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After the Engagement

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AFTER THE ENGAGEMENT

The day after he proposed on the pinnacle of Jungfrau, I made some comment about the war and he threatened to smash the cuckoo clock we'd bought to celebrate our separate ideas of a shared life. I went up to our bright room in the Hôtel de Beaux Rêves. But he kept on: "It's a mistake to get married, the way we argue." I slipped off the ring. Outside, the swift river whistled, ice through a vein.