THE TOURIST

FRANK TUPELO
I’m sorry.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
What for?

FRANK TUPELO
Mind me smoking? It’s not a real cigarette.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
What?

FRANK TUPELO
It’s electronic. It delivers the same amount of nicotine, but the smoke is water vapor. Yeah. Watch.

Smokes.

FRANK TUPELO (CONT’D)
And we de-light.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
That’s somewhat disappointing.

FRANK TUPELO
Would you rather have me smoking for real?

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
I’d rather you be a man who did exactly as he pleased. I’m Elise.

FRANK TUPELO
I’m Frank.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
That’s a terrible name.

FRANK TUPELO
Haha. It’s the only one I’ve got.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Maybe we can find you another.

FRANK TUPELO
Okay. You’re British.
ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Mmmm.

FRANK TUPELO
I’m American.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Mmmm.

FRANK TUPELO
Mmmm. What brings you to Venice?

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
You read spy novels. I’m a mysterious woman on a train. You tell me what my story is.

FRANK TUPELO
Okay. Um. I think you’d be a diplomatic attache.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Mmmm.

FRANK TUPELO
Or maybe a girl from East Germany whose father’s been kidnapped and they’re blackmailing you into stealing something for them. Probably microfilm. There’s usually microfilm involved.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
What awaits me?

FRANK TUPELO
Trouble. Certainly.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Danger?

FRANK TUPELO
Oh yeah. You’d most likely be shot at in less than two chapters.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Hmm. Is there a man in my life?

FRANK TUPELO
We’ll have to wait and see.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Invite me to dinner, Frank.
FRANK TUPELO
What? Would you like to have dinner?

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Women don’t like questions.

FRANK TUPELO
Join me for dinner.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Too demanding.

FRANK TUPELO
Join me for dinner?

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Another question.

FRANK TUPELO
I’m having dinner. If you’d care to join me.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Musician? Bartender? I give up.

FRANK TUPELO
Math. I teach math.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
I would not have guessed that. I’d imagine you’re the cool math teacher though.

FRANK TUPELO
Still a math teacher.

Strange men watch them and take pictures.

FRANK TUPELO (CONT’D)
I have a strange feeling that those two people over there are watching us.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Do you know something? I think you’re right.

FRANK TUPELO
Really?

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
(laughs)
You’re a paranoid math teacher.

(MORE)
ELISE CLIFTON-WARD (CONT'D)
So, what are you doing all alone in
the city of Venice. Is there no one
in your life?

FRANK TUPELO
There was.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
What happened?

FRANK TUPELO
She left me.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
I’m sorry to hear that, Frank.

FRANK TUPELO
Well, I guess I should go get my
suitcase and stuff.

ELISE CLIFTON-WARD
Goodbye.

FRANK TUPELO
Bye. Thank you.

He gets up and leaves.