

**WHEN
CHAMPAGNE
HAS BEEN
IMBIBED**

ANOTHER ONE FROM

—
I MAY END SOON

**WHEN
CHAMPAGNE
HAS
BEEN
IMBIBED**

BY

I MAY END SOON

CHAPTER ONE

Very early on a Monday morning, in such a cold weather, did it bechance that some police men arrived a hotel. Something had happened the previous night. It was about a young lady by the name Belinda. Belinda's body was found in one of the rooms in the hotel lying unconscious on the floor. The management at the hotel had contacted the police to inform them of the development and the appearance of the police at the hotel was in reaction to the call. Belinda's body was lying unconscious in one of the rooms; there were stains of blood on the floor, on the wall and on her body that were traceable to an injury sustained at the back of her head. With the appearance or state in which Belinda's body was found, it seemed like she had been attacked. Belinda's body had been conveyed in an ambulance to the hospital for treatment that morning after the arrival of the police. However, Belinda's life was not lost but a serious damage had been done.

(At the hospital)

"Doctor, I was told you called for my appearance in your office and here I am. What is the matter?"

"Madam, how are you to the young lady in the ward?" asked the doctor.

"I am her mother; her own biological mother. So tell me whatever the matter is." said Belinda's mother.

"Okay Madam. After observation and running some medical operations on your daughter, we discovered that the injury which your daughter sustained at the back of her head had caused her some serious damages in her brain. I am sorry to announce to you that your daughter is now suffering from Amnesia. Consequential to her sustenance of that injury, she has lost her memory." said the doctor

"What? Is it that serious? So my daughter has lost her memory?" said Belinda's mother.

"I am sorry Madam. She has lost it at the moment." said the doctor.

Belinda's mother leaned back on her seat, looked up at the ceiling and wept at what had happened.

"I am really sorry Madam; really sorry." said the doctor.

"But, can I see my daughter?" asked Belinda's mother.

"Yes, you can. In fact, such a move is very much welcomed as that can help her recuperate from her situation. If she sees or interacts with someone she used to like or something she was very close to or familiar with prior to her present state of memory loss, it can help bring back memories of some of her past experiences especially the ones related to that particular person

she sees or interacts with. It can help better her condition. Let me call one of the nurses to show you to her ward.” said the doctor.

Belinda’s mother was shown to Belinda in her ward. Her wound had been dressed and her body had been cleaned up of the blood stains and she was looking better. She had even regained consciousness and her weakness had mitigated. But what happened man? She had lost her memory. Belinda’s mother was in the ward with Belinda and a nurse was present in the ward. Soon afterwards, Belinda’s uncle, Ben, arrived and joined the three of them in the ward. He had been informed of what had happened.

“Welcome, Uncle Ben.” said Belinda’s mother.

“Thank you Madam. (Turning to Belinda) Belinda, what happened to you?” said Uncle Ben.

Instead of replying the question, Belinda looked at Uncle Ben and looked at her mother. She looked around the ward. She was surprised at what she was seeing. What could she call where she was? What was she doing there? Belinda continued to look around. She had been helped to sit on the bed in the ward. Again, Uncle Ben threw a question.

“Belinda, I said what happened to you?” said Uncle Ben.

Belinda looked at Uncle Ben and said: “Are you talking to me?”

Belinda’s mother and Uncle Ben looked at each other surprisingly. Belinda’s mother was shocked despite having heard the news. She had heard what had happened to her daughter and she was now confirming it live. After a while, Belinda’s mother spoke to her daughter Uncle Ben had heard too before he came and was also confirming it. Belinda was suffering from memory loss.

“Yes, he is talking to you.” said Belinda’s mother.

“No, I don’t think so. He was referring to Belinda. (Turned to the nurse) Are you the one bearing Belinda?” said Belinda.

“No. You are the one bearing Belinda. That is your name.” said her mother.

“No.” said Belinda.

“Yes, you are.” said her mother.

“I said no.” said Belinda.

“Yes. If Belinda is not your name, then what is your name?” said her mother.

“Me? Name? (Belinda tried to think for a while then she spoke) Do I have a name? I don’t think I have a name. I cannot remember ever having a name. And by the way, who are you to know if I bear a particular name or not?” said Belinda.

Belinda’s mother and Uncle Ben looked at each other again in surprise.

“I am your mother. I gave birth to you. You are my own daughter. And this man here is your uncle; a younger brother to your father.” said her mother.

Unexpectedly, Belinda laughed. Belinda’s mother and Uncle Ben were thrown into surprise by that. Why was she laughing?

Belinda continued to laugh and the duo who was in surprise continued wallowing in their surprise. Afterwards, Belinda spoke.

“This is really funny. Do you guys do comedy? Because I don’t just understand what is happening here. You are my mother and he is my uncle; the younger brother to my father. Mother? Uncle? Father? I cannot just relate. I don’t think I have ever seen the two of you before you came into this place today and here you are claiming you are my mother and he is my uncle. By the way, I don’t think I have a mother. I don’t think I have a father. I cannot remember ever having an uncle.” said Belinda.

At that, Belinda’s mother stood up from where she was sitting and grabbed Belinda by her two arms. She was going emotional.

“Belinda, look into my eyes. Look into my eyes and tell me again that I am not your mother. Tell me that you are not my daughter.”

Again, Belinda laughed. What was happening was funny to her. Uncle Ben stood there in his astonishment.

“Woman, is this a joke or what? Are we playing games here? I said I don’t know you as my mother. I cannot remember ever having a mother on general terms let alone knowing you particularly as my mother.” said Belinda.

“Belinda, I said I am your mother. I am your mother. (This time, Belinda’s mother held and shook Belinda’s body with emotions. She was trying to get Belinda to understand her. She shook Belinda’s body in such a rough manner out of emotions and the nurse felt that could be dangerous to her health and she tried to free Belinda from her mother’s hold)

“Madam, please take it easy. You may deteriorate her condition with the way you are acting. Please, leave her alone.” said the nurse.

Belinda’s mother withdrew her hands from the hold. And then something happened that

amplified her already established shock. After Belinda's mother withdrew her hands from her hold, Belinda did not laugh this time. She became annoyed and embarrassed. Belinda turned to her mother and said:

"Is this woman okay? What is all this? What is all this embarrassment? I said I don't know you and you are acting like we know each other. Please leave me alone. (Turns to the nurse). In fact, I don't want to see this woman here. I am afraid she may kidnap me from here." said Belinda.

"Calm down, please." said the nurse.

"Don't tell me to calm down. It is either she leaves or I get out of here." said Belinda.

"I, your mother, should get out of here?" said her mother.

Belinda got angrier at her mom's statement. She stood up from her bed and moved towards her mother. And what happened man?

She gave her mother a dirty slap! "Get out of here woman." Belinda yelled at her mother.

Belinda's mother was so shocked. She held the spot where she had received the hit. She could not hold back the tears as they rolled down her cheeks. The nurse approached Belinda's mother.

"Madam, please take it easy. You know your daughter before she was brought here and you have heard what happened to her. Please, try to understand. Kindly move out of this ward and leave her for now, please." said the nurse.

Belinda's mother was walked out of the ward in tears and Uncle Ben followed. Before she got out, while was at the door, Belinda's mother looked to look at her daughter who was giving her a strong look in return. She did not show any remorse for what she had done. Belinda's mother could not stand the situation and she walked out of the ward. The nurse went with her to console her outside the ward then she went back into the ward to attend to Belinda.

"Please, take it easy okay. She is out now." said the nurse.

"I don't want to see that woman here again. What rubbish?" said Belinda.

"She would not come back, okay? Just relax." said the nurse.

"By the way, who are you?" asked Belinda.

"I am only here to take care of you and help you get better. So relax. I am not here to harm you. I am here to help you." said the nurse.

Belinda was made to lie her on the bed and was left alone in the ward.

(At the hotel)

In process of investigation, the police engaged the bar man at the hotel in some interrogations. There were two inspectors; Inspector John and Inspector Ramsey.

“You are the bar man here right?” asked Inspector John.

“Yes, I am.” replied the bar man.

“What can you say about the lady whose body was found in one of the rooms in this hotel and the unconscious state in which she was found?” asked Inspector John.

“Actually, I am the bar man so I work in the bar and my work here does not extend to giving customers access to our rooms in this hotel. But, I can say something about the lady because she and some people were at the bar yesterday before she disappeared from there.” said the bar man.

“Can you tell us what you think can help us in our investigation concerning the case with this lady?” asked Inspector John.

“Yesterday night, some individuals walked into the bar. From the way they walked in and interacted, it seems like they came together. Afterwards, my attention was called for.” said the bar man.

(Flashback)

“Bar man, give every single one of us here two bottles of champagne; the males and the females alike.” said one of them.

(The other people scream)

“You crazy man? Are you going to wound someone? We have got ladies here.” said another.

“Come on man. This is party time and we are all going to drink and get high all night. We are having fun tonight. (Turns to bar man) Come on, go and bring the drinks.” said the other guy.

“Okay Sir.” said the barman.

(Flashback ends)

“And I delivered the drinks to them according to what was requested for and I continued with my work.” said the barman.

“How many of them were together last night?” asked Inspector Ramsey.

“Seven of them including three ladies; that lady whose body was found in the room and two other ladies.” said the barman.

“After serving them the drinks, what happened afterwards?” asked Inspector John.

“After I served them, I saw them drinking and after some time, all of them had disappeared from the bar.” said the barman.

“Okay. We would leave you now. We would call you if there is anything we want to ask you later or if we need your appearance for any other reason.” said Inspector John.

CHAPTER TWO

(Back at the hospital)

After what had happened, Belinda's mother was not allowed to see her daughter in the ward. Treatments had been administered on Belinda for her to recuperate from her memory loss and they had been having positive effects on her. One afternoon, Belinda was lying on her back and was gazing at the ceiling in her ward. She was alone at that time. Belinda was there in that state when she began experiencing some thoughts in her mind. Something was going on in her mind. She could visualize something.

(Flashback)

Belinda was in the kitchen doing the dishes when one of the plates slipped from her hands and fell on the floor and got shattered.

"Oh! Shit!" Belinda exclaimed.

Belinda got a broom in the kitchen and began sweeping the pieces of the broken plate towards the door of the kitchen where she would then pack them and dispose of them. When Belinda swept the pieces to a point close to the door, she noticed a smell in the kitchen. What she was frying was burning! Belinda dropped the broom and rushed to the spot of the food to check on it. While she was doing this, some footsteps were following one another heading closer to the kitchen where Belinda was. Someone had heard the sound of the shatter of the plate and was coming to the kitchen to check what was happening. Footsteps after footsteps until this person got closer to the door of the kitchen and was about to take a step in.

Belinda turned round and saw this person this about to step into the kitchen and she could smell potential danger. Broken pieces of the plate were at a point close to the door and this person was about to place a foot on the spot. In a bid to avoid an injurious occurrence, Belinda screamed from where she was.

"Mummy, Nooooooooooooo!!!"

(Flashback ends)

While Belinda was in that state, her mother was in a conversation with the doctor in his office.

"Madam, you have to understand. We are doing this for your daughter. We are trying to avoid whatever could deteriorate her present state." said the doctor.

"No, doctor. I want to see my daughter. I have not seen her for days now. I want to see the state that my daughter is." said Belinda's mother.

“Madam, please take it easy and try to understand. Your daughter said she does not want to see you and you going there may exasperate her if she sees you and it may aggravate her present state. I am telling you now that your daughter is responding to treatment and things are getting better. You would not like it when her situation where she is responding to treatment and getting better would take a turn into the opposite and unfavorable state. Please, try to understand. We are not allowing you to see your daughter until she becomes able to recognize you as her mother or she feels at ease with you around her. But for now, I am sorry, you cannot see her.” said the doctor.

“But she is having Amnesia. Is she going to recognize me or remember ever having that experience with me? I promise this time, I am not going to tell her I am her mother. I am not even going to talk to her. I just want to see my daughter.” said Belinda’s mother.

“I have said that she is responding to treatment and getting better. She may recognize you if she sees you. We are not allowing you see your daughter and that is it.” said the doctor.

“You are joking doctor. I am seeing my daughter today.” said Belinda’s mother

Belinda’s mother rose from where she was sitting and headed for Belinda’s ward. The doctor pursued and called after her as she went.

“Madam, please don’t try something that may bring regrettable results. Don’t go there madam. Please don’t do it.” said the doctor.

The doctor went after Belinda’s mother and caught up with her at a point close to the door that led to where Belinda was and tried to prevent her from going in. Two nurses joined them and were also trying to keep Belinda’s mom away from her daughter. Belinda’s mum insisted on going in but the doctor and nurses insisted on preventing her from doing so. All of a sudden, they heard a scream right from inside Belinda’s ward.

“Mummy, Nooooooooooooo!!!”

The four of them rushed into the ward in reaction to what they had heard. Belinda sat up from her lying position and was looking unsettled. The two nurses went to check on Belinda, asking her if anything was wrong. Afterwards, Belinda looked up to see this figure of a woman who she could remember having some close interactions with in the past.

Mummy!!! Belinda screamed.

Belinda’s mother was taken by surprise. Her daughter had recognized her. She rushed to where her daughter was.

“What did you just say? Did you just call me mummy? Can you recognize me as your mother?” said her mother

“Yes, Mummy. I can recognize you. Or are you not my mother?” said Belinda.

“Oh! My daughter, I am your mother. I am your mother.” said her mother.

Belinda’s mother embraced her daughter as tears rolled from her eyes.

“Mummy, what is happening here? What happened to me? Who brought me here?” said Belinda.

“Don’t worry, my daughter. Everything will be alright. I am here so don’t worry.” said her mother.

Belinda noticed something on her mother’s face. She softly touched the spot and examined it.

“Mummy, what happened to you here?” asked Belinda.

Belinda’s mum looked back the doctor and looked at the nurses as tears rolled from her eyes. Did Belinda just ask that question?

“Belinda, my daughter. Don’t worry. I am alright, okay? Mummy is fine.” said her mother.

Belinda’s mother embraced her daughter again.

Are you thinking she was now like she was before the incident? No! The memories were only coming back gradually. Ask her about who had appeared to her to attack her the night she was attacked, she did not know. Ask her about some incident at some points in her past which she used to remember prior to her attack, she could not say. There was still a long way to go. But she could remember she had a mother and she could now recognize her.

(At the police station)

Inspector John and Inspector Ramsey were deliberating on Belinda’s case. Belinda lost her memory and she could not remember who had attacked her on that night until that time. However, the police had some things in their possession that could help in their investigation. Belinda’s mobile phone was with them. And there was something else. A golden ring! What has the golden ring got to do with Belinda’s case anyways? That morning when the inspectors arrived the room where Belinda was, right beside where Belinda’s body lay, there was a golden ring there on the floor. Pure gold! Belinda’s mother was questioned about the ring and she said that she never saw such ring with her daughter so she did not think her daughter owned it. Who was the owner of the ring?

“John, look! I have seen something” said Inspector Ramsey.

“What is that? Let me have a look.” said Inspector John.

“See this. This is a conversation between Belinda and someone on ChatPlace. And it seems she was talking to a man. With the way the conversation went, it seems she was talking to her boyfriend.” said Inspector Ramsey.

“Really?” asked Inspector John.

“Have a look. The guy asked that they should meet in a particular room upstairs which she consented too in her reply. Looks like the guy was there with her at the bar and he asked her to meet him upstairs. If that is the case, then that means the guy was the one with her in the room where she was attacked.” said Inspector Ramsey.

“Hmm! That is catching. We are making progress. What is the name of the guy? Can you find it there?” said Inspector John.

“She saved his number as Donald.” said Inspector Ramsey.

“Donald?” Inspector John picked up his phone and dialed a number.

“Hello, Inspector John. Is anything the matter?”

“Madam, there is a development. Do you know anyone by the name Donald with your daughter?” said Inspector John.

“Yes, I do. That is her boyfriend. What about him?” said Belinda’s mother.

“There is something about him. Do you know his address?” said Inspector John.

“Yes, I know where he lives. I can give you his house address.” said Belinda’s mother.

“Okay, Madam. Please forward his house address to this number as soon as possible.” said Inspector John.

“Okay.” said Belinda’s mother.

Belinda’s mother forwarded the address and Inspector John and Ramsey went for Donald, Belinda’s boyfriend.

(Door bell rings at Donald’s house. Donald goes to open the door. His parents and sister were out and not at home.)

“Good afternoon here.” said Inspector John.

“Good afternoon, please who are you and how may I help you?” said Donald.

(They both bring out their Identity cards and showed it to Donald) “I am Inspector John and this man here is Inspector Ramsey from Efficient police station. Are you Mr. Donald?”

“Yes, I am. Is there any problem?” said Donald.

“Do you know of any lady by the name Belinda?” asked Inspector John.

“Yes, she is my girlfriend and I have not heard from her for days now. I have been thinking of going to see at home but I have been busy. Is there any problem with her?” said Donald.

“Actually, we want your appearance in our police station. We want to ask you some questions.” said Inspector John.

“You want my appearance? What is the matter? If there are questions you want to ask, why can you not ask here?” said Donald.

“Mr. Donald, please, come with us. We would not like to embarrass you. Just come with us and we would as you some questions. Just to ask you some questions; that is all.” said Inspector Ramsey.

“Okay.” Said Donald.

They take Donald to the police station.

(At the police station)

“Mr. Donald, can you explain this on your girlfriend’s phone?” said Inspector John. (Donald was shown the conversation on Belinda’s phone)

(Donald looks at it for awhile) “What is this? I cannot relate with this. I don’t understand.”

“Don’t you pretend, Donald. You can see your name there, can’t you? That is a conversation between you and your girlfriend who was attacked in one of the rooms in the hotel which you both went with some other people. Or where you not at a hotel with your girlfriend on the date of the conversation displayed on that phone?” said Inspector John.

“Attacked? You mean Belinda was attacked and I did not know all these while? Is that why I could not hear from her?” said Donald.

“So you don’t know your girlfriend was attacked that night and lost her memory as a consequence? You don’t know she is in the hospital now?” said Inspector John.

"I don't know all that. Truly, I was with her and some other guys that night and we were having champagne and having fun and while we were there, I received a call."

(Flashback)

"Hello mom, what's up?" said Donald.

"It is not mom. It is Janet." said his sister.

"Janet, what's up?" said Donald.

"You have to start coming home now!" said Janet.

"Why? I am having fun here. Is there any problem?" said Donald.

"Dad called mum and told her that he is on his way back and he is no more going for the trip. Mum has asked me to call you because you know you went out with his car and Dad would not be pleased finding out that you took his car out and you are still out at this time of the night." said Janet.

"Really? This is bullshit man! So I have to start coming now?" said Donald.

"Yes. If Dad comes home before you, you know what that means. Start coming home now." said Janet.

"Okay." said Donald.

(Flashback ends)

"I was called to come home that night and I went to where Belinda was and I informed her that I was going home. And I left. I was the first one of us to leave the place. If you doubt that, I have a proof on my phone." said Donald.

"And what proof is that?" asked Inspector John.

"A record. My phone records the conversations I have when I make or receive a call and the record of that particular conversation is still on my phone." said Donald.

(Donald plays the record to both officers and they heard the conversation. Inspector John checked the date and time of the call and that of the record and confirmed their relation. Donald's claim was turning out to be true! Inspector Ramsey grabbed Belinda's phone and was doing something on it.)

"So who is this Donald that your girlfriend was talking to?" asked Inspector John.

“I don’t know. But I know I am not the one.” said Donald.

“Wait guys! I found something.” said Ramsey.

Donald and Inspector John looked at Inspector Ramsey.

“And what is that?” asked Inspector John.

“There are two numbers saved as Donald on this phone.” said Ramsey.

Inspector John and Donald looked at each other.

“Let me have your phone.” Inspector John said to Donald.

Donald handed over his phone to Inspector John. Inspector John dialed his own number on Donald’s phone to get Donald’s number. After he had gotten his number, they checked Donald’s number with the number of the person Belinda had a conversation with. They were different! They checked the number of the other Donald. They were the same!

“Do you know of any other Donald with your girlfriend?” said Inspector John.

“I don’t know.” said Donald.

“We are going to trace or hunt the person who owns this number.” said Ramsey.

“So can I go home?” asked Donald.

Inspector John looks at Donald and Donald looked back. They looked at each other and then....

CHAPTER THREE

Inspector John and Ramsey contacted the service providers of the network on which the other Donald's number was operating. Someway, somehow, they were able to get his address. Inspector John and Inspector Ramsey went for the other Donald.

(At the house where the other Donald lived)

"Good afternoon." said Inspector John

"Good afternoon. Who are you and how may I help you?" a woman said.

"Please, does anyone by the name Donald live in this house?" asked Inspector John.

"Yes; and that is my son. What is the matter with him?" said the woman.

"Is he home?" asked Inspector John.

"Yes, he is. (Calls on her son). Donald! Donald!!"

(Donald comes to meet his mum)

"I am here mum. (Looks at the police officers) Mum, what is happening here? Who are these men?" said Donald.

"Looks like they are here for you. This man here asked after you." said his mum.

"Are you Mr. Donald?" asked Inspector John.

"Yes, I am." said Donald.

(They bring out their Identity cards and show it to them) "I am Inspector John and here is Inspector Ramsey from Efficient police station. Mr. Donald, we want your appearance in our station. We just want to ask you some questions."

"In your station? What is the matter? Please, tell me. I am his mother. And why can you not ask him questions here?" said Donald's mum.

"Madam, I am sorry, we cannot interrogate your son here. He is coming with us to the police station." said Inspector John.

(Holds her son). No, my son is not going anywhere. If you cannot ask him questions here, he is not going with you." said Donald's mother.

“Madam, please respect yourself. He is coming with us to the station. We just want to ask him some questions. That is all.” said Inspector John.

“I said my son is not going with you.” Donald’s mother insisted.

The police officers tried to make Donald’s mother release her son, but she was adamant. After several attempts and Donald mother remained adamant, Inspector John looked at Inspector Ramsey and signaled with his head passing a message across. Ramsey understood and pulled out his gun and pointed it at them.

“Do you think we are here to joke? Release him now! Mr. Donald, move now!” said Ramsey.

Donald’s mother let go of her son.

“You can have him oo. You can have him. Take him away.” said Donald’s mother.

The police officers got hold of Donald and were taking him away.

“Mum, they are taking me away.” said Donald.

“Don’t worry son. I will call your uncle. I will call some other people. Something will be done.” said his mother.

The two policemen took Donald away.

(At the police station)

“Mr. Donald, do you know of any lady by the name Belinda?” asked Inspector John.

“Yes, I do. She is a friend of mine.” said Donald.

“Just a friend?” asked Inspector John.

“Yes, just a friend.” replied Donald.

Inspector John and Inspector Ramsey look at each other. Just a friend?

“Where were you on the 3rd of this month at night? On a Sunday night it was” asked Inspector John.

“I was in a hotel. I was at a bar then I later went into one of the rooms in the hotel with my girlfriend.” replied Donald.

“Which girlfriend of yours is that and in which hotel were you?” asked Inspector John.

"I was in George's hotel and I was with my girlfriend Nancy and that is the only girlfriend I have." said Donald.

"You mean you were not in Ruby hotel and you were not one of the guys with Belinda on the night she was attacked?" asked Inspector John.

"Attacked? Was Belinda attacked? And by the way, I don't even know why I am coming into the issue. I was not at any Ruby hotel and I was not with anyone that night except my girlfriend." said Donald

Inspector John signaled to Ramsey and Ramsey presented Belinda's phone to Donald.

"Mr. Donald, how do you explain that which is appearing on the screen of Belinda's phone?" Inspector John said.

Donald looked at the phone and after awhile, he bowed his head to the table in regret.

"Mr. Donald, no matter how much you try to conceal the truth, the truth will eventually come out to the open. As a matter of fact, in your own case, the truth was already in the open before your lies; but it was not clear. Now it has become clear by your reaction. I hereby put it to you that you were the one who attacked Belinda on that night; an attack which caused her memory loss." said Inspector John.

Donald looks up. "No, that is not true." Donald said.

"What is not true? Did you not just show remorse? Did you not just give a regretful reaction? What does your reaction depict? Are you acting a movie or playing games or what? If it is not true, then what is true?" said Inspector John.

"I was drunk that night. I had already had champagne prior to having that conversation with Belinda." said Donald.

Inspector John and Ramsey looked at each other and said in unison, "CHAMPAGNE?"

"Yes, champagne. That was what I took in the bar that night." said Donald.

"Meaning that you were truly with Belinda and the other guys that night and you were having champagne with them?" asked Inspector John.

"No." said Donald.

"What is no? Then what do you mean by you were drunk. What has that got to do with the issue?" asked Inspector John.

“I was drunk and I did not know I was talking to Belinda that night. I thought I was talking to my girlfriend.” said Donald.

(John looked at Donald and heaved a sigh) “Mr. Donald, we want you to help us and also help yourself. Tell us all what you think we need to know about what happened that night.” said Inspector.

“That night, I was at a bar in George’s hotel and was drinking. I was alone. After drinking for awhile, I became drunk and was aroused and I felt like being with a girl that night. I grabbed my phone and spoke with my girlfriend Nancy on the phone asking her to come meet me at the hotel where I was. After some time of waiting for her and she did not show up, I dialed her number again. It rang but she did not answer. I dialed it repeatedly by she did not answer the call. After awhile of waiting and she still did not show up, I then went to the receptionist to book a room in the hotel. Then I went into ChatPlace to send her message that she should come meet me in the room I booked upstairs when she arrives. And I got a reply soon after I sent the message. After I saw the reply, I went into the room I had booked to go wait for my girlfriend. I did not know she was not the one I sent a message. It was until the next day when the drunkenness had gone and I check my phone that I realized that I was talking to someone else.” said Donald.

“When your girlfriend arrived, how then did she know where you were?” asked Inspector John.

“When she arrived and she did not find me at the bar where she thought I was, she called me and I told her to come upstairs.” said Donald.

“And why do you think Belinda would reply to you if she was not the one you really intended to talk to?” asked Inspector John.

“Maybe she was also drunk that night.” said Donald.

“Mr. Donald, are you telling the truth about what you know or you are hiding something from us?” asked Inspector John,

“I am not lying to you.” replied Donald.

“Is there anything that you know or have to prove what you have said?” asked Inspector John.

(Donald thought for a while) “Yes, I remember. Check that conversation and you would notice that I mentioned Nancy’s name in my message which shows that I intended to address my message to Nancy, my girlfriend. If I knew Belinda was the one I was talking to or if I had intended to address the message to her, I would not have mentioned Nancy’s name in my message. Belinda is only a friend to me and I would not have asked her to come meet me in a hotel room. My relationship with her has not gotten to that level. We are only friends. Besides,

I have my own girlfriend and we have not broken up. If I want to be with a girl, she is the one I call and no one else” said Donald.

John and Ramsey looked at the message and yes, it was there. The name Nancy appeared in the message Donald sent to Belinda. The attacker was not yet!

The phone of Inspector John rang. Someone was calling. Inspector John picked the call and the voice of Belinda’s mother was what he heard.

“Hello. Inspector John, please come to the hospital. There is another development.” said Belinda’s mother.

“Really? Okay we will be there soon.” said Inspector John.

“Okay, I am expecting your arrival. Thank you very much.” said Belinda’s mother.

“Who was that?” asked Inspector Ramsey.

“Belinda’s mother. She has asked us to show up in the hospital. She said there is another development.” said Inspector John.

CHAPTER FOUR

(At the hospital)

“Madam, we are here. What happened?” said Inspector John.

“It is my daughter. Something happened before I called you. I was here with her when she screamed all of a sudden.

(Flashback)

“Leave me alone!!!” Belinda suddenly screamed from the bed.

(Belinda’s mom stood up to check on her daughter.)

“What is wrong, my daughter? What is the matter?” asked Belinda’s mother.

“Mummy, I stabbed him.” said Belinda.

“Stabbed him?” asked Belinda’s mother.

“Yes, I stabbed him on his left arm. I stabbed him with a piece of glass.” said Belinda.

“Who did you stab and why did you stab someone?” asked Belinda’s mother.

“I cannot remember who I stabbed. But I remember I was in struggle with someone and then I stabbed him with a piece of glass. I cannot remember why I fell into the struggle or what were we were struggling for but I remember I stabbed the person with. And I also remember the person is a man.” said Belinda.

“Really?” asked her mother.

“Yes, mummy.” said Belinda

(Flashback ends)

“Hmm. And she did not mention anyone in particular, identifying him as the one she stabbed?” asked Inspector John.

“No. She said she could not remember the person particularly but she could remember it was a man.” said Belinda’s mother.

(Turns to Inspector Ramsey) “That guy at the station, is there any mark of injury on his left arm? I don’t think I ever noticed such on him.” asked Inspector John.

“Me too. I don’t think he has a mark on his left arm. Does that mean that the guy is innocent?” said Inspector Ramsey.

“(Heaves a sigh) Let us not conclude yet. The investigation is still on.” said Inspector John.

Belinda was sitting on the bed while that conversation was going on. After that last statement of John, the nurse walked into the ward. When the nurse had gotten, she called out on someone from inside.

“You can come in.” said the nurse.

Then the door began to move and someone was moving into the ward. This figure appeared in the ward. And everyone in the ward looked at this figure who had gotten in. And all of a sudden....

“Haaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!!

Belinda screamed all of a sudden pointing to the figure who had walked in and afterwards, Belinda fainted. Everyone including the person who walked in rushed to check on Belinda.

“Who are you and what are you doing here?” Inspector John asked the person who walked in.

“I am Edward. I was with Belinda and the other guys on the night she was attacked. I heard what had happened to her and I am here to check on her.” said Edward.

“And why did she scream when she saw you?” asked Inspector John.

“I don’t know.” replied Edward.

“Hey look! (Ramsey noticed on Edward). John look! Look at this guy’s arm.” said Inspector Ramsey.

John saw what Ramsey was talking about. There was a mark on Edward’s arm. Which arm? Right or left? LEFT! Edward had a mark on his left arm.

“Did you say you were with her and the other guys on the night she was attacked?” asked Inspector John.

“Yes, I was.” replied Edward.

Immediately John pulled out his gun and pointed it at Edward

“You are under arrest, young man. Ramsey, handcuff him now!” said Inspector John.

“Handcuff? What for? I am only here to check on Belinda.” said Inspector John.

“Young man, you have the right to remain silent. Anything you say here may be used against you in a court of law. Handcuff him!” said Inspector John.

Edward was handcuffed and was taken away by the policemen.

(At the police station)

“Mr. Edward, why did you attack Belinda that night?” asked Inspector John.

“Attack? I was not the one who attacked Belinda.” said Edward.

“Were you with Belinda that night or not?” asked Inspector John.

“I was one of the guys with her.” replied Edward.

“How did you get this mark on your arm?” asked Inspector John.

“I had an accident at home and this mark was consequential to that. And what has that got to do Belinda’s case?” said Edward.

“Belinda claimed that she stabbed someone with whom she was in a struggle on his left arm. And here you are with a mark on your left arm and you also claimed that you were with her that night. Is there not a connection?” said Inspector John.

“Officer, this mark on my arm was consequential to an accident I had at home. I was not stabbed there by anyone.” said Edward.

“Then why did she scream when she saw you?” asked Inspector John.

“Okay! I will tell you what happened between us that night. It is true that I was one of the guys with Belinda that night. While we were drinking, I noticed that Donald her boyfriend went to tell her something and he left us. He was the first one of us to leave the bar that night. Afterwards, the other guys also left leaving me and Belinda behind. I was high that night and I noticed that Belinda was drunk. And I was aroused. I was feeling a strong urge that and I wanted like satisfying it. We had had champagne that night; every one of us. When I noticed that Belinda was drunk, I went to book a room in the hotel for me to stay with Belinda so I could... I could...” said Edward.

“So you could what?” asked Inspector John.

“So I could sleep with her.” said Edward.

“So you could sleep with someone else’s girlfriend?” asked Inspector John.

“I was high and really aroused that night. It found it hard for me to hold myself. And Belinda was the only girl around.” said Edward.

“So that means when you got into the room and you wanted to sleep with her but she refused, you assaulted her right?” asked Inspector John.

“No. I did not assault her.” said Edward.

“Then what happened.” asked Inspector John.

“After we got into the room, and I was about to do the job, I suddenly heard a voice.” said Edward.

(Flashback)

“I can see you guys are having a good time.” A voice said.

“And who are you and what are you doing here?” said Edward.

“You are very silly for asking me that question.” The voice replied.

“Would you get out of here man? Get out!” Edward said.

“Do you know who you are talking to?” the voice said.

“Who are you?” asked Edward.

“Who am I? Since you have asked, then let me show you who I am.” the voice said.

(Flashback ends)

“And later, I remember I became conscious and met myself on the floor. I was feeling pain in my head and I was feeling dizzy. My view was not clear. I stood up from where I was and I staggered. I could not balance on my feet. I looked round in the rooms and my view was blurry. On the floor beside where I was lying, I could notice a figure lying on the floor which I thought was Belinda’s body. But I could not see any stains of blood or any traces of attack on her. Maybe that was because my view was not clear. Someway, somehow, I found my way out of the room and while I was on a corridor in the hotel, one of the guys who were with us that night at the bar saw me and took me into the room he had booked. And that was where I was until the next day. I did not attack Belinda that night. Rather I was attacked myself.” said Edward.

“Can you recognize the face of the person who showed up when you were with Belinda in the room that night if you see the person?” asked Inspector John.

“No, I can’t” said Edward.

“Why? Was it not after the attack that your view became blurry?” asked Inspector John.

“Like I said earlier, I was high that night. And I can also remember that the person was wearing something over his head. That concealed his face to some extent and because of my state at that time, I could not make out how he looked that night.” said Edward.

(Inspector John signaled to Inspector Ramsey and Ramsey dipped his hand into his pocket and brought out a handkerchief. Wrapped in the handkerchief was a golden ring. You remember the ring?)

“What do you know about this ring? Have you seen this ring before?” asked Inspector John.

(Edward took the ring and examined it. Edward felt the ring and looked at it closely.) “I placed my hand on something. Yes, I remember I placed my hand on something. Something like this. While I was moving out of the room, I placed my hand on something like this because I was crawling on the floor as I was moving out. I did not have enough balance to walk on my feet and I crawled on the floor. I can remember placing my hand on something while I was crawling towards the door. But I cannot say for sure that this is it, but it was something like this. But as for me, I personally don’t own this ring. In fact, I don’t wear rings. So I am not the one who owns this.” said Edward.

“So you are now telling us you are not the one who attacked Belinda?” said Inspector John.

“Never! I never attacked her. Rather I was attacked myself.” said Edward.

(At the hospital)

Belinda was laying on her back on the bed and gazing at the ceiling. While she was like that, something was going on in her mind. Some memories were coming. She was visualizing something in her past.

(Flashback)

“Belinda, is this not you? I have got you at a good time. What do you have now or what can you do now to defend yourself against me?” someone said.

“Henry, what is it? What have I done to you to deserve your threats? Why are you here now?” said Belinda.

“Really? So soon? Have you forgotten so soon what you did to me? You attacked me Belinda. You struck me hard. You made me bleed. You caused me pain. Have you forgotten?” Henry said.

“Henry, why don’t you leave me alone? Were you not the one who first grabbed me and was trying to rape me before I attacked you? I was defending myself from you, foolish pervert.” Belinda said.

SLAP!!! (Henry gives her a slap on her face) “How dare you talk to me like that? Don’t you have some fear in you for me? Are you not afraid of me?” said Henry.

“Henry, there is nothing to be afraid of about you. I don’t fear you. There is nothing you can do to me.” said Belinda.

“Oh I see. Belinda, I would have considered sparing you because of the relation between you and I. Because of what we have had together in the past. Because of what we still have between us now. But, look at you. You are not showing any remorse for what you did. You do not feel sorry before me Belinda. You just said you are not afraid of me. I hereby choose not to pity you my dear. I am going to take my revenge.” said Henry.

“There is nothing you can do Henry.” said Belinda.

“There is something I can do. I can cause you pain. I can make you cry. Belinda don’t try me.” said Henry.

“Henry, I repeat, you can do nothing.” said Belinda.

“I repeat, I can do something.” said Henry

“Then show me, Henry.” said Belinda.

“For real?” asked Henry.

“Yes, show me what you got, you weakling fool.” said Belinda

(Henry grabs Belinda by her shoulders) “Belinda, don’t try me. I am warning you. I can cause you pain.” said Henry.

“You can do nothing.” said Belinda.

“Argggghhhhhhhhhhhhhhh” by Henry.

“Leave me alone! Leave me alone!! Henry, leave me alone!!!” said Belinda.

(Flashback ends)

Belinda's mum was sitting by her bed when Belinda was having those thoughts. All of a sudden....

"Henry, leave me alone!!!" Belinda yelled.

Belinda sat up from her lying position as she yelled. Her mom got up from where she was sitting to check on her. One of the nurses in the hospital also rushed in as she had heard the voice.

"Belinda, what is wrong? What happened this time?" asked her mother.

"Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry!" said Belinda.

"Belinda, who is Henry?" asked her mother.

"Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry!" said Belinda.

"Belinda, please talk to me? Who is Henry? What about him?" said her mother.

"Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry! Henry!" said Belinda.

"Belinda, please. Please talk to me. Who is Henry?" (Belinda's mother held and shook her daughter as she was going emotional. Who was Henry?)

"Madam, please take it easy. Please. Let go of her." said the nurse.

Belinda's mother started weeping and she fell back to the chair where she was sitting.

"Belinda, would you like to go back to sleep?" the nurse said to Belinda.

"Henry! Henry!" Belinda said.

"Calm down, Belinda. Calm down. Go to sleep, okay?" said the nurse.

Belinda was made to lie on her back on the bed as her mother wept on. The nurse moved closer to Belinda's mum to console her. Belinda looked at her mom from the bed as tears rolled down her own eyes too. Belinda and her mum looked at each other, weeping. Afterwards, Belinda's mother got her phone and dialed Inspector John's number and called for his and Inspector's Ramsey's appearance at the hospital. They later arrived.

"What is the matter, madam? Any development?" asked Inspector John.

"It is Belinda again. She screamed and after she sat up, she was mentioning Henry." said

Belinda's mother

"Henry? What did she say about Henry?" said Inspector John.

"Nothing else. She was just repeating the name Henry. That is all." said Belinda's mother.

Inspector John heaved a sigh.

"What is the name of that guy in our custody again?" Inspector John asked Ramsey.

"That is Edward. (To Belinda's mother) Are you sure it was Henry that she mentioned?" said Inspector Ramsey.

"Yes, I am very sure. It was Henry." said Belinda's mother.

"Madam, I want to ask you. Is there anything in Belinda's possession apart from her mobile that you think can help us in our investigation?" asked Inspector John.

Belinda's mother thought for awhile then she said, "Her diary. Yes, Belinda has a diary."

"Her own personal diary?" asked Inspector John.

"Yes, it is at home." said Belinda's mother.

"Madam, can you help us with that diary? I want to see that diary." said Inspector John.

"Yes. I will go home and bring it down here." said Belinda's mother.

"Okay, Madam. We will be here waiting. Don't rush madam. Take it easy. We will be patiently waiting here." said Inspector John.

"Okay, let me go and get it." said Belinda's mother.

Belinda's mother left the ward and headed home for the diary. She came back later with the diary and handed it over to Inspector John. The policemen left the ward with the diary.

After awhile, while Belinda's mother was seated in the ward and Belinda was asleep, she suddenly heard the sound of the door moving. It was moving slowly. What was happening? Who was trying to get in? Someone was behind the door.

"Who is that?" Belinda's mother called out.

(No response)

“Who is behind that door?” Belinda’s mother said.

(No response)

What was going on? Someone was behind the door. Belinda’s mother stood up on her feet from the chair and called out again.

“Who is there?”

(No response)

What was happening? Belinda’s mother thought for awhile and then she decided to go see who was there. As Belinda’s mother approached and got close to the door, all of a sudden, she felt one hand go over her nose and another at the back of her head. Someone was trying to suffocate her to death! Belinda’s mother struggled to get free from the hold as the hands held on tight. Both parties struggled; one struggling in attack and the other in defense. Some noise was produced as both of them were struggling and Belinda woke up from her sleep. Her eyes were opened and she saw what was happening. She yelled!

“Haaa!!!”

Belinda continued to yell and the attacker withdrew his hand from his hold and left the place in a bid to escape. Belinda’s mother was gasping for breath. Belinda rushed to meet her mother where she was to check on her. Some nurses rushed into the ward as they had heard Belinda scream. After awhile, the two policemen who had left the ward also arrived and joined them in the ward. Belinda’s mother was now seated on the floor looking weak. She had almost lost her life.

“What happened?” asked Inspector John.

Belinda’s mum managed to speak. The two policemen went out of the ward in search of the attacker but they could not find him. He escaped! Who was he by the way? After awhile of hunting for the attacker and they could not find him, the policemen returned to the ward. Belinda’s mother was now seated on a chair and was looking better.

“Madam, did you see his face?” asked Inspector John.

“No, I did not. He was having a mask on his face and wore something over his head. I could not make out his face.” said Belinda’s mother.

“Is there anything that you think can help us in getting him? Did you find anything on him that can help out?” asked Inspector John.

Belinda’s mother dipped her hand inside a pocket on one side of the gown she was wearing

and brought out a ring! Ring again! What type of ring? Diamond or golden? Silver ring! It was a silver ring. Inspector John collected the ring and looked closely at it. There was something about the ring. He could relate with that ring. Inspector John showed it to Inspector Ramsey, and after Ramsey examined it, he could also relate with it. There was something about that ring. It was created in the same structure of the golden ring which they had found in the room where Belinda was attacked. The same structure! There were only two differences between both rings. The first one was golden while the second was of silver. And the second difference was what? Story continues!

Inspector Ramsey and John left the ward and headed for the station. They had with them Belinda's diary and the silver ring.

CHAPTER FIVE

One day, it happened that the two policemen went to meet someone at home. It happened that day. Both of the inspectors went to meet someone in his house.

(At the person' house)

“Oh! Officers, you are welcome. Please sit down.”

“No, there is no need for that Mr. Ben. We would not be sitting.” said Inspector John.

“Really? Okay! So, what is the matter? Why are you here?” asked Uncle Ben. (It was Uncle Ben they had gone to meet. You remember him?)

“Mr. Ben, can we see any Identity of card of yours? Any identity card that displays at least three of your names?” said Inspector John.

“Sure, I have such Identity cards in the house. In fact, there is one in my pocket right now.” said Uncle Ben

Uncle Ben brought out the Identity card and handed it over to Inspector John. John looked at it and nodded his head. He passed it to Ramsey, who also looked at it and nodded his head. John collected the Identity card from Ramsey and handed it back to Uncle Ben. Then John wanted to speak, until something occurred to his mind. He sensed something. He had seen something. John looked closely at the spot where he had seen something. What did he see?

“Mr. Ben, is this a bronze ring on your finger?” asked Inspector John.

“Yes it is. It is my ring. I purchased it myself. And what's up with it?” said Uncle Ben.

“Please, can I have a look at that ring?” said Inspector John.

“Of course!” said Uncle Ben.

Uncle Ben pulled out the ring and handed it over to Inspector John. John examined the ring and nodded his head. He handed the ring to Ramsey who examined it and nodded his head too. Ramsey handed it back to John who then handed the ring back to Uncle Ben. John then signaled to Ramsey with his head passing a message across. Ramsey understood. Ramsey pulled out his gun and pointed it at Uncle Ben.

“Mr Ben. You are under arrest.” said Inspector Ramsey.

“What? For what? What have I done?” asked Uncle Ben.

“Hey! Hey! Mister, please respect yourself and move. We don’t want to handcuff you but if you don’t comply, I have a handcuff with me here. Move!” said Inspector John.

“But for what? What have I done?” said Uncle Ben.

“Would you move now otherwise I will blow off your skull. Now move!” said Inspector Ramsey.

“Mr. Ben, you have the right to remain silent. Anything you say here may be used against you in the court of law. Now move!” said Inspector John.

Uncle Ben was arrested and taken to the police station. What for?

(At the police station)

“Mr. Ben, I put it to you that you were the one who attacked Belinda and gave her the injury that caused her to lose her memory.” said Inspector John.

“What? Do you know what you are saying? Belinda is my niece; the daughter of my brother. And I love her and would never want to harm her. So what are you saying?” said Uncle Ben.

“Mr. Ben, I am putting it to you and I still stand on it that you were the one who attacked Belinda that night.” said Inspector John.

“Inspector John, you are really trying my patience here. I am not the one who attacked her. She is my niece and I love and would not want to harm her. For what reason would I want to harm Belinda? I was not the one.” said Uncle Ben.

“Mr Ben, you also bear the name Henry right?” asked Inspector John.

“Yes, I do.” replied Uncle Ben.

“Then what can you say about this Mr. Ben?” (Belinda’s diary was presented to Uncle Ben)

Uncle Ben looked at the page of the diary before him. It reads:

“Dear diary, remember what happened between I and my uncle, that man called Henry? He has been threatening me because of it. He has said that he will take his revenge on me. So in case, one day, he does something to me and I die and leave this world, I want you be an evidence against him. I want the police to see this in you so they can know that Henry and I had something together before I died. I don’t want him to go scot free. I will try my best while I am still alive to defend myself against him, but if he kills him, I want you to serve as a testimony against him. Goodnight!”

Uncle Ben looks up at Inspector John and tried to say something but his lips only shook. He did

not say anything at first. After awhile, he eventually said something.

“But this does not stand as enough proof that I was the one who attacked her. Don’t you think that she may be lying? What proofs have you got to confirm what she wrote here that I have been threatening her? And even if I have been threatening her, what proofs have you got that I was the one who attacked her? I have said it before and I still stand on it. I was not the one who attacked Belinda.” said Uncle Ben.

Inspector John smiled and then he signaled to Inspector Ramsey. Ramsey placed a handkerchief on the table. Wrapped the handkerchiefs were two rings. Golden and silver!

“Mr Ben, what can you say about those rings before you?” said Inspector John.

(After awhile of looking at the rings) “I don’t know about these rings before me. I have got no business with them. I don’t own them and I don’t know the one who owns them. By the way, what has that got to do with this case?” said Uncle Ben.

“That golden ring was found beside where Belinda’s body lay in the room where she was found. Afterwards, in the hospital, Belinda’s mum was attacked and that silver ring was gotten from the attacker. The thing is, both this golden ring and the silver ring look like the bronze ring which we saw on your finger in their structures. So there is a connection.” said Inspector John.

“And what does that mean? If the rings look alike, does it mean I own them? Am I the only one to have bought a ring like that?” said Uncle Ben.

“Mr. Ben, take the three rings and look closely at them and see if you will notice something about them?” said Inspector John.

Uncle Ben took the rings and looked at them one after the other.

“Look closely, Mr. Ben. And you will find some text on them. On the golden ring, you will find G737, on the silver ring, you will find S737, while on the bronze ring, you will find B737.” said Inspector John.

“Yes, I can see that. What does that mean? Because the numbers are same mean that I own them?” said Uncle Ben.

Inspector John signaled to Inspector Ramsey. Ramsey reached for a laptop computer, operated it for awhile and placed it on the table.

“Mr. Ben, look at that this computer. What you are looking at is a conversation between us and the company that produces and markets these rings. And they confirmed it to us that they do not sell the rings separately rather they sell the three rings together. Which means that if you bought this bronze ring, which was what you told us, you also bought the silver and the golden

rings.”

Uncle Ben kept mute.

“Mr. Ben, furthermore we asked about the text on the rings and we were informed that the text on the rings were there so the one who bought them could identify which ones were his own in case if he loses any of them. They do this because the rings look alike and there could be a mix up. So in case there is a mix up or they get lost, each owner would be able to identify his own rings with that identification number. The numbers on these golden, silver and bronze rings reads G737, S737 and B737 respectively which means that they were purchased together. So if you were the one who purchased this bronze ring with B737 on it, that means that you also purchased these golden and silver rings along with it.

Mr. Ben, I am putting it to you that you were the one who attacked Belinda that night and you were the same one who attacked her mother in the hospital. What have you got to say?” Inspector John said.

Uncle Ben bowed his head for awhile then he looked up at Inspector John.

“Yes, I did it.” said Uncle Ben.

Inspector John and Ramsey looked at each other.

“If you did it, then why did you do it?” asked Inspector John.

“It was one night. Belinda was celebrating her birthday so I went for the celebration which was holding in a hall in a hotel. That night, I was high because champagne had been served at the party and I had drunk from it. I was high and was feeling aroused that night. After the party ended and people were going home, I was going to the toilet to ease myself. Upon getting close to the male toilet, I saw Belinda on a call. I waited for her to finish with her call.

(Flashback)

“Belinda, Belinda, how are you?” asked Uncle Ben.

“I am fine. Thank you. Uncle Henry, are you alright?” said Belinda.

(Belinda was someone who called her uncle Henry amongst the people who knew him as Henry. If you see Henry in this story, it is Uncle Ben)

“Alright? No, I don’t feel alright. I feel there is something going on inside of me that I seriously need to take care of.” said Uncle Ben.

“Really?” asked Belinda.

“Yes, something going on in me. Do you mind checking on me, maybe you can help me out.” said Uncle Ben.

“Okay, I don’t mind. So which part of your body is affected?” said Belinda

Belinda moved closer to Uncle Ben and tried to check on him. All of a sudden, Uncle Ben grabbed Belinda and was trying to bring her down. Belinda screamed and strived to get free from his hold. Uncle Ben, as a man that he was, was stronger than Belinda and succeeded in bringing her down and was trying to get between her legs. Belinda exerted her strength to break free but she was not strong enough. She had to do something fast. He was going to rape her! Belinda looked around and found an empty bottle of an alcoholic beverage. She smashed the bottle on the floor, and with one part of the broken bottle in her hand, Belinda stabbed Uncle Ben in his left arm. Uncle Ben withdrew from the struggle as a consequence and held the stabbed part, groaning in pain with blood flowing out of the spot. Belinda got up from the floor and ran away from the scene, leaving Uncle Ben behind in his pain.

(Flashback ends)

“I was there for awhile, then I managed to walk myself from that place into a room I had booked prior to that time. One of the hotel workers saw me and I told him it was an accident. He helped me with first aid that night. The next day, I left the hotel and drove to the hospital for treatment. Afterwards, I called Belinda on phone.

(Flashback)

“Henry, why are you calling me now?” said Belinda.

“What? Have I suddenly lost respect before you? You just called my name like that? Said Uncle Ben.

“Henry, leave story. Why are you calling me? Simple!” said Belinda.

“I want to apologize to you for what happened that night. I was high and aroused that night. I would not have done that to you on a norm. Hope you did not tell your mum?” said Uncle Ben

“Sorry for yourself, Henry. You are such a disgrace. If I had not done what I did, what would have happened to me? You would have raped your own niece?” said Belinda.

“Belinda, I told you what had happened to me that night. The champagne we had had affected my system.” said Uncle Ben.

“Shut up your dirty mouth, you this foolish pervert. Were you the only one who had drunk that night? Did I not drink? Did some other people not drink? And now you say it was champagne.

Or it was because of the dirty feelings that you had towards me in your heart and you saw that situation as an opportunity to get me.” said Uncle Ben.

“Belinda, why are you talking to me in this manner? You are not even showing any remorse for what you did to me. Don’t you know that you have caused me pain? Come and look at my arm now. I am feeling pain in it.” said Uncle Ben.

“Oh! Your arm? You just made me remember that I had been nice. What about your head? What if I had stabbed that your head and the bottle had gotten into that your brain with those dirty thoughts of yours? Uncle Ben, I am really doing you a favor here. I have not told my mum what happened. I did what I did to defend myself and there is nothing you can do about it. Pervert! Get of my line.” said Belinda.

“Hello, Belinda... Hello, are you there? Hello....” said Uncle Ben.

Belinda had hung up the phone.

“Hmm. Am I the one that Belinda is talking to in this manner? She did not show any respect. She did not show any remorse for what she did. This girl does not know me. She does not know who I am. If she knew, she would not try this with her. I am going to teach this girl a lesson.” Uncle Ben said to himself.

(Flashback ends)

Afterwards, I started threatening Belinda. She was being rude towards me and it appeared like I had lost my respect before her. I wanted her to show some respect. I wanted her to feel remorse for what she did. But she did not. I would send threat messages to Belinda asking her to apologize for what she did otherwise she would regret it. But she would not apologize. Every time, I would talk to her and try to threaten her, she would also reply me with threats. I felt so ashamed that that young lady, as young as she was, was acting like that to me. So I decided to teach her a lesson.

I had asked someone to help me monitor her and I was informed that she was at that hotel that night. I went there and was keeping an eye on her but she did not know. I saw a guy leave the bar with her and they headed upstairs and I followed them.

(Flashback)

“I can see you guys are having a good time.” said Uncle Ben.

“And who are you and what are you doing here?” said Edward.

“You are very silly for asking me that question.” said Uncle Ben.

“Would you get out of here man? Get out!” said Edward.

“Do you know who you are talking to?” said Uncle Ben.

“Who are you?” said Edward.

“Who am I? Since you have asked, then let me show you who I am.” said Uncle Ben.

Henry hit Edward hard with a thick piece of wood on his head. Edward collapsed to the floor and got unconscious. Henry turned to Belinda.

“Belinda, is this not you? I have got you at a good time. What do you have now or what can you do now to defend yourself against me?” said Uncle Ben.

“Henry, what is it? What have I done to you to deserve your threats? Why are you here now?” said Belinda.

“Really? So soon? Have you forgotten so soon what you did to me? You attacked me Belinda. You struck me hard. You made me bleed. You caused me pain. Have you forgotten?” said Uncle Ben.

“Henry, why don’t you leave me alone? Were you not the one who first grabbed me before I attacked you? I was defending myself from you, foolish pervert. Said Belinda.

SLAP!!! (Henry gives her a slap on her face) “How dare you talk to me like that? Don’t you have some fear in you? Are you not afraid of me?” said Uncle Ben.

“Henry, there is nothing to be afraid of about you. I don’t fear you.” said Belinda.

“Oh I see. Belinda, I would have considered sparing you because of the relation between you and I. Because of what we have had together in the past. Because of what we still have between us now. But, look at you. you are not showing any remorse for what you did. You do not feel sorry before me Belinda. You just said you are not afraid of me. I hereby choose not to pity you my dear. I am going to take my revenge.” said Uncle Ben.

“There is nothing you can do Henry.” said Belinda.

“There is something I can do. I can cause you pain. I can make you cry. Belinda don’t try me.” said Uncle Ben.

“Henry, I repeat, you can do nothing.” said Belinda.

“I repeat, I can do something.” said Uncle Ben.

“Then show me, Henry.” said Belinda.

“For real?” said Uncle Ben.

“Yes, show me what you got, you this weakling fool.” said Belinda.

(Henry grabs Belinda by her shoulders) “Belinda, don’t try me. I am warning you. I can cause you pain.” said Uncle Ben.

“You can do nothing.” said Belinda.

“Argggghhhhhhhhhhhhh” Uncle Ben yelled in rage and shook Belinda rigorously.

“Leave me alone! Leave me alone!! Henry, leave me alone!!!” said Belinda trying to break free from his grip.

Uncle Ben and Belinda struggled for awhile but Henry overpowered her. While they were struggling, a golden ring fell off one of Uncle Ben’s fingers and landed on the floor. Uncle Ben grabbed her head, moved backwards and dashed forward with force, smashing her head viciously against the wall. Belinda sustained an injury at the back of her head instantly due to the attack and blood flowed out from the spot. She fell to the ground. Henry left the room.

(Flashback ends)

“And that was it.” said Uncle Ben.

“And why did you go to attack her mother at the hospital?” asked Inspector John.

“I was afraid that Belinda was going to recover from her memory loss and remember what I had done to her. So I went there to finish her up. Her mother was there with her, that was why I tried to kill her. I had planned to kill her mother first so I can have my way in murdering and finishing Belinda up. Please officer, it was because of champagne. It was the champagne that made me high and aroused that night. If I was not in that state, I would not think of sleeping with Belinda. And what happened would not have happened. Please help me. I am a responsible person in the society. If I am released and not sentenced to jail, I can contribute to the betterment of the society. Please help me.” said Uncle Ben.

“Mr. Ben, when you get to court, you would go and say that in court. Inspector Ramsey, take him to the cell.”

Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

“O you who believe! Intoxicants (all kinds of alcoholic drinks), and gambling, and Al-Ansaab (stone altars for sacrifices to idols, jinn, etc), and Al-Azlaam (arrows for seeking luck or decision) are an abomination of Shaytaan’s (Satan’s) handiwork. So avoid (strictly all) that

(abomination) in order that you may be successful”

[al-Maa'idah 5:90]

Allaah has cursed the drinker of alcohol. In *Sunan Abi Dawood* (3189) it is narrated that Ibn 'Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “Allaah has cursed alcohol, the one who drinks it, the one who pours it, the one who sells it, the one who buys it, the one who squeezes (the grapes, etc), the one for whom it is squeezed, the one who carries it and the one to whom it is carried.” Classed as saheeh by al-Albaani as stated in *Saheeh Abi Dawood*, 2/700.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) likened the one who is addicted to alcohol to one who worships idols. It was narrated that Abu Hurayrah said: The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “The one who is addicted to alcohol is like one who worships an idol.” Narrated by Ibn Maajah, 3375; classed as hasan by al-Albaani in *Saheeh Ibn Maajah*, 2720.

In *Saheeh al-Bukhaari* (2295) and *Saheeh Muslim* (86) it is narrated that Abu Hurayrah (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “No one who commits zina is a believer at the moment when he is committing zina, and no one who drinks wine is a believer at the moment when he is drinking it, and no thief is a believer at the moment when he is stealing, and no robber is a believer at the moment when he is robbing and the people are looking on.” This means that such a person is not a believer in the sense of having complete faith, rather his faith is greatly lacking because of this evil action.

THE END

PRAISE BE TO ALLAAH, THE LORD OF THE WORLDS. THE ONE AND THE ONLY ONE WHO IS WORTHY OF WORSHIP. THE ALMIGHTY, THE GREATEST.

MAY PEACE AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAAH BE UPON THE NOBLEST OF MANKIND, THE SEAL AND BEST OF ALL PROPHETS, THE GREATEST OF ALL HUMANS THAT HAVE EVER AND WILL EVER SET FOOT ON THIS EARTH, PROPHET MUHAMMAD.

INDEED, THERE ARE TWO THINGS WHICH IF A HUMAN BEING FOLLOWS AND HOLDS ON TO THEM, HE WILL NEVER BE LED ASTRAY. INDEED, THEY ARE THE QURAN (WORD OF ALLAAH) AND THE SUNNAH OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PEACE AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAAH BE UPON HIM)