

CECIL

From *Love, Liz* by Lauren Grove

Lord Cecil, 40s, tries to convince Queen Elizabeth I to marry.

CECIL: Your Majesty, may I have a word? It will only take a moment, Madam, and it is of the utmost importance. As your Secretary of State, the House of Commons has tasked me with presenting a formal petition unto you. The petition begs your Majesty to marry as soon as possible in order to safeguard your throne and your kingdom. The petition also reminds your Majesty that you yourself would indeed benefit if you take a consort. You are no longer a private person. You are an anointed queen. Your marriage is the country's business. I know you are reluctant, but do you not wish for a husband to guide and protect you? He would also father your heirs to ensure the succession; something that plagued your father throughout his life, as I'm sure your Majesty well remembers. Besides, it is only a matter of time and choice, Madam. You have received several more letters from eager suitors. Shall I deliver them to your chamber this evening?