

Chapter 5 – Australia Present Day

The photo is connected to another

Lena needed a break from her investigations into her grandmother Rose's photo. The photo had been at the forefront of her mind for the past week. And after her meeting with Milo she was looking forward to meeting with his friend to find out more. But right now, at this very moment, she needed to focus her thoughts on completing assignments for her business degree and working to gain finances to take herself away on a holiday and on the working trip to Belize that she had planned.

To start the day, she went to the library for the morning to work on her research for her business degree. The business degree was very different to her archaeology PHD where she focused on historical enquiry. Now she was learning how to run her own business and manage finances. It was certainly a change and shock to her system and way of thinking. While she did extremely well writing assessments about culture, she found it a little more challenging writing about micro and macroeconomics, business leadership and finances.

Lena was sitting at a desk in the library and someone must have been sitting there before her, because there was an assortment of books lying on the desk still. The previous occupant must have left them all there without putting them back on the shelf. One of the titles of the books caught her eye. It was titled *a history of Sydney and surrounds*. She picked it up to examine it. Of course, that was her love of history stirring her interest and distracting her from the task at hand.

The book was a hard cover volume with nothing different or special about it. Lena opened the book and began flipping through its pages with no real objective. Then when she was about half way through the book, she came upon an image that intrigued her. It was an old grainy black and white photo of two people standing in front of an old wooden building. A man and a woman. The man looked the dead ringer for the mysterious man in her nan's photo. Lena stared at the photo and let the strange resemblance of the man be absorbed deep in her mind. She got her mobile phone out of her handbag and took a picture of it before reading the caption. The caption read:

Sidney Davis and Shirley Knudson c.1890s at a Sydney charity event.

Sidney Davis looked exactly like the strange man in Rose's photo and yet that photo was taken in the 1980s and this one clearly taken in the 1890s. How was that possible? How was it possible that a man in an 1890s photo looked the same as a man in a 1980s photo? Was the mysterious man in Rose's photo Mr Sidney Davis? Also, the other woman in the photo, Shirley Knudson, looked beautiful and was wearing a pretty light dress. Even though the photo was in black and white, it looked as though the lady

had light coloured hair. Who was she? Why was she in the photo? Lena's thoughts were floating between the two photos as she tried to piece the possibilities together.

Lena just sat there absorbing the photo in the book for a while. Milo was temporarily borrowing her nan's photo from the 1980s, so she did not have the original image to compare this new discovery with. Lena sent a copy of the photo from the book via her phone to Milo just in case he might know something. She texted him. *Milo, I am sitting in the library and found this image in a book. I can see a resemblance between the man in this shot and our mysterious man. Do you have any ideas? Lena.* After sitting there, staring at the photo in the book for some time Lena closed the book, put it aside and went back to her studies. There was nothing else she could do, and she had promised herself to leave the investigating of the photo for a while.

Then a little while later her phone pinged as a message flashed upon her screen. It read: *The man, Sidney Davis, is connected to the man in your photo. Also, my friend Zach has something to tell you. Milo.* Lena just read and absorbed the message. A little confused. A little excited. She wanted to know more and replied: *Wow that is exciting. When do I get to meet Zach? Lena.* The texting went on for a little while and upon some thought it probably would have been easier to just call him she thought. Lena and Milo organised a meeting with Zach at a local café for two days' time because Zach was rather busy.

Now Lena had two images. One: the photo her grandmother Rose gave her taken at their house in the 1980s at a family event and, two: the photo she found in a library book about Sydney taken in the 1890s. The man in each image looked like the same person. His name: Sidney Davis. Was there a link between Lena's heritage and this mysterious man Sidney Davis? That is something Lena had whizzing through her mind at a hundred miles per hour. Lena's grandmother's photo is connected to another – the photo in the book.

Lena sat in the library finishing off her studies before leaving to go to work for the day. Another day of her trying to forget about the photo gave her another image to contemplate.