


# BROTHER BEWITCHED

## CHAPTER 14





I MUST GET OUT  
OF HERE. THESE  
WOMEN-- I FEEL THEY  
ARE INFECTING ME  
WITH-- FEMININITY. I AM  
ASHAMED TO BE AMONG  
THEM WHILE THE BATTLE  
RAGES ABOVE.

TO  
FIND MYSELF A  
GIRL-- TO BE  
SO-- USELESS.  
SO-- POWERLESS.  
WHAT CAN I DO  
BUT--




LIKE MORNING MIST, A CHILDHOOD MEMORY RISES: KNEELING IN THE CHAPEL NEXT TO HIS MOTHER, THE TWO OF THEM CHANTING IN UNISON, THEIR VOICES ECHOING. THE SMELL. HE REMEMBERS THE SMELL OF THE CHAPEL-- THE INCENSE: WOODY, EARTHY, IT COMES BACK TO HIM. IT ALL COMES BACK TO HIM.



PRAY?

HE HASN'T PRAYED IN YEARS, NOT SINCE HIS MOTHER DIED. NOW, IN HIS DESPERATE HOUR OF NEED, HE DROPS TO HIS KNEES, ONCE MORE.

A woman with her hair in a braid, wearing a white lace dress, stands in a dark, stone-walled room. She is looking down with her hands clasped near her face. Two thought bubbles are connected to her by dotted lines. The first bubble is on the left, and the second is on the right, near a dark wooden door. The scene is dimly lit, with light highlighting the woman's dress and the texture of the stone wall.


WAR-KING,  
STONE FISTED  
FATHER OF ALL, I  
CALL TO YOU...

FREE ME FROM  
THIS SHAMEFUL,  
WOMAN'S SHAPE, THIS  
SHAMEFUL WOMAN'S LIFE.  
REVERSE THIS OBSCENE  
CURSE.



MAKE ME A MAN ONCE MORE.  
RETURN MY STRENGTH. PUT THE  
SWORD BACK IN MY HANDS THAT I MAY  
DELIVER IRON JUSTICE UNTO YOUR  
ENEMIES.





I CANNOT LIVE  
LIKE THIS, LORD  
MAXIS. I CANNOT DIE  
LIKE THIS, TO SPEND  
THE AFTER LIFE IN  
THE GARDEN  
GOSSAMER.

LET ME DIE IN  
BATTLE AS A MAN,  
THAT I MAY BE  
WELCOMED INTO THE  
HALL OF SHATTERNIUS,  
THERE TO DWELL IN  
PRIDE WITH MY  
WARRIOR KIN.



**BOOM!**

HALT!  
COME NO  
CLOSER.

STAND  
ASIDE OR DIE!



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a white lace dress with a dark belt, stands in the center of a dimly lit room. To her left is a fireplace with a fire burning. In the background, two other women are visible, one sitting on a couch and another standing. The room has stone walls and a wooden floor. There are four speech bubbles around her, containing text in pink and black.

YES! MY  
LIBERATORS  
ARE HERE!

NO NEED TO  
WORRY, GIRLS. I  
WILL MAKE SURE NO  
HARM COMES TO  
YOU.

HIDE!

THERE.  
BEHIND THE  
COUCH.



OH,  
PATTENIA. YOU  
WILL RUE THE DAY  
YOU CHOSE TO  
STEAL MY  
CROWN.

MY ALLIES RISE.  
TOGETHER, WE WILL  
THROW YOU DOWN!







PRINCESS, GET  
BACK FROM THE  
DOOR!

DO NOT  
WORRY. I  
HAVE NOTHING  
TO FEAR.





I'M PRINCE  
SERREN.

THE DOORS SLAM  
OPEN, AND OUTSIDE A  
BATTLE RAGES!


**CRASH!**

PURGATIONIST,  
SPARE HIM. THERE  
IS NO NEED  
FOR--

AAAACK!







YOU  
DISREGARDED MY  
ORDER. I WILL  
ASSUME YOU DO NOT  
KNOW WHO I AM.

AN ARROGANT GIRL  
WHO DOES NOT KNOW  
HER PLACE?



I AM NO  
GIRL.

I AM PRINCE SERREN  
DENEVA, YOUR RIGHTFUL  
KING.





PRINCE  
SERREN. I AM SO SORRY I DID  
NOT RECOGNIZE YOU. I DID NOT LOOK  
UPON YOUR LOVELY FACE, SO DISTRACTED  
WAS I BY THE SIGHT OF YOUR  
IMPRESSIVE BUST.

SHUT UP. I WAS SENT  
TO FIND YOU...

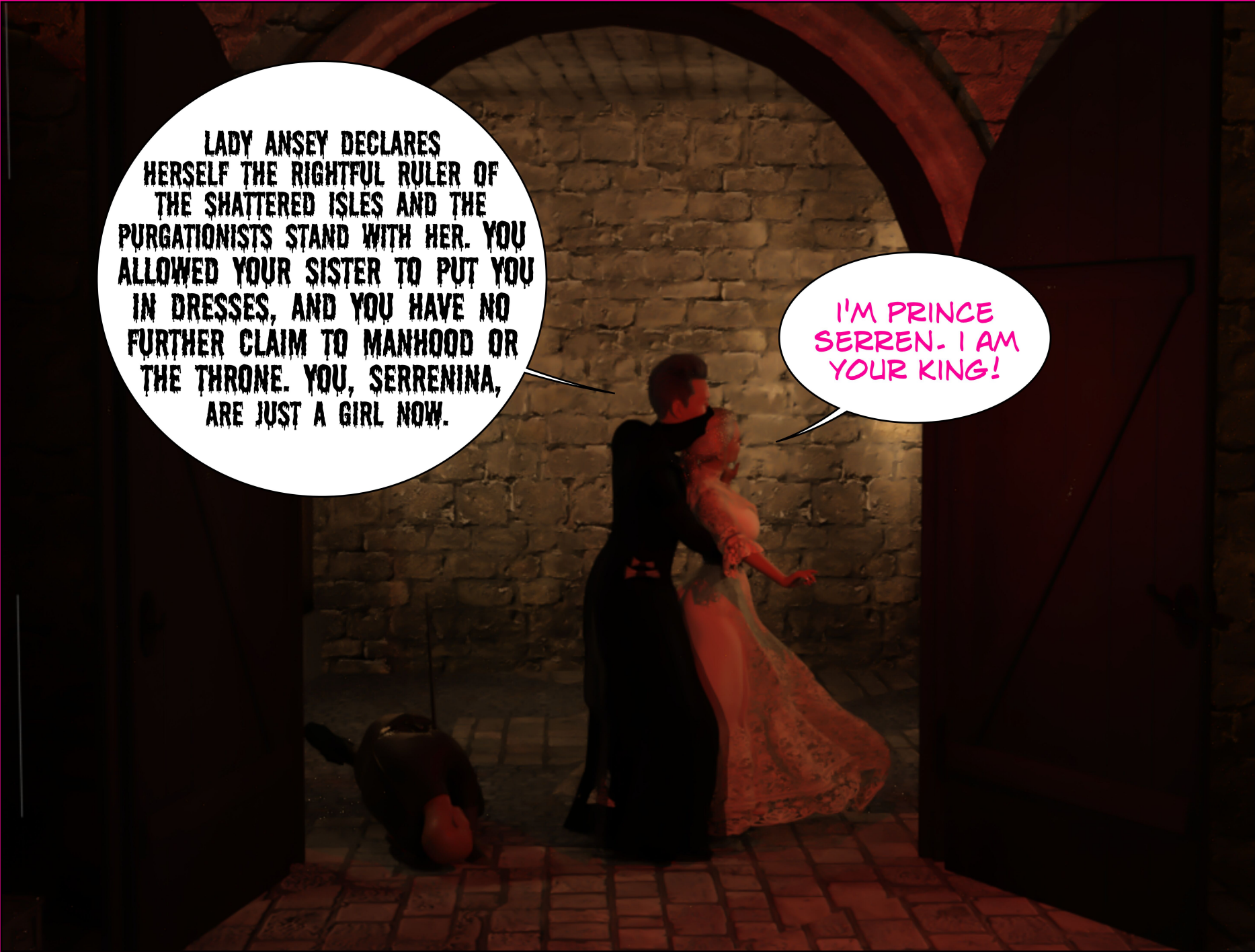
YOU  
IMPUDENT--



...AND TAKE YOU  
HOSTAGE.

WHAT?  
NO! I AM YOUR  
RIGHTFUL KING.  
LADY ANSEY SENT  
YOU, SHE  
MUST--





LADY ANSEY DECLARES  
HERSELF THE RIGHTFUL RULER OF  
THE SHATTERED ISLES AND THE  
PURGATIONISTS STAND WITH HER. YOU  
ALLOWED YOUR SISTER TO PUT YOU  
IN DRESSES, AND YOU HAVE NO  
FURTHER CLAIM TO MANHOOD OR  
THE THRONE. YOU, SERRENINA,  
ARE JUST A GIRL NOW.

I'M PRINCE  
SERREN. I AM  
YOUR KING!

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a white lace dress, is being held from behind by a man in a dark suit. The scene is set in a stone-walled room with a lit sconce on the wall. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

KING?  
MMMM. YOU DONT  
FEEL LIKE A KING.  
MORE LIKE A  
WENCH.

NO!  
STOP!



THE MAN SQUEEZING  
HIS BREAST  
ANNIHILATES THE  
MANLY CONFIDENCE  
THE PRINCE HAD BEEN  
FEELING, AND HE IS  
ONCE MORE  
CONFRONTED WITH HIS  
SHOCKING REALITY.



HE IS HELPLESS, AND HE IS A GIRL.



**TO BE CONTINUED**

