

Dresden Manor
August 19, 18—

My dear, sweet Peter,

How dare you? I have learned of your intention to marry that Smythe girl. You, a Dresden and a Boddington, marrying a shopkeeper's daughter? And to think that I learned of it from a delivery man. You didn't have the courage to admit your betrayal to my face! After I have invested two decades of my life molding you, preparing you for greatness, you'd throw my work away for a common harlot? I will never allow this, never! I will harry you both like a Fury of old! You shall feel the wrath of a mother scorned!

Alas, my sweet boy, what chance could an innocent like you have had against such a siren? Don't worry, Mummy loves you. And thanks to your grandfather, of all people, I've found a way to not only save you from this new mistake of yours, but also to protect and guide you forever! Aren't we the luckiest family ever?

So let this be a lesson, you ungrateful wretch. Don't you ever think that, just because you've reached your majority, you are suddenly in charge. I rule this household, now and forever.

And whatever you see, darling, don't worry! Mummy knows what she's doing. What I do tonight, I do out of my deep love for you, and I forever remain

Your devoted Mother