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I gasped as Mr Beckett led me to the grand cathedral. It was absolutely unimaginable. The intricate vines worshipped at the feet of the pillars & branched out to the bed of roses on either side of the cathedral.

The vivid red created such a passionate atmosphere & the scent sent me into a trance.

"Alice, I would think a lady as yourself would be able to contain herself even if before something so opulent."

"Oh why yes of course Mr. Beckett, it is just not what I expected. It is just so magnificent & breathtaking."

"Ahh yes; that is true. It is a shame though..."

"Pardon me?" I replied with curiosity.

"Shall we enter Alice, mass will be starting soon."

"We shall."

During mass I could not help but be distracted. I pondered as to what Mr. Beckett was mumbling about previously. As I admired the internal components of the cathedral the little streams of lights distracted me. They were like tiny little dancers bouncing upon the pillars. Ada would have loved it so. She, once again, has refused my invitation to attend ~~me~~ Sunday mass. I wish she wouldn't, she would enjoy it so much. ~~Edison~~ Edison has also done the same. He would always place scrutiny upon the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ organised religion. He reminded me today as I presented my invitation to him, "Honestly Alice how do you expect to worship the lord if you are concealed & trapped within a white box? The lord is within nature, he is nature & thus your worshipping should be in the moors with me. Nature is the true representation of God. Once you leave that cathedral on

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Sunday your relationship is over for another week. Organised religion has no place in Camperdown Alice, not with the moors alive & prosperous."

Ada & Edison were similar in that way, they never believed organised religion had a place in the town.

~~A message came to me this~~ They also enjoyed their solitude with nature & their wild imaginations. A message came to me this morning.

It was from Ada requesting my presence this afternoon after mass.

I am very curious as why she requests my presence so abruptly. ~~The~~ Although there is talk in the town that she is carrying out a hidden agenda behind her suitor's back. Of course he is blissfully unaware, just some chit-chat among the women.

"Ada!" hissed Mr. Beckett

"Would you please stop day dreaming & pay attention."

"~~Oh~~ My apologise sir." I replied

He then rearranged himself accordingly

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& directed his attention back towards the priest. My father always taught that you could be able to tell a lot about a man with the way he carried himself. Mr. Beckett was a highly regarded man in town. He was incredibly wealthy & his cotton factory was booming. My mother was very pleased when he showed interest in me. She would always coo, ~~she~~

"Do not turn Mr. Beckett down Alice, he is a man of great status & power in this ~~town~~ town. Do not be influenced by Ada's decision & turning him down."

• • •  
"Ada where on earth are we going?"

"I spluttered as I clumsily followed Ada into ~~the~~ darkness.

"It wouldn't be a surprise if I told you would it now? Just a ~~few~~<sup>few</sup> bit further & we're there, not to worry" she chirped.

"Yes but I am very concerned if Mr. Beckett is curious of my whereabouts."



I don't think you should have called me so abruptly. A relationship is built on trust & honesty. How am I to form that if I run off without company like this?"

Ada turned back & exposed her coy smile, "Alice, Mr. Beckett is ~~an~~ ~~incredibly~~ highly regarded man, for his status he will not even mention your absence to you."

She then ~~swivee~~ turned back around & continued to lead me into the darkness. As I continued the ~~g~~ smell of gasoline suddenly hit me & I stepped back in repulsion.

"Not to worry your nose will familiarise" she said with confidence.

We then suddenly stopped before a door & Ada reached ~~into~~ for the door knob & threw back the door. She tugged on a piece of string in the air & the room was lit:

My eyes had to adjust to the newly lit room but as I looked down I noticed that my hems were soiled.

"Ada you did not tell me there was

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going to bed." I complained.

"Never mind that, I want to show you something."

She then disappeared into a closet.

I eventually looked around the room & noticed there was paper strewn all across the ~~the~~ benches, it overflowed ~~at the~~ to the ground.

As I took a closer look I realised that it was in a foreign language.

"Ada!" I yelled out

"What is the meaning of this?"

She then appeared with a large contraption in her arms.

"My lord, what is that contraption?" I asked in fear.

"This 'contraption' as you say is an Analytical Machine by ~~the~~ Charles Babbage." she said with pride.

"And what does that have to do with you exactly?"

"You know very well that I cannot decline a challenge. I adore mathematics & so ~~the~~ Charles, as he likes to be called, asked if I would like to translate Luigi Menabrea's memoir from French

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to English to create a larger audience."

"I see..." I replied in worry.

"And how does you to publish this memoir without attention?" I asked as I took a closer look at the contraption. It was rather beautiful in a monstrous way. Screws & springs placed with such intricacy. It reminded me of the vines at the cathedral.

The bronze colour gleamed magnificently.

"Simple, I would publish under the initial A.A.L." ~~she kept~~

• • •

A year has passed and as Ada said she has published her memoir under the pseudonym A.A.L in the Scientific Journal. I have since wed ~~Thomas~~ Tom & am now with child.

We have moved from Camperdown to Burberry as Tom's factory would ~~be~~ benefit there. I miss Camperdown & its warmth, I hope to convince Tom to visit soon. There is news Ada has wed William King. I wish her well.

Dearest Alice,

News has spread that you are with child. I wish you & Tom with great prosperity. He & William are doing splendidly. Your parents send their love. We hope you visit soon. I miss our afternoon chat-chats, it is not the same without you here. Convince Tom to come visit soon. And please remember to not regret the decision to ~~marry~~ wed Tom, he will ensure you ~~for~~ for life. I hope you are happy.



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