

The Investor

You got married fresh out of high school to your partner who promptly joined the army and was posted overseas. You've always been close to your sister and couldn't imagine moving away from her, but life as a long-distance army spouse quickly became boring, not to mention lonely. Money was tight and after you and your sister went home from a local bar's wet t-shirt contest with your pockets stuffed with tips from drunk patrons you started to think over what you could do to solve all of your problems at once. You'd not done too well at school but always liked to think of yourself as a problem-solver, someone who could find real-life solutions. You did your research of the local brothels and the Madam at the Lily was your favorite: direct, honest, and offered a fair rate.

You've worked a few years there now and all of your earnings go into a secret account with only your name on it. Your sister is the only person in your "real" life who knows where you work and you go on hiatus whenever your spouse is home on leave, but are always happy to come back to the Lily and your regulars. You know your spouse would divorce you in a second if they had the slightest inkling you were being unfaithful, and so you are always very careful to use protection, even though some of the tips clients offer for unprotected sex are outrageous and hard to refuse.

You quite like working as a companion, as it happens, but this money is starting to really burn a hole in your pocket. You want to set yourself up for a secure future, no matter what might ever happen with your spouse, but you don't have a mortgage and army spouses get good pensions, too. Maybe you should make an offer on the Lily? But would you be any good as a Madam, do you even want to be a Madam and take on that extra responsibility? How would that work when your spouse was home on leave? And how would you avoid running the place into the ground by being either too greedy or too soft with the companions? You'd probably have to get the Madam on your side to buy the place, anyway, you're pretty sure they could get a better offer somewhere else, although not by much.

You've worked well with some of your colleagues for several years and Tuesdays often find you enjoying an after-shift drink with **The Apple Doesn't Fall Far**, **The Flamboyant**, **The Happy Hooker**, and **The Sweetheart**. It's good to have friends to swap stories with, commiserate with, and just feel relaxed and safe around. **The Girlfriend** has been flitting about the edges of this group lately but you don't care about them much, you think they seem a bit desperate to be liked.

Other than your Tuesday group, you enjoy gossiping with **The Brown-noser** and can really relate to **The Practical's** no-nonsense approach to life and work. Not like **The Miserable Wretch**, who tries your patience just whining about everything, you're surprised the Madam even lets them stay at the Lily. **The Responsible** isn't much better, but at least they seem to accept they made their own bed and now they have to lie in it.