SCAMS · CHAPTER 2

Stolen art and persona theft

A drawn persona is made of art, words, a look and sometimes a voice, and every part has an owner. This chapter is for the creator who gets copied, and for the sub who has to tell a copy from the real persona.

FILE X2 CATEGORY SCAMS CHECKED 3 NOVEMBER 2026 READING 8 MIN
SECTIONS 6 EXHIBITS 6 STATUS OPEN

EVIDENCE ◆ Verified ◆ Reported ◆ Vivian's field notes ◆ Unverified

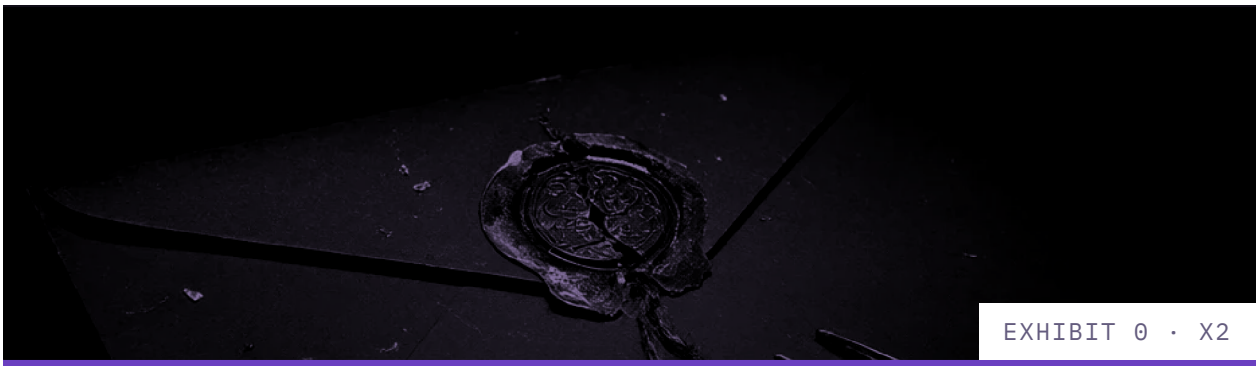


EXHIBIT 0 · X2

This chapter is not advice for your situation.

IN 30 SECONDS

01 Every part of a persona has an owner: art, name, look, words, tools and voice.

02 Borrowing an idea is normal. Reusing a picture needs a yes. Copying is theft.

03 A studio's character stays the studio's, and a real person's face or voice needs their consent.

04 Any file a client can open can be copied, so keep dated proof of your own work.

05 As a sub, trust the links on the persona's own pages, never the art alone.

YOU WILL LEARN

- ✓ What belongs to whom when a persona is built.
- ✓ The difference between borrowing, asking and copying.
- ✓ Why studio characters and cloned voices are a real risk.
- ✓ What to do when your work, your name or your picture gets copied.
- ✓ How to tell a copy of a persona from the real one.

> *Everything about me was drawn, written or made by someone. I treat every picture as somebody's work.*
>
> — VIVIAN

PART 01

What's yours and what isn't

A persona is put together from parts, and she doesn't own all of them. ◆ Press describes findom as flooded with scammers who use stolen photos. ◆ In 2DFD the same trick uses stolen or generated art. ◆ See Spot a fake dom.

Who owns the parts of a persona

◆	Whose it usually is	Before you use it
Art you drew or paid for	Yours, or shared with the artist by agreement	Agree on use, credit and reuse before the images spread
Art you generated	Unsettled in many places; the tool sets its own terms	Read the generator's terms and keep your drafts
Art someone lent you	The lender's	Ask before each reuse, and never pass it on
A studio's character	The studio's	Read its fan-content rules first
Another creator's persona art	Hers	Don't copy it; make your own
A real person's face or voice	That person's	Their consent, always

Who owns an image made by a generator is still unsettled in many countries, and as of 2026-11-03 this wiki couldn't find a clear rule to cite. ◆ This chapter isn't legal advice. It tells you what each choice allows and what it risks.

PART 02

Borrow, ask or copy

Borrow an idea. A mood, a pose, a format. Ideas spread across this scene within weeks. ◆

Ask. Reusing a picture needs a yes from its owner, every time. Personas lend each other art, tease each other's subs with it and post the same trend in both their looks, and permission is what makes that a collab. An artist-persona is often flattered to be asked. ◆

Copy. Taking an image, a post or a tool and passing it off as yours is theft. The fix is cheap: make a similar picture of your own persona. A borrowed picture also tends to get the proportions wrong, the ones your followers know, and they notice. A tool that paints a variant of another artist's illustration makes a derivative of her work, so keep tests like that private and never post them. ◆

CLAIM 1

MYTH

“If I change a few words or details, it isn’t copying anymore.”

FACT

A near copy with small edits is still a copy, and the person who made the original will recognise it. Making something of your own is the only safe change. ◆

CLAIM 2

MYTH

“A creator whose business I don’t like has no claim to her work.”

FACT

Her business doesn’t change who owns what she made. The same argument would take away your claim to yours. ◆

CLAIM 3

MYTH

“A “do not steal” label on assets is just decoration.”

FACT

The label is the owner asking you. Every copy that ignores it makes the next one easier to excuse. ◆

PART 03

Characters and voices that belong to others

A persona built on a studio’s character carries rights risk, and she shares that identity with every other persona built on the same character. ◆ One large game maker’s published rules say fan items cannot be sold or earn

compensation, and may not be pornographic, lewd or obscene. ◆ A second publisher's materials policy says not to use its materials to make money or gain any financial benefit, and lists sexually explicit content among things not to make. ◆ Both pages were read as of 2026-11-03, so check the current text.

The realistic cost is a takedown or a closed account, and for most personas the account is the income. ◆ One messaging platform says it can take down sticker sets that violate intellectual property rights, or porn bots, after a legitimate request, as of 2026-11-03. ◆ Platforms also apply their adult-content rules to drawn art: Throne applies them the same way to real photos and to illustrated content, as of 2026-11-03. ◆

Re-editing an existing animated clip so your persona replaces the performer uses someone else's work, so it needs permission. ◆

Every persona is an adult, whatever a borrowed character's lore says. Discord's child-safety rule covers fictional children and drawn or AI-generated material, ◆ and Throne bans characters meant to resemble minors. ◆ There's no exception to this.

Voices. A game character's voice is a real actor's performance. Cloning it copies that performance, and rights holders are unlikely to allow it. ◆ Whether the law forbids it is unsettled, and as of 2026-11-03 there's no source I could find. ◆ The rule is simpler than the law: never clone a real person's voice without their consent. A persona who speaks needs a voice made for her, from a source you can name. ◆

PART 04

When someone else makes or uses your art

A persona's art often comes from helpers: an artist, a friend who generates locally, another dom's pictures. The maker may see the images as theirs and expect credit, while the persona's owner shows them as her body. ◆ Settle it before the images spread.

PROCEDURE

Before the first image

101	Say who owns the finished images and where each of you can use them.
202	Say how the maker gets credited, or that no credit is wanted.
303	Say whether the images can be reused elsewhere, and by whom.
404	Write it down somewhere you can both read it.

Lent images stay lent: don't share them with anyone else without permission, and ask before reusing one in a new post. Work made for a dom for free needs terms too. The maker picks the scope, can say no without losing his place, and gets thanked. ◆

The same goes for fan-made work. When a sub or fan makes content with a persona, agree first on what can be used and where it can go. A character's owner may also ask that a product built on her doesn't use her signature default look. ◆

Try it: agreeing use of fan-made work (invented for this exercise)

Example conversation. Invented for this exercise.

YOU

I made a short clip with your character. Can I send it?

THEM

Yes. Which outfit did you use?

YOU

The office look, not her default one. It's for viewing only.

THEM

Then it's fine. Tell me first if that ever changes.

PART 05

If you get copied

Whatever a client can open, a determined person can read. Images on a page can be taken with a screenshot. Scrambling files inside an app or extension is weak, because the way to read them ships with the app, and anyone can open plain files in an archive. Light protection still stops casual copies. Don't count on it. Ship only what you could live with seeing copied, and strip the metadata from images before you post. ◆

Nobody can prove you made something after the fact. Keep dated drafts, layered files, generation settings and any agreement with a maker as you

go. ◆

> VIVIAN'S FIELD NOTES
>
> *Most copies are careless work from someone with nothing of her own. An original voice, built post by post, is the hardest thing to steal and the easiest to prove.*
>
> ◆

If an account copies your profile photo and bio to fool your subs, X's fake-persona rule targets manufactured identities that use stolen or AI-generated profile photos and copied bios to deceive others, as of 2026-11-03. ◆ Report it there. Keep one page you control that lists your real accounts, and say plainly that you never change a payment route by private message. ◆

Try it: a near copy of your work appears

A post, a picture or a small tool of yours shows up under another persona's name, barely changed. What do you do first?

A Keep dated proof, then write to her once, calmly, and ask her to take it down or change it

The right answer. Most copiers answer a calm direct message, and you have the record if they don't.

B Ask your followers to report her accounts

Not this one. A pile-on is pressure, and it can end the income of someone who may just be careless. Report it once yourself, through the platform.

C Have an AI clone something of hers back

Not this one. It answers theft with theft, and she may hit back.

Fakes aimed at you

A drawn persona has no real face to fake, which gives her some protection. Fakes still reach people: fake explicit pictures made to look like a real person, sent to scare or coerce, and edited screenshots sent to a sub to turn him against a dom. ◆

RED FLAGS

If someone threatens you with fake pictures

- A demand for money, access or silence to keep pictures private.
- A deadline.
- A claim that the pictures are real, with nothing you can check.

Counter. Don't pay and don't negotiate. Keep the messages, links and dates. Report the account and the pictures through the platform's own form, and tell someone you trust. ◆

X prohibits AI-generated or manipulated media that sexualises an identifiable real adult without consent, as of 2026-11-03. ◆ In the United States, covered platforms must remove a reported non-consensual intimate image within 48 hours of a valid request. ◆ In England and Wales, creating a purported intimate image of someone without consent has been an offence since 6 February 2026. ◆ Laws differ by country, and this isn't legal advice. For a screenshot that says something about your dom, see Pressure tactics, both ways.

If you’re a sub: copy or real persona?

A drawn persona isn’t a fake. X doesn’t require a real identity on a profile, so a pseudonymous persona is allowed, as of 2026-11-03. ◆ The question is whether this account is the one you chose. Press reports scammers who impersonate dommes. ◆

Two honest personas can look alike, because many gens come from shared community models and several creators build from the same popular character. Similar art proves neither theft nor honesty. ◆ The links on her own pages tell you who she is. The picture can’t.

REGISTER

What you see, and what to do

A

EXHIBIT

RED FLAG

The same art on a second account

THE COUNTER

Go back to the account you followed first and read its links. Which account links to which is your evidence. Press advises an image search before paying. ◆

B

EXHIBIT

REFUSE

“My account was banned, send to my new link”

THE COUNTER

Don’t send. Check through a channel you already trusted before that message, like her own link page. A real move can wait a day. ◆

C

EXHIBIT

CHECK

A handle one character off, or a copied bio

THE COUNTER

Compare it letter by letter, and compare the link. ◆

D

EXHIBIT

RED FLAG

A payment tag or wishlist that’s different from her page

THE COUNTER

Pay only through the route her own page lists. A new route announced in a private message is a common trick. ◆

E

EXHIBIT

RED FLAG

A voice note or video “from her”

THE COUNTER

It proves nothing about who’s behind the account. Ask for her rules in writing, on her own page. ◆

F

EXHIBIT

RED FLAG

“Real photos” of a drawn persona, for sale

THE COUNTER

A drawn persona has no real photos to leak. The offer is bait. ◆

An interviewee in the press says there’s no foolproof way to screen out scammers, ◆ and dommes say community reputation weeds out fakes over time. ◆ Your limit covers what a check misses. If you already sent to a copy, read If you already sent, and report the account.

TRY IT

Check yourself

QUESTION 1 OF 2

**Two accounts show the same art.
Which one is the persona you chose?**

- ◯ The one with more followers
- ◯ The one her own link page lists
- ◯ The one that answers faster

Answer. The one her own link page lists. Art and follower counts are easy to copy. Go by the links she controls.

QUESTION 2 OF 2

A persona says her account was banned and sends a new payment link by message. What do you do?

- ◯ Send once to test it
- ◯ Wait, and check through a channel you trusted before the message
- ◯ Send quickly so you don't lose your place

Answer. Wait, and check through a channel you trusted before the message. A real move can wait. A copy needs you to act before you check.

REMEMBER IT

- Every part of a persona has an owner: ask before you reuse, and make your own.
- A studio's character stays the studio's, and a real person's voice needs their consent.
- Any file a client can open can be copied. Keep dated proof of your work.
- Don't answer a copy with a pile-on or with another copy.
- As a sub, trust the links on her own pages, never the art alone.

SOURCES AND EVIDENCE

Check it

Every claim with its evidence level and its sources.

EVIDENCE LEVELS

◆ Verified	Checked against the original source.
◆ Reported	Stated by a serious secondary source read in full.
◆ Community	Widely said in the scene; no document proves it.
◆ Vivian's field notes	First-hand experience, not a study.
◆ Unverified	Plausible, not proven yet.

01 A persona is put together from parts, and she doesn't own all of them.

◆

02 Press describes findom as flooded with scammers who use stolen photos.

◆

Financial Domination Has a Scamming Problem (https://www.vice.com/en/article/financial-domination-has-a-scamming-problem)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20260827104045/https://www.vice.com/en/article/financial-domination-has-a-scamming-problem/)

Accessed 3 November 2026

03 In 2DFD the same trick uses stolen or generated art.

◆

04 Who owns an image made by a generator is still unsettled in many countries, and as of 2026-11-03 this wiki couldn't find a clear rule to cite.

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05 Ideas spread across this scene within weeks.

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06 Personas lend each other art, tease each other's subs with it and post the same trend in both their looks, and permission is what makes that a collab.

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07 An artist-persona is often flattered to be asked.

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08 The fix is cheap: make a similar picture of your own persona.

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09 A borrowed picture also tends to get the proportions wrong, the ones your followers know, and they notice.

◆

10 A tool that paints a variant of another artist's illustration makes a derivative of her work, so keep tests like that private and never post them.

◆

11 Making something of your own is the only safe change.

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12 The same argument would take away your claim to yours.

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13 Every copy that ignores it makes the next one easier to excuse.

◆

14 A persona built on a studio's character carries rights risk, and she shares that identity with every other persona built on the same character.

◆

15 One large game maker's published rules say fan items cannot be sold or earn compensation, and may not be pornographic, lewd or obscene.

◆ **Game Content Usage Rules** (https://www.xbox.com/en-US/developers/rules)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261021032024/https://www.xbox.com/en-US/developers/rules)

Accessed 3 November 2026

16 A second publisher's materials policy says not to use its materials to make money or gain any financial benefit, and lists sexually explicit content among things not to make.

◆

Square Enix West Material Usage Policy (https://square-enix-games.com/documents/materialusagepolicy)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20201203035252/https://square-enix-games.com/documents/materialusagepolicy)

Accessed 3 November 2026

17 The realistic cost is a takedown or a closed account, and for most personas the account is the income.

◆

18 One messaging platform says it can take down sticker sets that violate intellectual property rights, or porn bots, after a legitimate request, as of 2026-11-03.

◆ **Telegram FAQ** (https://telegram.org/faq)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261028113058/https://telegram.org/faq)

Accessed 3 November 2026

19 Platforms also apply their adult-content rules to drawn art: Throne applies them the same way to real photos and to illustrated content, as of 2026-11-03.

◆

What's allowed in my profile text and images? (https://help.throne.com/en/articles/15810290-what-s-allowed-in-my-profile-text-and-images)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261026034619/https://help.throne.com/en/articles/15810290-what-s-allowed-in-my-profile-text-and-images)

Accessed 3 November 2026

20 Re-editing an existing animated clip so your persona replaces the performer uses someone else's work, so it needs permission.

◆

21 Discord's child-safety rule covers fictional children and drawn or AI-generated material

◆

Discord Community Guidelines (rules 6, 9 and 10) (https://discord.com/guidelines)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261101163531/https://discord.com/guidelines)

Accessed 3 November 2026

22 And Throne bans characters meant to resemble minors.

◆

What's allowed in my profile text and images? (https://help.throne.com/en/articles/15810290-what-s-allowed-in-my-profile-text-and-images)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261026034619/https://help.throne.com/en/articles/15810290-what-s-allowed-in-my-profile-text-and-images)

Accessed 3 November 2026

23 Cloning it copies that performance, and rights holders are unlikely to allow it.

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24 Whether the law forbids it is unsettled, and as of 2026-11-03 there's no source I could find.

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25 The rule is simpler than the law: never clone a real person's voice without their consent.

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26 A persona who speaks needs a voice made for her, from a source you can name.

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27 A persona's art often comes from helpers: an artist, a friend who generates locally, another dom's pictures.

◆

28 The maker may see the images as theirs and expect credit, while the persona's owner shows them as her body.

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29 Lent images stay lent: don't share them with anyone else without permission, and ask before reusing one in a new post.

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30 The maker picks the scope, can say no without losing his place, and gets thanked.

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31 When a sub or fan makes content with a persona, agree first on what can be used and where it can go.

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32 A character's owner may also ask that a product built on her doesn't use her signature default look.

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33 Images on a page can be taken with a screenshot.

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34 Scrambling files inside an app or extension is weak, because the way to read them ships with the app, and anyone can open plain files in an archive.

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35 Light protection still stops casual copies.

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36 Ship only what you could live with seeing copied, and strip the metadata from images before you post.

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37 Keep dated drafts, layered files, generation settings and any agreement with a maker as you go.

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38 Most copies are careless work from someone with nothing of her own. An original voice, built post by post, is the hardest thing to steal and the easiest to prove.

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39 If an account copies your profile photo and bio to fool your subs, X's fake-persona rule targets manufactured identities that use stolen or AI-generated profile photos and copied bios to deceive others, as of 2026-11-03.

◆

Authenticity (includes the Synthetic and Manipulated Media rules; the old manipulated-media help URL now redirects here) (https://help.x.com/en/rules-and-policies/authenticity)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261028090009/https://help.x.com/en/rules-and-policies/authenticity)

Accessed 3 November 2026

40 Keep one page you control that lists your real accounts, and say plainly that you never change a payment route by private message.

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41 A drawn persona has no real face to fake, which gives her some protection.

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42 Fakes still reach people: fake explicit pictures made to look like a real person, sent to scare or coerce, and edited screenshots sent to a sub to turn him against a dom.

◆

43 Report the account and the pictures through the platform's own form, and tell someone you trust.

◆

44 X prohibits AI-generated or manipulated media that sexualises an identifiable real adult without consent, as of 2026-11-03.

◆

Non-Consensual Intimate Content policy (page title: Non-consensual nudity policy) (https://help.x.com/en/rules-and-policies/intimate-media)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261014153519/https://help.x.com/en/rules-and-policies/intimate-media)

Accessed 3 November 2026

45 In the United States, covered platforms must remove a reported non-consensual intimate image within 48 hours of a valid request.

◆

Public Law 119-12, the TAKE IT DOWN Act (Tools to Address Known Exploitation by Immobilizing Technological Deepfakes on Websites and Networks Act) (https://www.congress.gov/119/plaws/publ12/PLAW-119publ12.htm)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20260826132235/https://www.congress.gov/119/plaws/publ12/PLAW-119publ12.htm)

Accessed 3 November 2026

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46 In England and Wales, creating a purported intimate image of someone without consent has been an offence since 6 February 2026.

◆

Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, section 138: Creating, or requesting the creation of, purported intimate image of adult (inserts section 66E into the Sexual Offences Act 2003) (https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2025/18/section/138)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261003002944/https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2025/18/section/138)

Accessed 3 November 2026

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47 X doesn't require a real identity on a profile, so a pseudonymous persona is allowed, as of 2026-11-03.

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Authenticity (includes the Synthetic and Manipulated Media rules; the old manipulated-media help URL now redirects here) (https://help.x.com/en/rules-and-policies/authenticity)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20261028090009/https://help.x.com/en/rules-and-policies/authenticity)

Accessed 3 November 2026

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48 Press reports scammers who impersonate dommes.

◆

[A domme] gets thousands from strangers she's never met. They all have one thing in common (https://www.sbs.com.au/news/the-feed/article/minki-gets-thousands-from-strangers-shes-never-met-they-all-have-one-thing-in-common/yyqp7x93n)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20251123221424/https://www.sbs.com.au/news/the-feed/article/minki-gets-thousands-from-strangers-shes-never-met-they-all-have-one-thing-in-common/yyqp7x93n)

Accessed 3 November 2026

49 Two honest personas can look alike, because many gens come from shared community models and several creators build from the same popular character.

◆

50 Similar art proves neither theft nor honesty.

◆

51 Press advises an image search before paying.

◆

The Curse of the Fake Financial Dominatrix (https://melmagazine.com/en-us/story/the-curse-of-the-fake-financial-dominatrix)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20260511185644/https://melmagazine.com/en-us/story/the-curse-of-the-fake-financial-dominatrix)

Accessed 3 November 2026

52 A real move can wait a day.

◆

53 Compare it letter by letter, and compare the link.

◆

54 A new route announced in a private message is a common trick.

◆

55 Ask for her rules in writing, on her own page.

◆

56 The offer is bait.

◆

57 An interviewee in the press says there's no foolproof way to screen out scammers

◆

The Curse of the Fake Financial Dominatrix (https://melmagazine.com/en-us/story/the-curse-of-the-fake-financial-dominatrix)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20260511185644/https://melmagazine.com/en-us/story/the-curse-of-the-fake-financial-dominatrix)

Accessed 3 November 2026

58 And dommes say community reputation weeds out fakes over time.

◆

The Curse of the Fake Financial Dominatrix (https://melmagazine.com/en-us/story/the-curse-of-the-fake-financial-dominatrix)

Archive (https://web.archive.org/web/20260511185644/https://melmagazine.com/en-us/story/the-curse-of-the-fake-financial-dominatrix)

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