

A close-up shot of a middle-aged man with a balding head, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a blue patterned tie. He is laughing heartily, with his eyes closed and his mouth wide open, showing his teeth. He is leaning back against a large, white, textured cushion or pillow. The background is slightly out of focus, showing a dark, geometric patterned wall and a white ceiling with a grid of recessed lights.

WOW. YOU
WEREN'T KIDDING,
MARY.

HE
DEFINITELY
WENT OUT
SMILING.

YEAH, IT'S...
NOT OFF-PUTTING
AT ALL.



THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR SAYS THEY TRIED THEIR BEST TO GIVE HIM A MORE SOLEMN LOOK...

...BUT THAT'S THE BEST THEY COULD DO.

WELL, HE LIVED WITH A SMILE, SO...

THAT'S WHAT I SAID.






WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT? HE NEVER
SMILED IN
PUBLIC.

NOT NOW,
WALTER.



AND... THIS IS
THE BOOK YOU
WERE TALKING
ABOUT?

YES
IT IS.




CAN
YOU TELL
US ABOUT
IT?

POP-POP
SAID IT WAS FOR
JOHN AND YOUR
EYES ONLY,
WALETER,
AND ...

SHOOT, THE
FLOWERS ARE
HERE. EXCUSE
ME.

OF
COURSE,
DEAR.



BRIAN
ALWAYS HAD A
DARK SENSE OF
HUMOR...

...BUT
THIS TAKES
THE FUCKING
CAKE.

THIS GRIN IS
GOING TO GIVE HALF
THE PEOPLE HERE
NIGHTMARES.

OH, BRIAN.
STILL MAKING
US FOOLS EVEV
FROM THE
GRAVE.

A man with white hair, wearing a grey suit jacket, white shirt, and tie, sits at a wooden table in a church. He is looking at a large, thick book with a highly decorative, patterned cover. The church interior features dark wooden pews and arched windows in the background. The scene is lit with soft, natural light.

AND YOU
KNOW WHAT
THIS BOOK IS,
RIGHT?

THAT BINDING
IS A DEAD
GIVEAWAY.

THIS
BOOK...

THAT
IT IS.



YUP. EVER SINCE HIS SIXTIETH... THE YEAR JOAN DIED.

HE'S BEEN WRITING THIS BOOK FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS.

A man with white hair and a grey suit is shown in a close-up shot. He is in a cathedral-like setting with stone arches and a tiled floor. There are several speech bubbles overlaid on the image, indicating a conversation. The man has a serious expression.

WELL,
THERE'S NO
POINT PUTTING
IT OFF.

WE'LL BE
BACK BEFORE
ANYONE NOTICES
ANYTHING.

I DON'T
KNOW,
WALTER...

WE
MADE A
VOW,
DIDN'T
WE?



BUT THIS
ISN'T THE THREE
MUSKETEERS, HUCK
FINN, OR TREASURE
ISLAND...

THIS
IS A BOOK
PERSONALLY
WRITTEN BY
BRIAN
LEVEFE.

OUR BEST
FRIEND SINCE
WE WERE
FIVE...

...WHO WE
MADE A VOW
WITH TO-

TO JUMP
INTO A BOOK OF
THEIR CHOOSING
AT THEIR
PASSING.

EXACTLY.
YOU'D EXPECT
HIM TO DO THE
SAME IF IT WERE
YOU LYING
HERE.

BUT WE
DON'T KNOW
WHAT THIS
BOOK IS.

AND
JUMPING
BLINDLY INTO
SOMETHING
LIKE-

A man with short, grey hair is shown from the back, looking at an old, ornate book on a wooden table. The book has a gold-tooled cover with intricate patterns. The scene is lit with soft, natural light from a window on the right.

SOMETHING
THAT WILL LET US
SEE OUR FRIEND
AGAIN.

THAT'S
WHAT THIS
IS.

I BET IT'S
HIS FAVORITE
MEMORIES OF US
GROWING UP IN
GRESHAM.

THE WEST
GRESHAM
BLUNCH...

A close-up of a man's face, likely from a video game or movie, with a serious expression. He has short, graying hair and is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored collared shirt. The background is a textured wall with a repeating geometric pattern. Overlaid on the image are four speech bubbles with colored borders: a green one at the top, a larger green one below it, a blue one to the left, and another green one at the bottom. The text inside the bubbles is in a simple, hand-drawn font.

THE
BOOK IS
A GIFT,
JOHN.

AND I'M
JUMPING IN WITH OR
WITHOUT YOU, SO
WHICH IS IT?

OF
COURSE,
I'LL JUMP
IN.

I KNEW
YOU WOULD,
BUDDY.



READY?

ALWAYS.

A cinematic scene set in a grand library with high ceilings and arched doorways. Two men are seated at a wooden table. The man on the left is balding with short grey hair, wearing a white shirt and a grey blazer. The man on the right has a full grey beard and hair, wearing a grey turtleneck and a dark grey blazer. They are both looking down at a thick, ornate book with a patterned cover that sits on the table. Their hands are resting on the top of the book. Two speech bubbles are positioned above the book, containing text. The background shows a long staircase and a large wooden door.

STORIES ARE
A DOOR...

TO WORLDS
UNENDING
BEYOND...

A screenshot from a video game showing two men in a lecture hall. The man on the left is balding with grey hair on the sides, wearing a dark blue t-shirt. The man on the right has grey hair and a beard, wearing a grey t-shirt. They are both looking down with their hands held out in front of them. A speech bubble is positioned between them, containing the text "...WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES.". The background consists of wooden bleachers with several water bottles and a red can on them.

...WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES.

UM...
OKAY.

THIS
IS...

SOME
KIND OF...
LECTURE
HALL?

YEAH. A
UNIVERSITY
CLASSROOM.

AND WHO
THE HELL ARE
WE SUPPOSED
TO BE?

LOOKS
LIKE WE
WALKED RIGHT
OUT OF A
GYM.

GASP

A GYM
FOR MUCH
YOUNGER
MEN!

YOU'RE
RIGHT!

BRIAN'S
GIVING US A
CHANCE TO BE
YOUNG
AGAIN!



DO YOU
KNOW WHO
YOU ARE?

I'M...
JACKSON
WALTERS.



SENIOR AT
CASTLE ROCK
UNIVERSITY.



I'M... I'M
TWENTY-TWO!



AND IN GREAT SHAPE FROM THE LOOK OF IT!



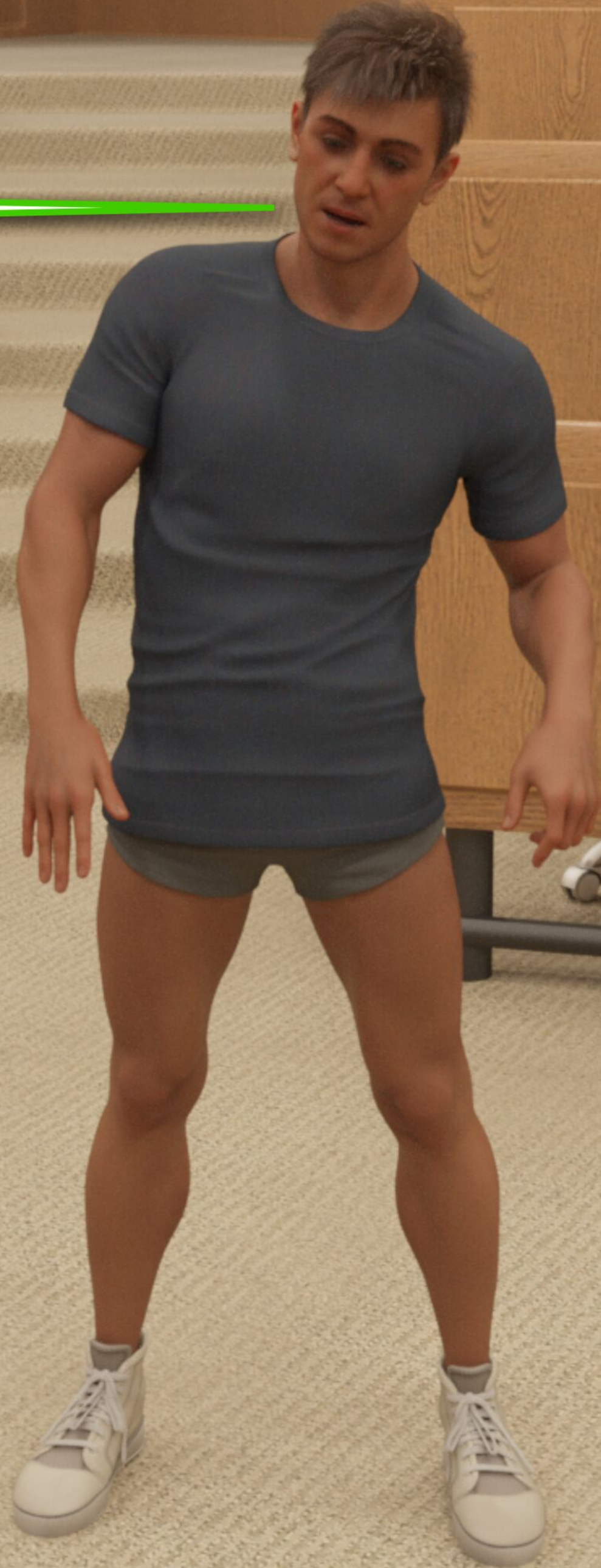
GODDAMN!



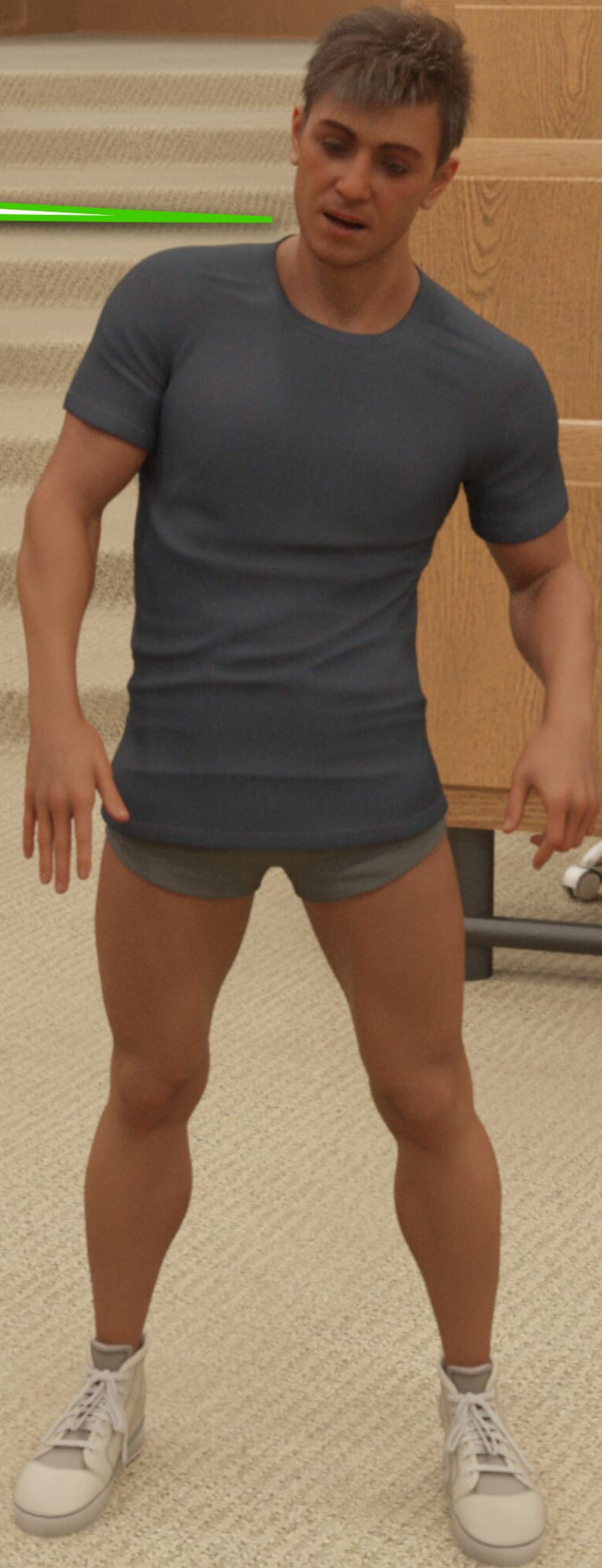
ALL MY
BACK PAIN
IS GONE
AND...



DO YOU
SEE THESE
MUSCLES!?



JACKSON, I
MEAN... *I'M* ON
THE FOOTBALL
TEAM.



I'M A
RUNNING BACK
WHO'S REALLY
POPULAR...



...BUT NOT
THE BRIGHTEST
BULB ON THE
SHELF.



BUT WHO
THE HELL
CARES ABOUT
THAT WHEN I
HAVE A BODY
LIKE THIS!?

BRIAN
REALLY CAME
THROUGH FOR
US, BUDDY!

I'LL
SAY!



I'M
KELLEN
JONES!

A 3D rendered character with blonde hair, wearing a grey t-shirt, blue shorts, and white sneakers, stands in a lecture hall. The room features rows of wooden desks and grey chairs. A blue speech bubble is positioned to the right of the character, containing the text "STAR QUARTERBACK FOR THE TEAM!".


STAR
QUARTERBACK
FOR THE
TEAM!

A man with blonde hair, wearing a grey t-shirt, blue shorts, and white sneakers, stands in a lecture hall. He is looking down with a surprised expression. A speech bubble with a green border points to him from the left. The lecture hall has rows of wooden desks and grey chairs. There are water bottles and coffee cups on the desks in the background.

WHOA!
YOU'RE
GETTING WAY
BIGGER THAN
ME!

A man with blonde hair, wearing a grey t-shirt, blue shorts, and white sneakers, stands in a lecture hall. He is looking down with a slightly concerned or thoughtful expression. The lecture hall has rows of wooden desks and grey chairs. A speech bubble is positioned to his right, containing the text "AND YOU'RE RIGHT!".

AND
YOU'RE
RIGHT!



ALL THE
PAIN IS
LEAVING!



I HAVEN'T
FELT HIS GOOD
IN YEARS...

TO BE CONTINUED...