



The Queen Who Found Her Place

By Sara Casatta



In their magnificent castle,
Queen Aurelia and her
daughter, Princess Bianca,
had everything one could
wish for. Yet, a sadness
veiled their hearts. From the
high windows, they watched
the festivals and games in the
city, feeling distant and
unseen, like stars in a
daytime sky.

One day, an invitation arrived for a grand tennis tournament. "Let's go, Mother!" pleaded Bianca, her eyes full of hope. The queen hesitated. "They won't even notice us, my dear," she sighed. But Bianca's hope was contagious, and in the end, the queen agreed.



At the stadium, the air buzzed with excitement. A famous tennis player, swift and skilled, captured everyone's attention. Just as the queen feared, no one in the royal box seemed to notice their presence. All eyes were fixed on the court.



Back at the castle, the silence
felt even heavier. To cheer
up her mother, the princess
began to bat a fallen flower
petal with a book,
pretending to be a tennis
star. The queen managed a
faint smile.



A few days later, Marco, the kindest guard in the castle, brought a new invitation. "Your Majesty, a big soccer game at the City Stadium! The people would be honored." The queen shook her head. "It will be the same as always, Marco. We will be invisible."



But this time, Princess Bianca spoke up. "Mother, let's not go to be seen. Let's go to see! Let's go to cheer and have fun, just for us!" The queen looked at her daughter's determined face and saw a spark of wisdom. "So be it," she said.



At the stadium, the noise was a happy roar. This time, instead of the royal box, they found seats among the crowd, wearing simple scarves in the home team's colors. For the first time, they weren't above the crowd, but a part of it.



A little boy sitting next to them dropped his ice cream and began to cry. Without a second thought, Queen Aurelia leaned over and offered him the box of royal chocolates she had brought. The boy's tears stopped, replaced by a huge, chocolatey grin.



The boy's mother recognized the queen. "Your Majesty!" she exclaimed, surprised and grateful. The people nearby turned and saw the queen, not just sitting there, but smiling and being generous. A murmur spread through the stands. They didn't just see a queen; they saw a kind person.



When their team scored a goal, Princess Bianca leaped to her feet, cheering, and Queen Aurelia laughed and joined in. They weren't just watching the game; they were living it. And the people saw their joy. From that day on, they went to all the games, not to be seen, but to share in the happiness. And in sharing, they were truly seen for the first time, and they lived happily ever after.

