

Eternal Return

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To the ones who love.

## Chapter 1.

## The Lady in Captivity

I have a weird situation, when I woke up 6 months ago, I remember nothing at all. I was like a blank page. But my body tells me that I have already lived for 30 years in this world. I am 1.60 meters tall, around 50 kilos, I have every knowledge of this world, history, physics, and even more... But the only thing is, I know nothing or nobody around me. And nobody tells me anything at all about who I am or was. I was only told that my name is Reece.

I was inside a room, a room inside a chateau, and a chateau inside a city. I have no idea, as I have been locked inside since I woke up on that weird rainy day. I remember I woke up in a big bedroom. The room is magnificent, with red curtains, and dark green painted walls with dark paints. I saw a man dressed in blue beside me, he looked very nervous.

'Hey Reece... You probably don't remember anything...' His voice is gentle. 'I am Wens. I am your husband, and... you had an accident, you cannot go outside because of your special situation.'

I had a headache on that day, and I couldn't talk. Soon I fell asleep again. So I had no choice. I was locked, by him.

Wens has two teenage girls living together, Evie and Elise. I can hear them laughing, crying, and making all sorts of noises chasing each other. They never talked to me, and I never talked to them. They were looking at me like something scary. I do not care.

Daily I was taken care of by a Chinese maid. Her name is Sol. She was short, fat, with long hair. She dressed in luxury, she was a rich maid in this house. This morning and afternoon, she came to see me and offered me food. However, I felt weird the whole day, so refused to eat anything. Now she came back with a nice silver tray with my favorite fish soup.

'Mrs. Mohn, time to dinner.' She called me softly.

'Yes?' I replied. 'I feel better now, I will eat later.'

Sol nodded and then left the room.

On this special day, it was rainy again. I looked outside and felt sleepy. So I lay down in bed and fell into my dreams. Very soon I was deeply in my dream. I heard a voice echoing behind me: 'If you are not you, me, not me, where are we heading to?'

I woke up suddenly, hearing the storm was kicking on my window. I want to leave here. I have tried many times. Each time I was caught by the security system. The best I did was rush to the front door and then run to the rain. However, Wens's car just arrived home. He looked at me furiously, then he dragged my hair, lifted me in his arms, and sent me to my room... So in a nutshell, I have gone through enough 'storm' by trying to escape. Now I am just taking a bit of rest. I am enjoying this peace.

But today I felt different, I heard there was no sound downstairs for a while. I went to the door and used my golden hairpin to open the door lock. I was so good at those small tricks. So I sneaked out of my room and quickly went to the hallway.

The bedroom of Wens was open, I heard something, so I carefully walked to the door. Through the dimming lights in his bedroom, I saw Wens was making out with a naked middle-aged lady. That lady is Lunes. It was not the first I saw them two making out together. The last time was in the living room. My memory flashed back to 6 months ago when I was still free, I mean free in this house to walk around. I saw Lunes lying on top of Wens on the beautiful blue sofa in the corner of the living room close to the entry. They two were for sure having great fun together...

A sudden furious feeling came to my mind, I thought to myself: 'What a disgusting couple.' But at this very moment, when I tried to escape, I did not want to care. Now Lunes was holding Wen's right hand and said in a lovely, yet anxious voice. 'Wait a minute, how is your crazy wife going?', she said.

'She is...good,' Wens put on this serious face and said calmly. 'She still doesn't remember anything.'

'But that's good.' Lunes sits up in bed. 'Will you divorce her? As you promised?'

A moment of silence came into the scene when Lunes continued. 'Are you changing your mind? Do you love me?'

'No... I mean yes.' Wens looked more serious now. 'I will work on it...'

'You have to say it... say you love me. Otherwise, I will leave.'

'Okay, okay... Stop doing this. Let's just have fun.'

'Say it.'

'Yes, I love you.'

Lunes smiled, and then they continued...

I couldn't help it, because I seem to be that disgusting man's wife, at least that is what he said, and I never admit I am. Again, memory came back...

The day when I saw Wens and Lunes on that blue sofa making love, I was so in shock. I rushed back to my room and felt extremely unhappy. I do not know why. I started to question myself: 'Why am I here? Who I am?'

I went to bed. A couple of hours later, it was getting dark. I felt someone kissing my neck, touching my body. I woke up and saw Wens was beside me in bed. He looked at me and said nothing. I pushed him away.

'Get off mel' I said

'What? Why? You are my wife, why I cannot kiss you?'

'I am not... you were making love with that lady... you are loving someone else!'

'You saw us?'

'Yes. And I would like to leave tomorrow.'

Wens started to get very nervous in his voice, 'No, you cannot.'

'I insist! You two... you were disgusting!'

He dragged me back in his arms. I couldn't see his face in that darkness, but I could feel he was violent when he touched me. 'Stop! You are mine, you are not going anywhere!'

I was raped on that night... Since then, I have been trying to leave this place. So here I am, again, trying to escape from this...

'Disgusting, really need to leave here.' I whispered to myself and decided to ignore them. I started to head to the kitchen, which was the closest way to get to the back door.

I walked outside of the hallway, went downstairs, passed by the huge living room and dining room, and finally saw the kitchen. A maid was chopping cucumber in the kitchen. And then I saw Sol was preparing some evening drinks for me. I always requested some cocktails before sleep. Today Sol was preparing my Negroni. She was very good, a shot of dry gin, add Campari, and some sweet vermouth in a beautiful glass with ice cubes. I was about to expect the orange peel, however, I saw Sol pick a dark grey glass bottle from one of the small cabinets. Then she opened the bottle and poured the white powder from the bottle into my glass. I was in shock.

'What is that?' I whispered.

At the same time, Sol started to talk with the other maid.

'Is Evie still sick?'

'Yes, madam. Evie still hasn't woken up yet since yesterday evening.'

'Do you know what happened exactly?'

'No... no idea. Mr. Wens found it. Then he just told me to take care of Evie. But I heard others saying that... there seems to be screaming from the attic...'

Sol heard this and her eyes wide open immediately.

'Not good.' So said. 'You come with me.'

The other maid nodded. Sol put back the grey bottle to the cabinet in a hurry and prepared a tray to go upstairs. And the other maid followed.

This was a great chance to sneak out to the back door. But I was so curious, so I wanted to have a look at the grey bottle to check what exactly it was. Somehow I found that I have quite some knowledge of medicine. I opened the bottle from that small cabinet. I poured some powder into my hand to smell it. It had no smell at all. To my knowledge, I had no idea what it was. But the texture seemed very familiar. I was about to think of something. Then suddenly, I felt someone was dragging the corner of my shirt.

I almost thought I was caught again, however, I turned back and saw Wens's second daughter. She was just so small and naive. I relived.

'Please, please save my sister.' Elise said with her hands tight holding onto my shirt.

'But I have no idea how... and I have to go...' I said.

'No... are you leaving? Please...'

I was entangled by Elise. She started to make quite some noise. Soon enough, I heard Wens' steps.

'Okay, now it's too late...' I said pouting my mouth to Elise.

Wens came to the kitchen, and looked at me in furious, he held my arm tightly and dragged me back to my room. This time, he grabbed the rope on my side table and tied my arms to the bed.

'Why did you lock me here? Did I do anything wrong?' I asked.

'Yes, you did.' Wens lay down on top of me, then looked at me narrowing his eyes. 'And you should be sentenced, by me.' Then he began to kiss me, touch my body, and...

I knew what he would do. And I absolutely hate it. 'Please... please don't...' I said, and started to shedding tears.

'You... really... don't remember a thing...' Wens said, frowning.

I looked at him, his eyes seemed full of tears. I felt so confused.

'Okay, okay...'

I hadn't got a chance to reply a thing, Wens left the room, shuffling his steps.

Right after Wens locked the door, I heard Sol come to talk with Wens outside the hallway.

'Evie is very sick... I think only that... that lady can help her...'

'But, she will...' Wens sighed. 'Okay, bring her to the girls' room tonight.'

'Yes. Mr. Mohn.'

I felt more confused, about what they would do with me. But soon, like a routine, I fell into a deep dream again.

When I woke up, I was in Evie's and Elise's bedroom. I felt pain in my hand, but they were both tied tightly to the bed. I saw a long wound in my right hand, which was still bleeding. There was blood on the floor as well. I looked at the other bed, which was empty. Nobody else was in the room as well, however, the door was still open.

'What happened?' I asked myself. However, I don't remember a thing.

Then I heard some random little steps coming. Elise showed up in the room, she was breathing deeply.

'Elise? You come to see me?'

'Yes... I am sorry about that... during the day...'

'Are you... are you really my mum?'

'I don't know. And... you think? Am I really your mother?'

'Hum... no, you are not... Although Papa told me you are. But... I don't know, I haven't seen my mum before. I just feel you are not...'

'Well...Why are you here?' I asked.

'I come to...' She said. 'I know how my father treats you, I will let you go.'

Elise untied me from the bed and helped me to stand up. I felt my whole body was very weak. Elise showed me the way to the attic.

'Reece, you climb the stairs to the 5th floor, there is a small door to the terrace. On the right side, there is a long ladder that can lead to the ground.'

'Thanks, Elise.'

'No, thank you, Reece. I will miss you.'

'I will miss you, too.'

So I started to climb up the stairs, trying all my efforts to reach the attic. Soon I heard Wens' voice behind chasing me through the stairs.

I successfully reached out to the 5th floor and rushed to the terrace through the small side door. It was raining hard on top of the terrace. I was about to find the ladder to the bottom, however, I saw a red dragon with a long body like a snake and sharp claws like hawks flying to me and landing beside me.

'Reece, my lady. I finally find you.' The Dragon said in a man's voice.

'Who are you?' I asked. I felt somehow very familiar with this dragon.

'I am Chilin, your guardian.'

Wens also reached the terrace, he saw the dragon and didn't step further. Then he shouted to me: 'Reece! Reece, come back, please! You go to meet your doctor, doctor Lee, he will tell you everything! Please, come back.'

I ignored Wens and planned to leave immediately. However, I heard that screaming sound from the attic.

'Is that a woman?' I wondered.

'My lady, be quick.' Chilin said and lay down beside me to let me drive him in his back.

I climbed up and soon Chilin flew to the sky and took me away.

Chapter 02. It's Not Just A Stone

When I woke up again, It was morning time. I was already inside a forest, I heard water flowing, birds singing, and the leaves of the trees rustling. I saw Chilin was beside me, and carefully watching me.

'My lady, are you feeling better?'

'Yes, I think so.' I said and slowly stood up. 'I somehow feel stronger.. stronger than before.'

'Of course, my lady. You have been fed with the Powerless Powder for you. So your spiritual power is fading out. That's also why I cannot sense you in the past six months.' Chilin showed me the grey bottle I saw in Wens' kitchen. Chilin continued. 'I found this when I searched around the house. Yesterday, they tried to use your blood to save the little girl. That is how I sense your spiritual power again and found you.'

'That's why I felt sleepy every single day. That disgusting human.' I was annoyed by what Wens did to me.

Chilin nodded and said: 'But don't worry, my lady. Your power will be back in the next couple of days. Before it's fully back, you have to be careful using it. Do not overuse. There might be consequences.'

'I see.' I frowned because somehow, this gave me a subtle bad feeling. 'And what about my memory, will that be back too?'

'Memory, yes, but not so fast.' Chilin looked concerned in his eyes. 'My lady, you do have one superpower which is to recall any memory that you want to, yours and others. So... If you don't remember before, it must be because you do not want to recall, or you just...'

'Just what?' I became more and more curious.

'Just reborn.' Chilin said. 'But that is not possible. Because you still carry the body before.'

I nodded. 'Then it means that something happened, and I do not want to recall... What it could be?'

'My lady, there is one more thing.' Chilin became more concerned. 'Your stone is not with you.'

'Stone? I do like collecting stones. But why you are so concerned.'

'It's not just a stone. It's called Qian Kun Stone. All things in this world can be stored inside. You have been carrying it since you were born. You often say that you have lived long enough to forget things. So you put a piece of memory there to back up.'

'Oh? Good point.' I nodded, admiring myself how brilliant I am. 'So, let's find the stone. But I got a feeling that it will come back to you on its own.'

Chilin lifted his eyebrows with a wry smile. 'Yes, my lady. You often said that each time when you lost it...'

I laughed loudly and said: 'Let's go to the North then. I got a feeling it will be close to the North Sea.'

'Sure, my lady. But you don't want to know who you are? I can tell you...'

'No, it's not necessary. You said my memory will be back when I want to anyway. And I know who I am because I am always myself.'

Chilin smiled.

'Now, let's head to the north.'

Chilin nodded and lay down lower beside me. I climbed up on his back, and we embarked on our journey to the North.

Soon we flew out of the small French town in the middle of Europe and arrived in Amsterdam at midnight. At this very moment, we were at the top of the Royal Palace on Dam Square.

'Chilin, I feel you look too catchy in the city. Don't you think?'

'Oh, that's not difficult.' With the blink of an eye, Chilin turned into a small golden retriever.

I couldn't stop my joy and started to pat him immediately. 'You look so cute!' I said.

Chilin was happy to hear. I suddenly found this scene very familiar and started to look around. Today is a full moon day. The street at midnight was quite empty. Occasionally, some drunk people were bumping into each other.

'But now... We need some money to get around first.' I turned to Chilin. 'Do you have cash?'

'No.'

'I see... Then what we should do? Maybe I find a job tomorrow? Or we go to the Casino tonight? Or we rob a bank?...' I started to think about what could be the best.

'But, I have gold.' Chilin said.

'What! You should mentioned that earlier!'

'Well... you didn't ask...'

'Okay, okay.'

Chilin closed his eyes and soon opened. At the same time, a small golden-made dragon appeared in my hand.

'What a beautiful dragon! Where did you get this?' I asked.

'You gave it to me a long time ago.'

'That's why I feel it's so familiar. I will give you something else later!' I said. 'Now the question is where to exchange them into cash?'

'I know a place.'

'Oh? Let's go then!'

Chilin led me the way inside the city, we started to walk inside the city. Soon we passed by the Red Light District and arrived in a small Chinese restaurant.

I am a bit confused. 'A Chinese restaurant? Are you serious?' I asked.

'Well, they often use my Zodiac sign as posters outside. They must hold some spiritual events inside.'

I grinned at Chilin: 'You mean this little cute dragon poster?' I pointed at a pink poster on the side, which showed a cartoon pink dragon eating a dumpling.

'Yes... It's cute, kind of... like me...'

I laughed. 'You look way more handsome than this.'

'Very glad to hear that, my lady.'

I looked at the front door and felt concerned. 'But... it's not open.' I said.

'You can knock on the door. The Chinese gangsters normally hang out there on the second floor.'

I thought Chilin was joking. But this was serious. 'How do you know?' I asked.

'You said so, my lady. You said all the Chinese restaurant that has a second floor must have gangsters hang out frequently.'

I laughed again. 'Now when I think about it, indeed makes sense.'

I went to the front door and rang the bell. Soon I heard someone was coming. An Asian-look young boy opened the door. He looked at me and felt confused. I guessed it was because of my brown hair and blue eyes.

'Who are you? And what do you want? We are closed.' He said. He has a Chinese accent and he said those words rudely.

I smiled and said: 'I have some precious gold, come for an exchange.' At the same time, I sensed there were seven people upstairs sitting around a table with lots of clear chunky crystals resembling ice on top of the table.

'No, we don't do that.' The boy said and almost closed the door.

I stopped him and said: 'If you don't do this. I will call the police and say, I have heard some suspicious noise from a Chinese restaurant, and...'

The boy frowned and looked at me from up to down again'. You stayed here. I will ask the boss.' He said.

In less than three minutes, the boy showed up again at the front door. 'You can come in. Dogs are not allowed here.' He said.

'Chilin, you wait here.' I said to Chilin.

## Chilin nodded.

I walked into the restaurant following the Chinese boy. He guided me to the second floor. I saw three men there at the table. There were now. a white cloth on top of the table. The guy in the middle started to talk to me. 'I heard you come to exchange your gold? What do you have?'

'Yes, this one' I said and showed the golden dragon at the same time.

The three men around the table looked shocked and kept their eyes wide open.

The man on the left said to the young boy: 'Ask Tommy to come here and have a look.'

Soon enough, another Asian middle-aged man came in. I handed over the dragon to that man. The man checked carefully and nodded to the previous man who called him. Then he returned the dragon to me and left.

Then the three men discussed a bit. The man in the middle started to talk to me again. 'Young lady, how much do you want?'

'Doesn't matter. You name a price?'

'50k, no negotiations.' The man said.

'50k? That's too much cash to carry. 10k is enough.' I said and started to wonder where was my stone - if I had my stone with me, I could be able to carry 50k.

The three men looked even more shocked. Then one of them left and soon he brought 10k in euros and handed it to me. I gave the golden dragon to them.

'Thanks.' I said.

Then I turned back and went downstairs. I have a strong sensing system. I heard them whispering: 'Who is this person? This is truly an antique worth enormous.'

'And she only asked 10k, why?' ...

I smiled and left the restaurant soon. The moment I stepped out of the building, I felt someone from the window upstairs staring at me. I turned my eyes to the window and saw a woman dressed in black. She looked very familiar. Soon she disappeared. I couldn't recall anyone.

I saw Chilin waiting for me on the side of the pavement. 'Chilin, let's go.' I said to him. 'Let's find a hotel that allows dogs!' Chilin nodded and followed me to walk back to the center.

Through one of the main streets, we walked into a small passageway, and suddenly mist appeared everywhere around us. I was about to remind Chilin to be careful. Only to realise that Chilin was not behind me anymore.

'Chilin, where are you?' I shouted around and didn't hear any response. I became very worried.

Then a group of men dressed in black suits appeared in the mist. They all have guns in their hands. They were approaching me fast.