

"Download of programming complete." said the spare Rochelle as the pattern of flashing LEDs in her opened chest panel changed once more.

Laurie unplugged and packed away the connection cables and turned to work at a different console for a few minutes. After that she turned to Rochelle and said "Please install and execute program SHBP2-7b.T83."

"Yes Laurie." she said. Her lights turned off momentarily, then came on solid while a series of loud beeps came from her body. After several seconds of this, she announced "program SHBP2-7b.T83 installed and executed successfully."

"How do you feel Rochelle?"

"I feel fine. I am ready to function in Human Simulation Mode."

"Good." said Laurie. "Please close your chest panel and get dressed in garment series 6D. Report to Robot Control Station 2 for additional programming."

"Yes Laurie." said the newly activated Rochelle as she reached up to close her open panel. She turned her beautiful naked body and walked gracefully toward the staircase. Laurie remained standing in the same position, unmoving. Her eyes were still aimed at the same point in space, her static expression was still displayed on her face as Rochelle exited the basement and the lights went out.

Not long after, this Rochelle emerged from the unassuming looking suburban house. She was dressed smartly in a stylish light blue skirt and jacket combo with a frilly white blouse and natural coloured nylons. Her matching heels clicked as she took the keys from her purse and walked toward the parked minivan. She got in and started it up.

Her head pivoted from left to right, surveying the situation as traffic law code was loaded into her memory. All of her systems and programs were running smoothly so far. Her optical scanners zoomed in on the details revealed by the mirrors as her processors analyzed the data and issued commands to her servo motors. The robot drove the van to the edge of the driveway and gathered more data before proceeding down the road to Robot Control Station 2.

The trip over was also smooth, with no serious problems cropping up. These complicated androids had been tested and retested to ensure their competence while operating heavy machinery. Rochelle was far more dependable in that respect than any human could be. No feelings of pride over this fact had been programmed into her, though. She parked the van in this other house's driveway and found the keys for the door without any feelings at all running through her advanced circuitry.

She opened the door, walked through, and locked it behind her. The layout of the house was also programmed into her, so she didn't waste any time in finding the basement door.

As soon as she was downstairs, Maria put down her tools and said "Hello, Rochelle, how do you feel?"

The new Rochelle stood still and responded "I feel fine. Thank you."

Maria turned away from the worktable where she had layed the various parts of the original Rochelle's body. "Please sit down beside the main computer console." she said as she walked over.

"Yes Maria." said Rochelle as she went and sat down.

Maria readied the connection cables and said "Please unbutton your blouse and open your chest panel."

Rochelle did as Maria ordered, and the programming scene was repeated. This time, the new Rochelle was updated with the old Rochelle's data and memory up to the previous day. All of that robot's experiences with people and situations were copied into this new chassis. Today's data was still untransferable, so this pretty version would have to fill in some blanks at the office tomorrow.

With the data transfer complete, Maria unplugged the cables and put them neatly away again. The spare Rochelle sat staring straight ahead with her chest panel open while Maria went back to work on the partially dismantled original.