

Malinda's Experiment Day 5

Despite the light hearted visit from her friend, the past few days have been incredibly exhausting to Malinda. Every moment she was awake, outside of the time she spent with her brother, was running numbers, testing experiments and running back and forth to the lab.

Late last night, Malinda snuck back into her apartment, exhausted but able to get into bed without much disturbance. She barely even recalled pulling her blanket up as her eyes and body gave into the comfort of her bed and within moments the sun was breaking through the window.

"Morning... again." Malinda said, rubbing her eyes as the warm wash of light in the room signaled it was the next day. The slight drool from her mouth was wiped away in the same motion it took to find her glasses nearby, and she lifted her body off the bed. The simple act of standing up had Malinda feeling sluggish and with her eyes still slightly hazy, she made her way into the family room where Jake was just waking up himself.

Jake laid there looking up as Malinda slogged her way across the room to him.

"Morning Sis" Jake said, up to his zombie-like sibling.

She began to greet Jake, but her voice was stolen from a yawn that put tears at the corner of her eyes. Shaking her head slightly in a failed attempt to gain full composure. She lifted her glasses, wiping away the moisture and refocused on greeting her brother.

"Hey Jake. I hope you slept well. We have a big day ahead being so close, so I'm going to need you to come get ready at the same time." Malinda announced, catching Jake off guard.

"Wait, with you?" Jake's question asked and ignored by the sleepy sister.



Her eyes barely focused, fighting back another yawn she picked up Jake roughly and began making her way to the bathroom.

“Uh, Malinda, you, ok?” Jake asked watching his sister's lumbering footsteps instill little confidence that she was completely aware.

“Yes.” Malinda said, fumbling with the door knob as she entered the small bathroom, flicking on the lights.

Haphazardly, Malinda placed Jake up on her shoulder as she began shuffling through the things in the drawer of her vanity. Jake could feel the oil in her hair. Malinda hadn't had a chance to properly wash her hair in days and the slick feeling of her hair was both evident of this slight hygienic issue, but also somewhat of a hazard as now his grip was less than secure.

Jake could hear her frustration echoing through the room but before he could call out he found himself losing his grip.

“Woah!” Was all he managed before falling from her shoulder and a slight feeling of falling before an abrupt wompf on something soft and warm.



Having triumphed in her search for her hair brush, Malinda quickly realized her brother wasn't stable. Leaning back, reflexively she tried to help him stabilize himself, but in the end she ending up using her body to catch him, much would an unprepared outfielder trying to catch a ball.

Another crisis averted, and Jake secure for the moment, Malinda realized how much she truly missed having her apartment to herself. A girl her age shouldn't be looking after a clumsy brother who can't mind his own business. She should be able to wake up and sleep walk through a drawn out morning of pampering.

Coffee would not be needed to day as the realization her brother was nestled in her cleavage gave her all the adrenaline she needed.

“It’s time we get you fixed Jake...” She said peeling him out. I can’t keep working all night and trying to take care of you during the day.



“Ok Sis, I understand!” Jake said in a more panicked tone. Dangling from her fingers it was the first time Jake truly felt the urgency of the situation. His sister had limits and even the smallest distraction could be dire.

Malinda took Jake back out to the couch and left a washcloth with an opened bottle of water. “Clean yourself up and make yourself comfy, I am going to get ready and ill have someone come check in on you today. We are almost there; I just need some time with no distractions.” She said, not looking back for a response. The door to the bathroom closed and the rush of hot water into the shower could be heard from outside. Jake steeled himself, knowing that truly the responsibility for his own safety was now in his hands and he needed to be sure that even with the best intentions, someone could make this situation so much worse purely due to his diminished state.

“I’ll do my part Sis...”