

A Christmas Coronation

by

Asmaa Jamil

Asmaa Jamil
Email: asmaajamil2003@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 1-248-619-4389
Registered WGAE

FADE IN:

INT. AVALON CASTLE - WINTER' ROOM - DAY

A large bed sits against a wall with bare nightstands at each end.

The friendly and patient CROWN PRINCESS, WINTER MARIE KOLBY, 30s, sits on her bed while staring at a gown.

Winter kisses the gown. She stands and twirls with the gown towards the middle of the room.

She walks over to a full-length mirror. A picture of her father, King Emanuel Kolby making cookies (50s), hangs next to the mirror.

She cinches the gown against her body and smiles. She stops and looks at her father's picture. She blows him a kiss.

WINTER

Miss you papa.

She puts the gown on her bed and walks towards a desk that faces a window.

She sits and sifts through the stack of invitations on the desk. She takes out a piece of from a drawer with a list of names on it.

COLLEGE INVITATION LIST

She reviews the names on a sheet of paper that has a header "Kingdom of Avalon - Absolute Monarchy." She holds her pen and adds check marks by Kelly Toby, Mandy Lincoln, Michael Danty, Nick Cars, and Olivia Addley.

She stares at the next name, Georgi Jones, her ex-boyfriend.

She crosses Georgi's name out.

BACK TO WINTER

She puts the list back in a drawer. She stares out the window while touching a heart shaped pendant around her neck.

She takes off the pendant and puts it inside the drawer next to the list.

Winter stands and picks up the stack of invitations and walks out of the room.

EXT. AVALON CASTLE - DAY

SUPER: "Weeks Later"

Christmas decorations brighten the outdoors.

A wide circle driveway surrounded by trees and a walking trail.

A car pulls into a driveway. The car stops in front of the main entrance.

The Queen's personal attentive assistant, MERKA (50s), gets out of the front passenger side with a bag in her hand. She adjusts her suit and walks towards the front door. She passes by the statue of Santa and a red mailbox that sits beside the front door.

The car drives away.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

It's a modern mansion with simple décor. Christmas decorations everywhere.

The foyer leads to a staircase, a ballroom, and dining room.

One large armoire sits to one side of the foyer.

Merka walks in and finds Winter's antsy personal assistant, OSCAR (40s), organizing the daily newspapers into a tray.

She taps him on his shoulder.

He jumps before he turns around with a smirk and holds the tray in front of her.

OSCAR

You need to stop doing that.

MERKA

You need to find a way to relax.

She reaches into her bag and gets a stack of mail. She puts the stack of mail on top of the newspapers.

He frowns.

OSCAR

That's a lot of mail for today.

She nods.

MERKA

Did you forget it is Christmas
time?

He rolls his eyes.

OSCAR

I'm too busy with the coronation to
think of Christmas.

She leans over and pats the stack of mail.

MERKA

There is one RSVP.

He slightly loses balance and Merka holds him until he has
control.

OSCAR

Who sends an RSVP four days before
an event?

She pats him on his shoulder.

MERKA

Welcome to my world.

They walk in different directions.

Winter walks towards Oscar. She takes a hair clip from her
pocket and clips her hair. Then she grabs her mail from the
tray.

WINTER

Good morning, Merka. Good morning,
Oscar.

Merka curtsseys while Oscar bows briefly.

OSCAR

Good morning Your Royal Highness.

MERKA

Excuse me as I take the mail to her
Majesty.

WINTER

Do let my mother know that I will
be going for a walk before
breakfast.

MERKA

Yes, ma'am.

Winter walks out the front door with her mail in her hand.

EXT. AVALON CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Winter closes the door and walks through a trail.

She looks through the stack of letters. At the bottom of the stack she finds an RSVP response from Olivia's address.

She tears the envelope with a smile. She looks at the RSVP.

THE RSVP RESPONSE

Words appear: "I + 1. Thank you for offering a room in the castle. We accept the offer and will arrive a few days early."

BACK TO WINTER

WINTER

Olivia must have found the one.

She grins before putting the RSVP back into the envelope.

She holds the mail in her hand as she continues her walk.

EXT. GEORGI'S HOUSE - PORCH - DAY

Large inflatables Santa and snowman face each other in front of the porch.

An old car sits in the driveway.

An energetic and caring man, GEORGI JONES (30s), whistles as he moves around the bungalow porch with Christmas lights in hand.

He picks up a soccer ball from the porch.

His curious and bubbly niece, SARA (12), runs out of the house. She blocks his way until he looks at her.

SARA

She is beautiful.

He frowns.

GEORGI

Who?

Sara puts her hands on her hips.

SARA
The Princess.

He smiles and hands her the soccer ball.

GEORGI
Where did I tell you to keep your
soccer ball?

She rolls her eyes.

He walks towards a window and hooks the lights around it.

Sara throws the soccer ball on the grass and follows him.

SARA
What are you going to do?

He picks more lights and walks to another window.

GEORGI
About what?

He hooks the lights around it.

SARA
About her getting engaged on
Christmas Eve.

He looks at Sara and winks. He walks around to the front door.

GEORGI
Create some Christmas magic.

She gives him a high five and walks back inside the house.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - FOYER - LATER

Winter walks in with the mail in her hand.

Merka walks towards her.

MERKA
Her Majesty is waiting for you.

Winter smiles as she looks down at the mail.

WINTER
Let her know I will meet her in a
few minutes.

MERKA

Would you like me to take those to
your office?

Winter shakes her head and smiles.

WINTER

Thank you. I will take them.

Winter walks towards the stairs.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - LATER

The room has several windows and paintings on the walls. It
leads into the kitchen.

A long table sits in the middle of the room. Cabinets sit
against the wall for the servers to use.

A guarded and traditionalist QUEEN NORA (60s) sits at the
head of the table. She drinks coffee while looking at several
newspapers in front of her.

Winter walks into the room dressed for her daily meeting with
the governor. She kisses her mother and then sits next to
her.

The easy-going maid, ABBY (30s), walks over towards Winter.
She curtsies in front of Winter before pouring coffee.

WINTER

Thank you, Abby.

Abby smiles and walks away.

NORA

Good morning, dear.

WINTER

Good morning, mother.

Winter picks a newspaper and reads the headlines.

NORA

How is your schedule today?

Winter sets the newspaper back on the table.

WINTER

Very busy.

NORA

Just four days left until the coronation and the engagement.

Winter nods. Abby brings her a scone on a plate.

WINTER

Do not forget Christmas Eve as well. Do you know who just sent an RSVP?

Nora gasps and puts her cup down. She peers at Winter.

NORA

Dear, it's too late to accept an RSVP.

Winter shakes her head.

WINTER

Nonsense. We can always add a chair somewhere. We will need two chairs.

Nora sighs.

NORA

Who's coming? If nobody important, we hide them in the back somewhere.

Winter stares at her mother.

WINTER

My college friend, Olivia. Do you remember her?

Nora leans back and snickers.

NORA

Of course. The farmer. She sent the RSVP this late, and she is coming all the way from the USA!

Winter nods.

WINTER

She arrives tomorrow. We'll have to prepare two rooms for her.

Nora sits up and frowns.

NORA

Why here?

Winter grins.

WINTER

Why not here? She is my good friend
and I want to catch up.

Nora picks a newspaper paper from the table and places it in front of Winter.

NORA

Darling, I am trying to do what is
best for you and help you run the
monarchy.

Winter sets the paper on top of the others. She looks at her mother with a smile.

WINTER

I appreciate your help, but I need
space to breathe and make my own
decisions.

NORA

I went to great lengths to plan
this coronation.

Winter leans towards her mother.

WINTER

Don't forget the engagement. This
is your wish, not mine.

Winter grabs the scone and walks out of the room.

INT./EXT. AVALON CASTLE - FOYER - DAY

Oscar sets the tray on top of the armoire in the foyer.

The doorbell rings.

Oscar walks to the front door and opens it.

A dapper man stands in front of him, the DUKE of GANZA,
MARTIN DANBY (30s).

Oscar bows and steps aside.

OSCAR

Good evening, Sir. Please, come in.

Martin enters. He looks around and takes a sniff.

MARTIN

Her Majesty summoned me.

OSCAR
I will let her know that you have
arrived.

Oscar closes the door.

Martin removes his coat, hat, and scarf and hands them to Oscar as he looks around.

Oscar drops the hat. He looks up with a frown and sees the anguish on Martin's face.

MARTIN
Make sure you clean that hat.

OSCAR
Yes sir. I will clean the hat
tonight.

Oscar bows and walks away.

The doorbell rings. Martin turns towards the door. Georgi and Sara stand smiling.

MARTIN
Can I help you?

GEORGI
I'm Georgi. Winter is expecting us.

Martin's face flushes.

MARTIN
I beg your pardon.

Martin turns around looking for someone to help him. He finds nobody.

Georgi smiles proudly.

GEORGI
You know "The Princess."

Martin chuckles.

MARTIN
Come on in. Someone will be around
shortly.

Georgi and Sara walk in with their bags. Georgi closes the door.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Georgi and Sara take off their coats and hats. They hold them.

Martin looks at them mistrustfully.

GEORGI
This is my niece, Sara. Are you
related to Winter?

Martin grins.

MARTIN
Nice to meet you. How do you know
Her Royal Highness?

Georgi smiles.

GEORGI
We dated in college.

Oscar towards them and picks up pace once he sees Georgi and Sara.

OSCAR
Who are you?

Winter enters the foyer and sees the guests. She hides close enough to listen.

MARTIN
This is Her Royal Highness' ex-
boyfriend from college and his
niece.

Oscar looks at them suspiciously.

OSCAR
What are you doing here?

Georgi takes out an invitation from his back pocket. He hands it to Oscar.

GEORGI
I received an invite for the
coronation.

Oscar looks at it and nods.

OSCAR
This is indeed the invitation that
was sent.

MARTIN

You keep an invitation to a royal coronation in your back pocket?

Georgi nods and shrugs his shoulders at the same time.

OSCAR

Please wait here.

Oscar turns around to leave when he finds Winter walking towards him.

Georgi looks up and waves.

Martin turns around and bows.

WINTER

Hello everyone. Georgi, what a surprise?

OSCAR

This gentleman says he was invited to the coronation.

Oscar hands her the invitation.

THE CORONATION INVITATION

Winter looks at the invitation envelope.

The ink on the name is smudged. But she recognizes the address in Skokie, IL.

BACK TO WINTER

Winter smiles and looks up. She hides her confusion.

WINTER

Yes, this is the invitation. It's been a long time Georgi.

Georgi relaxes and smiles back.

GEORGI

Yes, too long.

Martin and Oscar glance at each other.

Winter looks at Sara.

WINTER

Who is this young lady?

GEORGI
My niece Sara.

Sara curtsies and then stands up.

WINTER
You left your family at Christmas
to attend my coronation.

Sara smiles and shakes her head.

SARA
I am with my family.

GEORGI
We are one team and one family.

Winter looks at Georgi's face as he stares at Sara.

MARTIN
Is that his name on the invitation?

Winter straightens up and looks at Martin.

WINTER
I invited all my friends from
college.

She turns to Oscar.

WINTER (CONT'D)
Prepare two rooms for them.

OSCAR
Yes ma'am.

Winter continues to hold the invitation as she turns to
Georgi and Sara.

WINTER
Oscar will take you to your rooms
and then he will escort you to the
dining room for lunch.

Sara waves to everyone as she follows Oscar. Georgi gets
closer to Winter and gives her a surprise hug.

Martin stares and frowns.

GEORGI
Let's catch up later today.

Winter stands still.

Georgi walks quickly and joins Sara and Oscar.

Winter watches Georgi walk away. She then turns to Martin.

WINTER

It's also a surprise to see you
here so early Martin.

MARTIN

I received an invitation to come
early.

Winter nods.

WINTER

My mother is waiting for you in the
dining room.

She walks away. Martin grins as he walks towards the dining
room.

INT./EXT. AVALON CASTLE - SARA'S ROOM - LATER

Oscar opens the door. Sara beams and runs in. She twirls
around. Oscar smiles proudly.

OSCAR

I take it you are happy with this
room Ms. Sara.

Sara walks over to Oscar.

SARA

Just Sara please. I love this room.

Georgi walks behind Oscar. He looks around with a wide grin.

GEORGI

This is bigger than our house.

Sara nods and twirls some more.

Oscar smiles as he leans over to Georgi.

OSCAR

What happened to her parents?

Georgi leans over to Oscar.

GEORGI

They passed away a few years ago.
My parents were her legal guardians
for a while.

Oscar looks at Georgi with an understanding look.

OSCAR

I see.

Sara stops twirling. She walks over to the window.

GEORGI

Wherever I go, she goes.

Oscar observes Sara and smiles.

OSCAR

Sara. You need to freshen up for lunch. You will meet Her Majesty, the Queen.

Sara runs over to Georgi with a panicked look.

SARA

What do I wear?

OSCAR

What you are wearing is perfectly fine. I will escort your uncle to his room and come back for you.

Sara offers a high five and a surprised Oscar looks at it first and then smiles as his hand meets hers.

Oscar and Georgi leave the room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - WINTER' ROOM - LATER

Winter sits at her desk. She stares at her laptop.

Her college invitation list and the coronation invitation sit next to the laptop.

ON THE MONITOR

She types Olivia Addley's address in the search bar.

Results appear: Olivia Addley, 4436 Apple St, Skokie, IL.

BACK TO WINTER

She picks up the invitation. She looks at it.

THE CORONATION INVITATION

She focuses on the address: 4436 Apple St, Skokie, IL.

BACK TO WINTER

She shakes her head.

WINTER

Something went wrong.

She puts the invitation and the list in the drawer. She closes her laptop.

She stands and walks out of the room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - LATER

Oscar escorts Georgi and Sara into the dining room.

Abby stands to the side.

Oscar stops when he sees Nora and Martin leaning close to each other and talking in low voices.

OSCAR

Ma'am.

Nora and Martin look up.

NORA

Good afternoon. Martin and I are delighted you can join us for lunch.

OSCAR

May I present Mr. Georgi Jones and his niece Ms. Sara.

Georgi and Sara bow.

NORA

It's a pleasure to meet you. Please have a seat.

Georgi and Sara sit next to each other. Oscar walks away.

GEORGI

Just call us by our first names.

Winter walks in.

Martin stands and bows before walking towards her to greet her. He kisses her on her cheek.

Georgi and Sara watch and sneak a glance at each other.

WINTER

I see everyone made it before me.

Winter sits next to Georgi which Martin and Nora notice.

NORA

You did not tell me we had more guests joining us.

Georgi looks at Winter. She gives him a reassuring smile.

WINTER

I must have forgotten. We do have a lot of guests coming for the coronation.

NORA

And the engagement.

Martin smiles proudly as he touches the cuffs of his sleeves.

Georgi looks from Martin to Winter.

Winter turns towards Abby with a smile.

WINTER

Abby, you may bring out the first course. Thank you.

Abby bows and walks away.

GEORGI

I read about the engagement.

NORA

My daughter is over the moon to be marrying Martin. He is a Duke you know. A Crown Princess must marry someone with a title.

Winter frowns as she catches her mother's wicked smile.

WINTER

I can also hand a title as a wedding gift to the man I marry.

MARTIN

Then consider the title of a prince as my wedding gift.

Nora smiles as she picks up her wine glass.

Georgi sneers as he adjusts his napkin.

GEORGI

I hope you are happy Winter.

He looks up at her.

Nora angrily clicks her wine glass with a plate in front of her.

Everyone turns to Nora.

NORA

You do not address her by...

Winter interrupts her mother with a smile.

WINTER

All my college friends address me by my first name. It was Papa's suggestion.

NORA

In college yes. But not after.

Winter gives her mother a loving look.

WINTER

Remember what Papa always said?

Nora nods.

NORA

Your first name defines you.

Winter smiles.

WINTER

Exactly.

GEORGI

When is the wedding?

NORA

A couple of weeks after the coronation.

Winter gives her mother a frosty smile.

WINTER

We are focused on the coronation for now.

Martin turns to Winter sheepishly.

MARTIN

But the rule does state you must be married by the coronation or thirty days after.

GEORGI

What a crummy rule.

Nora turns to Georgi with an angry look.

NORA

Are you insulting our rules?

Georgi apologetically looks at Winter.

GEORGI

That was not my intention.

Winter turns to him with a smile.

WINTER

It is a crummy rule.

Abby brings out a tray with bowls of soup.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Martin and Nora sit and talk in hush voices.

Winter and Sara stare at a Christmas tree.

SARA

These decorations are beautiful.

Sara picks a red ornament with a picture of Winter on it.

WINTER

The local crafters sell them at the Christmas market. Do you want to visit them?

Sara nods.

NORA

Oscar can take them tomorrow.

Winter turns to her mother.

WINTER

They are my guests. I will accompany them. Why don't you join us? Papa loved the market.

Nora shakes her head.

Oscar and Georgi walk in.

NORA

Oscar, would you please remind my daughter that she has a lot to do before the coronation.

Oscar's hands jitter as he looks at Winter.

OSCAR

Ma'am, most things are done.

WINTER

Let's go through the remaining activities after dinner. Tomorrow, I will escort Georgi and Sara to the Christmas market.

Oscar smiles proudly.

OSCAR

Splendid idea. The citizens love seeing their Princess.

Winter smiles proudly at Oscar and then her mother.

MARTIN

I will attend as well.

Nora smiles proudly.

NORA

Good idea.

WINTER

Mother, you loved attending the market with Papa.

Nora looks down and shakes her head.

OSCAR

What is the drink of choice for this afternoon?

SARA

Hot chocolate.

Georgi smiles proudly as he stares at Winter.

GEORGI

Winter used to make us the best hot
chocolate in college.

Winter smiles as she nods.

WINTER

I use my grandmother's recipe.

NORA

Give it up dear. A queen will not
have time to work with her hands
anymore.

Winter walks by her mother and kisses her on her cheek.

WINTER

Making hot chocolate reminds me of
Nanna and Papa. I will always make
it.

Nora blows her a kiss as she tears up.

Winter walks away.

GEORGI

I will help you.

Georgi walks behind her.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Winter walks into the kitchen

Georgi follows her.

Abby walks in behind them.

ABBY

I can help ma'am.

WINTER

I appreciate that but I can manage.

Abby bows and walks out of the kitchen.

Winter takes out the cocoa mix and a saucepan out of the
cupboards.

GEORGI

I will get the milk.

WINTER

Perfect.

She puts heaps of spoons of the cocoa mix in the pan.

GEORGI

What is in that cocoa anyway?

He hands her the milk.

WINTER

It's made fresh.

She pours the milk into the pan. He looks at her with admiration.

GEORGI

Do you make it or one of the servants?

She shakes her head and leans over.

WINTER

I get the cocoa beans from a local farmer. Then I roast them, let them cool, and then I peel them.

He leans over her shoulder as she stirs the milk and cocoa in the pan.

GEORGI

So that's the secret to your great hot chocolate.

She smiles as she shakes her head.

WINTER

It's the process and other ingredients. I grind the beans into fine powder after they are peeled. Then I add sugar, cinnamon, salt, and peppermint.

Georgi puts his hands around her shoulders.

GEORGI

How much of each do you add?

She looks at him and stares into his eyes.

WINTER

The amount of each ingredient is a secret which I refuse to disclose.

Martin walks in and sees Georgi kiss Winter on her cheek.
Martin leaves the kitchen.

Winter pushes Georgi away after his kiss.

GEORGI
I'm sorry.

WINTER
I'm engaged.

She returns her focus on the hot chocolate.

GEORGI
I'm happy you invited me to the
coronation.

She moves the saucepan to a cooling rack. She turns around
and looks at him.

WINTER
When did you move to Skokie?

He steps back and folds his hands.

GEORGI
About two years ago. I wanted a
fresh start. Olivia was moving to
Malaysia, and she offered her
house.

Winter frowns.

WINTER
You mean you live there for free!

He shakes his head.

GEORGI
I work for her father in the family
cider mill.

She nods with a smile.

WINTER
Sounds like a win-win. Can you grab
the cups from the cupboards?

He grabs cups and brings them to her.

GEORGI
Did you invite the rest of the
group?

She pours the hot chocolate into the cups.

WINTER

I did but nobody could make it.

GEORGI

Except me.

She avoids looking at him as she puts marshmallows and candy canes on a tray.

WINTER

We can take this to everyone.

He nods as he lifts the tray and walks out of the kitchen.

She stares at him before walking behind him.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Georgi walks in with a tray in his hands.

He sets the tray on the coffee table.

SARA

Oh, that looks good.

Winter walks in with a smile as she stands next to Sara.

WINTER

You get the first cup.

Winter hands her a cup. She then hands her mother a cup.

Nora gives Winter a grim look.

NORA

A future queen does not serve others.

WINTER

This future queen does.

Martin snickers.

MARTIN

That will not happen when we are married.

Winter gives Martin an icy look which he catches and lowers his head.

Georgi looks from Martin to Winter.

Winter turns her gaze to Sara.

WINTER
Sara, let me know what you think.

Winter hands Martin a cup.

She turns around to get a cup for herself but finds Georgi smiling and holding two cups. He hands her a cup and she takes it.

GEORGI
I think this is better than the one
I remember.

She nods and smiles.

WINTER
My family's special recipe.

MARTIN
Any plans for tonight, Georgi?

Martin stands and walks closer to Winter. He puts his hand over her shoulder.

Georgi notices but continues to smile.

GEORGI
We had a long flight and we plan to
turn in early.

MARTIN
Yes. You did leave your family to
attend the coronation.

GEORGI
My entire family is here.

Martin looks from Georgi to Sara and back to Georgi.

NORA
Just the two of you!

Georgi and Sara nod.

Winter walks over to Sara.

WINTER
You will love Christmas in Avalon.

Sara smiles and hugs Winter.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVNG ROOM - NIGHT

Fire blazes from the fireplace.

Winter and Martin sit on a sofa across from the fireplace.

They hold glasses of wine as Christmas music plays in the background.

He puts his wine glass on the coffee table. He turns to her.

MARTIN

I know your mother was the match
maker for us.

Winter nods as she continues to stare into the fireplace.

WINTER

That's her specialty. Making
decisions for me.

Martin takes her wine glass and sets it on the table. He holds her hands in his.

MARTIN

I will be a very supportive
husband.

She turns to him and smiles.

WINTER

I need a friend who is not afraid
to roll their sleeves.

He lowers his head and then looks at her.

MARTIN

I will do my best.

Her smile disappears and she turns her gaze back to the fireplace.

WINTER

Current times require monarchies to
be normalized and closer to their
citizens. Do you think you can
change your ways?

He lifts her chin and looks at her.

MARTIN

Darling, people want monarchies to
be traditional.

She pushes him away and picks up her glass.

WINTER

That's no longer good enough to
keep the crown intact.

He stands and turns to her. He laughs.

MARTIN

You think the citizens of Avalon
want someone who is more like them?

She stares at him.

WINTER

They want someone who understands
them.

He frowns as he looks at her face.

MARTIN

This is an Absolut monarchy, and
you can do what you want.

She lowers her head on the sofa.

WINTER

Monarchies are at the mercy of
their people. If enough people
revolt, even an Absolut monarchy
loses its power.

He sits back down next to her and stares at her face.

MARTIN

Your mother chose me, and I believe
she knows what's best for the
monarchy.

She looks at him and then the fire.

WINTER

My mother and I have different
views on many things.

Both are silent as they stare into the blaze.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - GEORGI'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Georgi sits on his bed with his phone in his hand.

He types.

PHONE SCREEN

Georgi's words appear: "Hi Olivia, we arrived safely, and things are going well. Thank you for your support."

He clicks send.

BACK TO GEORGI

He lays his head on the pillow and rests his phone next to him.

The phone dings. He picks it up and reads Olivia's response.

PHONE SCREEN

Olivia's words appear: "Anytime. FYI. Winter did leave me a voicemail asking me to call her. Will get back to you after I talk to her. Fingers crossed."

BACK TO GEORGI

He stares into the ceiling and closes his eyes.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Georgi and Sara walk into an empty dining room.

Abby walks in.

ABBY

Good morning. What can I get you for breakfast?

GEORGI

Toast and jam are fine for me.

Abby nods as she turns her gaze to Sara.

ABBY

And you, Ms. Sara?

Sara smiles.

GEORGI

Just Sara please. Do you have waffles?

Abby nods.

ABBY
Coming right up.

Abby walks back to the kitchen.

Georgi whistles as he and Sara sit down. Oscar walks in and sits next to Sara. Georgi stops whistling.

OSCAR
Good morning. Did you sleep well?

Georgi and Sara nod.

SARA
I slept like a princess.

Georgi and Oscar laugh.

GEORGI
I believe that. Where is everyone else?

OSCAR
They will join us shortly.

Georgi nods.

GEORGI
I thought we were late.

Oscar pours himself coffee from the pot on the table.

OSCAR
Not at all.

Oscar offers Georgi coffee. Georgi takes the pot and pours himself a cup.

GEORGI
When do we go to the Christmas market?

Abby brings breakfast for Georgi and Sara. She looks at Oscar.

OSCAR
My usual Abby. Thank you.

Abby nods and walks back to the kitchen.

OSCAR (CONT'D)
After breakfast.

GEORGI
What is Avalon known for?

OSCAR
Our winters are defined by our
Christmas markets and dancing
competitions.

Georgi and Sara giggle as they eat.

GEORGI
Did you say dancing competitions?

Oscar nods as Abby brings his breakfast and sets it in front
of him.

OSCAR
Our culture borrows from many
others in Europe.

Abby walks back to the kitchen.

Georgi smiles.

GEORGI
That sounds like a lot of fun. When
are the competitions?

OSCAR
For Christmas, the competition
starts on December 1st and ends on
Christmas Eve.

Sara gives Oscar and intriguing look.

SARA
What's the top prize?

OSCAR
The top five couples have lunch
with the royal family on New Year's
Day.

Sara and Georgi nod.

SARA
That's awesome.

They continue to eat and talk.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - LATER

Winter, Georgi, Sara, Martin, and Nora drink hot chocolate.

SARA
Can we go to the Christmas market
now?

Winter smiles at Sara.

WINTER
As soon as Oscar finishes packing
some things to take with us.

Nora frowns at Winter.

NORA
When did you pack your gifts?

WINTER
Last night.

Nora smiles and pats Winter on her shoulder.

NORA
I could've helped you.

Winter looks at her mother lovingly.

WINTER
It was late, and I did not want to
bother you. You could come with us.

Nora shakes her head.

MARTIN
What are the gifts?

WINTER
I pack my cocoa mix and gift it to
the volunteers at the market.

Nora nods and smiles.

NORA
My husband created this beloved
tradition when he was in his teens.

Martin sits up and looks at Nora.

MARTIN
Really?

Oscar walks into the room with bags full of boxes.

OSCAR
We have around forty gifts.

Winter looks at him and smiles.

WINTER
Thank you, Oscar.

Merka runs in and drops her notebook on the floor.

NORA
Merka, compose yourself.

Merka looks at Oscar and then at Winter.

MERKA
I'm afraid I have some bad news.

NORA
What happened?

Merka lowers her head.

MERKA
There was a fire at the tailor.

Nora gasps.

NORA
Did anything happen to the
coronation gown?

Winter puts her hands on her mother's shoulders.

WINTER
First, is everyone ok?

Merka nods.

MERKA
It happened at night. No-one was
there. But the gown is ruined.

Oscar drops the bags on the floor. Winter walks over to him
and comforts him.

GEORGI
Maybe we can salvage it.

Everyone looks at Georgi with frowns on their faces.

OSCAR
This is not just any gown.
Salvaging a coronation gown is
unheard of.

Georgi shrugs his shoulders.

GEORGI

Look, I've worked at a clothing factory in the past. Once I see it, I can tell you if it's salvageable.

Winter smiles at his calm and confident look. Oscar picks up the bags from the floor.

WINTER

That is a great idea.

Martin smirks and looks at Winter.

MARTIN

Why not make a brand new one? A new gown for a new queen. Simple.

Nora claps and stops when nobody else shares her enthusiasm. She smiles at Martin.

NORA

Brilliant idea.

Winter frowns as she looks at her mother.

WINTER

Mother, you have been talking about keeping all the traditions from my father and grandmother's coronation for weeks.

NORA

Yes, but I am also practical.

Winter raises her eyebrows.

WINTER

You really think that a new coronation gown can be made in three days.

Nora nods. Oscar finishes collecting the bags from the floor.

MARTIN

Everyone must work extra hard.

Georgi stands up and walks over to Merka.

GEORGI

Do you have pictures?

Merka shakes her head.

WINTER

I guess a new gown it is.

Georgi puts his hands up.

GEORGI

A new gown? That will cost so much more.

WINTER

Looks like we have two options.
Let's see the damage first.

Winter and Oscar walk out of the dining room.

Georgi and Sara follow them.

Merka picks up her notebook from the floor and walks behind them.

INT. LIZA'S TAILOR SHOP - LATER

Georgi talks on the phone while turning the gown and assessing the damage.

Oscar stands next to him.

Winter talks to the crying tailor, LIZA (60s).

Sara looks around the shop.

Georgi puts his phone away and walks over to Winter and Liza.

GEORGI

Ok. It's partly salvageable. Some of it will just have to be replaced.

Liza holds the gown.

LIZA

I do not have any fabric that is close to this.

Winter touches the gown and looks at Georgi.

WINTER

Making a new one is easier.

Liza nods.

LIZA

I have some fabric in storage at my home.

Winter looks at Georgi and her eyes beam.

WINTER

Liza, do you remember the gown you made me a year ago for my birthday?

Liza nods with a frown.

LIZA

The one you never wore because your father fell ill.

Winter smiles as she stares at Liza.

WINTER

Can you create a new dress using the two dresses?

Liza nods and claps her hands in a prayer.

LIZA

Yes.

Winter hugs Liza.

WINTER

You can stay at the palace for the next few days and make the changes.

LIZA

My daughter is in town, and she would be happy to help.

Winter looks towards Oscar.

WINTER

Please prepare two rooms at the palace for Liza and her daughter.

Oscar smiles and nods.

SARA

Does this mean we can go to the market now?

Winter walks over to her and offers her hand.

WINTER

Come with me.

They walk out of the shop together. Georgi and Oscar follow them.

EXT. CHRISTMAS MARKET - LATER

Winter and Sara walk through the market. They hold bags of gift boxes in their hands. Winter hands them out to several people.

Georgi and Oscar walk behind them.

People take pictures of Winter.

SARA

How do you know who is a volunteer?

WINTER

They have a red sash around their arms.

A volunteer walks towards them. He bows. Winter hands him a box. Sara smiles at him.

A girl (10) steps in front of Winter. She curtsies and hands her a scarf.

Winter kneels towards the girl.

WINTER (CONT'D)

How did you know I was cold?

The girl shrugs. Winter hugs the girl.

WINTER (CONT'D)

Can you put it on me?

The girl nods and puts the scarf around Winter's neck.

The girl's mother takes a picture of Winter and the girl smiling.

SARA

Here is a gift for you.

Sara hands the girl a box of cocoa. Sara looks at Winter who nods.

The girl takes the box and waves as she walks away.

Oscar walks close to Winter.

OSCAR

Do you think we can sell this cocoa
in the Christmas market?

Winter laughs.

WINTER

I would rather continue the gift-
giving tradition.

Oscar nods. She leans over to Oscar.

WINTER (CONT'D)

I do like that you are comfortable
in your role enough to give
suggestions.

They smile at each other.

Martin shows up and stands in front of them.

MARTIN

Here I am.

Winter smiles.

WINTER

We are almost done.

He grimaces.

MARTIN

Best time for me to show up.

Winter purses her lips.

Martin offers his hand, and she takes it. They walk through
the market together.

Georgi, Sara, and Oscar walk behind them.

GEORGI

They don't look happy.

Oscar turns to Georgi.

OSCAR

Excuse me, I need to see someone.

Oscar walks away leaving Sara and Georgi behind.

SARA

She cannot possibly like someone
that is not into gift-giving.

Georgi smiles at Sara.

GEORGI
Clearly she does.

They high five each other and march forward.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIZA'S ROOM - LATER

Liza and her daughter, EMMA (30s), touch and flip the gown.

Emma makes notes on a notepad.

They hear a door knock.

LIZA
Come in.

Winter and Nora walk in.

Liza and Emma stand before them and curtsy.

Winter walks over and hugs Emma.

WINTER
It's so good to see you.

EMMA
Your Royal Highness. It's always
good to see you.

Nora walks to the gown and touches it.

NORA
Such a pity this is ruined.

Liza walks closer to Nora and lowers her head.

LIZA
I'm sorry ma'am.

Winter walks close to Liza and puts her hands on her
shoulders.

WINTER
We will fix it.

Nora's gaze turns to the new gown.

NORA
Do you have a sketch of the
changes?

Emma brings Liza the notepad.

LIZA
Yes ma'am.

Liza hands the notepad to Nora.

NORA
It's too bad the original gown is
ruined.

Winter frowns at her mother.

Liza and Emma look at each other and lower their heads.

WINTER
The sketch looks great.

Winter looks at the gown and smiles at Liza.

Liza smiles at Winter.

LIZA
Thank you for being so
understanding.

Winter hugs her.

WINTER
Big events. Something has to go
wrong.

Nora turns to Liza and Emma.

NORA
I want to be updated every few
hours.

Liza and Emma nod.

WINTER
Thank you. Oscar will ring you for
dinner.

Nora and Winter walk out of the room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They walk out and into the hallway. Winter stops Nora and
stares at her.

WINTER
Have some compassion for others.

Nora looks confused.

NORA
My focus is on the monarchy.

WINTER
There is nothing wrong with a
monarchy full of heart.

Nora puts her hand on Winter's shoulder and gives her a stern look.

NORA
You are going to be queen in a few
days. The world expects certain
things from you.

Winter purses her lips.

Georgi walks towards them while whistling.

Nora walks away.

Winter turns her gaze to Georgi.

WINTER
It's bad luck to whistle in the
palace.

Georgi stops whistling and frowns.

GEORGI
Why?

Winter walks away.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Winter, Nora, Martin, Liza, and Emma sit and talk.

Empty bowls of soup sit in front of them.

Abby picks up the bowls.

WINTER
Thank you, Abby.

MARTIN
I can't wait to see what the new
chefs have made for us.

Oscar and Merka walk into the room. They stand to the side.

Winter looks at them and smiles.

WINTER
Please join us for a surprise meal.

MARTIN
Courtesy of guests from USA.

Oscar and Merka look at Nora who nods with a smile. They sit with everyone.

Georgi, Sara, and Abby walk in with trays that have covered plates. They set the trays on top of the cabinets.

GEORGI
Do you want to guess what's on the menu today?

Winter nods and smiles.

WINTER
I can smell the pizza.

Martin raises his eyebrows.

MARTIN
Pizza! For a future queen!

Abby and Sara uncover the plates of pizza and put them in front of everyone.

WINTER
Try it, Martin. You will love it. I ate it often in college.

Georgi stands next to the other trays.

GEORGI
Does anyone else want to guess the other item?

EMMA
I will say Tacos.

Georgi claps as Winter beams at him.

WINTER
Really! Did you make soft tacos?

Georgi nods.

GEORGI
Your two favorite lunch items from college.

He uncovers the plates on the tray and sets them on the table.

MARTIN
How does one eat pizza and tacos?

EMMA
I will show you.

Emma puts a slice of pizza on Marin's plate. She takes a slice of pizza and eats it as Martin looks at her with a smile.

Martin takes a bite of pizza.

MARTIN
This is good.

Emma and Martin smile at each other.

Abby serves Nora.

Winter helps Merka and Oscar.

Nora takes a bite of a soft taco. She raises her eyebrows as Winter looks at her.

WINTER
Mother, do you like it?

Nora continues to hold the taco in her hands.

NORA
I love it. Now I know why you ate it often in college.

Sara sits next to Liza.

WINTER
Abby, please join us.

Georgi holds a chair for Abby as she sits. He sits next to Sara.

NORA
What else is planned for tonight?

GEORGI
Make our own Christmas tree decorations.

Everyone looks at Georgi.

NORA

But all the trees are already decorated.

Georgi smiles and shakes his head.

GEORGI

Not the ones we are decorating tonight.

WINTER

I love this casual dinner. Thank you, Georgi, Sara, and Abby.

They all smile, eat, and talk.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Georgi stands across from Martin, Nora, Merka, Oscar, Liza, Emma, and Sara.

There are tabletop Christmas trees on the floor.

The coffee table has various decorations.

NORA

Winter will be here shortly. I think we can start.

Winter walks in and stands next to Sara.

GEORGI

Now we can start.

Georgi smiles as he looks at Winter.

WINTER

Oh, is this what we created together in college?

Nora frowns as she turns to her daughter.

NORA

You created something in college!

Georgi puts his hands up and nods.

GEORGI

Do you want to help me?

Winter smiles as she moves next to Georgi.

WINTER

I will start with the instructions.

Georgi moves behind her and takes out a Christmas hat from a bag.

GEORGI

Go ahead.

He holds the hat up.

WINTER

Inside the hat Georgi is holding,
are rolled paper pieces with
themes.

Georgi holds up one rolled paper.

WINTER (CONT'D)

You will select one theme to
decorate and personalize your tree.

Georgi removes the cover from the table to show the trees.

Everyone smiles as they clap and cheer.

WINTER (CONT'D)

You may use any of the items on the
table.

Georgi picks up beads, tinsel, air-dried clay, hooks, bows,
wood, crayons, paper, and scissors.

GEORGI

Everything you need for your theme.

Martin looks at Nora with a smirk.

MARTIN

What do we get for going through
all this trouble?

Winter gives him a dazed look.

WINTER

You get to have fun with everyone.

Nora looks at Winter with a frown.

NORA

Where would we put these trees?

WINTER

Maybe in our rooms or anywhere you
want in the palace.

Georgi nods and smiles.

GEORGI

Maybe the winner's tree can be part
of the coronation.

Winter smiles proudly.

WINTER

I love this idea. Are you all
ready?

They all nod.

Georgi walks to Nora and holds the hat upside down.

Nora pulls a rolled paper from the hat. She unrolls it and
smiles.

NORA

My theme is snow.

WINTER

That means everything you make will
have to have something snowy in it.

Georgi moves to Martin and holds the hat in front of him.

Martin pulls a rolled paper and unrolls it. He frowns.

MARTIN

What if we know nothing about the
theme?

Winter frowns as she looks at him.

WINTER

What do you mean?

He looks up at her.

MARTIN

My theme is Elf. I know nothing
about it.

Sara smiles and walks next to him.

SARA

I can help you.

Martin looks at Sara.

MARTIN
That would be great.

WINTER
Thank you, Sara. Let's continue.

Georgi holds the hat in front of Liza, then Emma, etc.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Georgi and Winter decorate their trees next to each other.

WINTER
I am surprised you came for the
coronation.

He looks at her seriously.

GEORGI
You mean because of how I reacted
to you being a princess.

Winter looks at him with a sad face.

WINTER
It was a reaction I did not expect.

He frowns as he continues to decorate his tree.

GEORGI
I was in shock.

She stops decorating and lowers her head.

WINTER
I can imagine.

He shakes his head.

GEORGI
I have regretted it for years.

She looks at him and smiles.

WINTER
My life and the crown have been
intertwined all my life.

Georgi looks at her and touches her hand.

GEORGI

Except for your college days.
Nobody ever found out about your
royal life. It must have felt odd
for you.

She nods as she touches his hand.

WINTER

I am so thankful that my father
encouraged me to go away under a
different name.

Martin looks at them and notices their hands touching.

GEORGI

Me too.

Winter leans over to him.

Sara claps her hands in excitement.

SARA

I am done.

They all look at her.

WINTER

That looks good.

Georgi looks around all the trees.

GEORGI

Can we get Abby to come and select
the winner?

OSCAR

I will text her.

They all walk around and look at each other's trees proudly.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Abby walks in and stands by the door. She looks at the trees
and gasps.

NORA

They look that bad.

Abby shakes her head.

ABBY

They look beautiful.

There are themed trees with elves, snow, hearts, Santa, bows, gift boxes, stars, and stockings.

NORA

You know. I liked this activity.

They all nod. Winter walks towards her mother and hugs her.

WINTER

I'm happy you did.

(whispering)

I like this side of you.

Nora kisses Winter on the cheek.

They all congratulate each other with big smiles.

NORA

Now select the winner, Abby.

Abby frowns as she looks at Nora.

ABBY

Me... Why Me?

WINTER

You are not part of the competition.

Abby bows and walks around.

She shrugs her shoulders and looks at all of them.

ABBY

Can I choose two?

They all LAUGH.

WINTER

Yes.

Abby points to the trees with snow and bow themes.

Nora and Sara high five each other.

ABBY

They are all beautiful.

WINTER

Thank you, Abby. I will go make hot chocolate for everyone.

ABBY

I will help you.

Winter and Abby walk out smiling and talking.

OSCAR

I will take the winning trees to
the ballroom.

Merka looks at him.

MERKA

Me too.

They walk towards the trees and then to Georgi.

OSCAR

Thank you for including us in these
creative activities.

Georgi smiles and nods.

GEORGI

My pleasure.

The rest walk around and admire the remaining decorated
trees.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - SARA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Sara lays in her bed tucked in.

Winter sits on the bed looking at Sara.

SARA

How come you're having the
coronation on Christmas Eve?

Winter smiles.

WINTER

When my grandmother died and my
father had to plan his coronation,
the economy in Avalon was very bad.

SARA

So he saved money.

Winter nods.

WINTER

He did not even have a party. The
only thing he spent money on was
having the coronation televised.

SARA
That's not how I picture royalty.

Winter laughs.

WINTER
Neither did I when I was young. But
in reality, we royals cannot spend
what we want.

A knock on the door interrupts them.

SARA
Come in.

Georgi walks in and closes the door. He beams when he sees
Winter.

GEORGI
Am I interrupting something?

Sara and Winter shake their heads.

WINTER
Just tucking her in. I will leave
now.

Winter kisses Sara on her forehead and walks towards the
door.

Georgi catches her hand and looks at her.

GEORGI
Can you wait outside? I would like
us to catch up.

Winter yawns.

WINTER
Maybe some other time.

He nods.

GEORGI
Good night.

She walks out and closes the door behind her.

Georgi walks towards Sara and sits on her bed.

SARA
You need to tell her the truth.

Georgi kisses Sara on the cheek.

GEORGI

I will.

She closes her eyes as he adjusts the covers.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Winter paces as she talks on the phone.

Nora sits with a sullen face.

Martin sits while reading a newspaper in his hand.

Abby enters with a tray of food.

Georgi and Sara enter with smiles that quickly disappear when they see Winter and Nora's faces.

Georgi walks towards Winter.

Sara takes a seat.

Winter hangs up the phone. She gives Georgi an inquisitive look.

GEORGI

Good morning.

WINTER

It started to be a bad morning, but
I have an idea to make it better.

Winter walks to the table and takes a seat next to Nora.

Nora looks at her with eyes-wide open.

NORA

It's one of your father's favorite
events.

Winter looks at her mother.

WINTER

Things happen. But we can fix this.

Oscar and Merka walk in together.

Abby continues to bring out drinks and food.

OSCAR

We cannot get enough people to help
on such short notice.

Georgi raises his hand.

NORA
Yes Georgi.

Georgi frowns.

GEORGI
What happened?

Nora looks at Winter.

WINTER
Our baker called early this morning
and said two of her staff have the
flu.

Martin looks up from the newspaper.

MARTIN
The palace hands out Christmas
cookies at the Christmas Tree
lighting tonight. The baker cannot
make the cookies because she is
focused on the coronation cake.

Winter gives Martin an icy look. He puts the paper away.

WINTER
But we can bake the cookies. We
used to have a bake sale in college
all the time to raise money for
charity.

Georgi smiles as he looks at Winter.

GEORGI
Yes, we can. How many cookies do we
need?

Winter stands up and walks next to him.

WINTER
Hundreds.

Georgi folds his hands.

GEORGI
Do you have all the ingredients?

She nods.

WINTER
We can pick them up from the baker.

He claps his hands in the air and smiles.

GEORGI
Let's do it.

Nora looks at Winter and Georgi.

NORA
Is this possible?

Georgi smiles while looking at Nora.

WINTER
Yes. We may not be able to hand out
as many cookies as usual, but we
will hand out cookies.

Merka lets out a sigh of relief. Everyone laughs together
except Martin.

MARTIN
Let me know when all this baking is
done. I would be happy to be the
tester.

Nora throws her napkin on the table.

NORA
I expect everyone to help for a
good cause that has been
representing the Crown at Christmas
for decades.

Winter texts on her phone. Georgi sits at the table.

Martin gets up and walks out.

INT. ZOE'S BAKERY - FRONT AREA - LATER

Winter and Sara pack ingredients in boxes.

Georgi and Oscar take boxes to the car.

The baker, ZOE (40s), comes out from the back with a folder
in her hand. She hands the folder to Winter.

ZOE
Your Royal Highness, I really am
deeply sorry about the
inconvenience.

Winter smiles and shrugs her shoulders.

WINTER

Don't worry. We will bake them
according to your recipes.

Zoe bows.

Oscar walks in.

ZOE

I'm sorry Oscar.

They hug.

OSCAR

What's important is that we have a
solution.

Georgi walks in.

ZOE

Thank you everyone.

OSCAR

Zoe and I went to college together.

Sara looks up from packing.

SARA

Really!

Oscar looks at her and nods.

OSCAR

We even dated a while, but our jobs
took over our lives.

Winter leans over to Oscar and grins.

WINTER

Never replace love with jobs.

OSCAR

Good advice.

Oscar and Zoe smile at each other and lower their heads.

WINTER

Zoe, are you coming to the
coronation?

Zoe shakes her head.

Oscar puts his hand on hers.

ZOE
I need to guard the cake.

WINTER
We can assign a royal guard to do that. You can join the ceremony.

Zoe frowns.

ZOE
Don't I need an invitation?

WINTER
I will hand you one tonight at the Christmas tree lighting.

Zoe bows her head. Oscar looks lovingly at Zoe.

Winter and Sara walk out as Georgi follows them with the last box.

EXT. ZOE'S BAKERY - CONTINUOUS

Georgi holds a box and walks.

GEORGI
That was a nice thing you did back there.

WINTER
Thank you.

She stops and turns to him.

GEORGI
This is the Winter I fell in love with.

She looks around to make sure nobody hears her.

WINTER
And the same one you fell out of love with.

He shakes his head.

GEORGI
Never. I was upset for a while.

She turns to him.

WINTER
A lost chance.

Sara giggles as Winter returns her gaze towards the car.

GEORGI

A new hope.

She nods and holds Sara's hands and walk to towards the car.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - KITCHEN - LATER

Georgi and Winter roll the dough.

Abby puts cookies in the oven and takes them out.

Nora and Sara decorate the cookies.

Oscar and Merka pack the cookies.

SARA

How many cookies did you make in college?

Georgi looks at Winter and they laugh.

GEORGI

A lot.

WINTER

We sold a lot and we ate a lot.

Nora looks at her daughter and smiles.

Georgi puts his hands up as he smiles at Winter.

GEORGI

We sold cookies every weekend.

Sara looks up and squints.

SARA

That's a lot of cookies.

GEORGI

Yes. But we only made chocolate chip cookies.

NORA

And people bought them?

WINTER

They were chewy and soft. We had a good recipe from Olivia's grandmother.

Sara stops.

SARA

Is that the same recipe we are
using now?

Georgi nods.

GEORGI

I've made it so many times that I
made a song from the recipe.

Martin walks in.

MARTIN

Would you like me to taste test the
cookies?

All look up.

WINTER

We've already done that. Would you
like to help?

Martin shakes his head.

MARTIN

No thank you. I will leave you to
your work.

Winter gives him an icy look.

WINTER

Anyone that marries into the crown
must work for the crown.

Martin winks at her and walks out.

Nora lowers her head.

NORA

Can someone sing or play music to
lift our spirits?

Georgi looks at Nora lovingly.

GEORGI

Let's put on some Christmas music.

Nora hums a little.

Merka takes out her phone and Christmas music belts out.

They dance as they continue to make cookies.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - LATER

Boxes of cookies sit on the table.

Nora inspects them with a big grin.

Merka walks behind her.

NORA

I cannot believe we have more
cookies to pass than last year.

Merka nods.

MERKA

It's a special year. People are
expecting something more.

Nora looks at her.

NORA

You are right. I don't know what we
would have done if Georgi was not
here to inspire us.

MERKA

He is special.

Nora nods.

NORA

But I have this bad feeling every
time I think of his invitation.

Merka frowns.

MERKA

What do you mean?

Nora shakes her head.

NORA

I just don't remember hearing an
invitation going to him or that he
was coming. Olivia, who was
supposed to be here, has not
arrived yet.

Merka shakes her head.

MERKA

He seems very genuine though.

Nora nods.

Martin walks in and looks at the table. He smiles proudly.

MARTIN

I will hand these out with the princess.

Nora and Merka look at each other and then at Martin.

NORA

But you did not help.

Martin smirks and walks closer to Nora.

MARTIN

My role is to stand next to the Princess. That is work.

Nora stares at him.

NORA

Every member of this household must do some work to support the crown.

Martin nods and leans towards Nora.

MARTIN

I will hand out the cookies.

Oscar walks in and bows.

OSCAR

We are ready to pack the car and leave for the tree lighting.

Martin turns towards Oscar.

MARTIN

I will wait inside the car.

Martin walks away leaving Merka and Nora staring at him.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DANCE AREA - LATER

A band on a stage plays Christmas music.

Dancers with numbers hanging from their necks dance below the stage.

Winter, Nora, and Martin walk close to the dancers. Winter and Nora clap. Winter leans closer to Nora.

WINTER

I am happy you have joined today's activities. I know you miss Papa.

Nora smiles at her daughter.

NORA

It has taken me some time to get out without him.

Liza, Emma, and Sara stand behind them. They also clap.

Oscar and Georgi bring boxes of cookies close to the stage.

Merka talks to people who stand by the stage.

SARA

These dancers are good.

Winter turns to her.

WINTER

They are. Come closer. All of you.

Liza, Emma, and Sara get closer to Winter.

Georgi and Oscar join them and clap as well.

Georgi walks close to Winter and whispers in her ear.

GEORGI

Ready for our dance?

She looks at him and nods.

He pulls her to the dance floor and they dance the Polka dance.

All dancers step aside and clap.

Nora looks at her daughter's happy face and tears flow.

Merka walks next to Nora and sees the tears.

MERKA

She is always beaming when she is around him.

Nora nods.

NORA

I just hope he is as genuine as he looks.

Sara hears this and looks at Georgi.

MERKA

I did some research and found nothing.

NORA

Thank you.

Sara continues to listen.

Merka leans closer.

MERKA

I will keep my eyes and ears open.

Winter and Georgi finish their dance to loud applause and cheers from everyone. They bow and walk back to join everyone.

Nora hugs Winter and turns to Georgi.

NORA

Thank you for putting that smile on her face.

Georgi nods.

Martin hears this and walks close to Nora.

MARTIN

Should the future queen dance like that?

Winter looks at Martin with a sullen face and he lowers his head.

MERKA

They are ready for the tree lighting.

Nora, Winter, and Martin follow Merka to the stage.

Sara pulls at Georgi's hand.

SARA

I need to talk to you.

She pulls his shirt.

GEORGI

Not now.

Georgi pulls Sara's hand and they walk with the crowd. They stand in the back.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - STAGE - LATER

Winter and Nora stand on the stage talking to a few people.

Martin stands close to Nora.

Oscar and Merka stand by the stairs that lead to the stage.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - BELOW STAGE - LATER

Liza and Emma join Georgi and Sara.

LIZA

We should be closer to the stage.

Georgi shrugs his shoulders.

GEORGI

I'm good here.

LIZA

Sara, you want to join us?

Sara nods. Liza and Emma walk to the front with Sara.

Zoe and Abby walk and stand next to Georgi.

ZOE

How long did you know the Princess
in college?

Georgi turns to them with a smile.

GEORGI

Three years. But I only found out
that she was a Princess the day
before our graduation.

Zoe and Abby gasp.

ZOE

Really!

He nods as he looks at the stage.

GEORGI

She used her first name and went by
the last name of Avalon.

ZOE

You never searched her name online?

GEORGI

I did and found one social media account that matched everything she had told me.

Zoe and Abby look at each other and then at Georgi.

ZOE

We also never knew what college she went to until the day of her graduation.

He shakes his head.

GEORGI

The big lie that has tormented me for years.

Zoe puts her hand on his shoulder and looks at him.

ZOE

But you must've forgiven her or else why accept the coronation invitation.

He looks at the ground and then to the stage.

GEORGI

I came too late.

Georgi smiles at both of them and looks at the stage. He finds Winter looking at him with a smile.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - STAGE - LATER

Winter walks towards the microphone.

Nora holds a light switch.

Martin stands on Winter's other side.

All other people walk off the stage.

WINTER

Good evening, Avalon.

All clap and cheer.

WINTER (CONT'D)

This is a special year where I take the oath to serve you and the crown of Avalon.

More claps and cheers.

WINTER (CONT'D)

Mother, please do us the honor of lighting this tree as you have been all these years.

More cheers.

NORA

1... 2... 3

Nora flips the switch and the tree lights to a loud applause and cheers.

Winter hugs Nora.

Martin hugs Winter and kisses her on her lips.

Georgi watches and leaves upset.

Sara turns to Georgi and runs after him.

Winter looks at the crowd and frowns when she finds Georgi walking out.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - BELOW STAGE - LATER

Winter and Nora hand boxes of cookies to the citizens of Avalon.

Oscar and Merka help them.

Zoe walks up to them.

ZOE

I cannot believe you baked more cookies than we had planned.

Winter hands Zoe a box of cookies.

WINTER

Taste them. Are they as good as yours?

Zoe takes a bite from one cookie.

ZOE
Oh, this is really good.

They all smile proudly at her.

WINTER
We used your recipes except the
chocolate chip one.

Zoe holds the cookie in front of Winter.

ZOE
I want the recipe to this.

Winter reaches out and hugs Zoe.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - KITCHEN - LATER

Georgi drinks hot chocolate.

Sara walks in slowly.

SARA
What happened?

He hugs her.

GEORGI
I am just tired.

She nods and smiles.

SARA
I will go to bed.

GEORGI
I thought you wanted to talk to me
about something.

She looks at him and shakes her head.

SARA
It can wait.

They hug and she leaves.

Abby walks in.

ABBY
Would you like dinner or a snack?

He shakes his head.

GEORGI
I'm good. Thank you.

She smiles.

ABBY
Good night.

GEORGI
Good night.

He puts his cup down and takes out some things from cupboards: a bowl, sugar, chocolate bars, and vanilla.

He then walks over to the fridge and gets the eggs out. He turns around and finds Winter standing by the stove.

WINTER
Were you going to make chocolate chip cookies without me?

He shrugs.

GEORGI
You have someone else to make cookies with.

She walks over to the counter. She takes out the mixer from the cabinet.

WINTER
He does not work. Remember.

He grins as he looks through the cupboards.

GEORGI
You're not sleepy?

She walks over to him and stops him from opening another cupboard.

WINTER
No.

GEORGI
I guess you have a lot on your mind.

She stares into his eyes.

WINTER
What made you want to see me again?

He frowns.

GEORGI
What do you mean?

WINTER
Last time we saw each other, you
made it clear you never wanted to
see me.

He nods.

GEORGI
I was broken into a thousand pieces
that day. Not because of the title
but because you had lied to me for
years.

She lowers her head. He holds her chin, and she looks at him.

WINTER
Those years were the best years of
my life. I was free without
judgement, protocols, or media.

He smiles.

GEORGI
Me too. But the ending made them
seem like a big lie.

She frowns as tears flow down her face.

WINTER
My father wanted me to keep it a
secret.

He pulls her shoulders, and they kiss. She pulls away.

GEORGI
I'm sorry. I forgot you are
engaged.

She nods.

WINTER
But I don't understand why you came
now.

Winter pours the ingredients into the bowl and stirs.

GEORGI
I was crazy to lose you once. I do
not lose you again.

WINTER
It's too late.

Georgi stares at her and pulls her closer.

GEORGI
I know you still have feelings for
me.

Georgi moves away and pulls the trays out.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - WINTER' ROOM - NIGHT

Winter looks through old pictures in an album. A knock on the door startles her.

She closes the album and walks over to open the door.

Nora walks in.

NORA
I saw your lights on and was
worried.

Winter closes the door.

WINTER
About what?

Nora smiles.

NORA
About the coronation... the
engagement... about you.

Winter walks back to her bed and sits on the edge.

WINTER
You know, I have seen a change in
you in just a few days.

Nora walks over and sits next to Winter.

NORA
Being part of these activities have
brought me closer to your father. I
miss him you know.

Winters stares into Nora's eyes.

WINTER
Do you think we can hold off
announcing the engagement?

Nora touches Winter's hand.

NORA
Your feelings for Georgi are
strong.

WINTER
I just need more time.

Nora kisses Winter's hand.

NORA
Martin has a good heart and he is
the perfect royal suitor.

Winter looks down and then up at her mother.

WINTER
There are no perfect suitors.

NORA
He comes close.

Winter gets out of her bed and paces.

WINTER
His way of supporting the crown is
outdated.

Nora nods.

NORA
I will talk to him.

Winter stops and kneels in front of Nora.

WINTER
Please postpone it by a few weeks.

Nora stands up and kisses Winter on the forehead.

NORA
You must obey the rules of the
crown.

Nora walks out and closes the door behind her.

Winter jumps onto her bed and covers her face with pillows.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - WINTER' ROOM - DAY

Winter holds her phone to her ear as she talks to Olivia.

WINTER

I see. Thank you, Olivia. Please visit me soon.

Winter hangs up and walks out of her room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Winter walks quickly.

She finds Martin and Emma talking and gazing at a big Christmas tree.

Martin hears footsteps and turns to Winter.

MARTIN

Good morning.

Winter stops. She looks at him and forces a smile.

WINTER

Good morning. This is a beautiful tree.

Martin looks at the tree.

MARTIN

There is nothing like a tree decorated by a professional.

Winter frowns as she looks at the tree.

WINTER

I think taking the time to personalize a tree is magical. It's fun. It's unique. It's personal.

Emma nods.

EMMA

I loved what we did the other night with the small trees.

Winter nods.

WINTER

Will you join me for breakfast?

EMMA

I will join you shortly.

Winter smiles and walks away.

Martin turns to Emma.

MARTIN
What else do you like to do?

Emma smiles at him and then at the tree.

EMMA
Anything about history and art make
me happy.

MARTIN
Same here. I feel at home in
museums and visiting wonders of the
world.

He nods and smiles at her. She catches his gaze and grins. He offers his hand. She takes it.

They continue to talk as they walk down the hallway.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Winter and Liza sit and talk when Martin and Emma join them.

Nora walks in behind them.

NORA
Good morning.

Winter turns to her mother.

WINTER
Good morning mother.

Nora sits and notices the friendliness between Martin and Emma.

Abby brings breakfast plates for Nora, Emma, and Martin.

NORA
Darling, what happened to Olivia?

Winter smiles and looks at her mother.

Abby walks back to the kitchen.

WINTER
I talked to her this morning and
something came up. She will not be
joining us.

Nora frowns.

NORA
Is everything ok?

WINTER
Yes.

Martin looks at Winter.

MARTIN
Maybe it's time you left your
college days in the past.

Liza looks at Emma.

LIZA
We should get going.

Winter smiles at Liza.

WINTER
Finish your breakfast first.

Georgi and Sara walk into the room.

SARA
Good morning, everyone.

GEORGI
Good morning to all.

All smile and nod.

NORA
Sara, you seem a bit jollier today.

Sara smiles at Nora.

SARA
I forgot to pack my dress for the
coronation. My uncle has offered to
take me shopping to buy me a new
one.

All smile lovingly as they gaze between Georgi and Sara.

LIZA
Would you be interested in a
vintage dress?

Sara nods.

GEORGI
Cheaper, I hope.

Liza nods.

LIZA
A gift from me to Sara.

Emma nods as she looks at Sara.

EMMA
My mother has plans to expand the shop and have a special section for vintage clothing.

GEORGI
What's stopping you?

Liza shrugs.

LIZA
I would need to hire people that know vintage clothing well.

Georgi smiles.

GEORGI
I cannot solve that problem.

They all laugh.

WINTER
I am also interested in vintage clothing. Can I join you?

Liza nods and then looks at Emma.

LIZA
Can you continue with the coronation gown?

Emma nods.

SARA
Thank you, Emma.

WINTER
We can also visit Santa's village.

SARA
That would be great.

Abby brings out Georgi and Sara's breakfast plates.

INT. LIZA'S TAILOR SHOP - LATER

Georgi, Winter and Sara look around the shop.

Liza brings out a covered clothing rack out. She uncovers it.

LIZA
Here is my vintage dress
collection.

Winter and Sara walk over to the rack, and they look at various dresses.

Sara holds a green dress in her hand.

SARA
This is beautiful. Can I try it on?

Liza grins as she nods.

LIZA
Use the fitting room not damaged.

Sara runs to the back. Winter holds a red velvet dress.

WINTER
I think I will try this on.

She walks to the back.

Georgi looks at Liza.

LIZA
What about you?

Georgi grins.

GEORGI
What about me?

She takes out a men's suit from the rack.

He laughs.

LIZA
Do you have a suit?

He nods. He walks around.

GEORGI
Where would you expand your shop?

Liza shrugs her shoulders.

LIZA

If either of the tenants next to me decided to leave, I would consider renting their space.

She walks around and points to the sides.

Sara walks out and twirls in front of Liza and Georgi.

GEORGI

I think we have a winner.

Sara smiles at him and then turns to Liza.

LIZA

I agree. But you can try on some more if you would like.

Liza looks at the rack and takes out a blue one.

Sara takes the blue dress and walks back to the fitting room.

Winter walks out and holds the red dress in her hand.

WINTER

I will take this Liza. Charge it to the palace.

Liza nods.

LIZA

Would you like to try on others?

Winter shakes her head.

WINTER

Maybe another time.

LIZA

OK. Let me package that for you.

Winter hands the dress to Liza and walks closer to Georgi.

GEORGI

When do you plan to wear that dress?

WINTER

Christmas day. Why do you ask?

He winks.

GEORGI

Just wondering.

Sara comes out in the blue dress.

Winter gasps.

WINTER

That looks beautiful on you.

Sara smiles.

GEORGI

I love it.

SARA

Can I buy both?

Georgi looks at her and shakes his head.

GEORGI

You will outgrow them soon and they
will sit in your closet.

Sara obediently nods and walks back to the fitting room.

Liza takes the red and green dresses to the back.

Winter smiles as she looks around the shop and at the
ceiling.

WINTER

You are a good uncle.

GEORGI

I'm trying to be.

Liza comes out with two packages. She hands one to Winter and
the other to Georgi.

WINTER

I was just thinking. If you want to
expand, can you create a second
floor for vintage clothing only?

Liza looks up as Sara walks out of the fitting room.

LIZA

I never thought of that. I like
that idea. I will talk to the
landlord.

Winter smiles as she waves to Liza and walks out of the shop.
Georgi and Sara follow her.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - SANTA'S VILLAGE - LATER

The lively and decorated square has Santa's village in front of the big Christmas tree. Santa sits on a red chair in the middle. Kids stand in line to take pictures with Santa.

Winter, Sara and Georgi walk towards Santa.

People take pictures of Winter, Sara and Georgi.

WINTER

I will greet the kids in line and then Santa.

Winter walks ahead as she waves to the crowd. She shakes hands with volunteers, parents, and kids as she makes her way to Santa. People continue to take pictures.

Georgi and Sara walk behind her. They catch up to Winter.

SARA

Can I take a picture with Santa?

Georgi looks around and nods.

GEORGI

I will join you.

They stand in line.

Winter smiles as she walks next to Santa. She stands on one side and takes pictures with a few kids.

Santa's helpers wave to Sara and Georgi to join Winter.

SARA

Wow. This is awesome.

GEORGI

You will join us for this epic picture.

Winter nods.

WINTER

It will be an honor.

Winter, Georgi, and Sara stand next to Santa, and everyone cheers them on as they take pictures.

Georgi and Sara walk away.

Winter stays with Santa to greet more kids and take pictures with them.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - EATING AREA - LATER

Georgi and Sara sit around a table while eating soup.

Winter joins them with her own cup of soup.

People continue to take pictures as they walk by.

GEORGI

Did you enjoy your time with Santa
and the kids?

Winter smiles and looks around.

WINTER

I loved it. My father used to bring
me to this square throughout the
Christmas season.

Sara looks at her.

SARA

When did you lose him?

Winter lowers her head and stares into her soup.

WINTER

Nine months ago.

GEORGI

I'm sorry.

Winter looks up and grins.

WINTER

Being a crown prince or princess
seems magical to others. But people
forget to reach the next role means
someone has to die.

Sara frowns.

SARA

Nobody should forget that.

Winter nods as she looks down.

Georgi reaches his arm and comforts her.

GEORGI

Not an easy position to be in.

She shakes her head.

They continue to talk and eat.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Nora, Winter, Martin, Georgi, Sara, Liza, and Emma sit and eat dinner.

Merka and Oscar join them.

NORA

Merka, are we all set for tomorrow?

Merka nods.

NORA (CONT'D)

We just cannot afford any more surprises.

All LAUGH.

WINTER

We can handle just about anything that comes our way.

Oscar nods.

MARTIN

Did your father have any issues before his coronation?

Winter looks at her mother who smiles.

WINTER

He lost his ring, his speech got lost somewhere along the way, and a bird was flying around him during the ceremony.

Nora nods.

NORA

It was also very cold that Christmas Eve.

WINTER

But he learned to go with the flow. He was never about the rules.

Winter points to Nora.

NORA

Guilty. I love rules.

Georgi looks at Winter and sees the sadness as she looks down at her food.

GEORGI
Why don't we finish up and start
tonight's activity?

Martin rolls his eyes.

MARTIN
Another activity!

Georgi smiles and nods.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Georgi holds his phone in his hand.

Nora, Winter, Martin, Sara, Liza, and Emma sit on chairs and sofas.

Georgi holds his phone up.

GEORGI
I will select a song. Someone must
sing along. The person can nominate
themselves or be nominated by
others.

All nod and look at each other while smiling.

Georgi selects Silent Night.

Winter points to Nora and Nora points to Sara.

WINTER
Mother and Sara together.

Nora and Sara stand in front of everyone. Sara bows.

NORA
How long do we have to sing?

WINTER
One sentence is enough.

Georgi nods.

Nora whispers into Sara's ear. They look at each other and hold hands. Nora nods to Georgi.

He hits play.

Nora starts with softly singing.

NORA
Silent Night, Holy Night,

Sara follows with a louder voice.

SARA
All is calm, all is bright.

NORA
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,

SARA
Holy Infant so tender and mild,

They bow and hug each other before sitting back in their seats.

All clap.

WINTER
That was good.

LIZA
It really was.

Georgi puts his hands up.

GEORGI
Moving on.

He looks at his phone and selects "We wish you a merry Christmas,"

GEORGI (CONT'D)
Who's next?

Everyone points to Martin who remains seated.

Emma gets up and stands in front of him. She offers her hand to Marin. He takes her hand and stands.

EMMA
Ready when you are Georgi.

Georgi hits play on his phone.

EMMA (CONT'D)
We wish you a Merry Christmas.

She looks at Martin.

MARTIN

We wish you a Merry Christmas.

EMMA

We wish you a Merry Christmas.

Martin dances awkwardly. Everyone laughs.

MARTIN

And a Happy New Year.

Martin spreads his hands wide to a standing ovation from everyone.

WINTER

You look so happy doing that.

They continue to sing Christmas songs.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Nora enters the dining room.

Merka and Oscar stand by the table.

The newspapers are on the table.

Nora smiles.

NORA

Good morning.

MERKA

Good morning, ma'am.

Nora looks at the headlines before she sits. She flips through the papers.

AVALON DAILY NEWS

The headline reads: "The Crown in Jeopardy."

Below the headline is a picture of Winter, Georgi and Sara eating soup in front of the fireplace from the day before.

Nora focuses on Georgi's hand around Winter's shoulder.

BACK TO NORA

She gasps. Merka walks closer.

MERKA

We can contact the newspaper to
print a correction.

Nora puts that paper away and picks up another newspaper.

TIMES OF AVALON

The headline reads: "What happened to the DUKE?"

Below the headline is a picture of Winter, Georgi and Sara
with Santa.

BACK TO NORA

Nora flips through other newspapers and pushes them away. She
looks at Merka and Oscar.

NORA

Has anyone seen these?

They nod.

MERKA

It's all over the news.

Nora sits.

NORA

Has my daughter seen these?

MERKA

No ma'am.

Nora looks at Merka.

NORA

Can I get some coffee please? We
need to think of damage control.

Merka walks away. Oscar reorganizes the newspapers on the
table.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - WINTER' ROOM - DAY

Winter sits at her desk. She stares at her college invitation
list in front of her. She does not hear Martin's door knock.

MARTIN

Good morning. Today is our big day.

She turns around with a fake smile.

WINTER

I don't know if I can go through
with this.

Martin walks over and hovers over her. He looks at the list
and picks it up. He sees Georgi's name crossed out.

MARTIN

Why is his name crossed out?

Winter tries to take the list back but Martin holds it high
up.

WINTER

Give me my list.

MARTIN

You never invited him. He has been
lying all along.

She stops and stares into his eye.

WINTER

Martin, I demand you hand me my
list.

Martin walks away to the door. He turns around before
leaving.

MARTIN

Your mother should see this. He
should be kicked out immediately.

Martin leaves and Winter's tears flow down her cheeks.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - LATER

Martin walks into the dining room.

Nora and Merka look at him and then at the newspapers.

Martin stops a few feet away from Nora. He holds the list in
his hands.

NORA

Is everything ok?

MARTIN

This man is a liar.

NORA

Who?

Georgi and Sara walk into the dining room.

Martin turns around with a smirk.

MARTIN

That man standing there.

Martin points at Georgi.

Everyone looks at Georgi.

NORA

How so?

MARTIN

He was never invited. His name is
crossed out on her college list.

Martin hands Nora the list. She looks at it and stands.

NORA

Georgi, is this true?

Georgi looks at Nora.

GEORGI

I can explain.

Nora stares at him with her lips pursed.

NORA

We opened our home and hearts to
you and Sara. Your lie has put this
crown in jeopardy. Get out.

She turns her back to him.

Oscar and Merka walk quickly towards Georgi and escort him
towards the door.

GEORGI

Wait!

Martin scowls.

MARTIN

The truth always comes out.

Martin throws the list at Georgi.

GEORGI

You are right. The truth will come out.

NORA

Out!

Oscar and Merka get Georgi out of the room. Sara follows them.

Nora storms out of the dining room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - WINTER' ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nora walks into the room. She finds Winter looking out the window.

NORA

You knew he was lying all along.

Winter turns around.

Nora sees the tears flow down her daughter's cheeks.

WINTER

I also lied to him in college.

Nora walks over and hugs Winter.

NORA

So he got even.

Winter pulls away. She stares at her mother.

WINTER

He did this because he loves me.

Nora shakes her head.

NORA

A lie is a lie. Martin would not lie to you.

WINTER

But I am also lying to myself and to Martin. I don't love Martin.

Nora smiles.

NORA

Love comes after marriage.

Winter walks away and stares back out the window.

WINTER

I want someone that loves me for me
and not for my crown.

Nora walks closer to her daughter.

NORA

You forget, the crown rules your
life.

Winter turns to her mother and stares at her.

WINTER

Don't you want me to be happy
first?

Nora shrugs her shoulders.

NORA

I did not make the rules.

Nora kisses Winter on her cheek and walks out of the room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - SARA'S ROOM - LATER

Georgi and Sara pack their things.

Oscar knocks on the door and walks in. He closes the door.

OSCAR

I will take you to the airport.

Sara turns to Oscar.

SARA

I'm really sad we have to leave
before the coronation.

Oscar looks at her sadly.

OSCAR

Me too.

Merka walks into the room and closes the door.

They all turn around and look at Merka.

Georgi stops packing.

GEORGI

What's wrong?

Merka holds the newspapers in her hands.

MERKA

Can we talk about these?

They all look at each other and listen to Merka.

EXT. AVALON CASTLE - LATER

Georgi and Sara help the driver put their luggage into the car.

Sara hugs Oscar and Merka and then gets into the car.

Georgi shakes their hands. He gets close to the car door. He looks up to Winter's window.

WINTER'S ROOM

Winter looks down at them with a sad face.

BACK TO GEORGI

Georgi blows a kiss into his hand and waves it to her. He enters the car and closes the door.

The car drives away.

Oscar and Merka wave and walk back into the castle.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIZA'S ROOM - LATER

Nora and Winter enter the room.

The coronation gown sits on the bed.

Liza and Emma step aside as Nora and Winter walk closer to the gown.

LIZA

What do you think?

Winter touches the gown with a sad look.

EMMA

Do you not like it?

Nora gasps and claps her hands.

NORA

You have done a fabulous job with
this train. You added the cape too.
I love it.

Nora joins her daughter and touches the gown.

Winter looks at Liza and Emma.

WINTER

I like it.

Winter runs out the door. Liza's smile disappears.

NORA

Wait. Are you not going to do a
last fitting before the coronation?

Nora looks at Liza with a smile.

LIZA

She can come back later.

Nora nods.

NORA

She just needs a few minutes. We
will be back.

Liza and Emma nod and bow as Nora walks out of the door.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - WINTER' ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nora walks into the room and closes the door. She finds
Winter face down on her bed crying.

Nora's eyes welt.

NORA

My dear girl. What is the matter?

Winter takes a pillow and puts it over her head.

WINTER

I don't love him mother.

NORA

Martin?

Winter nods.

WINTER

I don't want to be in a marriage to
someone I do not love.

Nora sits on the bed. She puts her hand on Winter's back.

NORA

But you asked me to find someone
for you. Remember our conversation
a few months ago.

Winter throws the pillow back on the bed and turns to look at
Nora.

WINTER

I thought Georgi was out of my life
for good. But now that he came
back...

Nora nods.

NORA

You realize what you lost.

Winter nods and smiles.

WINTER

Do you understand mother?

Nora smiles.

NORA

You are just like your grandmother.
She also fell in love and refused
to marry anyone but her love.

Winter laughs.

WINTER

I remember her telling me the
story.

Nora stands up.

NORA

Why don't we postpone the
engagement announcement and just
focus on the coronation?

Winter stands up as well and stares at her.

WINTER

Really!

Nora smiles and hugs Winter.

NORA

Yes.

Winter frowns.

WINTER

I need to tell Martin.

Nora shakes her head.

NORA

I will do that.

Winter puts her hand on her mother's shoulder.

WINTER

No. I will take care of this.

They hug.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Winter stands and stares into the fireplace.

Martin walks in and closes the door.

She turns her gaze towards him.

MARTIN

You asked to see me.

Winter gestures for him to sit. He sits. She remains standing.

WINTER

Yes.

She paces a little.

MARTIN

Just come out with it.

Winter smiles with Martin's directness.

WINTER

This week I learned a few things about myself.

Martin stands and looks directly at her.

MARTIN

You are cancelling our engagement.

She nods. He smiles and lets out a sign of relief.

WINTER

You did not want the engagement
either?

He shakes his head and chuckles.

MARTIN

I did at first. But then seeing how
happy you are with Georgi made me
realize how I wanted that same type
of love.

She grimaces and then laughs.

WINTER

I guess we both realized that love
does conquer everything.

He nods.

MARTIN

Don't let him go.

She gives him a hug and then releases him.

WINTER

I hope you find someone special.

He sheepishly smiles.

MARTIN

I think I did.

She puts her hand on her mouth. He smiles as he nods.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - DINING ROOM - LATER

Winter and Martin walk in talking and laughing.

Nora sits and gives them a surprise look.

NORA

Sounds like you have worked out
your differences.

Winter and Martin stop and look at each other before turning
their gaze towards Nora.

WINTER

Martin will take on the role of an advisor to the royal court.

Nora claps her hands.

MARTIN

We both realized that love does conquer the heart and the crown.

Winter and Martin sit down.

Abby brings out a tray with cups of soup.

NORA

Where is Merka?

Winter looks around and frowns.

WINTER

You know, I have not seen Merka or Oscar in the last few hours.

Abby takes out her phone.

ABBY

I will call them for you.

Winter looks at Abby and smiles.

WINTER

Thank you, Abby. I will call them after lunch.

Abby smiles, bows and walks back to the kitchen.

NORA

Darling, stop by my room later. I have something that I think you should have tonight.

Winter nods.

WINTER

You can bring it to my room before the ceremony.

Nora nods and smiles.

They continue to eat and talk.

INT. AVALON AIRPORT - PRIVATE ROOM - LATER

Martin walks into the room. He finds Georgi and Sara playing chess.

They look up when Martin closes the door.

MARTIN
I guess I am the last person you
would expect to see.

Georgi smiles and nods.

GEORGI
Is everything ok?

Martin nods as he sits next to Georgi.

MARTIN
Yes. Well no. I came to apologize
and ask for a favor.

Georgi smirks.

GEORGI
What type of favor?

MARTIN
Her Royal Highness has made it
clear that she does not want to
marry me.

Georgi and Sara glance at each other and sit up.

GEORGI
She told you this.

Martin nods.

MARTIN
I also have fallen for someone
else.

Georgi LAUGHS.

GEORGI
Seriously!

Martin smiles as he nods.

MARTIN
You should come back.

Georgi shakes his head.

GEORGI
Our flight leaves in a couple of
hours. We are on our way home.

Martin stands and looks at Georgi.

MARTIN
Are you sure?

Georgi nods.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
I am sorry I behaved like a fool.

Georgi stands and shakes Martin's hand.

GEORGI
Thank you for coming here. I
appreciate the gesture.

Martin waves to Sara and Georgi before walking out of the
room.

SARA
That was nice of him.

GEORGI
Yes, it was.

Georgi sits back and moves a piece on the board which upsets
Sara.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIZA'S ROOM - LATER

Winter wears a coronation gown with the top from her birthday
dress and the bottom from the coronation dress.

Liza and Emma adjust the gown.

Nora walks in with a box in her hands.

NORA
You look stunning.

Winter looks at her mother and smiles.

WINTER
Thank you. Georgi did salvage most
of the old gown on his own.

NORA
Is that why he needed my permission
to work on the gown?

Liza nods.

LIZA

He cleaned it, patched the holes
with old fabric, and then he
matched it to the new dress.

Winter hugs Liza and Emma before they leave.

NORA

This is a gift for you before you
become our queen.

Nora hands her the box.

Winter opens the box and finds a diamond brooch. She holds it
up.

WINTER

It's beautiful.

NORA

It was your grandmother's. She
stopped wearing it after she lost
your grandfather. She wanted you to
have it on your coronation day.

Winter hugs her mother. Both are in tears.

WINTER

Thank you for taking good care of
it.

Winter sees something in the back of the brooch. She frowns
as she looks at a piece of paper.

NORA

What's wrong? Nobody has touched it
since she put it away for you.

Winter shakes her head.

WINTER

Nothing. I need to finish getting
ready.

Nora kisses Winter.

NORA

You will make a great queen.

Nora walks out of the room.

Liza and Emma walk in.

WINTER

Can you give me a few moments?

Liza and Emma nod and walk out of the room.

Winter takes out the piece of paper from the back of the brooch. She opens it and finds a handwritten note.

INSERT - THE NOTE

"My dearest Winter. Today is your coronation day. A major day if you ask me. This brooch has been in our family for centuries. It will bring you closer to your ancestors whenever you wear it. Remember you are ruling an Absolut monarchy which means you have the power to change the rules with the times. Use your head to rule the crown but use your heart to rule your life.

Love you with all my heart, Nanna"

BACK TO WINTER

Winter smiles as she folds the note and puts it back in its hiding place.

WINTER

Oh, Nanna. You always knew what triggers to push.

She then hooks the brooch on her dress. She looks in the mirror with a big smile.

EXT. AVALON CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

A car comes around the back. Georgi and Sara get out of the car in disguise.

Oscar and Merka greet them.

They whisper before they all walk towards the back of the castle.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - BALLROOM - LATER

Winter sits with a crown on her head and a Scepter in her right hand.

The crowd claps and cheers.

Winter then stands. More cheers from the crowd.

Nora walks up to her and curtsies before standing next to her.

NORA
I present Queen Winter Marie Kolby
of Avalon Kingdom.

More claps and cheers from the crowd.

Winter smiles and waves.

WINTER
Thank you all for coming to this
special event. I wish you all the
Merriest Christmas.

The crowd smiles and greet each other.

NORA
Speech... Speech... Speech.

Winter looks around and smiles. Her smile gets bigger when she finds Zoe standing by the cake in an evening gown.

Georgi walks in whistling. Sara follows him.

Everyone gasps.

Winter smiles at Georgi. He smiles back and stands across from her with the dance floor separating them.

WINTER
Whistling is bad luck for the new
monarch.

All eyes are on Winter and Georgi.

GEORGI
Why?

WINTER
My grandfather used to whistle to
my grandmother, and when he died,
she forbade anyone from whistling.

Nora smiles as she sees the sparkle on Winter's face.

GEORGI

When my father used to whistle, my
mother said he was calling her.

Winter stares at Georgi.

WINTER

Who are you calling?

He points to her.

GEORGI

The woman I fell for in college and
I dream of every day.

Winter looks at him.

WINTER

Who would that be?

Georgi bows and then kneels. He holds his hands out.

GEORGI

My new queen.

The crowd cheers loudly.

WINTER

You may stand Georgi.

He stands and walks over to her. They hug and he stands to
her left while her mother stands to her right.

WINTER (CONT'D)

As your new queen, I will rule
according to our times. Gone are
superstitions and old rules of
marriage for any member of the
royal household.

Nora gasps. Winter turns to her mother.

NORA

Can you do that?

WINTER

As an Absolut monarch, I can change
any law of the land without
anyone's permission.

Nora looks proud.

NORA

I underestimated your confidence
and your knowledge of the laws of
Avalon.

Winter leans close to her mother.

WINTER

No more making my choices for me.

Nora winks at Winter and nods.

WINTER (CONT'D)

We will all work together to make
this the best Kingdom in the world.

The crowd taps their feet on the grown 3x in support of their
new queen.

WINTER (CONT'D)

Let the music and festivities
begin.

The music starts.

Georgi walks over to Nora.

GEORGI

May I have the first dance with
Winter?

NORA

We need to clear up the issue.

Winter frowns at Nora.

Nora, Winter, Georgi, Merka and Oscar walk out of the room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Winter walks in after her mother. Georgi, Merka and Oscar
follow them inside. Oscar closes the door.

NORA

How did you get the invitation?

Merka, Oscar and Georgi smile.

GEORGI

That invitation was sent to Olivia.
But I talked to her, and she agreed
to give it to me. I responded and
smudged the ink on the invitation.

Winter throws her hands around his shoulder.

WINTER

I talked to Olivia, and she told me what you did.

Georgi smiles.

GEORGI

This was my last chance to be with my love.

He turns to everyone around him.

GEORGI (CONT'D)

I ask all of you to forgive me.

They all smile and nod.

NORA

You succeeded. I forgive you.

Nora walks out of the room followed by Merka and Oscar.

WINTER

Do you forgive me for lying to you in college?

He nods. He leans in and they kiss.

GEORGI

Can I have this first dance?

She nods. They leave the room.

OSCAR

We need to announce the winners of the dance competition before you dance.

Winter nods and looks at Oscar.

WINTER

Thank you, Oscar. You have been my biggest support all week. I appreciate it.

Oscar nods.

They walk out of the room.

INT. AVALON CASTLE - BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS

Winter and Georgi walk into the room.

WINTER

The Avalon Christmas dance
competition is over. We have posted
the winning list in the foyer.

Winter walks onto the dance floor followed by Georgi. She
looks at her mother.

Nora looks towards the band.

NORA

Christmas music please.

Winter and Georgi dance.

Winter looks at Martin and Emma. She calls them to the dance
floor.

Martin and Emma join them.

Winter then looks at Oscar who walks over to Zoe and they
walk to the dance floor.

Sara, Nora, Liza and Merka join the dance floor.

SARA

My Christmas wish came true.

NORA

My late husband would say it's
Christmas magic.

Georgi, listening to them leans towards them and smiles.

GEORGI

That's what I came here for.

Winter stops dancing.

WINTER

I invite everyone to join us on the
dance floor. It's a Christmas
coronation after all.

The crowd joins everyone on the dance floor.

FADE OUT: