

Perhaps a New Chance

by karelia

Eileen and Tobias Snape are finally back together. And hatch a new plan.

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Chapter 1 of 1

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Disclaimer: I own nothing.

"Mother..." She noticed Severus's choked sob with detachment. They'd never been all that close, and he'd get over her. What she saw in front of her was far more intriguing than leaving behind this rather miserable existence that had been her life as Eileen Snape.

There was Tobias. He looked just like the day she'd met him: smiling, his dark chocolate-coloured eyes sparkling with the sheer joy for—it couldn't be life. He'd left life—no less miserable than hers—behind decades ago, though looking at him now, Eileen could hardly believe just how far behind he'd left it.

"Toby?" She was startled to realise she could not hide her disbelief, even though she'd tried.

"Yes, Eileen-love. I hope—" he stretched his hands out and cleared his throat, "—I hope you'll find it in yourself to forgive me. I was so—so very wrong in that excuse of a life I was leading."

Her heart reached for him as gradually, she felt the attachment to her earthly existence loosen and her soul regain its strength—a force she'd never been aware of in the days she'd walked the earth.

"I forgive you." The words had never come easier.

Tobias nodded slowly. "You can't hide the truth on this plane here. But then you've always been very honest." He smiled ruefully. "It's one reason I fell in love with you, you know."

His words made Eileen smile. "And I... I think it was your fearlessness that made me fall in love with you. When I told you I was a witch, it didn't scare you at—" She stopped when he flinched.

"I... I..." His sigh was heavy. "It's because I didn't believe you at the time. I thought you were telling fibs. I thought I knew magic didn't exist."

Eileen touched his arm lightly. "It's all right, Toby. We were off to a right start and then went wrong somewhere." She suddenly smirked. "I'm sure our paths will cross again in the next life."

He nodded. "That's more than likely. Perhaps..." He frowned for a moment, then grinned. "Perhaps we can make it easier on ourselves and spend our childhood together."

You know, siblings maybe?"

"Oh," Eileen breathed. "We can watch our loved ones from here, can't we?" Her own eyes were sparkling now.

"Oh, yes, we can. I've been watching you and Severus ever since I arrived here."

Toby continued. "Poor lad; he hasn't had it easy, though there's hope now. That young witch makes him happy and loves him with no conditions attached."

For the first time since Severus had come into their life, Eileen thought Toby sounded like a proud and concerned parent. And like someone with a very definite idea. "Oh, come on, love. Share your thoughts!"

He did not need another invitation. "Well, she wants a child or two with him. And our Sev isn't opposed to it. He loves her, and he wants to humour her." He cast a meaningful look towards Eileen.

Eileen smiled at him. That was her Toby—always looking out for others, not like in that last stint when he'd lost interest in her or their son's well-being all because she was a witch.

"But they're not quite ready. And nor am I..." she said.

"Eileen-love," Toby started, "you know you don't have to do another stint. You are free to move up. It's only me who's stuck here." He looked bashful.

Eileen laughed. "It's my choice, isn't it? We've spent how many lifetimes together?" She took his hand. "Let's go back and do better this time."

Tobias looked at her. "Really? You mean that?"

"Of course I do."

"Eileen, if you move up, you'll find paradise. You deserve it."

"But what would paradise be without you?" she whispered. "How could it be paradise for me if you aren't there?"

He smiled at her. "I will need your help, Eileen-love. You are so much stronger than I am. But I'll do anything to ascend with you to paradise so we can both be happy. Together."

"We'll spend another life on earth, love. Together, right from the start. I'm sure Hermione won't mind twins." She smiled wryly.

Inspired by ApollinaV's prompt: Write about the sweet romance/courtship of Eileen Prince and Tobias Snape.

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