

Dispatches from a Body Perfect World

JENNY TROUT

Forty New 3-D Garment Printers Employed at Midtown Clothing Depot

January 26, 2801

Ames, Fourth Sector

The Clothing Depot located in the midtown sector has announced plans to update its garment printing software and install forty new, state-of-the-art 3-D garment printers as early as this spring. The machines will allow citizens to simply scan their body shapes, rather than requiring them to enter their measurements manually.

Clothing Depot head officer Gail Shaikh assures customers that the overall process of selection and checkout will remain the same. "You'll still go to the dress section or the shirt section, get your item number, try out the

look on the holomodel. That part will all be the same.” Shaikh says the garment construction and printing stage will face the most changes. “You’ll still enter the style number, but the optical intelligence sensors will scan you and size the garment appropriately.”

Says Shaikh, “The problem is that most people don’t measure themselves, so when it comes time to buy clothes, they end up with pieces that aren’t perfectly tailored to their particular shape. That will all change with the new printers.” The Protectorate hopes this will reduce the wait time for citizens and lessen the amount of waste due to user error.

New Holoplay Examines the Severity of Ancient Body Beliefs

February 8, 2801

Detroit, Seventh Sector

Imagine an era where citizens are so concerned with the size and shape of their bodies that the obsession drives the sales of everything from exercise equipment to books, even surgery. *Shrink*, a new holoplay from acclaimed director Amanda Acai, brings this fascinating culture to life, following the stories of four woman-identifying, twenty-first-century humans.

“The interesting thing we see in ancient literature is the theme of fear of aging. These people didn’t seem to



fear the ends of their lives as much as they dreaded non-medical effects of aging." Acai says these women were "doing everything in their power to avoid loose upper arms, lines on their faces."

Some, such as acclaimed performer Rose Sena's character, Charlotte, resorted to surgical modifications to escape the relentless pressure of ancient society. "This was such a cruel time because this wasn't a choice they made freely, like the modifications of today. This was an expectation, that women would not age."

The holoplay will air Wednesday, August 5, at 20:00 on Historiogram.

Relics of the Fourth Dark Age Arrive at Twelfth Sector Museum

May 24, 2801

New Haven, Twelfth Sector

Ancient relics from Earth's Fourth Dark Age arrived at a history museum in the Twelfth Sector today. Curator Rhonda Warburton describes the collection as a peek into a time archaeologists are just beginning to understand.

"This is a picture of an era that is so different to what we know now. I think it will surprise, and frankly shock, a lot of people."

The exhibit puts some six hundred objects on display.

From two-dimensional image screens to a rudimentary stim-brewing device known as a "Mr. Coffee," the artifacts paint a clearer picture of how ancient humans lived.

"We see a difference in costume. Their clothing was gendered, and it appears to have followed some caste system." Warburton says that those with smaller bodies were given smaller clothing, with less protection from the elements. "There is some debate in the archeological community over whether this is a sign that these people with thinner bodies were lower-class citizens or if our earlier beliefs about the emphasis on body weight in their culture were too extreme."

Among these household items on display are body-modification devices such as scales that measured weight and nonbiodegradable packaging from nutritionally devoid food. Warburton says citizens viewing the exhibit may recognize the contributions of ancient man to our modern world: "Certainly, when you look at the way their food was labeled and the nutritional information they were struggling to impart, it's very similar to our current system. Of course, ours is based on individual genetic makeup, but the foundation is there. This primitive people's cultish devotion to the ideal form gave us nutritional science, and we can't overlook that contribution lightly."

The Twelfth Sector Museum of Human History is open 08:00 to 03:00 Saturdays and Sundays, 11:00 to 22:00 Monday through Friday.



Last Human Bearing the “Vanity Gene” Has Died

June 1, 2801

Seattle, Ninth Sector

Harley Boye, the last known human to bear the “Vanity Gene,” has died of natural causes at age 217. The gene, known to scientists as *Narcissus Ioci*, caused mass global strife before researchers isolated it in the year 2779. Retroepigeneticists were able to immunize the public against the effects, but Boye was one of the hundreds whose genetic makeup could not be altered. A 2790 film documented the challenges faced by these individuals, such as obsessive removal of body hair, insistence on assigning gender to clothing and cosmetics, and modifying their natural shapes with restrictive garments.

Says one caregiver, “She constantly worried that she was getting fat but couldn’t explain what that meant. She expected us to, I don’t know, almost instinctively know what she was talking about. It was very sad, very difficult to understand.”

Funeral services will be held at the Twelfth Street memorial tree nursery. Boye’s memory tree will be transferred to the Sector Six municipal park in the spring. Boye’s child, Reginald Anderson, said he hoped that his mother’s legacy would “not be a memory of her illness but a reminder that we should be thankful every day that science has given us such a valuable gift.”

Model Returns to the Catwalk After Protectorate-Endorsed Parental Leave

October 12, 2801

San Francisco, Ninth Sector

Model Ivana Carera, a woman-identifying citizen from Sector Nine, made her much-anticipated return to the runway this week after a year of Protectorate-Endorsed Parental Leave upon the birth of her second child.

"I was so happy to return to work," Carera stated, adding, "I fully support a citizen taking the full five-year leave offered by the Protectorate, but I was getting a bit bored at home."

Carera, forty-two, walked for Ennis Swimwear.

Jenny Trout is a blogger and USA Today bestselling author. She is a proud Michigander, mother of two, and wife to the only person alive capable of tolerating her for extended periods of time. Visit her blog at jennytrout.com.

