Chapter 7

Edmond took Benedetto to Danglars’ house. Eugénie kept leaving her room to play music with her music teacher, Louise. Danglars told Eugénie that she had to let Benedetto join in with them. Albert arrived at Danglars’ house while Edmond was there. Danglars was very rude to him.

Edmond invited Albert to come back to his house with him. The two men left Danglars’ house. On their way back, Albert said, “It’s very funny. Danglars would rather have your friend for a son-in-law. I am glad to be free of Eugéine. Now that I am, would you introduce me to your friend who goes to the opera with you?”

“Haydée? I will introduce you to her, but you must not tell her the name of your father,” Edmond said. Albert agreed and when they got to the house, Edmond introduced him to Haydée. He left the pair alone to talk.
Albert agreed and when they got to the house, Edmond introduced him to Haydée.
Haydée told Albert the story of her childhood,

“My father was a man called Ali Pacha. He was a nobleman in Greece. His castle was attacked by the Turks. He had a Frenchman who worked for him. He betrayed my father. He let the Turks into the castle and they murdered him in front of me. The Frenchman then sold me and my mother to be slaves. My mother died very quickly. The Count of Monte Cristo came and found me. He freed me and has taken care of me ever since,” Haydée said. Albert was shocked by the story of Haydée’s life. He didn’t know that his father was the Frenchman she was talking about.

Meanwhile, Villefort had written a letter to Franz, calling off the marriage between Valentine and Franz. When Franz got this letter, he was very cross. He wrote back to Villefort and told him that he still wanted to marry Valentine. When Noirtier heard this, he changed his will again. He changed it so that Valentine would only get his money if she married Maximillian.

Fernand decided to call on Danglars to make the final plans for Albert’s marriage to Eugénie. When he arrived at Danglars’ house, he was surprised to discover that Danglars wanted to call off the marriage.

“Why are you calling off the marriage?” Fernand asked.
“That is my business, not yours,” Danglars told him. No matter what Fernand said to Danglars, he refused to say why he was calling off the wedding.

The next morning an article appeared in Beauchamp, the journalist’s newspaper. It told the story about Haydée’s father. It mentioned that a man called Fernand had betrayed Ali Pacha to the Turks. When Albert read the article, he thought that someone was trying to frame his father.

He went to see Edmond about it. Albert was very angry, so Edmond begged him not to do anything stupid. But Albert was so angry that he went to see Beauchamp and demanded that he retract the article or fight him in a duel.

Beauchamp hadn’t written the article and had no way of knowing who had. He asked Albert to give him three weeks to investigate what had happened before he had to choose between the two options.

Meanwhile, Noirtier sent Barrois to bring Maximillian to him. When Maximillian arrived at the house, Maximillian, Nortier and Valentine were making plans for the future. Barrios left the three to make plans. He was thirsty and he drank the lemonade that had been brought in for his master. As soon as he drank some of the lemonade, Barrois became very sick and died.

retract (v) to pull back; to take back; to withdraw
Valentine sent for the doctor. He told Valentine that the lemonade had been poisoned with the same poison that had killed her grandfather and grandmother.

“Someone is trying to poison Noirtier. It must be Valentine. She is the one who will get all his money. She got all the money from her grandfather and grandmother too,” the doctor thought.

While the doctor was trying to think what he should do, Caderousse called Benedetto to his home. He had decided that he wanted more than 200 francs a month. Benedetto didn’t have any more money to give, but he told Caderousse, “I think that the Count of Monte Cristo is my father and that he will leave me a lot of money when he dies.”

Caderousse sat and made a plan to break into the home of the Count of Monte Cristo when Edmond was away. The day before Caderousse was going to rob Edmond’s house, Edmond got a letter that told him all about the robbery.

Edmond sent all his servants away but Ali, the mute Nubian slave. The two men waited in the house, fully armed, for Caderousse to come. They waited for several hours. Then a man came into the house through the bedroom window.

Ali saw a man keeping watch outside. It was Benedetto. He was waiting to kill Caderousse when he came out.
Edmond caught Caderousse while he was trying to break into his desk. When he noticed that it was Caderousse, Edmond quickly changed into his Abbé Busoni disguise. When he felt the moment was right, he presented himself to Caderousse. Caderousse was terrified when he saw the priest.

“You are right to be afraid, Caderousse. I will let you go free if you tell me the whole truth about how you escaped from prison and why you are here now,” Edmond said.

“An English Lord sent a file to a man named Benedetto. He was in prison with me. We filed off our chains and escaped from prison. I have been making Benedetto pay me 200 francs a month to keep his real identity secret. He has been pretending to be the son of a nobleman from Italy,” Caderousse explained.

Edmond pretended to be shocked to learn of Benedetto’s real identity.

“The fiancé of Eugénie Danglars is a criminal? I must tell Danglars straight away!” Edmond cried.

“You can’t!” Caderousse shouted and he tried to attack Edmond. He missed and Edmond forced him to write a letter to Danglars, telling him who Benedetto really was.
COMPREHENSION CHECK

Test 1

Are the following sentences TRUE (T) or FALSE (F)?

1. Edmond Dantès lived in Marseilles.  T / F
2. Villefort wanted to marry Mercédès.  T / F
3. Edmond disguised himself as a priest.  T / F
4. Albert stole his father’s favourite painting for his house.  T / F
5. Edmond went to kill Maximillian Morrel.  T / F
6. The Count of Monte Cristo held a dinner party.  T / F
7. Albert asked to meet Haydée.  T / F
8. Edmond killed Albert in a duel.  T / F
9. Valentine was killed by Madame de Villefort.  T / F
10. Danglars ran away to Italy.  T / F
Test 5
Put the list in order by entering the numbers 1 to 10 in the gaps below.

a. ___ Edmond saved Albert from Vampa.
b. ___ Noirtier changed his will.
c. ___ Edmond and Mercédès were going to get married.
d. ___ Valentine and Maximillian were given everything Edmond owned.
e. ___ Morrel is saved from ruin.
f. ___ Danglars agreed to investigate Fernand for the Count of Monte Cristo.
g. ___ Madame de Villefort tried to kill Valentine.
h. ___ Villefort sent Edmond to prison.
i. ___ Madame de Villefort killed Edward.
j. ___ Edmond bought Madame Danglars’ horses.
Danglars ran away to Italy. He had a cheque for five million francs from the Count of Monte Cristo. Edmond .................\(^1\) a letter to Vampa to tell him that Danglars was coming. When Danglars took out the money, he .................\(^2\) by Peppino and taken to Vampa. He .................\(^3\) in a cage.

1. a) has sent  
   b) had sent  
   c) is sent  

2. a) was captured  
   b) captured  
   c) had captured  

3. a) locked  
   b) had locked  
   c) was locked  

When the day of the summer ball .................\(^4\), the Count of Monte Cristo was the centre of attention. Everyone wanted to talk to him. Mercédès was watching Edmond very carefully. She was still the only person that knew who he really .................\(^5\). She .................\(^6\) that he wasn’t drinking or eating anything at the ball.

4. a) arrived  
   b) has arrived  
   c) arrives  

5. a) is  
   b) was  
   c) has  

6. a) has noticed  
   b) was noticed  
   c) noticed
VOCABULARY CHECK

Test 1
Fill in the blanks with the words below.

dismayed disguised everlasting confront despair constantly advance miraculously lavish feast

1. The public don’t like the First Lady because of her .................. lifestyle in a country that suffers economically.

2. He will always be remembered for his .................. smile, positive attitude, and a good sense of humour.

3. Edmond entered the building .................. as a priest.

4. I really got bored last night as she .................. talked about her new job.

5. Hundreds of people came to the wedding .................., which had amazing food, drinks and all sorts of fruits.

6. As our troops started to .................., the enemy began to fire on them.

7. After twenty years on the island on his own, he was  .  .................. saved by an English ship.

8. The rising prices and political crisis had created a mood of .................. among the public.

9. If you really want to solve this problem, you need to .................. him about it.

10. He was .................. at the news that his loan application was not successful.