

Growing Her

By
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BEN eats a bowl of Trix cereal on the couch. The light from an offscreen television illuminates his face. He brings the spoon to his mouth, but slowly places it back in the bowl. He grabs the remote and turns up the volume so INFOMERCIAL ACTOR can be heard.

INFOMERCIAL ACTOR

There are millions of single women around the world that come in all shapes and sizes, so when faced with the daunting task of finding the perfect one, most guys could use a little help.

How about growing your own? With Grow-a-Girlfriend, a man can simply plant a customized tablet into the ground, and in 24 hours, his dream girl will be fully grown.

From that moment on, she's available to you whenever you need her. Whether you want an exhilarating day of adventure or a romantic picnic on the water, your Grow-a-Girlfriend will be there giving you her full, undivided attention and listen to what you have to say.

Satisfaction with your results is guaranteed or else you'll get your money back. Take the mystery out of meeting that special someone, and grow a girlfriend yourself. Call toll-free to order by credit card today!

The faint sound of hold music plays in the background. Ben absentmindedly spins around in a chair while continuing to eat Trix, but now straight from the box. A sticky note on the box catches his attention. The note reads, "I switched shifts with Susan. Won't be home till 10. Love, Mom". Ben places it under his desk where several dozen similar sticky notes can be seen. He then returns to his computer and scrolls through the Testimonials page of the website, studying the happy couples' eyes, smiles and mannerisms in particular. He gets put off hold.

CALLER

Alright, your payment has been approved, Ben. All I need is your uploaded picture.

BEN

What was that?

CALLER

Grow-a-Girlfriend requires a picture of your person of interest to get a general idea about the physical qualities that are most important to you in a romantic partner.

BEN

Can I have a second?

CALLER

Of course!

Ben opens a new tab and Google searches "Pretty girls". He scrolls through the images, but is unsatisfied with the results.

CALLER

It can always be someone you know personally.

BEN

Really?

CALLER

Yes, that is our most popular option.

Ben opens his photos and selects a group picture. He carefully screenshots HER.

BEN

Do you have overnight delivery?

3 INT. LIVING ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

3

Ben tears the top flaps of the box. He sifts through various papers and throws aside a bottle of fertilizer. At the bottom of the box, he finds the capsule.

He inserts an instructional CD into the player. The same actor from before appears on screen. Ben follows his instructions religiously.

INFOMERCIAL ACTOR

Hey there! Thank you for choosing Grow-a-Girlfriend to satisfy your manly needs.

BEN

Gross.

INFOMERCIAL ACTOR

First, to get started, pick a spot of loose soil and dig! Work the soil to a depth of about 3 inches. Then, place your custom tablet in the hole, and cover it with your excess soil. Make sure to water frequently throughout the day. Once the evening rolls around, you'll know it's time for the first fertilizer application. Spread our special fertilizer by hand, and expect to see results by the next morning!

4 EXT. GARDEN - THE NEXT MORNING

4

Ben rushes to the spot, but discovers there is nothing there. He begins to have doubts.

5 INT. LIVING ROOM - AN HOUR LATER

5

Ben desperately kneels in front of the TV.

INFOMERCIAL ACTOR

If all else fails, consider upgrading to the Deluxe Fertilizer! It's slow-release, encourages more growth in all the right places and is good for the environment! Do you have a green thumb? Call now and with the purchase of a new capsule, you will get a second one for free. You won't want to miss out on this limited time offer...

Ben stares at the TV in disbelief. He is overcome by feelings of disappointment in himself. He turns off the TV and ejects the CD, breaking it in half. He takes his shovel anticipating to dig up the capsule.

He walks outside, but suddenly stops and holds motionless. He drops the shovel. He sees that a single flower has grown in the spot where he planted the capsule.

Ben plucks the flower from the ground.

6 EXT. HER HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

6

Ben walks with newfound confidence. He comes to a door and knocks. After a few beats, Her answers the door with a smile that radiates inner and outer beauty. Ben takes a deep breath.

CUT TO BLACK:

THE END