

BROTHER BEWITCHED

CHAPTER 23



AS A WARRIOR, PRINCE SERREN NEVER HAD A PROBLEM WITH THE SIGHT OF BLOOD, BUT FINDING HIMSELF WITH MENSTRUAL BLOOD ON HIS BODY MAKES HIM FEEL DIRTY. THE SMELL MAKES HIM FEEL SICK, UNCLEAN. IT IS HIS MENSTRUAL FLOW. HIS.



BROOKE ASSURES HIM THE BUBBLY SOAPS IN THE BATH WILL HELP HIDE THE "REVOLTING ODOR" OF HIS MENARCHE. IT FURTHERS HIS SENSE OF SHAME. HIS MENARCHE, SOMETHING SO DIRTY, SHAMEFUL, IT SHOULD BE HIDDEN, YET ALL WILL KNOW THAT HE NOW BLEEDS AS A WOMAN.

ONCE MORE, THE PRINCE'S THOUGHTS TURN TO THE ULTIMATE ESCAPE.

WHAT KIND OF MAN AM I TO SUFFER THIS INDIGNITY?


DEATH. SUICIDE. IT WOULD BE A NOBLE ACT, BUT NO! THE SMALL FAVOR OF FREEDOM FROM THIS LIFE WOULD DOOM ME TO AN ETERNITY AS A WOMAN.






UGH!

THESE BREASTS ACHE. I SUFFER CRAMPS, BLEED. THE FEMALE IS OF AN INFERIOR DESIGN.

A woman with blonde hair in a bun is sitting in a wooden bathtub filled with bubbles. She is looking thoughtfully to the right. The background is a stone wall with three lit candles on a shelf to the left. Two thought bubbles are present: one on the left and one on the right.


WORD WILL
SPREAD
THROUGHOUT THE
KINGDOM THAT I,
PRINCE SERREN, HAVE
HAD MY STRAWBERRY
DAYS. A MAN DANCING
WITH THE RED QUEEN.
ALL WILL LAUGH.

IF IT
WASN'T TRUE
BEFORE, IT IS
NOW: NO ONE
WILL TAKE ME
SERIOUSLY.

A woman with blonde hair in a bun is sitting in a bathtub filled with bubbles. She is looking upwards and to the right. The background is a stone wall. Two thought bubbles are present: one on the left and one on the right. The entire image is set against a solid pink background.

SO, WHAT,
THEN? ACCEPT MY
FATE? EMBRACE
THIS MAIDEN'S LIFE,
EVEN THOUGH IT
SHOULD BE A LIFE
OF SHAME?

"THE MAN
WHO FACES HIS
DOOM WITH HONOR
NEVER KNOWS
SHAME." SO WROTE
ELDEROUS. HE
OBVIOUSLY NEVER
SPENT A DAY AS A
WOMAN.

A woman with blonde hair is sitting in a bathtub filled with bubbles. She has a thoughtful expression. Two thought bubbles are present: one on the left and one on the right. The background is a stone wall.

SHALL I ACCEPT
THAT I AM
SERRENINA? BUT
FOR A WOMAN THERE
IS BUT ONE FUTURE:
MARRIAGE.

I WISH I HAD
FATHOMED
PATTENIA'S PLANS,
THAT THIS HAD
NEVER HAPPENED!



HOW CAN
PATTENIA HATE
ME SO MUCH?
FOR HER TO DO IT
THE WAY SHE DID--
IN FRONT OF
EVERYONE! I HAD
NO INKLING OF
HER MALICE.

JUST BEFORE I
WAS TO BE
CROWNED KING, I
MET EYES WITH
MY BELOVED.



WE WERE SO IN LOVE,
SO HAPPY, SO EXCITED
ABOUT OUR FUTURE
TOGETHER.

I HEARD PATTENIA
CHANTING SOMETHING
UNDER HER BREATH. I
DIDN'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT WAS HAPPENING.

MY... VOICE?







WHAT'S
HAPPENING TO
ME?



EVERYTHING CHANGED
SO FAST.





ONE MOMENT, I WAS ME, SERREN, THE MAN, THE PRINCE, READY TO ACCEPT THE CROWN- MY CROWN-

THEN, SUDDENLY, IMPOSSIBLY, I FOUND MYSELF A WEEPING GIRL, EVERYTHING STRIPPED FROM AWAY FROM ME-



SERREN IS NOW A
GIRL AND MY LITTLE
SISTER. AS THE ELDEST,
THE THRONE IS MINE.
ALL HAIL KING
PATTENIA!



I FOUND MYSELF
DRAGGED FROM THE
THRONE ROOM WHILE
MY SISTER STOLE MY
CROWN.



HER LIFE IN DRESSES
ENDED. MINE BEGAN.

IT
STILL SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE
THAT I FIND
MYSELF A
MAIDEN.





I MUST SAY, THIS
BATH IS A MIRACLE.
THE SOAPS DIVINE.....

THEY LIFT THE
TENSION FROM
MY BONES AND
SOOTHE THE
SYMPTOMS OF
MY--
AFFLICATION.



.....
I SEE NOW
WHY MOTHER
WAS SO FOND OF
HER BATHS.



<GIGGLE>

BUT, OF COURSE, OUR BRAVE PRINCE CAN NOT HIDE IN THE TUB ALL DAY.

I WISH I COULD JUST SOAK HERE ALL DAY.

TIME TO GET OUT OF THE TUB, MILADY. THE KING WISHES TO SEE YOU.



A woman with blonde hair in a bun is sitting in a wooden bathtub filled with bubbles. She is looking towards the camera. The background is a stone wall with a candle on a ledge. A speech bubble is next to her head.

PATTENIA!

TO BE CONTINUED

