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Socialization Into a New Role

In June 2010 when I was 18 I graduated from Riverton High School, as I'm not the oldest, but one of the youngest in my family a graduation was nothing close to substantial or new. Shortly after I graduated I got my first real "big kid" job, as I would refer to it. I had worked fast food all throughout high school from the time I turned 15 and was a bright eyed Sophomore to the distinguished Senior I would later turn into. Okay, so distinguished is far from what I was but at that point in my life I thought I was wise far beyond my years even though I didn't even know what I was getting myself into in the giant playground I call adult life. Anyway, I started working at Zions Bank on August 16, 2010, and I thought I was so grown up at this point, what I didn't know was the trouble and the role this job would throw me into.

Being so young, but thinking I knew it all and more so thinking I could handle whatever life threw at me with ease. I tempted my fate, you see back when I started the man who trained me became my closest friend and seemingly only confidant in this big crazy job that made my head spin so much I thought my brains were going to ooze out my ears from all the information pouring into a small capacity in such a short amount of time. Our relationship moved fast and hard, I thought I could control what was happening but little did I know that I was a naïve teenager. As this "relationship" progressed it spun out of control and I lost all of the perception

I once had. My life was heading in a direction far from where I imagined and what I wanted. This façade of a man took over my very existence; he had me wrapped so tightly around his finger I became his puppet dangling from strings. I was under a spell and I couldn't snap myself back to reality.

You would think that this new relationship would end with a fairytale. Unfortunately, the biggest part that I'm leaving out is that this seemingly genuinely nice person was in fact married and leading a double life that I was now a part of. My new role that I took upon myself was mistress, not a fancy role nor one that I ever saw myself playing in this life or any life I would ever live. By the time I realized what was going on I was so deep into this I just couldn't bring myself back without a plan to repair the catastrophe that I created inside my life and the lives of those around me. For months and months I thought this out, how I would leave and end it all. There were days this man and I would fight to the highest extreme I would fear for what he would do. He is very angry and violent, sometimes I would become so mad leaving seemed simple and wanted. Then in the next instance he would turn sweet and loving melting the very heart beating inside my chest.

By assuming this new role I lost many friends, I became unhappy, I always wanted to be alone or with him, small things made me snap in a way that was unredeemable, I lost interest in everything, and I became very antisocial. My entire life I have been happy, outgoing, and spontaneous, in an instant all that changed. Becoming this person was easy, I trusted the person who seemed to be everything anyone would want from a future mate, and lost sight of who I was and what my role in life really is. The transition from this new found role back to the

role I so badly wanted back was next to impossible. It took a friend from the outside looking in on a conflict he knew next to nothing about to “save” me from the torment I was bringing upon myself. Needless to say I eventually found the courage to tell this man’s wife what he was doing to her destroying their family unit which made him so angry we haven’t talked since.

He blames this on me and at first that was hard to overcome, but with time I realized how dysfunctional this role was and how needed it was to be changed. Months have now passed and life is going back to normal, not that it can ever really go back to what it was. I must take on a new role and that role consists of finding myself and loving who I am as a person so that I can love my future husband and children with all that I am. In a few short months my role will become wife and that role is one I am ready to assume and call my own. While this role I played from over a year taught me a lot about who I am and who I never want to be again, I have a better perspective of those who are a part of an affair. Never judge a book by its cover you never know why a person does what they do, sometimes they are being consumed by something they can’t seem to grasp and control.