

TIMETRAVEL

Book 1, Chapter 4

So many things began to happen at once, it was overwhelming. For more than two months in a row past lives was introduced to me in a speed I could hardly keep up with.

There was my work, taking care of my daughter and all the usual things to do in a household and then this - !

It was rather difficult to live in two worlds at the same time.

One weekend my daughter went with her best friend's family for a holiday in their summer house. I took the opportunity to get things done and planned a lot of cleaning and sewing some clothes for me and my daughter.

I looked forward to that. But there became none of that !

All of a sudden this soft, white light occurred again and soon the room was filled with bluish-white light and the Being of Light was there again.

"Go upwards in the yellow ray of light !" he ordered.

"Keep going until I say *When !*" So I did. "Now go backwards in the yellow light until I say stop !"

I went backwards as slowly as if I was floating on a river in a boat.

"Now, Go down, further down !"

I went down all the way I could and suddenly I stopped and looked around. There wasn't any yellow light no more just a mist of white-bluish light.

It lasted for a while.

Then I slowly detected something moving in front of me. It became clearer and clearer. It was in black and white.

I saw a street in a city with low buildings, some had three floors others only two. The streets was covered with cobblestones.

The houses looked old fashioned to me but most of them looked as they were newly build.

People walked forth and back in the streets and from their clothing I could tell it could be in the 1700th hundred or may be earlier ?

A young woman dragging a two-wheeled-cart had my special attention. There was something familiar about her.

She had blonde hair done in a bundle with a pretty messy hairstyle. She wore a long jacket, with shawl twisted around her neck, a long skirt and clogs. She was poorly dressed compared to other people that met her in the street.

She was dragging two heavy, big sacks at her cart and kept slipping her feet at the cobblestones.

Slowly everything turned into color and I understood who she was.

She was Gabrielle the woman that got Guillotined.

And again I had her feelings and thoughts that were so different from mine.

I went sort of *'in and out of her'* for the next couple of days.

I then by became aware of most of her life.

As she was about eight years old, she lived in a pretty neat flat with her mother and father. Her father joined the army and because of his salary they did well. She had started school near by where some Nuns taught the children good manners, reading/writing and math. She went to school only every other day and were off before lunch.

Then her father went missing after a battle and could not be declared dead because there was no body found.

If he had been killed in the service as a soldier and his body was recovered, the mother his widow would have been paid some money after his death from the Military. But since he was just missing she didn't get anything and they had to move into a very small two room house in the poor end of Paris.

One part of Paris was the rich site and at the other site of the Seine was the poor part of the city.

From there the mother had to take a job as a laundry woman washing linen for the rich people.

Gabrielle no longer could go to school and had to help out her mother in the river or run errands even cook meals for them both.

Losing her father was a great loss for Gabrielle he loved her a lot, as well as he was her great idol of a hero.

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The Mother got a depression. All her dreams were shattered. She got very bitter and was no longer the sweet mother Gabrielle knew.

Because of the hard work in the river, particular during winter time she began to drink pure alcohol.

The mother got many diseases from her hard work and above all - gout !

Soon she became so ill she couldn't stand in the cold water and wash the linen anymore so she just sat in a chair in her house and drank all day. Because she drank so much and hardly ever wanted proper food everything was running out of her. In the chair was a hole cut and under it stood a bucket. And the little family couldn't afford a doctor. Next to her was a wooden cane which she sometimes used when she needed to walk from her chair to her bed. With that cane she beat up Gabrielle. No matter how well Gabrielle did things or how fast her mother was always yelling and spitting calling her names and threw things at her, usually the food.

The tiny, old house only had two rooms. From the street you went directly into a kitchen with a huge fireplace where there always hang a huge iron pot in a hook, with hot water. There no windows in the house only holes with shutters.

A narrow bench and a small table aside it, and a couple of shelves on the wall was the entire kitchen furniture. Water was fetched from a well in the street near by.

There were no wooden floors in the entire house, just a tamped clay floor. Fresh straw was spread on the floor every day.

In the living room were two alcove beds along the wall. A table with a bench and her mother's chair.

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Gabrielle's work was hard. She picked up the rich families dirty linen and tablecloth in the rich part of the city and then dragged it over a bridge to her side of the Seine. She worked with many other women at a laundry at a pier along side a bi-river to the Seine all day.

One woman was her best friend and lived near by in her street. (This woman was also my best friend in my present life.)

The income was poor and most meal were just porridge but sometimes a little vegetables or smoked ham.

The main reason for their poor meals was that both the mother and Gabrielle drank a lot of alcohol.

It was impossible to stand the pain in feet and legs, particular during winter, with out this 'painkiller'.

One day as Gabrielle and the other women were working at the river, they heard that the new military hero Napoleon was arriving through town, after a great victory. So everybody left their work for a while and rushed to the street were he was coming in like in a parade with all his soldiers. People hang out of their windows and from the balconies. There were lined up at the side walks in great expectation.

Finally he arrived, this little man on a huge horse. He's hair was long and dyed blonde.

He looked very fancy. The women threw handkerchiefs, hair ribbons and bunches of flowers at him.

It was like Elvis was coming to town.

Gabrielle spotted a handsome young soldier with a small mustache that smiled at her. She felt very lucky.

That was the only time she saw Napoleon in her life.

He was quite famous and people talked about him all the time.

Near the tiny house, Gabrielle lived in, was a blacksmith. He often shoed horses. Next to his workshop was a small stable where the horses that needed to be shoed were lined up. The Military of course got their own blacksmith but if the horses from the military units had trouble with their shoes they went in on his place to have them shoed while drinking in a small bar near by.

Then Gabrielle met the handsome soldier again, as she went to the blacksmith to have an iron pot repaired and he had his horse stabled up for shoeing.

They fell in love immediately.

In the beginning no one took it seriously except for Gabrielle's friend that thought it was oh-so-romantic.

But he kept meeting her in the stable by the blacksmith and they 'fooled around in the hay'.

She was very happy as he one day invited her to go shopping with him. He bought at neat, blue dress and a gold bracelet with small pearls. Soon after she was invited to a restaurant wearing the dress and bracelet and felt very chosen to sit there and dine with such handsome soldier.

Daniel Rossau even invited her to his home and visit his father who was a pretty rich banker.

Gabrielle was of course very nervous since poor people never mingled with the rich.

Daniel's father embraced her immediately. He was a very sweet, down to earth man.

Gabrielle visited Daniel and his father regularly. His mother was dominating, ambitious and very controlling so she always brought Daniel in despair.

Eventually the father told his son and Gabrielle he thought of their relationship as a serious matter and he suggested that they got married. He even encouraged Daniel to desert the military and start a new life with Gabrielle in Germany.

The father had a brother in Germany with good connections. Daniel's father even suggested that they both went to Germany got married and lived under a different name there. He would buy a house for them to live in.

He had some savings and he would give Daniel an advance on his inheritance.

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The father told his story about once being in love with a wonderful woman. But his parents didn't want him to marry what they called an ordinary woman, they wanted him to marry into a rich a prominent family, and there by he got married to Daniel's mother. There was never anything in his life he regretted so much.

Not a day had gone by with out him thinking of her and the love they might have shared, so he wanted his son to marry for love and not for money or influence.

There was no money or possessions in the world that could substitute love.

He kept asking Daniel if he was serious and he confirmed. The father saw no reason for him to get killed in a stupid war he should aim his life for happiness with the woman he loved and get him some grandchildren.

Soon the father announced that he had organized the perfect escape plan for both of them.

First Daniel should disappear from the military, when he arrived in Germany his father would be informed by a secret messenger and here after Gabrielle was to escape in a horse carriage.

Gabrielle only told her best friend about this plan. He gave her some money to offer to the nuns to take her mother in, and take care of her after she was gone. Some nuns ran a poorhouse and she thought they would take her mother in even if there wasn't room for her, if they got some bribery.



Several planes went wrong, things got delayed and Gabrielle began to get an uncanny feeling something was more than wrong. One of the women at the laundry place told her she heard rumors that Napoleon's army had returned to Paris and had been back for a while.

She didn't as usual hear or see anything from Daniel and got very suspicious.

So one stormy night in October as Gabrielle had just lifted up the heavy iron pot in the hook above the fire in the fireplace with an iron rod balancing a wooden stand, it knocked at the door !

Being so late in the evening Gabrielle thought, it could be no one else but her close friend, and just yelled: "Come in.. !"

As the door opened she was amazed to see Daniel standing there in his handsome uniform and looking at her with a very strange expression on his face.

He didn't rush towards her to hug her as usual and Gabrielle, didn't dare to move towards him embrace him and kiss him as usual. There were definitely some ice cold barrier in the air. Actually she didn't say a word just stood still, as frozen.

He held his tall, dark hat in his right hand and held it a bit in front of him standing very formal and stiff as he started a longer speech, very well articulated as if he had rehearsed it for hours right before his arrival..

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Something like, - 'You know how much I love you and you are the only woman in the world that can make me feel this way, for which I owe you to come and tell you myself, and not let rumors and hearsay go in front of me, that I on my mother's sincere advise have made other plans for the future, than we have had so far.

The political situation in consideration my mother support me fully in my future plans of cancelling our marriage since we seem so unfit for each other socially, she found me a proper lady from a rich family to marry instead.

It breaks my heart to announce you this, but it is the right thing to do. I assure you I do not love this woman at all and I shall always miss you and think of you as my only love. I bit you goodbye and lot's of luck with your future.'

And he turned around heading for the door.

Gabrielle had gone pretty cold from this speech and furious. Whiled he talked she thought of how Daniel betrayed his father's wishes for them both, how he betrayed her ...and it all snapped !

She hit him hard in his back of the head with the iron rod and he fell lifeless at the kitchen floor.

From when the sun went down to the break of dawn, a night watchman walked the streets.

Every fifteen minutes he kind of chanted a specific verse what the 'bell had struck'.

He carried with him a rod with a morning star at the top. He not only announced the time, but saw to the streetlights that they worked properly and was a kind of representation for law and order and could call for help in case he spotted suspicious activities going on the darkness.

Still all cold in her heart and kind of thinking rational Gabrielle quickly wrapped Daniels bleeding head in some cloth. Then she looked out for the night watchman and as he just passed by her house and turned a corner she rushed to her friend's place a woke her up.

Her friend, was briefly told an accident had happen and the both went to Gabrielle's place avoiding being seen by the night watchman.

Poor people didn't have clocks and some of them had to get up early in morning and do their jobs. Learning by heart to react to the specific verses the night watchman was singing during the night, they all had a chance to get up in time for work.

As her best friend saw Daniel's dead body laying there, she was at first in chock, but as Gabrielle told her that he cancelled their wedding and had come to tell her he now married a woman he didn't love for money and prosperity, her friend was as furious as Gabrielle her self. She helped her to pack his body in some laundry bags and being very careful not to be spotted by the night watchman, they both carried his body over a bridge leading to a more rural area with meadows and some trees.

They were pretty scared as they dragged his body in the darkness towards the trees and dumped him there. They could not use any light at all or they would have been spotted even from a far distance.

They went home and tried to sleep.

From here on you know the rest of the story.

Daniels regiment fetched Gabrielle late at night only wearing her night dress and a shawl and dragged out there by the trees, to identify his body.

What ended up being the final proof that Gabrielle was the killer, was the fact that Daniel's blood was had penetrated deep into the mud floor in the kitchen, as well as the laundry bags were identified being from the laundry at the river were Gabrielle worked.