TRUE LOVE

Written by

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INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

A flicker of flames dance on top of a candle head, it is positioned next to the cash register. Sounds of CRACKLING are heard.

KING HAROLD (O.S.)

Boy, I don't have all day!

PRINCE CHARLES, 25, lonely, tall and handsome. He thumbs through the titles of books.

PRINCE CHARLES

I am almost done, father.

KING HAROLD, 52, cunning and sly, tall, balding and overweight, waits impatiently for his son to find a book.

PRINCESS EVA, 23, beautiful and smart, walks in with a list in her hand.

Prince Charles looks up and sees the princess, shocked he drops the books he is holding.

Princess Eva smirks and makes her way towards the Prince, stopping right in front of him.

PRINCESS EVA

(Softly)

Can I get by you please?

She shifts from one foot to the other, looking down at the ground blushing.

KING HAROLD

Son, let the young lady pass.

PRINCE CHARLES

I am sorry, I didn't mean to be in the way, especially of someone as beautiful as you.

Princess Eva's face lights up with delight.

PRINCESS EVA

(quietly)

You think I am beautiful?

She grabs a book from the shelf and holds it tightly against her chest.

Prince Charles sees the princess is nervous and feels butterflies in his stomach as well.

PRINCE CHARLES

(loudly)

Heck yea.

KING HAROLD

(Harshly)

Son, your manners.

PRINCE CHARLES

Oh, I mean, you are the most beautiful woman I have ever seen. Can I call on you sometime?

PRINCESS EVA

Yes, I would like that very much.

She scribbles down her address on the back of her list and hands it to the Prince smiling from ear to ear.

KING HAROLD

Excuse me miss? Is your family royalty?

PRINCESS EVA

Umm, why yes we are, our kingdom is located in the Northwick Area.

The King shakes his head.

PRINCE CHARLES

Thank you, I will see you soon.

Princess Eva smiles and walks to the register to buy her books.

The Prince, grabs his books and happily trots up to the counter to complete his purchase.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

Yes, you will be seeing me soon, without a doubt.

She smiles, blushes and heads out the door.

INT. KINGDOM - LIBRARY - DAY

Prince Charles makes space on the bookshelf for his new books, notices an empty space on a higher shelf. He becomes confused and angry.

He grabs the inventory book and flips through the pages.

KING HAROLD

What are you doing in here my son?

PRINCE CHARLES

I am wondering why my book "Making Your Kingdom Wealthy through Marriage," is missing father, did you take it?

KING HAROLD

Yes, I did son. I am looking for a way to save our Kingdom. As you know, we have no money left.

PRINCE CHARLES

I do know, but what does that have to do with marriage?

The King shakes his head, paces back and forth.

KING HAROLD

I have found a way to save our Kingdom, son, but I can't do it without your help.

The Prince, sits in the chair behind the desk, sighs.

PRINCE CHARLES

Of course, I want to help, Father but I don't know how to even begin.

KING HAROLD

Well, I have already met with the King from the wealthiest Kingdom, and he agreed to give us all the gold we could ever need if you marry his daughter.

The Prince gets up and paces around the floor, slams his fist on the desk.

PRINCE CHARLES

How can you even ask me to do that?

KING HAROLD

It is the only way to save our kingdom. Now it is time for you to stop being selfish.

Prince Charles laughs sarcastically.

PRINCE CHARLES

How is wanting to marry for love being selfish?

KING HAROLD

Love is overrated son. Trust me I wouldn't have married your mother if her father didn't pay me to.

The Prince stops dead in his tracks. Stares at his father.

PRINCE CHARLES

Wow, you are unbelievable father.

Shaking his head, the Prince walks to the door.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

I will be back later.

KING HAROLD

Where are you going? Off to see that harlot you met this morning?

PRINCE CHARLES

Father, in the few minutes I spent with her this morning, was the most exciting minutes of my life. I need to know if she feels the same way, about me.

He leaves the room, slamming the door behind him.

INT. NORTHWICK KINGDOM - PRINCESS BEDROOM - DAY

Princess Eva wraps present, smiling and singing.

Finishing the bow she stands and walks to the vanity and sits down.

Admiring herself, she smiles confidently.

There is a loud KNOCK on the door.

PRINCESS EVA

Come in.

Prince Charles walks in and smiles.

PRINCE CHARLES

Hello princess. I just had to see you.

Princess Eva stands up, walks over and places her hand in his.

PRINCESS EVA

I was hoping you would come.

He squeezes her hand, smiling he looks her in the eyes, grabs her shoulders and kisses her firmly on the lips.

She kisses him back. Tenderly then passionate.

The Prince slowly breaks the kiss, breathing hard.

PRINCE CHARLES

Was that ok?

The Princess, breathing hard and trembling, smiles.

PRINCESS EVA

Yes, that was amazing. I have never felt anything like that.

PRINCE CHARLES

I know, neither have I. I hope you don't think I am being too forward, but I am falling in love with you. I know this is fast and you don't even know me, but I feel like I have been looking for you my whole life.

The Princess wipes a tear from her eye.

PRINCESS EVA

I feel the exact same way.

The Prince paces back and forth. Stopping her takes Eva hand and gets down on one knee.

PRINCE CHARLES

Will you be my wife and make me the happiest man alive?

The Princess, gasps, starts to cry.

PRINCESS EVA

Yes, I will marry you.

PRINCE CHARLES

Great, let us get married tonight, in the book store where we met.

PRINCESS EVA

Yes, that is ok, but what is the rush, why tonight?

The Prince stands up, faces the window, looks out.

PRINCE CHARLES

I don't want to spend another second without you as my bride. Also my father is trying to force me to marry someone I don't love.

PRINCESS EVA

What? Why?

King Harold burst into the room, breathing heavily.

KING HAROLD

Stop right now, you harlot! You will not ruin my Kingdom.

The King, withdraws his sword, points it at the Princess.

The Princess, gasp, cowers to the ground, cries.

The Prince, withdraws his sword, points at the king, angry.

PRINCE CHARLES

No, father, you stop right now. I will marry this woman because she is my true love. There is nothing you can do to stop me. You will not hurt her.

The Princess, scared, lays on the floor.

The King, moves closer to Princess, anger in his eyes, he puts the point of the sword on her heart.

Princess Eva, shocked, she cries out and closes her eyes.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

Stop! Father, I mean it.

The Prince, steps forward, tripping over the rug, falls forward, his sword pierces the Kings heart.

The King, screams out grabbing his chest with a THUD, he falls to floor.

The Princess screams out, she begins to cry as she rushes to the King's side.

The Prince pulls the sword, kneels in front of his father and cries.

KING HAROLD

Son, what have you done?

PRINCE CHARLES

Father, I am so sorry, it was an accident.

The King's breath begins to slow as blood pours from the exposed wound.

KING HAROLD

I know son. I am sorry.

(gasp)

Take care of our Kingdom, son.

The Prince hugs his dying father, tears pouring from his eyes.

PRINCE CHARLES

I will father - I will fix everything... I promise.

KING HAROLD

(quietly)

I know my son, you will be a great King. I love you.

PRINCE CHARLES

I love you too.

The King dies, a last sigh escaping his body.

The Princess embraces the Prince, they mourn together.

INT. BOOKSTORE - GARDEN - NIGHT

Prince Charles, staring into the mirror, fixes his tie, he closes his eyes, sighs, heads out to garden.

Princess Eva grabs flowers and heads out to the garden.

PRINCE CHARLES

You look beautiful in that dress. I am the luckiest man alive.

PRINCESS EVA

You don't look so bad yourself, and I am the lucky one.

They smile at each other as the Minister recites the wedding vows. They lean in and kiss each other.

THE END

FADE TO BLACK.