

HE WAS SO HANDSOME

For the third time that week Mary hid behind the oak tree opposite the house she was watching. Hoping when the occupant left she would pretend to bump into her and ask her again about Steven.

The Police responded immediately to the complaint and the Officer seemed to appear out of nowhere. He cautioned Mary; although she could barely understand him from behind his mask.

As she sat in the Police car she reflected on that text from her friend a week ago, and blamed it on the mess she was now in.

‘Guess whose sister I’ve met – someone we both once had a crush on?’

Mary didn’t have to guess, a sharp knife was already twisting at her heart. Steven.

‘Do you remember, he was so handsome, well I’m sure I’m playing bridge with his sister. I’ve seen her on Zoom and there is a strong likeness. Sarah is her name, does that sound right?’

Mary remembered her name began with S, brother Steven was a server in church and his sister was in the choir. She begged her friend to find out more about him.

‘I can’t, now we have to play online there’s no opportunity to chat. It was so long ago let’s Just enjoy our memories of lusting after him in church. I never did understand your extreme obsession with him when you could have had anyone. We were all jealous of you with men.

The pain of that rejection was still as raw today.

‘Mary, you are still smitten. Good grief. I think I did hear he got divorced after some scandal.’

Excellent, Mary thought, he may still be available. She planned how to contact Sarah.’ Being secretary of the bridge club had its advantages. She found her phone number and address.

Mary rang and asked outright about Steven. The phone slammed down, deafening her.

The next day Mary went round to the house and knocked on her door. The lady opened, an inch, screamed and slammed the door in her face.

Mary then started each day hiding behind the tree preparing to waylay her.

All that time ago, when she asked Steven out he replied 'No thanks.' No thanks!' when she could have had any man she wanted. How dare he.

She knew she was still attractive, she needed to lay this ghost to rest and get rid of this pain for good. This was 2020 and no one knew what the future held.

The Police Officer allowed her to call her friend once they were at the Police Station.

'Mary. 'What the hell have you done? No I am not coming down to the station to speak up for you. You will have to get yourself out of this one.

Anyway, I found out the sister's name did begin with S but it wasn't Sarah it was Susan.

However, my bridge partner Sarah was once called Steven.