

Her Unwanted Mate On The Throne by Caroline Chapter 207

Chapter 207 A long time coming

The two brothers stared at each other for a long moment before William squeezed Daniel's shoulder and dropped his hand. "I hope you find a place that makes you happy. I'll always be here if you decide to return. You will always have a place in the military as top general. Daniel nodded and stepped back away from William. He glanced at Doris and offered a small smile. "I wish you luck as well, little one. You'll get your card when I settle. Don't expect any sweets as well." Doris stood and placed her hand on her stomach, Daniel instantly glanced down. "Don't forget to send one for our baby." "Baby..." Daniel's eyes widened. For a moment, she saw a glimpse of the old Daniel as he gripped his head and bounced on his feet. "What do you mean baby! Your baby?"

Doris laughed a little as he stepped up to feel her stomach. There wasn't much yet for him to feel, but she knew there would be soon. "I couldn't wait to tell you. I hope one day you will want to meet them."

Daniel's gaze finally met her own, and it was so much softer than she expected. "Of course I will. I wouldn't miss that for anything." He dropped his hands. "I hope you consider naming it after me." He winked. Doris laughed. "We'll have to think about that, but thank you for the suggestion." William stood back with his hands in his pockets again. He watched them with a faraway expression and she could only wonder what was spinning through his mind. Daniel pulled her in for a tight hug, she squeezed him as hard as she could. "I will miss you, Doris. Thank you for being a friend to me." "I'll miss you too." Doris whispered. "I'm always here as your friend, you know that." When he pulled away from her, he spared one last long look at William before he nodded. "Goodbye, William. For now." He clapped him on the shoulder harshly. "Don't mess it up with this one. She's the only good thing in your life."

"I wouldn't dream of it." William said sincerely. "Goodbye, Daniel."

Doris stepped up to William's side and took his hand. They watched as Daniel left without looking back once. A flash of his grin from when he first met her entered her mind. He told her he was a simple guard just because he wanted to be her friend. Now he was walking out of her life with only a hint of a promise that he might one day return. William watched the door for a long, long moment. Doris stood next to him and leaned her head against his shoulder to remind him that she was there. He didn't have to do anything, he could stand there all day and she would stay with him.

"I need you to come with me." William said suddenly. "There's something I have to do."

"Okay, of course."

William led Doris out of the library and towards the main halls. They didn't stop walking until they reached the throne room where only the most official sort of meetings took place. When they entered, Beth was there.

Beth stood the moment she saw them with a bit of confusion on her face.

"Doris!" She smiled. Doris looked up at William with her own confusion but he didn't look down at her once. He led her to Beth's side and left her there as he stepped up to the throne and took his seat. A servant placed his golden crown on his head the instant he sat down while another unrolled a long scroll.

"Bethany Reeves and Doris Goodwin, please step forward to the throne." His servant announced. Doris and Beth exchanged confused glances before they obeyed. What was going on? Doris tried to catch William's eye to ask, but he didn't meet her gaze.

"Bethany Reeves. Your duties as a maid for this palace have been fulfilled." William said. A servant came with a quill for him to sign the scroll in front of him. "I officially free you from any future duties to this

appreciated."

"What...?" Beth's lips parted as if she couldn't believe what she was hearing.

"I'm... free?"

Doris wanted to scream to the skies and jump on her friend. She wanted to throw a party and dance until dawn broke. Her heart swelled in her chest, Doris bounced on her toes as the servant placed the scroll that freed her in her grasp. Doris quickly turned when she heard Enzo in the back of the room make a strangled noise in his throat, she hadn't even noticed that he entered. He looked at Beth with wide, adoring eyes.

"You're free." William nodded. "Of course, you may stay as long as you need. My lady would rather you stay forever." He glanced at Doris before he turned his eyes back on a speechless Beth. She read the page over and over with tears in her eyes.

Doris wiped her own hot tears off her cheeks. They waited so long for this day... Doris almost swore they would never see it in person. It was always so far away. They were always told that it would be coming, and it never came. Until today.

"Doris Goodwin." William said. He straightened himself as his eyes finally met her own. She felt her heart stop in her chest. "Your duties to this palace are also fulfilled. I thank you for all the service you provided and know that your hard work was more than appreciated. You are no longer bound to this palace. You are free to go where you wish or stay with me here forever as my other half." The words burned her ears and implanted themselves in her mind. She once had dreams that those words of freedom would be spoken to her. She used to wake up and cry when she realized she was still a maid and no where near being set free.

A servant stepped down the small steps and placed her scroll in her hands. She didn't realize how much she was trembling until she went to open it to read it for herself. Doris Goodwin was a free woman. She was free, nothing held her anywhere. She could walk out those doors and go anywhere she wanted. No one could punish her for doing what she wanted.

William stood from his throne. "Never again will someone own you two."

And with that, he left with his guards. Beth threw herself on Doris and almost brought both of them to the ground. She couldn't hear anything over their laughter and tears. "We're free!" Beth shouted to the ceiling. She grabbed Doris's hands and swung them around the room. "We're free! We can go into town! We can go to an old nasty tavern and no one would stop us!" Beth

"I can't believe... we're free." Doris breathed. She plopped down on one of the wooden benches. When she glanced back at Enzo, he was gone. He must have slipped out while they were celebrating. "Did William tell you he was doing this?" Beth asked. She opened her scroll again just to read it. "No... I didn't even have the chance to tell him that I wanted you to be freed. I mean, he knew of course but I was going to mention it when he settled down. And—I didn't expect him to free me as well."

"I got a letter that I was summoned to this room over an hour ago. No one told me what was going on so I just waited." Beth took a long breath. "I thought I was in trouble for a moment..." "You? In trouble?" Doris laughed. "You know... I think it would be nice for us to get out of the palace alone. No guards, no one else. Just us. We should go into town tomorrow and enjoy our first day of freedom." Beth brightened. "Oh Doris! That would be lovely! Remember all the times we swore we were going to sneak out and go to the nearest village to window shop?" "We can do that and go out for lunch!" Doris grinned. She gripped Beth's hands. "We can do whatever we want, Beth. We're free now." 1 Beth's smile faltered a little. "Yes. I... I can't believe it." Doris raised her brows. "Are you alright? You look a little down." "I suppose I'm just worried about my future." Beth shook off the look and smiled at Doris again. "Tomorrow we will have our day. There's something I need to talk to you about and I think it would be

Doris felt her chest fill with a pressure she couldn't describe. It was like she was scared and excited at the same time. "Sounds like a plan, my lovely Beth. Tomorrow it is."

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Chapter 208 Friends stay in your heart forever

William didn't take the news of Doris going into the village with Beth very well. He insisted that she take his guards with her, but that would only cause more curious glances. Eventually he let it go, because he knew he had to. This was the first trip Doris and Beth would have in their freedom.

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“Don’t you look like a doll!” Beth grinned when she saw Doris hurry down the steps. Doris wore a lovely light pink dress with a matching sun hat and cloak on top. The snow had finally melted off the ground and gave her a reason to want to dress pretty for her first outing “I had to try and look as lovely as you.(This novel will be daily updtaed at)” Doris grinned and wrapped her arm through hers. Doris had made sure Beth was sent new clothes overnight so she didn’t have to look at the maids uniform any longer. She wore a light green day dress with a black cloak on top. “I’m surprised that William let you come out!” Beth laughed. They walked down the front steps and the guards didn’t pay them more than a glance. Doris even held her breath for a moment, expecting them to say anything. But they didn’t, they let them go because they were free. “He didn’t want me to. He wanted us to travel with a guard but I thought it would be so much more obvious if we did something like that.” Doris glanced back at the palace as they made their way down the path towards the nearest village. No one had followed. “I wouldn’t let you out if I were him either. Any man would fall over themselves just to have you!” Beth grinned. She seemed so happy and excited, she looked as if a large weight had fallen off her shoulders and it was the first time Doris had noticed it. She wondered if she looked the same.

The village walk took a lot longer than they expected, but once they arrived it was filled with excitement.

“Oh my! It looks like it’s a market day!” Doris bounced on her toes before she calmed herself. They were supposed to blend in, not act like fools.

Beth seemed to think the same. She instantly tried to cool her features as they wandered through the streets lined with small booths. There were some with flowers, jars of jam, books, even clothes. Doris saw homemade jewelry and leather notebooks for sale, it was all so exciting,

The girls went to every single booth. Doris bought a few unique books that she knew would never be in the library as well as a jar of homemade jam. She knew she didn’t need any of it since she had all she needed and more at the palace, but it felt good to spend a little of her coin on simple things. It made her feel... happy. Beth was no better. She bought herself a dress, lovely little hair pins and marmalade. When her back was turned, Doris bought a small gift for her friend and shoved it deep in her pocket before Beth could see what it was.

After searching through every booth, the girls ventured off the the main street and towards the middle of the village where it was a lot calmer.

“I’ve never felt such a rush in my life!” Beth gasped. Her cheeks were red as if she had just run a mile.(This novel will be daily updtaed at) She looked down at her items with the biggest smile on her face, “No one even looked at me as if I was a maid!

They just thought I was one of them!” “You’re not a maid anymore, Beth.” Doris bumped her shoulder. “You’re so much more and you always have been.”

Beth smiled a little and opened her mouth to say something, but nothing came out. Doris pulled her friend towards a small bakery on the end of town. "I hope they have things for lunch, but I wouldn't mind just eating pastries."

Once they seated themselves in the back with their warm cups of tea and sweets, Beth gripped Doris's hand before she could pick up her brownie. "Oh Doris, I can't wait another minute. I have to tell you something." "What is it, Beth? You can tell me anything!" "1—"Beth glanced around. The bakery was small, but enough people talked louder than they did and paid them no attention. "I'm leaving as soon as we get back to the palace." "What? So soon? Where will you go?" Doris sat up straighter. Her hunger pains dulled instantly as if they were never there. Her best friend was leaving? "Well..." Beth's cheeks warmed, she gazed down at their hands shyly. "Enzo asked me if I wanted to see the north. I mentioned that I always wanted to see a place covered in mountains of snow and he said it's almost always like that there. And—and I can't stand to live another minute at the palace knowing I'm free."

"Oh, Beth..." Doris felt tears prickle her eyes. She had no idea Enzo was leaving too. "I'm so happy for you." Beth looked up with a light in her eyes. "You are? I was so afraid to tell you, I didn't want to break your heart."

"Beth, you being happy makes my heart whole. I will miss you with every fiber of my being, but I will be at peace knowing you are happy out there." Doris squeezed her friend's hand and wiped her eyes. She knew she probably smeared the makeup she put on for today, but she didn't care.

"You always have a room at the palace if you want to come back." Doris continued. "Please don't forget me, please don't love another friend more than me and please write to me."

"Love another friend more than you? Are you mad! There is no other friend I could ever love more than you, you will always be my best friend." Beth smiled through her tears. "I always thought it would be you and me out there." "Me too." Doris whispered. "Promise you will come visit my baby when they're born." "I'm coming for an entire month when you have the baby! You won't be able to get rid of me!" Beth grinned. She reached across to wipe the stray tear from Doris's cheek. "You better tell me when it's coming so I can get here in time."

"I will." Doris laughed. "Enzo is a wonderful man, but no one deserves you Beth. Not even I." Doris pulled out a small box from her pocket and slid it to Beth. "What's this?" Beth took the box with an excitement. "What did you get me, Doris Goodwin?" "I got you something to celebrate our first outing... and now for you to remember me by."

Beth opened the box to see two necklaces with a flower pressed against glass as the pendant. One was blue for Beth, and one was pink for Doris. Beth didn't have to say anything, she placed the pink flower one in Doris's hand and quickly put on her own.

It wasn't diamonds, it was a simple pendant on a chain that represented their friendship. Beth had to cup her mouth to keep in the sounds of her tears.

"Doris..." She whimpered.

Doris gripped her hand. "I'll always be with you now, wherever you go." She whispered. . Beth got up to hug Doris as tightly as she could. Doris didn't want to let go, but she knew she had to. After they finally ate their food and walked back to the palace, a carriage was waiting at the front. Enzo leaned against it with his hands in his pockets and eyes to the sky. He smiled when they approached him. "I don't normally like to break hearts on such a beautiful day, but I'm afraid it's time for me to go.(This novel will be daily updtaed at)" Enzo said as he stepped up to Doris. He gave Beth one long lingering look before he looked down at Doris again. "I don't know how I will get through my days without your voice, I might faint away to dust." Doris said dramatically. Enzo grinned and pulled her into a hug. Doris closed her eyes and tried to pull back the tears that wanted to rush out of her eyes. When he gripped her shoulders and pulled away, she had failed—her tears poured out anyway. Enzo wiped them away for her. "Send for me if you need me to kick a king's ass. I will come to your aide as fast as I can with a smile on my face. Although, I know you can kick his ass better than I can."

Doris laughed through her sniffles. "I don't know what I'm going to do without your confidence in me, Enzo." "You don't need me to remind you that you are incredible. You're a white wolf-No, even better—you're Doris. You are the best thing that could have ever happened to his kingdom." "I'm lucky to know you, Enzo. Unfortunately for you—I also told Beth to call for me if she needs me to kick your ass." Enzo threw back his head and laughed. "Good. I hold you to that." Doris hugged him one last time before she threw her arms around Beth. "Please come visit me as soon as

"I'm already planning to in a week." Beth whispered. Doris wiped her eyes and stepped back. She watched her friends climb into the carriage. Enzo ever the gentleman as he helped Beth up. She leaned out the window and waved to Doris as the carriage pulled away.