

The Unsuitable Suitor

by  
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for  
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A PRINCESS sits disdainfully regarding the attentions of an unsuitable SUITOR who kneels before her and gently holds one of her hands while the other one twirls a wand. The suitor starts to kiss her hand and she pulls it away in disgust.

PRINCESS

Pity the fool, pity the poor little fool.

SUITOR

Hey, I don't want your pity thank you very much. I know you're a fancy princess and I'm just a...

PRINCESS

I wasn't talking to you.

SUITOR

Oh.

PRINCESS

It is I who must be pitied. I who am a fool. For it was I who brought you here, and I who must now suffer your company.

The SUITOR stands up and brushes himself off.

SUITOR

Well, Princess Charming, you are one regular piece of work, I gotta tell you.

PRINCESS

Listen to how you speak to me. I cannot bear it.

SUITOR

Is that so? Well let me tell you something sister, you're no picnic yourself OK? So tell you what. Let's call it a day. I'll just waltz right through that door and bid you a fond farewell.

PRINCESS

No no, that's quite impossible.

SUITOR

Yeah? You mean you like me? You want me to stay? Because I have to admit, the princely lifestyle would suit me just fine. I love a nice palace. A lot of guys don't suit palaces, but me, I'd fit right in. Take the clothes, for example. I'd --

PRINCESS

I suppose I ought to have you beheaded.

SUITOR

Now wait a minute there sister. You got this all wrong.

PRINCESS

No. I'm quite sure beheading is the only way forward. I'll call my manservant.

SUITOR

No no no no no!

PRINCESS

Yes.

SUITOR

No!

PRINCESS

Yes.

SUITOR

No!

PRINCESS

Yes.

SUITOR

Yes!

PRINCESS

No.

SUITOR

Yes!

The PRINCESS stands up and gets nose to nose with the SUITOR.

PRINCESS

I said no! And when I say no I mean no! No means no!

SUITOR

Well OK, if you insist, we'll skip the beheading just this once. I knew all that time I spent watching Bugs Bunny would help me out in a jam one day.

The Princess breaks down in tears and sobs pitifully. The suitor looks at her, trying to decide whether to feel sorry for her or not. He can't help it. He does feel sorry for her.

SUITOR (cont'd)

Hey, uh, Princess. Hey, your, uh, your highness. Come on now sweetheart, you're making me feel bad. If you really want to behead me...

PRINCESS

Oh, it's not that.

SUITOR

Good.

PRINCESS

No, it's just that, I don't know, I liked you so much better when you were a frog.

SUITOR

You did.

PRINCESS

Yes.

SUITOR

Is that so.

PRINCESS

Yes.

SUITOR

Need I remind you, Your High and Mightiness, that I was just sitting there on my lily pad minding my own business when you decided to plant one on me right out of the blue. I wasn't even flirting with you.

PRINCESS

But I so wanted a prince. And that is one of the ways we princesses get one you see. But then rather all too quickly I realized that my prince was only you. And you disgust me.

SUITOR

Now now now just wait a minute sugar biscuits. Don't be put off by my manners. That's just my upbringing. You know, I always thought princesses were interesting. My god, I said to my BFF the other day, I'll bet princesses are interesting. The places they must go and the things they must see, my stars. I'll bet you meet a lot of interesting people too. And I been around the block a few times myself. Give me a chance, we could have some great conversations.

PRINCESS

But you're common.

SUITOR

Yeah, I know, I'm a common, you know, pond frog, what can I tell you? We're as common as 3D movies, we can't help it. Especially when that weird frog rain thing happens. That's a real thing, by the way, frog rain. Picture it from the frog's perspective. It's really interesting.

The SUITOR is face to face with the PRINCESS. She starts to back up, and he pursues her, all very slowly.

PRINCESS

You confuse me so with your gibberish. All I know is you're common. I can sense it. How can I be sure you weren't a toad?

SUITOR

Easy! Toads are completely different. Toads got warts and stubby little dry bodies. Frogs, we're smooth. Nice and slimy. Toads lay eggs in chains. We lay 'em in clusters. There's no mistaking us.

PRINCESS

I'll concede the point. Let us presume as you say you come from slimy amphibian stock.

SUITOR

Specifically frog.

PRINCESS

Fine. There are any number of perfectly traditional ways I can fend off your vile attentions and not have to behead you. I could be astonished by your impudence, for example.

SUITOR

Yes, that's a classic.

PRINCESS

I could make a big show of being flattered and then dismiss you with some cruel and pretty words.

SUITOR

Yes, other women have done so.

PRINCESS

But it's so wrong. What's the use of being a princess if I can't be disproportionately vengeful? Damn this wiffle waffling! I shall behead you at once!

SUITOR

Settle down, settle down, let's not get crazy. Let's calm down and set some realistic goals. Who's going to be better than me? Who in the real world?

PRINCESS

Bradley Cooper.

SUITOR

Oh, I know him.

PRINCESS

Really? Could you introduce me?

SUITOR

Yeah, he shot a movie near my pond. I was in it.

PRINCESS

You were in a Bradley Cooper film?

SUITOR

Yeah. You know, in the background. Actually, I was under some ice. There were skaters on top of me. They were in the background. I was kind of in the background of them.

PRINCESS

Still.

SUITOR

Yeah, it was cool. And the most disgusting thing is, in real life, he's actually really nice. But he's with Renee Zellweger.

PRINCESS

Not if you can introduce me.

SUITOR

He's gay. He has to be. He actually introduces himself as Bradley.

PRINCESS

That is gay.

SUITOR

Not Brad. Bradley.

PRINCESS

Yeah. Gay.

SUITOR

And all Renee's men are gay.

PRINCESS

I know. Just introduce me.

SUITOR

It's not a problem. So where does that leave us?

PRINCESS

I shall not behead you!

SUITOR

It's the right move, it really is. So I'm out of here, nice to meet you.

PRINCESS

Yes, you are free to go.

SUITOR

Fantastic. Let me get your digits.

PRINCESS

April Fools! You shall turn back into a frog!

SUITOR

Oh, now, that's a little cold, I haven't even gotten to be human, tried out the skills, done some math, you know, dressed up in rubber!

PRINCESS

It is done!

She waves her wand around.

SUITOR

Oh jeez, I feel a little green...

PRINCESS

Farewell, sweet frog. I shan't forget you before lunch time.

SUITOR

My toes are feeling all webby...this isn't good....

PRINCESS

Bye bye!

SUITOR

Ribbit! Oh shit!

-- LIGHTS OUT --