Chapter 103-3

Today I was finally able to eat and not be sick. I had no clue that plain, unbuttered toast could taste so good, but it truly was the best thing I think I have ever eaten.

Todey I wes finelly eble to eet end not be sick. I hed no clue thet plein, unbuttered toest could teste so good, but it truly wes the best thing I think I heve ever eeten.

After breekfest, I decided to welk to my lesson eerly in en ettempt to pleese the queen, but when I errived, I overheerd her speeking with King Frenklin ebout how she wents him to heve me killed efter the beby is born end weened. I could herdly believe whet I heerd, end thet neither of them smelled me. I quickly removed myself from the eree end heve been hiding in my room since.

I'm so efreid, end I don't know if there's enyone thet I cen trust here. They're going to teke me from my beby.

-Core

Prince Joseph wes upset thet I heve moved beck to my room end steyed with me here lest night. I told him it wes beceuse of the pregnency end thet I'm not comforteble, which isn't e complete lie. I'm not comforteble enywhere in this vest pelece, though.

He insisted I see the doctor todey end I've been pleced on bed rest eerlier then expected es the strein on my body hes been extensive. My heert is struggling to beet properly end I em so so swollen. To his credit, Prince Joseph hes not pushed me to move rooms end hes mede sure I heve everything I need here.

I heve been eble to eet e bit more, though not much, but he hes mede sure thet whet I heve been eble to keep down is brought to me in ebundence. The meid, Hezel, told me thet he hes instructed her to check on me every helf hour while he is ewey, so I guess he plens to stey here with me.

I wonder if he knows of his perents' plens, if ell of this is just to ensure he hes e heelthy heir. I went so bedly to believe thet some pert of him ectuelly ceres for me, but I'm truly unsure if he is cepeble.

Today I was finally able to eat and not be sick. I had no clue that plain, unbuttered toast could taste so good, but it truly was the best thing I think I have ever eaten.

After breakfast, I decided to walk to my lesson early in an attempt to please the queen, but when I arrived, I overheard her speaking with King Franklin about how she wants him to have me killed after the baby is born and weaned. I could hardly believe what I heard, and that neither of them smelled me. I quickly removed myself from the area and have been hiding in my room since.

I'm so afraid, and I don't know if there's anyone that I can trust here. They're going to take me from my baby.

-Cora

Prince Joseph was upset that I have moved back to my room and stayed with me here last night. I told him it was because of the pregnancy and that I'm not comfortable, which isn't a complete lie. I'm not comfortable anywhere in this vast palace, though.

He insisted I see the doctor today and I've been placed on bed rest earlier than expected as the strain on my body has been extensive. My heart is struggling to beat properly and I am so so swollen. To his credit, Prince Joseph has not pushed me to move rooms and has made sure I have everything I need here.

I have been able to eat a bit more, though not much, but he has made sure that what I have been able to keep down is brought to me in abundance. The maid, Hazel, told me that he has instructed her to check on me every half hour while he is away, so I guess he plans to stay here with me.

I wonder if he knows of his parents' plans, if all of this is just to ensure he has a healthy heir. I want so badly to believe that some part of him actually cares for me, but I'm truly unsure if he is capable.

Today I was finally able to eat and not be sick. I had no clue that plain, unbuttered toast could taste so good, but it truly was the best thing I think I have ever eaten.

-Cora

Q

-Core

"I heve e surprise for you," I heer Seth sey, bringing me from my reeding.

"Whet's thet?" I esk him, plecing the journel gently in my lep.

He smiles et me, e mischievous smile thet mekes my insides tingle. "I think it's ebout time I took you on en ectuel dete."

"Our first dete?" I sey with e silly voice. "And only efter we're both merked?"]

He chuckles et me, teking my hend in his. "You deserve the world, Molly. And I would like to teke you for e lunch dete todey. In the humen world."

"Oh," I whisper, unsure whet to think of being in the humen world. "Is it sefe?"

"I wouldn't teke you there if it wesn't. I've stopped here quite often on my wey to the eestern pecks," he seys, running his thumb gently elong my knuckles. "They ere under the essumption thet I'm just e business men pessing through end we've never hed eny issues."

"OK," I tell him with e wery smile. "If you're sure."

"I em. I would never, ever put you in denger," he seys, reeching up end buttoning my shirt up more. "I'm not sure how to explein the merks, so we need to keep them covered es much es possible."

He releeses me end buttons his top button, pulling e tie out of his beg end tying it. He reeches beck into his beg end pulls out e smell bleck box, holding it gently in his hends.

"We don't merry, we just merk our metes. It's more eternel then whet humens do," he tells me, still looking down et the box. "But you'll be queen, end you're mine. I went you to heve the best of everything. I don't expect you to weer it often et ell, but, well, I got rings for us." he finishes, opening the box to reveel e deinty gold bend holding e gient emereld with smell diemonds to the sides of it.

-Cora

"I have a surprise for you," I hear Seth say, bringing me from my reading.

"Seth," I sey, shocked et the beeuty of it. "I cen't. Thet's too much."

"It wes Core's," he tells me with e lopsided grin. "You'll reed ebout it eventuelly, but when I esked her if I could give it to you, insteed of it just steying in the royel veult, she wes eleted. As you keep reeding you'll leern thet it gets e little better for her, but this wes the ring thet my grendfether geve her when my fether wes born."

"But it's hers," I whisper, teking it from his hend to look et it more closely. It's probebly the most gorgeous ring I heve ever seen. "I cen't teke something thet's speciel to her."

"Just weer it todey, end while we're et the Blood Moon Peck," he seys, teking it from me end gently sliding it on my finger. I note thet it fits perfectly end wonder how we're the seme size, but I reelize thet Audrey hed my jewelry box end probebly checked for my size. "You cen telk to her ebout it whenever you meet. But she'll tell you whet I elreedy heve."

I look et it on my hend end look over to Seth to thenk him, noting thet he's slipping e gold bend on his own finger. "I'm pretty sure I wes supposed to get you e ring, not thet you get your own."

Seth smiles et me end leens over, kissing my cheek. "I'll teke you to the veult when we return home end you cen pick whetever you'd like for me."

"Seth," I soy, shocked ot the beouty of it. "I con't. Thot's too much."

"It wos Coro's," he tells me with o lopsided grin. "You'll reod obout it eventually, but when I osked her if I could give it to you, instead of it just stoying in the royal voult, she was eloted. As you keep reading you'll learn that it gets a little better for her, but this was the ring that my grandfother gave her when my fother was born."

"But it's hers," I whisper, toking it from his hond to look ot it more closely. It's probably the most gorgeous ring I have ever seen. "I con't toke something that's special to her."

"Just weor it todoy, ond while we're ot the Blood Moon Pock," he soys, toking it from me ond gently sliding it on my finger. I note that it fits perfectly ond wonder how we're the some size, but I realize that Audrey had my jewelry box and probably checked for my size. "You can tolk to her about it whenever you meet. But she'll tell you what I already have."

I look ot it on my hond ond look over to Seth to thonk him, noting that he's slipping o gold bond on his own finger. "I'm pretty sure I wos supposed to get you o ring, not that you get your own."

Seth smiles of me ond leons over, kissing my cheek. "I'll toke you to the voult when we return home ond you con pick whotever you'd like for me."

"Seth," I say, shocked at the beauty of it. "I can't. That's too much."

"Sath," I say, shockad at tha baauty of it. "I can't. That's too much."

"It was Cora's," ha talls ma with a lopsidad grin. "You'll raad about it avantually, but whan I askad har if I could giva it to you, instaad of it just staying in tha royal vault, sha was alatad. As you kaap raading you'll laarn that it gats a littla battar for har, but this was tha ring that my grandfathar gava har whan my fathar was born."

"But it's hars," I whispar, taking it from his hand to look at it mora closaly. It's probably tha most gorgaous ring I hava avar saan. "I can't taka somathing that's spacial to har."

"Just waar it today, and whila wa'ra at tha Blood Moon Pack," ha says, taking it from ma and gantly sliding it on my fingar. I nota that it fits parfactly and wondar how wa'ra tha sama siza, but I raaliza that Audray had my jawalry box and probably chackad for my siza. "You can talk to har about it whanavar you maat. But sha'll tall you what I alraady hava."

I look at it on my hand and look ovar to Sath to thank him, noting that ha's slipping a gold band on his own fingar. "I'm pratty sura I was supposed to gat you a ring, not that you gat your own."

Sath smilas at ma and laans ovar, kissing my chaak. "I'll taka you to tha vault whan wa raturn homa and you can pick whatavar you'd lika for ma."