



⚠ WARNING:
MATURE CONTENT

JANET LORIMER

TUESDAY RAVEN

PAGETURNERS®

Chapter 1

Jade Myers stopped outside the restaurant. There was a sign above the door. It read “The Bureau.” Jade smiled. This was a perfect place to meet with Ethan.

Ethan Clark and Jade had worked together in the past. Both were agents. Jade worked for the FBI. Ethan worked for the British Secret Service. They specialized in kidnapping cases. The last time they teamed up was five years ago. They’d worked together to catch a leader of a kidnapping ring. His code name was Raven.

The day before, Jade had been in California. She got a call from headquarters in Washington, D.C. Her boss instructed

her to go to England. And now here she was in London.

The door to the restaurant opened. A burst of laughter and music came from inside. Then a couple came out. Jade waited a few more minutes for Ethan. When it started to rain, she went into the restaurant. The place was crowded and noisy. She looked around for him. Just then she heard his voice.

“Jade, over here.” Jade recognized Ethan’s voice. He had a British accent. She turned to look. Ethan was across the room. He was waving to her.

“It’s so good to see you in person,” he said as he got closer. The two hugged. “I can’t believe it’s been five years. I’ve reserved a table for us. It’s in the back,” he said.

Ethan led the way through the crowd to a table. Jade hung her umbrella on the back of her chair. Then she sat down. He sat across from her.

“So let’s talk about the assignment,” Jade said. “I can’t believe the Raven case has been reopened. Especially since Raven is in prison.”

“Let’s order before we get into it,” Ethan said. “Do you want to share some appetizers?”

“That sounds good,” Jade said.

She and Ethan each chose items from the menu. Then Ethan signaled for the server and ordered.

“Tell me what you know,” he said.

“You remember Alan Evans,” she said.

Ethan nodded. “He was part of Raven’s kidnapping ring,” he said.

“Right,” Jade said. “He’s been in a U.S. prison for the past five years. He’s serving time for that last kidnapping the group did. Anyway, the prison intercepted a letter Evans had written. It was addressed to someone here in London. Evans said he’d be getting out soon. And he’d be heading

to London. The letter is being analyzed now by the National Security Agency. They think it may contain coded messages.”

“I have an update for you too,” Ethan said.

The server brought their food. Jade picked up her fork and began to take a bite.

“Evans is already in London,” he said.

Jade set the fork down.

“He was found near the Tower of London. It was just yesterday. He’d been stabbed. The medics thought he was unconscious. They were about to put him into the ambulance. That’s when he spoke. He said ‘Tuesday Raven.’ ”

Jade closed her eyes. “I’ve never stopped thinking about Raven. I almost died because of him.” She felt a shiver go through her.

Chapter 2

Jade and Ethan spent the next hour recalling the old Raven case. It involved a large network of kidnappers. The group had formed in London. It was led by a man named James Grant. The British Secret Service called him Raven.

After each kidnapping, Grant left behind a note. It was signed “Raven.” Officers had a theory about the name. Grant chose it because the raven is known to be a clever bird. And the group’s method *was* clever.

It was the same routine every time. They would kidnap the child of a wealthy family. Then they’d demand money. There were always two kidnappings at a time. The scheme worked well. It kept police off guard.

They'd respond to the first kidnapping. By then, another one would be underway. It would be in a different part of town.

This pattern continued. Soon there was an overlap of cases. There weren't enough officers to handle the work. The Secret Service would investigate. But there were never any clues. Raven and his team were very careful. They were always sure to clean up after themselves.

Jade joined the case five years earlier. It was after the group's last kidnapping attempt. She was brought in because an American was involved. The woman was married to a wealthy businessman. He was originally from London. The couple had a child. They'd been living in the U.S. Then the husband got a job in London. The family was in the process of moving. They were in London to look for a place to live.

Raven's gang had been watching the

family. The husband was driven to work every day. A limo would pick him up at the same time each morning. The gang also knew that the woman had a bodyguard. He would join her as she and her daughter traveled around the city. Raven made a plan to divert the bodyguard's attention.

Two gang members waited for the husband to leave for work. They sped ahead of the limo. Once they were on the highway, the driver hit the brakes. The limo swerved. Then it hit a signpost and came to a stop. The limo driver quickly called the cops. The bodyguard had also been called. The masked men forced their way into the limo. One of them sprayed the driver with tear gas. Then they sped away.

On the other side of town, the bodyguard left the hotel. That's when Raven's group broke into the family's hotel room. They tied up the woman. But the child wasn't there. Thinking quickly, they decided to

rob the place. They stole any valuables they could find.

That's when Ethan was put on the case. And Jade was called in from the U.S. It was feared this was the start of an international scheme. The two were assigned to hunt down Raven. Their job was to bring the gang down.

"We finally got a break," Ethan said. "I think Raven had too many kidnappings going on at once. He got sloppy."

"Without the informer, he would have gotten away."

"Right. The tip we got told us where to find Raven. He was hiding out at that abandoned factory."

"I'll never forget when we went after him," Jade said. "I've relived it over and over in my mind."

Jade had entered the building from the back. Ethan went in through a side door. Everything was quiet. Suddenly there

was a sound. Someone was there. Then there was a gunshot. Jade had been hit. Later she found out how close a call it was. The bullet was less than a half inch from her heart. Any closer and she would have died.

As Jade lay there, Raven ran by. She saw his face. Until then nobody knew what he looked like. Jade would be able to identify him in court. By the time backup arrived, Raven had gotten away. But officers chased him down.

“I have a theory about it,” Jade said. “I think Raven knew we were coming.”

“Someone tipped him off?” Ethan said. “That makes sense. It was probably the informer.”

“No. That’s not what I mean. I think it was someone we were working with.”

“Someone from the Secret Service? Or Scotland Yard?”

Jade nodded.

“That’s impossible. Besides, you don’t have any proof,” Ethan said.

“Don’t get defensive. I’m not putting down either organization. They did manage to capture Raven. But think about it. Who else knew we were going after him?”

“The person who gave us the tip,” Ethan said. “It could have been a kidnapper from the group. Someone who wanted out.”

“At first I believed that too. It was someone in Raven’s group. But the person was anonymous. We never learned their identity.” Jade pushed her plate away. “I started to think that it could have been a cop.”

“We may never know,” Ethan said. He waved the server over and asked for the bill.

“What about Evans?” Jade asked. “Has he said anything else?”

Ethan shook his head. “He’s still out of it.”

“Will he live?” Jade asked.

“The doctors don’t know.”

The server returned with the bill. Ethan had his credit card ready. He handed it to him.

“So what’s our first move?” Jade asked.

“Let’s get out of here,” he said. “There’s something I need to tell you.”

The server was back. He placed the bill on the table. Ethan signed it. Then he put his credit card back into his wallet.

Jade grabbed her umbrella. She followed Ethan out of the restaurant. It was no longer raining. But the air was cold.

“Five years has gone fast,” she said. “It seems like I was just in London. I really love this place. It’s so rich in history.”

They continued walking in silence. “What are you thinking about?” she finally asked Ethan.

“All the cases we’ve worked on,” he said. “What a great team we are. How we’ll be able to quickly catch Raven.”

Jade stopped and looked at him. “What are you talking about?” she asked.

Ethan looked away.

“Tell me,” Jade said. But she’d already figured it out. “It’s Raven. He’s out of prison.”

Ethan nodded.

“This case is moving fast,” she said.

PAGETURNERS® | SPY

TUESDAY RAVEN

A gang of thieves is planning a heist at the Tower of London. Or are they? The CIA and British Secret Service combine forces. Super spies Jade and Ethan race against time and across London. Can they uncover the criminals' plan before it is too late?

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