



DANIEL (26)

You sat on the beach watching Clara jump into waves. That girl was something. An incredible, beautiful something. You'd only known her a few days but already she'd started getting under your skin. For the first time, it occurred to you that this might not just be a holiday romance. You might see each other even after returning to reality. You weren't really able to imagine Clara in reality, though. How could this wild and impulsive girl survive in the dull,

grey, everyday life? If things work out, you might even get a chance to find out in the future. You got up and slowly walked to the sea to join her. This was truly a good vacation.

Daniel likes fun and life. He doesn't worry about anything too much and makes the most of opportunities before him. Thanks to that, he became a successful businessman. He always got along with women and **he's had his share of short-term romances**. Until recently, he would never have thought that any of the women he met would be able to impress him so much that he'd want anything more serious with her. And then he met **Clara**. She appeared out of the blue and disappeared just as fast. Clara is a mystery he would have liked to solve. For now, he just wants to keep having fun.

Fragments from his life

Having a lesbian in the family was a hot topic and then... it wasn't. Everyone has always liked **Cousin Veronica**; she's always been a kind-hearted that the family was over talking about her coming-out within a few weeks. What made the process even faster was that **Veronica's family lived in another part of the country and they only met each other a few times a year**. There were times when Daniel was grateful for that. When he was in school, he saw how cruel kids could be to anyone who was seen as different and he was happy to be able to keep the difference in his family a secret. He feels a bit ashamed when he looks back at those thoughts.

What kept the family talking for much longer was when **the wedding Veronica planned with her girlfriend, seven years ago, was suddenly cancelled**. Everything was prepared and then, at the last moment, they broke up. Daniel doesn't know the exact details but he knows that Veronica has had a really rough time coping with the breakup. **She drank a lot** and found herself in one mess after another. Daniel lived in the city at the time and he'd never seen Veronica in such a state -- he hopes he never will again. Eventually, Veronica got herself together and the family drew a thick line behind this part of her past. Nobody comments when she doesn't drink alcohol at parties and her sobriety is their only reminder of her failed engagement.

After college, Daniel became a businessman which enabled him to travel a lot. He is happy with his freedom; he has never been one for commitment. Their company has a branch in the city where Veronica lives and so he started seeing more of his cousin. He attended her wedding two years ago when she and Sabine got married.

Recent events

Two months ago Daniel went for vacation to the Canaries. He was a bit bored there and he even thought of going home early, but then **he met Clara in a bar one evening**. **They spent a week together**. During the day they went to the beach, drank cocktails or discovered nice secluded places around the island; they spent the nights making love in Daniel's room. Daniel realized that he was really happy with Clara. He wouldn't say he loved her, oh no, but it was really damn close. Then, one day, he woke up and **Clara was gone**. He found a phone number on the table but when he called it the line was dead.

Two weeks ago, Daniel called Veronica to confirm the visit they had agreed on when he called from the Canaries. He was going to be in the city on business and Veronica immediately invited him to a small party that she had planned with Sabine. A friend of Sabine's, along with her girlfriend, was supposed to be

coming. It was clear from the phone call that **Veronica isn't happy about their visit** and could use some support. Why not? An evening with five women couldn't be too much of a problem, could it?

Questions for the evening

"Sabine, when are we going to see you on TV again? What are you planning?" – Sabine's work is apparently very important to her. Daniel wants to make her happy by showing an interest.

"Denise, what are your plans after school?"

"Anna, how long have you and Clara been together?"

People to talk to

Veronica – She doesn't feel very good about the evening; it seems that meeting Anna is quite difficult for her.

Denise – Just for fun, give the girl a chance.

Clara -- Talks about the common past.

Relationships

Veronica (35)

He's really started to like Cousin Veronica over the past few years. They didn't see much of each other when they were kids but, now that Daniel has been travelling more, they've been meeting up quite often. He doesn't see her wife and stepdaughter very much -- he usually just goes out with Veronica and they talk about life over coffee (because Veronica doesn't drink).

Sabine (46)

Sabine is Veronica's wife. Daniel has only seen her a few times since the wedding -- she's very busy. He actually sees more of her on TV. Whenever there is a debate about homosexual couples, Sabine always has something to say. Apparently, she is even going into politics now.

Denise (17)

When he met her for the first time at the wedding, she was just a little girl. Now she's turning into a really attractive young woman. In the last few days, Denise has tried to flirt with Daniel when they were alone. She isn't very good at it but Daniel thought it was kind of cute so he flirted with her a bit too. Anyhow, she's not related so it's no big deal. It actually makes him feel better about himself; he needs a bit of a boost to his confidence after things ended so mysteriously with Clara. He isn't going to let it go any further than flirting though; after all, he doesn't want to hurt his relationship with Sabine and Veronica. To really start something more than flirting with Denise, he would need a better reason than just being a bit bored.

Clara (29)

Clara wasn't just some summer romance for Daniel or, more precisely, she didn't have to be. He was disappointed by her leaving without saying a word. Not only disappointed, his pride was wounded -- Daniel isn't used to being the one who gets left. Sure, he had a few one-night stands where one or the other of them quietly snuck out in the morning but that week with Clara was something... more. He'd really like to know why Clara hooked up with him in the first place and why she left without a word.