

From The Witch's Princess
by Don Zolidis

ALESSANDRA, a princess on a quest
GABRIELLA, her best friend
MEGOOSA, a woman with geese instead of chair

Gabriella's boyfriend, Jeff, has just joined Alessandra's quest, and Alessandra is not happy about it at all. Alessandra has just ordered Jeff to leave them alone.

GABRIELLA

Ally.

ALESSANDRA

What?

GABRIELLA

He's just trying to be helpful.

ALESSANDRA

He's trying to stay with you because he's in love with you.

GABRIELLA

You think so?! That's *awesome*.

ALESSANDRA

That's a *problem*.

GABRIELLA

Why?

ALESSANDRA

Because love is weakness. You've got these stupid little fantasies running through your head all the time –

GABRIELLA

They're not stupid –

ALESSANDRA

And in the meantime, you're putting everyone else at risk. He works for the king! You think he wouldn't betray all of us? He probably already did!

GABRIELLA

You know you don't have to be so angry all the time.

ALESSANDRA

I don't? I've got a bunch of nitwits trying to decide my future – my father doesn't care about what I think, I don't have a mother to help me...

GABRIELLA

I'm sorry about your mom. But maybe try trusting someone for once.

ALESSANDRA

And Jeff the Courier is the guy to trust?

GABRIELLA

Maybe. He seems nice.

ALESSANDRA

Seems. They all *seem* nice at first. You're better off on your own. Hey Megoosa –
Megoosa comes over.

MEGOOSA

What's up?

ALESSANDRA

How did you get to... have geese for hair?

MEGOOSA

Oh yeah crazy story.

ALESSANDRA

Does it involve a boy?

MEGOOSA

Sort of.

ALESSANDRA

Thank you.

To Gabriella

See? Boys are always the problem.

MEGOOSA

Not so much a boy as a God.

ALESSANDRA

They all say that.

MEGOOSA

He was older. Controlled the oceans. Also horses. Which I didn't really think went together, but it was super cute. We'd ride around on these big sea horses together, it was totally adorable. I

mean I'd dated other guys before, but this guy was like... whoah, you know what I mean? He had all his teeth. Also controlled earthquakes.

GABRIELLA

He sounds great.

MEGOOSA

Oh yeah. And he said I was the prettiest girl on the whole island and I was like aww. And then he said okay so maybe there were some prettier girls, but he cursed them and turned them into goats. So he did a bunch of that.

ALESSANDRA

That's a red flag right there.

MEGOOSA

I mean, I didn't know, it was kinda fun. Riding around on sea horses? Eating goat meat. I felt like I was special, you know? I had never felt like that before. I always just kind of thought I was weird.

GABRIELLA

What happened?

MEGOOSA

I guess his niece got super jealous or whatever and she just happened to be a goddess too –

ALESSANDRA

Problematic family.

MEGOOSA

Right? So she cursed me and changed my hair into geese.

ALESSANDRA

And what did your boyfriend do?

MEGOOSA

Nothing. He started dating a mermaid or whatever. He never came back. I don't care, honestly – I am good with myself. I just look at myself in the mirror every day and say, "dang it, you ARE special" and my hair is like "HONK HONK YES GIRL!" And then I feed them bugs.

She strokes her geese.

Yes, Mama loves you. Mama loves you so much.

ALESSANDRA (*to Gabriella*)

See? That's what happens when you fall in love! Your boyfriend's weird relatives cast terrible curses on you.

GABRIELLA

Jeff isn't like that. He isn't even a God.

MEGOOSA

I don't recommend dating Gods, actually. They've all got issues.

GABRIELLA

And Jeff would never do that. He's kind.

ALESSANDRA

If he does anything stupid, I'm blaming you.

GABRIELLA

Blame away. Now if you'll excuse me I'm gonna go talk to my new boyfriend.

ALESSANDRA

He's not your boyfriend.

GABRIELLA (*calling out*)

HEY JEFF YOU WANT TO BE MY BOYFRIEND.