

## **ELIZABETH 3**

**From *Love, Liz* by Lauren Grove**

*Queen Elizabeth, 20s, questions her role as a woman in a man's job, and the expectations her country has for her based on her gender.*

ELIZABETH: I have glorious news, Lord Cecil. I am married. Do you see this ring? It was placed on my finger when I was anointed queen of our great nation. I have not taken it off since, nor will I ever. It is my coronation ring, but also my wedding ring. You see, I am married... to England. And the people of this country are my children. I am wife and mother, as you always wished.

*(She touches her ring, lost in thought for a moment, and then addresses Cecil again.)* I have recently been told that I cannot have it all, as I am a woman. My father tried to have it all during his reign. You were a great admirer of his, were you not, Lord Cecil? I recall you referred to him as a lion.

I may not be a lion, but I am a lion's cub and I have a lion's heart, and it's time for England to hear me roar. If I can't have it all, then I will be a shining beacon, a fierce example of all a woman can be. And maybe, one day, there will be a world where a woman can have it all. She can be whatever she wants. She can choose her own path for herself. And perhaps, in my own small way, I will have helped move the cause along.