

Lionel / Stepmother Side : At the Ball

Stepmother : Parson me, your stewardship, but I'm sure you've noticed my two beautiful daughters.

(Grace and Joy bat their eyelashes and wave and Grace yells out as other ladies are invited to dance with the prince) The stepmother pulls something from the bosom of her dress and presses it into Lionel's palm.

Lionel *(refusing the bribe)* Please madam - His Highness will dance with all the young ladies in due course.

Stepmother : *(flirtatiously)* Naturally, every mother is eager that her daughter should dance with the prince.. But what I want to know is.... who has the honour of dancing with his steward?

Lionel : Stewards don't dance.

Stepmother : Now, there's no need to be coy. *(All over him)* There's a look in your eye's that says.....

Lionel : *(replies quickly)* Please.... Don't touch - *(he removes her hands)*

Stepmother : Let's not pretend , Lionel. I can sense a certain something between us.

Lionel : I wish there were something between us ... A continent.