

1806

BEYOND TIME

Previous owner died and descendants fought. Kane and Mike went to them, persuaded them to sell, which is why it took so long to buy.

ROOMS:

Very pale green paint on wood, with narrow, cream colored trim. In between panels is fabulous wallpaper of birds and flowers: a riot of color. Floors painted but have a handwoven Oriental rug.

White dishes with a row of tiny red rosebuds around the rim. Flowers from the garden everywhere.

Yellow brocade wallpaper with cherry red sofa.

Bedroom with hand embroidered silk bedspread. Lots of imports everywhere. China. India.

LIBRARY: Floor to ceiling dark wood cases, glass panels, wire inside them. Filled with leather bound books. Big desk, globe.

CHARACTER IN THE PAST

Barrett?

Graydon's mother

What if it was a girl and they find her? What if she's the heroine of the Beyond Time book? She is given a grant to spend the summer in the house, meets Nicholas's son.

EPILOGUE. Want her to stay in the house, want her to meet a cousin of mine. He was conceived in 1564.

Glad to find out she's not a delicate, fragile American flower. We've never lost a war and it was an American who put your country in the black — out of debt. He can stop tiptoeing around her now.

"Girls are like apples on trees. The best ones are at the top of the tree. The boys don't want to reach for the good ones because they are afraid of falling and getting hurt. Instead, they get the rotten apples from the ground that aren't as good, but easy. So the apples at the top think that something is wrong with them, when in reality, they're amazing. They just have to wait for the right man to come along, the one who's brave enough to climb all the way to the top of the tree because they value quality."

Every time my father hired some good looking single man of a top level job, I got courted. My father and I joked about what gifts I could look forward to receiving. Was he a Tiffany man or a teddy bear? For some reason men seem to think that if they give a woman something cute like a stuffed animal she'll think he's sweetie.

But you didn't?

I thought they were ruthlessly going after my father's company.

I already have a job.

And a wife.

- Far from it.
1. IDEA
 - a. Cale shows up with Graydon's father. Well from his stroke. Tells Graydon that he didn't marry the woman he loved, sacrificed it all for his country. He loves Graydon's mother, but not in the same way. He's the king and he'll back Gray in everything. He'll handle his wife. But only if Toby wants to be a queen. You'll have to have a bigger wedding.
 2. IDEA

What if Toby's mother shows up at the last, sees Graydon and his father working out. Sweaty, wearing ratty old clothes. Mother bawls Toby out for fooling around with these poor, worthless men. You can tell that they're nobodies. Does she show up with a man for Toby? Maybe it's Victoria. Takes mother over to the house to meet them. They all listen, then Victoria gives a deep curtsey and calls them HRH. Toby tells her mother that father is King of Lanconia, Graydon is the crown prince, and she's going to marry him. Mother faints.

I just had a funny idea for an epilogue to this book. I wrote a long contemporary scene with Toby's horrible mother but have never figured out where to put it in. But I've referred to the dreadful woman many times. She's always putting Toby down, obsessed with getting her a husband.

I thought that in the epilogue the mother will show up and she meets Graydon AND his father the king. They've been working out and are sweaty and in ratty clothes. In front of them, Mother bawls Toby out for these dreadful men. Victoria and Jilly show up and do a deep curtsey to the 3 of them. Toby tells her mother she and Graydon are married and she's going to be a queen. Mother faints. The end.
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GRAYDON'S MOTHER

Angry because he switched with his brother. She thinks it's okay whoever he marries — with some reservation. But for Graydon to love her, she'd have to be exceptional.

Mother gave up that he'd find his own woman, so she got one for him. He'd always liked Danna and her father so much wanted his daughter to be queen. He'll have to be satisfied with the second son.

She did *not* know that Rory was in love with Danna. Saw it after the exchange. Graydon didn't know until he'd agreed to marry Danna.

Boys — always treated differently
Graydon — *very* serious
Rory — always a scoundrel, couldn't bear rules nothing could be too structured for Graydon. Rory fought against all rules.

Separated for Rory, not you. You wouldn't let your brother grow up. Took blame for everything he did. What did we do? Call you a liar and punish you both? Pretend to believe you, punish you, then let Rory off free? You put everyone in an impossible position.

Marriage is difficult. A royal marriage is close to impossible. I wanted you to fall in love so hard you were willing to give up your country for her. I gave up hope when you turned 31 with one in sight. Rory fell in love a hundred times, starting when he was 12, but not you. A few sexual encounters but nothing close to love. Am I right? Yes.

ENDING

Graydon's mother shows up. Has known all along. Knew it was Rory not Graydon. Insulted that they thought she couldn't tell her own sons apart. Let them believe when they were children that she couldn't tell them apart. She learend a lot about both of them by such pretending.

Wanted to make him angry and what could do that better than yelling about your precious brother? She figured there was a girl involved. Despaired of Graydon ever falling in love. His own mind about everything, ever opinionated, but when I mentioned a wife he'd shrug. I suggested Danna and he said fine. Very annoying boy! I thought the fact that Roderick loves Danna would wake Graydon up, but it didn't. Who he married, this most important relationship in his life just plain didn't interest him. I wanted him to fall in love so hard he was willing to give up his beloved country for her, but I didn't think it was going to happen.

Now, we must make plans. We'll have the engagement ceremony as planned and you will —

"I'm going with him."

What?

Graydon explained how he goes around the country to ceremonies, while his bride to be stays home. I want to go with Graydon.

Mother looks at her. Stares. Intimidating, but Toby stands up straighter, stares back.

Slight smile. I was afraid you'd fallen for some little American who was frightened of her own shadow and says 'amazing' every other word.

Now if you can just keep from impregnating her before the ceremony, we can —

She is a maiden.

She is . . . ?

A maiden. Unsullied. Not touched by any man.

Graydon, Toby said, I'm not sure but I think your mother is about to faint.

EPILOGUE

next day Lavidia bursts in. Horrified by all of it. Married some . . . some homeless man.

Mother working out with him?

FIGHTS

after sex

he plans to stay and persuade her.

WEDDING

authors dressed up

she's hired girls from florist shop to help

thinking of opening a wedding planning service

LEXIE SHOWS UP. Married Roger Plymouth

his parents show up. Wedding crashers

what if Toby has already met her? Wouldn't she recognize her?

MILLIE. She wanted to know what Toby was like. She got all the info from Rory.

Rory shows up with Danna. What if Victoria is in on it all? She introduces Toby to her.

I wanted to see if you truly loved my son. I know he wanted to give up his country for the woman he loved. But what about *her*?

MILLIE LAWSON

first year she was married, lived just the 2 of us. Sex was divine — and frequent. How I cried when my in-laws turned the throne over to us.

Lanconian name is Eugenia.

Millie has no place to stay, rooms with Toby.
Not change houses. If Millie is the roommate.

Through all the wedding preparations, all the many ceremonies and place we had to appear, I let 3my parents think I was doing everything out of duty for my country, but the truth was, it was all lust.

talk of his mother or not. Loyal to him. LOYAL was the key word.

1. Describe wedding
2. Graydon shows up, argument
3. Millie never shows up around Graydon
4. Lexie arrives with Roger Plymouth — in costume? Engaged

SCENE: when Graydon sees his mother, he goes down on one knee, shows the back of his neck. Submission. Get up! In In. I came to see what all the fuss was about.

MAIN THING: she wanted her son to love someone so much he was willing to give up everything for her. As his father and I love each other and as his parents do.

She was furious at first about the exchange.

Who ratted on them? Lord xx knows Victoria. Found out from her the truth. Deal: her books are going to be offered to all of Lanconia and a few of our family may be seen reading them.

Millie gets headphones. By the minute plan.

chairs jammed in. Opera chairs, tiny, narrow, hard. Ml's idea. People won't linger, can cram more into a box. Brought over on ferry.

Graydon sees odd things.

Opera chairs

recognizes dress from portrait

flowers — blue herb grows in mountains of Lanconia

food

place cards — watermark from his family. Millie had them done.