clean air. The lack of bear traps in toy boxes.

Finally, she stopped, smiling sheepishly up at Lilly.

"There's not a lot of sun in the Negaverse," she explained, matter-of-factly rather than morose at the thought. "The glow from the nuclear reactors is toasty though!"

Hopefully not too toasty...

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

"That's alright dear," she laughed, picking her up. "Just enjoy it. Do you want to walk around a little more first or come to the shop?"

Wait...

"... what do you mean 'remember'?"

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

So busy was she staring brightly at everything around them, that Gosalyn took a moment to register the

question.

"Hmm? Oh." Another sheepish grin; this one a child caught doing something they suspected was not allowed, but playing on teh cute to get away with it. "Yeah... before Dad got really mad about people coming over through the pathways, I came here once. All on my own!"

Oooh, more excitement! "And I met Malicia!" Enthusiasm bubbled over. "Have you met Malicia? She's really pretty. Even though she has fangs and these giant claws."

Dear tactless girl, it was amazing you survived for more than two minutes.

Another thought, another burst of excitement! "Do you think he'll marry her?"

Perked up in Lilly's cuddle, huge hopeful eyes gleaming up at her, you try saying 'no, not in the nine circles of Hell' to that face.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

"Of course. Malicia's a friend of mine," Lilly smiled, keeping the girl in her arms as they walked on, and trying very hard to come up with a reasonable answer to that highly unreasonable question.

"Well, that's entirely up to them, isn't it? I do know they seem very fond of each other."

Fond. Yes. That's the word.

"We'll just have to see, won't we?"

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

At this amazingly diplomatic answer, her little face fell somewhat.

"I don't know, he doesn't like the idea very much..." That was a rather mild way to refer to instituting a death sentence for anyone so much as saying the word 'marriage'. "But I thought here might be different..."

This universe was so much warmer and cleaner and happier, why wouldn't it?

Pondering this for a moment, she brightened again.

"What if we found Malicia the perfect wedding dress?" Oh wouldn't that be fun! "And.. and.. maybe she would be so excited, they'd have to do it!"

Another cross-dimensional Gosalyn trait: interfering with their father's lives with some unnecessarily complicated scheme.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

"I wonder how she'd react to a wedding dress..."

After all, she did try to burn down the church I was getting married in. On the other hand, she had had no idea.

"That certainly sounds like an idea to think about," she nodded, swinging open her shop door. "How about we bake for now, and then get down to large projects?"

ALSO. LOOK AT ALL THESE BOOKS.

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

Thankfully, one other cross-dimensional trait was susceptibility to distraction.

The sight of Lilly's collection made her immediately stop and gasp.

"You own a library?" she breathed. "I.. I've never seen one in real life before..."

Unlike her Normalverse counterpart, however, this Gosalyn had a fondness for books. Any shape, any topic.

She was addicted to reading as Lilly was to niceness.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

"If only it were a library. Then I wouldn't have to sell any of them," she smiled urging Gosalyn forward to explore. "It's still a wonderful job, though. ... tell you what, why don't you find something you like, hm?"

It'll be your present, just between us.

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

"Really?" she asked Lilly, unable to believe it. At the encouragement though, she gave a happy little peep, and rushed forward.

"I don't know where to start!" giggled as she examined one pile, then another. In the end she gave up looking at individual books and settled with a wander around the idles. Maybe if she could select a genre, it would narrow it down.

That aside, it was just so lovely to trial her fingertips over the spines as she went, feeling the leather, the stitching, the collective thought bound in those pages. And not a burnt item among them! Amazing.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

And Lilly was just over the moon to have found someone as in love with books as she was. Not only that, but look at how the girl lit up the place when she was excited. Beaming, she closed the door and busied herself a little for the time being, keeping NegaGos in sight in case she needed anything, not wanting to actively intrude.

And oh, look, she had all the things for the baking. This day was shaping up to be wonderful again.

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

After some time, NegaGosalyn peered into the kitchen.

"Er, hello?" Stepping fully into the doorway, it became clear she was holding a book that was probably her own body weight. "Can I have this one, please?"

Hugging it to her chest, the "The Yellow Brick Road to Quantum Gravity" title was just visible. "It's not for me, it's for my friend Tank... he's really smart."

And continued to be really smart despite his parents' best efforts to take up a respectable pastime, like knife throwing.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

Awww, now wasn't that sweet?

"Of course you can, sweetie," she beamed, helping her to set it aside lest she get sweated by it. "I'm sure he'll love it. Did you find anything for yourself? Or other friends?"

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

"Oh no, I couldn't possibly take more than one!" she insisted, although something did catch her gaze off in a pile to the side...

"But, uh, if nobody else wants this one, could I possibly borrow it?" smiled the girl timidly. "It looks so much fun!"

It was.. Flopsy Bunny and Peter Puppy's Adventures in the Land of Cuteness. Awww.

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

"I absolutely insist you take it," she said with a smile, picking up the girl and sitting her on the counter. "My gift to you."

Just don't let your daddy find out, or he'll be wondering where they came from. It's best he not.

"Now. Cookies?"

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

"Oh I don't mind!" she beamed.. beamingly. "I'm happy to do whatever you like."

What.. what sort of child put manners before cookies anyway?

by [Lilly Teal](#) 1 year ago

"Well I'm glad you feel that way, sweetie, but I'd rather you told me what you wanted," she admitted, opening up a recipe book. "Here. Pick whatever you like, I'm sure I've got the ingredients for almost everything. Then we can bake!"

Awwww yeeeeeah baking par-aaaaay.

by [Negaduck](#) 1 year ago

Awwww yeeeeeah baking and niceness and sweetness and light and...

NO! No more. This cannot continue.

So for the sake of this account, let's assume little Gosalyn had a marvellous time, baked lots of cookies, and skipped home to pester her guardian by being extra-chirpy. All thanks to Lilly and her accursed NormalVerse.

Never fear, no doubt he would be returning to put an end to all that sunshine and happiness soon.