

Princess Kayla

By Donna Schmack-Rose

Princess Kayla and Queen Karyn were sitting on the terrace watching all the puppy mill yorkies run and play and frolic in the lush green grass. It was a beautiful day with clear blue skies and the sun was shining. The birds were chirping and chasing each other from tree to tree. One little red cardinal named Rusty flew over and landed on Princess Kayla's paw. He cocked his little head and gave the princess a kiss on the nose. Kayla laughed, "Rusty, you are so sweet...now run and play with your friends!!" Rusty winked at the Princess and flew off to join his comrades in the big oak tree in the center of the field.

Princess Kayla sighed, "Queen Karyn, I love Prince Kristopher with all my heart, and I want to marry him, but I need to know who I am. How can we have puppies if I do not know my background? I do not want my puppies to get liver shunts like Bruno, or a collapsing trachea like Tara, or have heart problems, or luxating patella's.....I must know the background on my breeding. All I remember is that the evil Ludwig killed my mistress. I have no memory of a time before her." "The Queen looked at Tara and said, "You are right, we need to investigate and see if we cannot find your heritage. Having puppies is a very big responsibility, and we need to ensure your puppies will be healthy. Let me talk to the King and see what we can do to help you."

Princess Kayla's eye lit up when she saw Prince Kristopher walking towards her. He had just finished a romp in the grass with Bruno and both yorkies had been chasing the ball until each was exhausted. Prince Kristopher ran up on the terrace and stopped at the edge of the steps. He drank thirstily out of the big bowl of cool water before dashing over to Princess Kayla and hopping onto the chair where she was laying. He gave the Princess a big lick on the whiskers and settled down beside her, "It is such a beautiful day today, I only hope our wedding day is just as beautiful!!! I am so excited Kayla, I cannot wait until we are married. Princess Kayla smiled and put her paw on Prince Kristopher's cheek, "I cannot wait either my handsome prince, but first I must do something. Your mother is going to help me find my heritage to make sure I come from good stock. We cannot have puppies until I know that I come from good breeding. The Prince looked into Kayla's eyes, "You are right Kayla, but whatever you find out will not matter. I love you and I want to marry you. If we do not have puppies, that will be okay with me." Kayla's eyes welled up with tears as she told the

Prince, "I'm am a very lucky yorkie to have found you. You truly are my prince."

Prince Kristopher nudged Kayla on the back of the neck, and gave her a big smile, "Let's go for a walk and enjoy the sunshine!! Mother, we will see you later!" Both yorkies hopped off the chair and walked over to the path that meandered through the castle gardens.

The King walked out of the terrace doors and over to his Queen. He rubbed her shoulders gently as he looked out over the field and saw all the yorkies running and playing. He told his wife, "We have done a good deed by saving all these yorkies from the evil Ludwig...look how happy everyone seems to be." Queen Karyn looked up at her husband and nodded in agreement. "Please sit down my king, I need to talk to you about Kayla. She has asked me to help find her heritage, and I fear she will not marry our son until she has the answers she needs." The King sat and the Queen relayed Kayla's concerns to the King. He agreed, Kayla was right.

The next morning, two of the King's men rode their horses across the castle drawbridge and headed off in the direction of the evil Ludwig's home. Their mission was to force the evil Ludwig to tell them where he had gotten Kayla.

Leah walked across the courtyard looking for Kayla. The castle seamstress was ready to fit Kayla for her wedding dress and Prince Kristopher for his tuxedo!!! Leah shoo'ed several chickens out of her path, as she walked to the other side of the courtyard. She saw Kayla and Prince Kristopher in the distance dancing and playing with each other. Leah cupped her hands to her mouth and hollered "Kayla, Prince Kristopher, come, the seamstress is waiting." Kayla and Prince Kristopher looked up and ran toward Leah.

Prince Kristopher and Kayla ran towards the castle, chasing each other and giggling all the way. Queen Karyn was waiting at the castle door and ushered both into the entrance way and up to her chambers where the seamstress waited.

The seamstress Teresa had Kayla stand on the table while she draped beautiful white silk around Kayla's body. The material was soft and draped in folds around Kayla's sides. Teresa gentled pinned the material here and there to fit Kayla's body. Kayla took her paw and touched the material...it was beautiful. Kayla's wedding day was fast approaching and she was filled with joy except for fact that the king's men still had not returned to the castle with any news of her heritage. Teresa finished pinning the dress, and Kayla stepped

out of the dress, careful not to disturb any of Teresa's pins. Prince Kristopher was next on the table, and he stood quietly for the first five minutes while Teresa fitted him for his tuxedo. He was proud that Kayla was going to be his princess and if standing on the table got her to the alter, he was willing to endure the punishment!!!! Prince Kristopher did start to fidget, one leg up, one leg down, until finally Teresa was done!!

The King's men had returned from the evil Ludwig's home while Kayla and Prince Kristopher were being fitted for their wedding attire. The news was not good. The King's men had found Ludwig dead. Ludwig had not died from the King's decreed punishment of living in a cage for 30 days with a diet of stale bread and dirty water every third day, but had died soon after, from an attack by a pack of large dogs that had once been imprisoned in his puppy mill. Ludwig had gotten his due justice. His due justice had left Kayla with no answers.

The King and the Queen talked for hours before calling Kayla to their chambers. Kayla knew when she walked into the room, that something was wrong. Queen Karyn gently patted the spot beside her on the chair and Kayla went over and sat by the Queen. Queen Karyn and the King broke the news to Kayla as gently as possible, that they were at a dead end and had not been able to get any information on her heritage. Queen Karyn saw the sad look in Kayla's eyes and she hugged Kayla close, "We will not give up hope that one day we will find out who you are, but you are Prince Kristopher's happiness. You can still be married." Kayla looked at the King and Queen Karyn, "I just don't know what I will do. I need time to think. I would like to go away for a while, until I make my decision. I love Prince Kristopher, but I need to decide what is right and fair to both of us. I thank you both for trying to help me." Kayla got up from the Queen's chair and jumped down. The King and Queen Karyn stood up and Kayla hugged them both before she left the royal chambers.

Kayla looked out the window of the carriage as it crossed the drawbridge away from the castle and headed down the dirt road. She was leaving the castle to think things over and as the carriage moved down the road, she turned and looked out the window for one last look at the castle before it disappeared behind the bend in the road.

Will Kayla return and marry her Prince?