

**SuperPower: The Ability to Fly
or to Become Invisible:
In Ashes, Phoenix Eagles Shall Rise
(Book #4)**

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Chapter 1

Woodpushers

Glenn Peterson, the international chess master, walks through Bobby Fischer Chess Park, watching several chess games being played on the concrete tables.

He notices that at one of the tables, two chess experts are playing, with white poised to checkmate in four moves.

After finishing a meal from one of the food truck vendors, Glenn walks around and notices the soon-to-be-mated black player. He approaches the man and says, "I saw that you were playing earlier as black. What was the outcome of the game?"

Without hesitation, the man states, "We drew the game."

The next day, Glenn has a meeting with the Secretary of Finance and Economy in Reykjavik.

Entering the birch-paneled government office, Glenn tells the receptionist, "Good morning, Góðan Daginn. I have a 10:00 a.m. meeting with the Secretary."

She tells Glenn, "Follow me," as they enter the Secretary's executive office.

As she departs, closing the door, Glenn notices a marble chessboard and Honey Rosewood Staunton chess pieces. The board is set up in the initial chess position. Remembering where the mate in four should have occurred, Glenn adjusts the pieces until that position appears on the chessboard.

Glenn sits back in the chair opposite the Secretary's executive seat.

Soon, the Secretary of the Ministry of Finance and Economy arrives and greets Glenn with a firm handshake. He asks Glenn, "How can I assist you, Mr. Peterson?"

Glenn asks, "Are you familiar with Professor Steele?"

The Secretary states, "Yes, we have a business relationship and can be regarded as 'friends.'"

Just then, the Secretary notices the chessboard and sees that the pieces have been moved. He stands up and approaches it to examine the position closely.

He asks Glenn, "Do you play chess?"

Glenn replies, "Yes, I do occasionally."

The Secretary asks, "Did you establish this position?"

Glenn responds, "I don't understand."

The Secretary tells him, "This is the exact position I occupied in a game I played yesterday."

Glenn approaches and asks, "What did you play at this point?"

The Secretary shows him his poorly played second-rate move and says, "A few moves later, we drew."

Glenn states, "I would have played this move," as he moves his queen.

The Secretary says, "That's terrible; I can capture your queen like this."

Glenn responds by checking with his knight, declaring, "Move, and I'll checkmate you in two moves."

The Secretary responds, "Not true."

Then, analyzing the board, says, "Oh my Caissa, you are correct."

Then, Glenn admits that he watched the game while having lunch in Chess Park.

The two men start to laugh.

Seated at the Secretary's executive desk, Glenn asks him, "Could you arrange a meeting for us with the Professor?"

The Secretary tells Glenn, "It's hard to believe that you're not aware that on every major iBroadcast iChannel and later on the iNews iChannels, the Lemnian Deeds Federation, headed by SuperModel and fashion designer Myrena Gorgona, used Israeli David's Sling missiles to disintegrate Professor Steele's jet. Luckily, his two nephews, Apollo and Rocky, somehow managed to survive."

Glenn, his eyes wide open, says, "I seem to remember hearing something about that, but who can believe the tabloid iNews iBroadcasts?"

The Secretary continues, saying, "Evidently, there is a clash of the titans between Myrena Gorgona and the two remaining Steele twins regarding who will be in charge of the Golden Eagle Organization and the Steele Corporation. Rumors of the resurrection of Professor Steele appear on the front pages of iGossip iNewspapers, alongside stories of extraterrestrials and Elvis sightings."

Glenn requests, "I would appreciate any help you can provide regarding a business meeting."

They shake hands before Glenn leaves to meet his investors for lunch.

Chapter 2

Dossier on Harmony Bond

Harmony Bond discovered that she has the SuperPower of being a human scopolamine, also known as devil's breath, where her words turn her victims into zombies, obeying her every command. Scientists have called the devil's breath, known as 'the most dangerous drug in the world.' She tells everyone she meets, "My word and name are my Bond. I am not James Bond, only Harmony Bond," and she smiles warmly.

After Harmony's father passed away, her mother, Teresa Bond, began dating wealthy and prestigious gentlemen.

When the first suitor reveals himself under her SuperPower spell, he says, "I am not just a drunk but an abusive one; I divorced four wives I abused after drinking myself senseless."

Harmony turns her mother's dates into mindless zombies who don't even remember their first names until they are freed.

The next gentleman, whom her mother introduces her to, smiles at the matriarch and her daughter before she goes into her bedroom to get ready for their date.

Young Harmony sits alone with him in the kitchen while her mother makes the final arrangements for their romantic date.

Harmony blinks three times, her eyes putting the man into a trance, and then she asks him about his motives.

Falling under Harmony's SuperPower spell, he confesses to her, "Sadly, I am on the verge of declaring bankruptcy and need your mother's social standing and your deceased father's multimillion-dollar inheritance that she has recently received to continue with my exuberant lifestyle and gambling addiction."

As her mother enters the kitchen, Harmony has him regain his senses, and they leave to see the latest movie. The zombie-like man is speechless throughout the evening's date, ruining any chance with her mother.

The next man looking for her mother's affection is left alone with Harmony for a few minutes while her mother returns from the beauty parlor.

Harmony, using her SuperPower, puts him into a trance, where he tells her, "Anything that I have told your mother is completely a lie. I borrowed money from my brother to take her to dinner and entertainment, and the expensive car that I drive to pick her up is also borrowed from my family. The truth is that I have no job; I rely on my family to pay for my residence, my car, and their black credit card to use on our dates."

The next gentleman begins dating her mother, who falls into a zombie-like stupor, telling Harmony, "I misled your mother, telling her that I was a stockbroker when in reality I'm just a substitute schoolteacher making minimum pay, and the secondhand car I tell her is my roommate's, but it's mine."

Another contender for dating her mother is in a state of oblivion, confessing, "I idolize serial killers like Jack the Ripper, as I have kidnapped college co-eds and prostitutes. My next goal is to murder them after torturing each one for a while."

Harmony has the mindless man write out his confession, detailing his efforts, and instructs him to deliver it to the police precinct immediately.

She told her mother that her date was cheating on his gay lover, and he rethought cheating on him and left.

Her mother's current boyfriend becomes a victim of Harmony's unconscious state, telling her, "Everything that I have told your mother is the truth. I am a city worker working in the audit department, making a decent wage, and I have my own house, even though I still pay every month for its mortgage. I am starting to fall in love with her, but I am a little concerned about her daughter, as there is something about her that she is not telling both of us."

When Harmony wakes him up, she feels great about this plan. He tells her, "I am very excited to take your mother to a local restaurant and then see a movie with two Pepsi fountain drinks and one bucket of popcorn to share."

Myrena Gorgona brings Harmony Bond to the Stockholm Fashion Show to assist her Deeds volunteer salespeople.

As dozens of international iBroadcast fashion reporters interview Myrena, her Deeds Federation volunteers are taking orders on Gorgona's latest fashion trends, which are the talk of the show.

When a volunteer has a sales representative who isn't committed to purchasing, they wave their left hand, signaling Harmony to come over.

Harmony greets the department or chain-store sales representative with, "Welcome to the Gorgona Fashion Design booth. My name is Harmony Bond. How are you today?" She then blinks three times and gently touches the sales rep's hand.

Acting like a brainless zombie with a huge credit limit, each of the sales representatives responded, "I love your new Gorgona fashion wardrobe. I represent a European women's fashion chain with over 200 stores."

Harmony asks, "I am sure that with the number of stores that you represent, you would like at least an assortment of ten SKUs of each piece that we are presenting for each of your stores."

She continues, "Let me introduce you to our salesperson, who will gladly prepare that order for immediate delivery."

At the end of the first day, Gorgona Fashions made more money from today's orders than it did for the entire week the year before.

On the second day of the Stockholm Fashion Show, DODGE executives Colette Evergreen and Jocelyn Thatcher visit the Gorgona Fashion Design Booth.

Myrena Gorgona welcomes her DODGE guests, telling them, "Please feel free to select any of our inventory, as I'm sure we have your size. Whatever you select, there will be no charge, and I would be honored to have the female executives of DODGE wearing my latest fashion trends."

The ladies thank her as Harmony stops by to help them fill their shopping bags with Gorgona Fashions.

Myrena asks Jocelyn and Colette, "We have made reservations at the three-star Michelin restaurant, Frantzén. I would be honored if you two would join us."

The two female DODGE executives exclaim, "Yes, we would love to join you."

Jocelyn adds, "Perhaps while eating, we can discuss your role as the CEO of the Steele Corporation and head of the two SuperPower groups, the 'Lemnian Deeds' Federation and the 'Golden Eagle' Organization."

Outside the Stockholm Fashion District, a limousine picks up Myrena, Harmony, and the DODGE ladies and transports them to Frantzén.

The owner and manager, who notices the SuperModel and SuperDesigner, Myrena Gorgona, rushes to them, saying, "Välkommen, vackra kviñnor."

Myrena tells them, "He is saying in Swedish 'Welcome, beautiful ladies.'"

He tells them, "My restaurant, Frantzén, has earned three Michelin stars. The restaurant can seat twenty-three people on its three floors. Our certified sommelier will tell you today's outstanding chef creations."

The sommelier says, "I will properly pair the best wine with your lunch selections. Today's menu features langoustine with Koshihikari rice accompanied by mandarin and ginger, monkfish with white asparagus topped with ikura and salted fennel, barbecue quail with miso, foie gras sprinkled with vanilla and Kampot pepper. For dessert, our chef has prepared sea buckthorn sorbet with carrot and red curry."

Harmony Bond blinks thrice, then touches Jocelyn, followed by Colette.

The sommelier passes around his best selection of paired wines.

Jocelyn ordered the langoustine and received a glass of Bordeaux Sweet Blend.

Harmony believes that the DODGE ladies are under her spell and asks Jocelyn, "May I try a sip of your Bordeaux?"

Jocelyn replies, "I prefer not to. Perhaps you can get your own," as she and Colette laugh.

Myrena laughed so hard that she almost choked on her wine. She says, "This is Jocelyn, who has the SuperPower ability to fly and to convert energy from one form into another."

Myrena continues, "Sitting next to her is Colette, who has the SuperPower to become invisible and negate all of the SuperPower abilities they encounter."

Colette smiles, telling Harmony, "All of us here at our table that have SuperPower will soon realize they are all useless against my SuperPower."

Harmony receives a cold glass of Diet Pepsi filled with ice and unhappily states, "Could I get a glass without ice? I do not pay for frozen water." She begins to snicker.

After a genuinely spectacular Michelin lunch, Colette says, "We will go back to the Stockholm Fashion Show to view your competition, such as Acne Studios, J. Lindeberg, Filipa K., Rodebjer, Whyred, Hennes and Mauritz, and COS, and view the simplistic, neutral color tones, straight lines, and movable designs. Everybody important is admiring and praising your new designs and remarkable garments."

After the limousine drops the four ladies off at the entrance to the Stockholm Fashion Show, they say farewell to each other as Jocelyn tells them, "We will be traveling back to San Francisco tonight. It was a pleasure seeing you again, Myrena, and meeting you, Harmony."

After the two DODGE ladies return to the show, Myrena remarks to Harmony, "That is what you call a fishing expedition. Learn and get the goods on your competition while looking like you are interested in today's fashions."

Back at the Steele Corporation, Myrena has Harmony flirt with some of the junior executives, having her ask, "Do you know what happened to Professor Steele and his two nephews, Rocky and Apollo?"

Since none of them were in the corporation's circle of trust, their answers to her were, "I don't know anything about that, but you look absolutely gorgeous. Do you think we could go for a business lunch together?"

She smiles at each junior executive, saying, "Maybe, when you become a senior VP and are making at least a mid-six-figure salary."

Harmony Bond and six girlfriends attend the Jane Austen convention as Myrena Gorgona has sent her complimentary tickets.

As they walk throughout the convention, they see displays and booths featuring all their favorite books, including 'Sense and Sensibility,' 'Pride and Prejudice,' 'Mansfield Park,' 'Emma,' 'Northanger Abbey,' 'Persuasion,' 'Lady Susan,' and even her unfinished works, 'The Watsons' and 'Sanditon.'

One of her girlfriends submits a short story, the winner of which will be published in the Jane Austen Worldwide Fan Club newsletter. The winner will spend an entire week at the Jane Austen camp called 'Austenland.'

One of the exhibits is advertising the 'Eight Tea Days Around Europe' race car and driver, Darcy Austen, next to the team's plain Jane Aston Martin Maxi EV supercar with the word 'Pride' on the frunk of her car and the word 'Prejudice' on the trunk.'

They enjoy watching several of the Jane Austen actors perform as various characters from her books, dressed like the characters and reciting the famous quotations that made them the finest Austen characters, such as the famous Mr. Darcy, Anne Elliot, Emma Woodhouse, Catherine Morland, Fanny Price from Mansfield Park, Marianne, and Elinor Dashwood from Sense and Sensibility, and Elizabeth Bennett, the most popular.

Harmony and her friends walk over to where a charity poker tournament is about to begin.

All the players are sitting around the poker table, and Harmony notices one of the seats is empty.

The tournament organizer is heard on the microphone saying, "We have eight players chosen randomly from everyone's entrance ticket. Each player will receive \$10,000 in non-negotiable chips. The winner, the player who has raised the most money for charity, will receive front-row tickets to tonight's concert starring Celeste Bordeaux."

Harmony and her friends are excited as they tell each other, "Celeste Bordeaux, we want to win those tickets and hear her sing her new song, 'Alice in Planet Wonderland.'"

The tournament organizer announces, "The poker tournament is for charity to aid the local homeless shelters and Dr. Dolittle's' Galapagos Island charity. Please donate whatever you can afford. We are missing one of the players. Is there a Harmony Bond in attendance?"

Harmony's girlfriends yell out, "She is over here."

One of the security guards ushers Harmony up to the poker table, where she tells everyone, "I don't know how to play poker, so everyone else has quite an advantage over me."

During a poker tournament, when playing seven-card stud, the dealer tells all the players to ante up.

After all the seven cards have been dealt to all the players, Harmony, looking at her cards, says aloud, "I cannot believe what I have. All my cards are hearts."

As the round has not gone through all the betting rounds, she shows everyone her hand.

Everyone at the table folds as Harmony has committed a faux pas by revealing she has a royal flush of hearts.

The dealer tells her, "Honey, that is not how one plays poker, and you could have won everybody's chips."

Harmony tells everyone in attendance, "I told the truth when I said I have never played poker."

As the tournament continues, Harmony is down to her last few chips, and she feels that her friend's dream of meeting Celeste Bordeaux has become a nightmare.

Using her SuperPower ability, Harmony Bond blinks three times, turning the convention attendees into mindless zombies. She says, "I want everybody in the building to empty their pockets, wallets, and bank accounts and contribute to our local homeless shelters and Dr. Dolittle's' Galapagos Island charity."

Immediately, everybody takes out all their money from their wallets and pockets and places it on the poker table.

Many attendees rushed to the ATM to add more cash to the poker table, using their debit and credit cards.

The tournament organizer recognizes that over two million dollars have been received to support local homeless shelters and aid the Galapagos Island charity. He realizes that Harmony has magically raised the necessary charity funds as his volunteers collect every bill and coin on the poker table and the money that has fallen onto the floor.

The organizer has Harmony come up to the podium and ask her, "Did you come alone to the convention today?"

Harmony replies, "No, I came to the Jane Austen convention with my six Pussycat Club members," who start screaming, jumping up and down, and yelling, "Meow, meow!"

That night, Harmony and her six friends sat in the front row. They were all wearing their cat-ear headbands as Celeste performed her entire collection of songs.

After the concert, the promoter invites Harmony and her six friends to meet Celeste Bordeaux.

In Celeste's green room, Harmony and her friends join her in singing her Grammy-winning song, "My Life."

It is my life. Join me.

It is my life. Let me be.

It is my life; I sing with glee.

It is my life. Hold hands with me.

Chapter 3

Dossier on Justice Nemesis

Justice Nemesis possesses the SuperPower of flight and acts as an unstoppable agent who leads others to their downfall. When a wealthy individual ignores a begging woman, just the touch of Justice—after three quick eye blinks—can cause the rich man to become impoverished overnight.

When Justice graduated from the University of Birmingham in the UK and worked as a paralegal, one of her roommates was dating a barrister who was separated from his partner.

Several times a week, the well-dressed barrister Hugh would pick her up in his brand-new Jaguar XJ7 EV. Then, he would drive her to Opheem, a three-star Michelin restaurant in Birmingham.

On a holiday weekend, Hugh invited her and her two roommates, including Justice Nemesis, to his ancestor's country home.

The young women drove to his estate, where he and his legal team were barbecuing lamb chops and drinking cans of Guinness.

One of the younger barristers, who had drunk enough to feel a little tipsy, says to Justice, "Your roommate is lucky to be shacking up with Hugh since he is still married and has two young children."

Justice replies, "Really, tell me more."

He says, "Hugh is up for a huge promotion, which he should get after his divorce."

After a few hours, Justice's roommate tells her, "I'll be spending the night here at the estate so you and our other roommate, Barbie, can drive home anytime."

Justice warns her, "Be very careful, as you are playing with fire. Talk to you later."

Justice blinks three times and then approaches the host, Hugh. As she touches him, she says, "Being a barrister, you know that justice has been served when the mighty have fallen."

The next day, after dropping off Justice's roommate, Hugh, who was of sound mind and sober, drives behind the commissioner of the Met, where his brakes fail, causing his Jaguar ZJ7 EV to smash into his vehicle.

When the three police cars arrive at the scene of the accident, even though he is sober, they test him with the latest breathalyzer.

Hugh, feeling confident, agrees to take the breathalyzer test, which shows a blood alcohol content of 1.5%, well above the 0.8% limit set by the UK.

He was immediately arrested, and weeks later, he was convicted, losing his promotion and his position.

After losing his status, Hugh has also lost his current girlfriend, Justice's roommate.

Justice Nemesis has another roommate, a tall, blonde model named Barbie, who states, "Randolph is my new love. He is a very handsome, wealthy real estate manager."

Justice, who thinks he's pretentious, overhears him telling all his friends, "We are the modern-day version of Barbie and Ken."

Justice flips off Randolph, saying, "Here is my one finger. Soon your harmful ways will return all your fingers to Heaven," as she laughs.

Barbie comes home one day, crying to Justice and saying, "I loaned my love a lot of money that he gambled and lost. I believe that he is addicted to poker."

After comforting her all day, Justice blinks three times and hugs Barbie, saying, "I am cursing Randolph every time he mistreats you. We need to give him the finger treatment."

The next day, feeling very apologetic, Randolph takes Barbie out to lunch at the Rainbow Restaurant.

Rainbow Casino is recognized as the longest-standing casino in Birmingham.

After lunch, Randolph suggests they go to the Rainbow Casino next door to have a drink.

They walk inside and get complimentary drinks, where Barbie orders a pornstar martini, and Randolph orders a gin and tonic.

Randolph asks, "Maybe you would enjoy watching me play some poker for fun. The odds are on my side since I had devastating results the other day. Why don't we use your black credit card to get a couple of thousand dollars to play poker?"

They go to the cashier window, sign some vouchers, and Randolph receives a \$3,000 credit.

After five hours of playing, unlucky Randolph has lost everything.

He hugs and kisses Barbie before leaving in disgrace.

When Barbie finds out how much money she has lost, she slaps Randolph in the face.

Randolph looks at his lap in the car and says, "OMG, what in the world is on my lap?"

He grabs the flesh-toned object, yelling, "There is no blood, but my left hand pinky has been severed," then races home alone.

Back inside their shared apartment, Barbie explains to Justice her day and how he lost all her money.

The next day, Randolph calls Barbie, telling her about his hospital visit to check on his missing left pinky and begging her to see him again.

Barbie tells her Ken, you **should heal up in no time. Actually, in the time that it took for me to say that sentence, you healed.**”

Randolph goes to the girl’s apartment, where Justice blinks her eyes three times. She tells Randolph, “I curse you if you lose her money, hand over fist.”

Again, the Barbie and Ken of the Rainbow Casino join the Hold 'em table after lunch, having borrowed \$5,000 from Barbie's Black Card.

As Barbie sits next to Randolph, she orders another pornstar martini, followed by several espresso martinis.

At first, Randolph wins a lot of money against the local professional gamblers, but time and greed catch up with him, and he loses all his chips.

As he goes to say goodbye by flipping everyone off, he raises his left hand, and everyone laughs, noticing that his left hand does not have an index or middle finger.

The other poker players look under the table for his severed fingers, but they have vanished into thin air like Barbie's \$5,000 black credit card advance.

On the way home, Randolph keeps saying, "Damn ‘gambler’s lament!’ I can't believe how much I was ahead, and I lost everything."

Randolph walks Barbie into her shared apartment, where Justice blinks her eyes three times and hugs him goodbye.

The next day, Randolph notices his left hand is empty. He screams, saying, “There are no fingers or thumb on my left hand, and my right-hand pinky finger is missing.”

Trembling, he says, "One of my fingers magically disappeared on my first Rainbow Casino day. Then, on my second day, two of my fingers vanished. Yesterday was my third day at the casino, and the two remaining fingers on my left hand are gone. I fear going back to the casino or playing more poker, as it could cause more personal harm due to mystical retribution. How is it possible that I lost all Barbie’s money and my digits at the same time? Soon, I will not be able to hold any cards."

A few days later, Randolph receives a text inviting him to participate in the One Million Dollar Winner-Take-All Rainbow Casino Hold 'em Tournament, which requires a \$10,000 buy-in.

Unable to borrow even a dollar from Barbie, Randolph goes to the Rainbow Casino using his house as collateral.

On the first day of play, Randolph wins his table, getting into the finals.

He visits Barbie, taking her out for dinner and dancing.

After spending the night at Barbie's shared apartment, Randolph takes Barbie and Justice out for breakfast.

At breakfast, he boasts to the two girls about how eager he is to make it into the Rainbow Casino Hold 'em Championship finals.

He pays Barbie back \$15,000, saying, "Here is some payback for my borrowed black credit card debt."

Justice blinks her eyes three times quickly, hugs Randolph tightly, and wishes him good luck.

Barbie and Justice watch Randolph play at the final table, where it eventually becomes a showdown between him and a man named Jack Diamond.

Jack looks at Randolph, trying to gauge his bluffing skills, telling him, "Well, Randy, I'm all in. It is time to separate the men from the little whining boys."

Randolph looks at Barbie and smiles, knowing he has a straight flush to the Queen, and says, "I'm putting in everything that I have."

The dealer asks each player to reveal their hole cards.

Randolph flips his two cards, revealing a suited straight to the Queen.

He smiles at Jack Diamond and says, "Take that, Jack. The \$1 million prize is all mine."

Jack stands up as if he's about to leave the Rainbow Casino. He flips over his two hole cards, revealing a Royal Flush of Diamonds. Jack says, "Here, I reveal my family, including my mother, father, brother Jack, and my great-uncle, Ace."

Jack says, "Some people are too eager or just born unlucky."

As they stand up, all the Rainbow Casino patrons congratulate Jack.

Randolph slams his head with his hands and curses loudly. Then he realizes both his hands are empty, as all his fingers and thumbs have vanished.

Humiliated and embarrassed, he drives his only two supporters, Barbie and Justice, home.

Justice jokes with him, saying, "Without any fingers and thumbs, you are one man who definitely needs a girlfriend to help him."

A week later, Randolph, who has lost his girlfriend Barbie, walks into the Rainbow Casino.

He goes to the casino's cashier to get casino credit called a 'marker', signing over his entire house as collateral to ensure his potential losses will be repaid.

Sitting at the Texas Hold 'em table with \$100,000 in chips, he jokingly tells the dealer that his new name is Ken, but he's lost his Barbie.

Having played for over eight hours, Ken, who was once called Randolph, has won more than seven hundred thousand dollars in chips and repays his 'marker.'

He starts bragging, saying, "Where is that Jack Diamond now? No one in the entire casino is a challenge for me today."

Randolph starts clapping, showing everyone his excitement with his outstanding performance.

The other players at the table keep asking him about his two hands, which are missing fingers and thumbs.

Randolph, who prefers to be called Ken, says, "With all these chips, I can buy all new fingers and thumbs," as he laughs.

Randolph gathers all his remaining chips and is about to go to the cashier to cash out and leave when Jack Diamond enters the Hold 'em poker table area.

He looks at Randolph and says, "Randy, it looks like you've been doing quite well today. Too bad you do not have a snowball's chance in Hell of beating me."

Feeling that his luck has completely turned around, Randolph says, "Today I am Ken without Barbie, the luckiest SOB on the planet. I will put up my half-a-million-dollar win if you can match me."

Every casino from Birmingham to Las Vegas to Macau recognizes the legendary Jack Diamond, who quickly earns credit, and the chips are placed in front of him.

Jack says, "So tell me, Barbieless Ken, I believe it's time to put up or shut up."

Randolph, calling himself 'Ken,' sits down for a winner-take-all, half-a-million-dollar 'No Limit Hold 'em Poker' game against Jack Diamond.

News about the No Limit Hold 'em Poker event spreads throughout Birmingham, where everyone, including Justice, heads to the Rainbow Casino to see it.

Before the two adversaries sit down to play, Justice blinks her eyes three times, quickly walks over to Randolph, and wishes him well as she hugs him.

As each hour passes, the pile of chips shifts from Randolph to Jack and then back to Randolph. After eight hours of play, the dealer has the two men take a break.

Thirty minutes later, they reconvene, and after four more hours of playing, Jack asks, "Randy, how much longer can this oscillation continue?"

Unaware he's being duped, Randolph agrees to an all-in bet where one million dollars in chips are placed in the middle of the table, and the entire casino stays silent. The two men are dealt their two hidden hole cards.

Randolph looks at the cards, and Jack smiles, saying, "I don't need to look because I know what I have."

The dealer places the three Community cards in the center of the table, which is commonly called 'the flop,' revealing the Two of Spades and the Two of Diamonds that lie next to the Ten of Diamonds.

Rechecking his two-hole cards, Randolph confirms he has the Two of Hearts and the Two of Clubs, giving him four of a kind, commonly called a quad, which occurs once every 13,332 hands of poker.

The dealer then reveals the fourth community card, known as the turn or fourth street. It is placed in the center of the table and shows the Jack of Diamonds.

Jack immediately yells, "There is my baby who is named after me!"

All the watching spectators applaud and laugh at Jack's outburst.

After everyone quiets down, the dealer reveals the last community card, called the River or Fifth Street, placing the Ace of Diamonds in the center of the table.

Excited about his excellent quad hand, Randolph turns over his two hole cards, revealing that his four-of-a-kind are four deuces.

Jack pauses for thirteen seconds, looking upset and saying, "Randy, that's an amazing hand. Let me be the first to acknowledge you as."

Stopping mid-sentence, he flips over his two cards, revealing the King of Diamonds and the Queen of Diamonds, giving him another Royal Flush of Diamonds.

Jack smiles and says, "Out of nowhere, mommy and daddy appear."

Again, completely broke, Randolph, now calling himself Ken, nods in disbelief as his eleventh appendage disappears, turning him into a real Ken doll.

Justice, comforting Ken, says, "The spectators might say that you've got balls, but we both know that in your current condition, that is impossible," as she walks away laughing.

Returning to her shared house, she sees Barbie and says, "Today, Justice has been served!"

Mistaken Travel but Educational

PSI Software's CEO, Roger Pedersen, is departing from a domestic flight headed to LaGuardia Airport's baggage claim.

After collecting his luggage, Roger heads to the Executive Car Rental to pick up his purple Tesla SUV EV and drives to Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Walking through the concourse, he accidentally bumps into Justice Nemesis and asks each pedestrian she passes, "I am looking for the baggage claim from my international flight from Cambridge."

Roger hears her and mistakenly believes she is going to Cambridge, Massachusetts. He says, "I am on my way to get my rental car, but I was just at the baggage claim carousel where I picked up my luggage. I am driving to Cambridge."

Hearing only the words 'baggage' and 'Cambridge,' she follows him.

While waiting at the baggage claim, Justice calls her best friend, whom she is visiting with her family in New York City.

Justice listens to her best friend's message, which tells her that she has traveled to Orlando, Florida, to visit Disney and Universal Studios and that she should return in a week.

Justice realizes she was at the wrong baggage claim and has nowhere to stay.

Roger guides her to the right international baggage claim, where they search for her luggage.

Roger tells his new female acquaintance that he has found her suitcase and is ready to take the bus to pick up his rental car.

Justice tells him, "When you said 'Cambridge,' I thought you were talking about where I came from, which was Cambridge in the UK. Have you traveled to Europe much?"

Roger tells her, "While pursuing my Master's, I interned at the Steele Corporation, where I worked alongside its CEO and founder, Professor Steele."

Justice's eyes open very wide as she asks, "You are telling me that you know Professor Steele and his current whereabouts?"

Roger replies, "I collaborated with the Professor in Reykjavik, Iceland, over two years ago, but we keep in touch occasionally."

Justice thinks to herself, "I am sure that Myrena Gorgona and the 'Lemnian Deeds' Federation would want me to follow if he talks to the Professor who has been reported as assassinated."

Still thinking Justice needs to get to Cambridge, Massachusetts, Roger takes a cart with their suitcases outside, where the rental car shuttle will pick them up.

Justice asks him, "So tell me again, where are you traveling to?"

Roger explains, "I am the CEO of PSI Software and the game designer for games like 'The Six Stones of Serena,' 'Intergalactic Lunacy,' 'Adventure with Lewis and Clark,' and 'Evolution of Man.'"

Justice Nemesis remarks, "Wow, you are really famous. You don't know how many hours I have spent playing all those games."

As the bus pulls into the rental car lot, Justice asks, "So where are we taking the vehicle today?"

Roger tells her, "Out of the dozens of universities that have offered me honorary doctorate degrees, I have been selected to speak at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology."

He keeps telling Justice, "MIT has offered me free hotel rooms for myself and my guests as well as a guided tour around the campus the day before I speak to all the graduates."

Upon arriving at The Four Seasons Hotel in Boston, he finds the head of the graduate program at MIT waiting for him.

He says, "It is an honor to meet you, Roger Pedersen. And who is the guest that you are with?"

Roger responds with a small lie, saying, "This is my granddaughter, Justice, who is going to Birmingham University in the UK. She is visiting me during her semester break."

As the hotel concierge has the bellhop pick up their suitcases, she tells the two hotel guests, "We have each of you in a penthouse suite, and our customer service representative, Jerry, will put each of the suitcases inside your room."

The graduate department head takes them to the MIT campus, where they go inside the Gray House. On the administrator's floor, they meet MIT's Madame President, who says, "I am honored to welcome PSI Software's CEO and our newest honorary doctorate candidate, Roger Pedersen, along with his granddaughter, Justice, as I was told."

After the two guests greet the MIT Madame President, she states, "I look forward to tomorrow afternoon as I present to you your honorary doctorate and anticipate hearing your insightful and motivating speech to all our graduates."

One of the graduate students assigned, Caroline, walks around campus with her two guests, showing them each building.

Caroline says, "This is a special building, number 37, MIT's Center for Space Research, built by NASA in 1963. The unverified story claims, 'If President John F. Kennedy had lived, this would have been the site for all the space missions, from the first Gemini rocket to the International Space Station. But as history shows, he was assassinated, and Lyndon B Johnson became president, moving NASA to his home state in Houston, Texas.' In reality, it was President Nixon and land requirements in Cambridge that kept NASA from being located in Kendall Square."

Justice replies, "In Europe, we call him 'bull shirt' Johnson, who dodged a bullet in the Bobby Baker scandal."

Roger states, "No matter what Johnson did during his presidency, the Texans loved him and even named NASA's Center for Human Spaceflight, Johnson Space Center."

Caroline continues telling her guests, "MIT is located in the Kendall Square district along the Charles River, opposite Boston. We have already visited the MIT museums that feature art, science, and technology—the on-campus Art Museum with works by Picasso, Calder, and other renowned artists. Next, we will see the Koch Institute, where doctors are researching cancer and exploring future treatments for curing it. We will end our campus tour at the MIT student store, where I am authorized to give each of you a \$250 credit to purchase items like MIT T-shirts and sweatshirts."

The next day, Roger and Justice join the MIT doctoral candidates' breakfast along with other students and guests. Many nerds and geeks greet Roger Pedersen, their 'Leisure Time God,' who creates their favorite multiplayer video games.

The MIT Madam president greets her honored doctoral candidate by handing him this year's famous MIT gold class ring, the Brass Rat, because it features the MIT beaver on its bezel.

At the OneMIT commencement ceremony, all the attendees sing *'To the Light, To the Flame,'* the words of which are written in the commencement program. As each graduate sings and turns around their class ring, the 'Brass Rat' is an MIT tradition that shows they have completed their studies.

The MIT Madam President reads aloud to the commencement attendees the biography of its first speaker, the honorary doctorate graduate, Roger Pedersen.

Roger stands up, walks over to the MIT Madam President, hugs her, and faces his audience of 4,000 students, one-third of whom are undergraduates, along with all their parents and guests.

Roger stands up, raising both hands to give his audience a peace sign.

The audience cheers as Roger states, "Welcome, fellow nerds and their cool parents and guests."

Once again, the entire audience gives his opening remarks a standing ovation.

Justice scans the audience and notices something shiny near the belt of one of the commencement attendees.

Justice, who looks like an undergraduate, walks toward the potential female assassin, telling everyone in her row, "Bathroom break time."

Finally, she is next to the row where she can still see something shiny near the person's belt.

As she moves down the aisle, saying, "Excuse me. Pardon me. Excuse me," then she blinks three times rapidly.

Justice stands beside the woman, who reaches down, pulls out a .44 magnum from her holster, and aims it at Madame President, a board member supporting Steele Corporation, Pro Steele, while researching his location.

Immediately, Justice touches her arms, which causes both the assailant's wrists to have distal radius fractures, meaning that both of her long bones in the forearm, or radius, near the wrist are completely fractured, shattering into particles, pieces of bone.

As Justice nears the end of the row, she returns to her seat.

Roger continues, "As everyone knows, I am just joking as a lifelong nerd who is also a billionaire. That is the future for all nerds, engineers, computer geeks, and scientists who wear thick glasses."

Justice surveys all the graduates, noting their hair accessories and who they are sitting with.

She notices two graduating males fidgeting with something that reflects metallic silver.

Again, she stands up and walks down her row, repeating, "Excuse me again. Pardon me again. Excuse me again."

She again rapidly blinks three times.

Moving down that aisle, Justice approaches the two graduates. She pretends to trip as she touches each of their knees with her hands. Then, getting up, she grabs each of their right-hand index fingers, which retract as they are completely broken, leaving each victim unable to pull a weapon's trigger.

Her touch to each victim's knee triggers each of her assailants' chondromalacia, a condition that frequently occurs in young adults and is caused by anterior knee pain.

Justice leans back, realizing no one else knew what was about to happen.

Roger begins with his humble roots in developing single-player internet games using Java, C-sharp, and Python, eventually mastering and patenting sophisticated international multiplayer games.

All the graduates and their guests start applauding the guest speaker.

He wraps up his speech by congratulating the undergraduates and graduate students on their efforts, stating, "Each of you has your name on a diploma from MIT, the world's leading university in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. I hope that throughout your life, you take pride in graduating from the most prestigious and in-demand institute during your time at MIT. Thank you for your time, and congratulations."

After the ceremony, many attendees ask Roger to take a digital picture with their family or to celebrate their graduation. He complies, knowing that this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

He smiles and says, "Any of these graduates might be interviewing in a few weeks at PSI Software."