

## CHAPTER 19 – CLEAR and PRESENT DANGER. GINO BRIEFED.

*05 05 2022 Thursday. Jaquie & Frank  
walk to Parco Ducale. Plan. Initial  
thoughts. Gino must get involved.*

Jaqueline wakes up early, has a cup of coffee and intends to meet Frank at Cafe Discorso. She decided not to call him first. Just a little surprise. She started to get paranoid about being overheard both on the phone and in conversation.

She needs to devise a plan that not even Columbo would solve. Then she remembered how Columbo always carried a note book that he could never find and a pencil that was always missing. She quickly grabbed a pencil and a Columbo-like notebook and put them in her bag. No more notes entered on the iphone. Good to pass a message to Frank when discretion was absolutely required. She arrives at Cafe Discorso at 10.15. She goes to the table where Frank normally sits. The waiter comes out and ....

“Signorina I am sorry this table is reserved.”

“Frank is expecting me.”

“Va bene. Coffee?”

“I will wait. Thank you.”

Frank shows up at 10.25 and parks his car in the usual spot.

He walks in and greets Jaquie with a surprise, a smile and a kiss ... on her hand.

“Frank let’s have breakfast.”

Frank motions to the waiter indicating 2 same breakfasts.

“We will have quick breakfast. And go for a walk. It’s a beautiful day.”

“Very nice indeed.”

“How did you sleep?”

“Very well.”

“Tired.”

“So So.”

“More talk outside heh?”

“Yes “

They look at each other and smile.

“Coffee is good?”

“Excellent.”

“Not too strong.”

“Not at all.”

And continue sipping coffee.

“How’s the toast?”

“Brown as usual.”

“You prefer margarine.”

“Yes better than butter.”

“Oh yes?”

“One has to keep trim and fit.”

“Why is that?”

“The answer is in front of me.”

Both giggle.

Frank leaves 100 euros in bill and tips. Both stand up and leave. They walk looking at the trees, shrubs, cars, sky and with no apparent heavy thoughts on their mind. Some beautiful Gardens.

“My favourite is Parco Giardino Ducale. Let’s have a little walk there.”

They get there and have a little look around pointing at the trees while their eyes were fixed on the surrounding grounds. So they choose a seat.

She scribbles a note to Frank.

“TURN YOUR MOBILE OFF”. Precaution. And he does so.

“I got it sorted out I think.”

"I have the new phone. I already put it to some good use."

"That's good."

"Frank, one of my worries is that I have not been 100% convincing. Maybe it's just me."

"Jaquie, it is just you."

"When somebody tells me "Please believe me" twice, an alarm sounds in my head. I ask myself, is this person believable?"

"When somebody tells me three times then rightly or wrongly I say to myself. This person is lying. Now I told you about 4 times to believe me saying to myself I have blown it."

"Jaquie stop worrying. Your original intentions and the present ones are two different things completely."

"Okay this is the new phone I bought."

She takes out the notebook and pencil and puts them on the bench.

"I had a call from "Four Fingers" as soon as I got home. It came on my standard mobile."

"And I made a new call from my new one."

"I recorded both."

Looks around for any suspicious characters. Takes the first phone out. Pretends that she was having a selfie for both, looking cautiously around. Paranoia is taking over. Then she plays the recording from *4 Fingers*.

"Jaquie, you're a marvel."

Then the second one from the new phone. And plays the Concetta conversation and call. Frank burst out laughing when he heard the doctor's bit.

"I see you put those funds to good use thanks to Angelo."

"Okay write Gino's number down please."

He scribbles down. She takes the notebook and writes it back to front. Then she enters it on the new mobile backwards but in the Japanese Katakana Language leaving no blank spaces in between any of the words. It was like a long English word that nobody would ever have seen or would ever understand.

“Let’s test it.”

When Gino answers the phone you brief him. Tell him you are with me and to expect another call.

She reads the Japanese characters backwards and dials rather slowly.

Gino answers the phone. His dad takes the call.

“Hi Gino it’s Papa. This is a very short call.”

“What phone is this dad?”

“It is a new phone. A burner. Very private. I am with Jaquie a companion and a friend. She is a beautiful woman. I am not in any danger from her. I am not in any danger from the Bugatti. There may be a problem with an individual and we are taking care of business in the most appropriate way. Gino, I swear on your mother’s grave, you and Tonio, I vouch for Jaquie 200%, not 100%. Just a moment.”

He passes the phone to Jaquie.

“Hi Gino. I got to know your dad a few days ago. I discovered that both him and me are in some danger but nothing that cannot be worked out. Absolutely do not worry but we will keep you posted. Please promise. Okay, I will pass you back to Frank.”

Frank took the phone. Looked at Jaquie. Gino said Thank you.

“We are in a park in .... where, where, where.”

“Parco Giardino Ducale.”

“Did you hear that. It’s a beautiful day. I am very happy Gino. We will call you back with our thoughts later on today. Ciao.”

“Ciao Papa.”

Gino was stunned with the new revelations.

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05 05 2022 Thursday. Chapter 19  
Section Break

*Continues discussing the plan further  
after stopping in a safer place in open  
country.*

“Let’s change seats. We will choose a stone bench with no back support. Then we can face each other. You will have 180 degree view. So will I in the opposite direction. Together it’s 360. We will be able to see any parasite in the shadows. We will laugh, point at trees, birds, take selfies like sixteen year olds. I am paranoid of being followed at the moment. So we need to outsmart them.”

“I have to say I am mesmerized. Where do you get all these ideas from?”

And she smiled.

“Time for some mental notes. The battery on your mobile is running down. You may have to turn it off. You may have to say that aloud in your room and make a couple of calls on the land line. Look at those birds the trees.”

“They are marvellous creatures aren’t they.”

“Write me down Nicola’s number on my note pad please.”

“Let me give it to you. You mean Nicola del mare.”

“I only heard you mention one Nicola. Ha Ha Ha.”

“Of course ha ha ha. Here we are.”

He writes the number down.

“That is one number I remember like my date of birth.”

“When we talk to Gino about this plan it will always be on the burner. We will give him the number although it should register automatically. So today you talk to Gino and tell him what I told you. Eventually he will have to order some action on our behalf. Look look Frank, pavone and pavona.”

“Peacocks where?”

“Over there.”

“Oh yes. I cannot see them but I can see a figure, looks shady, not the type that goes to the park.”

“Really? Really?”

“Yes.”

“Okay let’s go.”

“Hold my hand as we walk.”

“This is like a movie.”

“Thomas Crown Affair?”

“Yes Faye.”

Both laugh.

“Straight in the car and we drive somewhere more quiet.”

They get in the car. Frank drives about 15 minutes away in the country. Nobody is following. So they stop and park. Quick look at the glove compartment. Under the seat. Under the dash. Nothing unusual. No new gadgets. They walk away from the car and lean against a nearby fence.

“Let me enter Nicola’s number in Japanese on the new mobile. Your mobile is still off I take it.”

“Yes.”

“This is what I think will happen. And this is the bottom line. 4 Fingers will get us to book in a restaurant. Then at that restaurant he will get you to sign some papers. He will be dining on a table close by looking at us. Somebody will probably pass the papers to me to present to you at the restaurant. Or a banker or solicitor from Angelo will present the papers to you. You will look at them and hesitate. You will then look at me and I will shrug my shoulders as if *Sorry I did not know.*”

“Hold on, hold on Jaquie, I have to repeat all this. I will not remember. We are in open space, we have the new mobile, why don’t we call Gino and he will listen to it first hand.

“Excellent Idea Frank.”

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