

Patricia M. Muhammad
presents

Love Captured

Getting to Know Some of the Characters:



Emmeline Livingston is a young maiden raised in the grand mansion of her family's estate built in the North Carolina colony. She is of multi-racial heritage and is fair-skinned, though easily alters in shade depending on the extent of the sun she is exposed to. The maiden has medium to dark brown eyes, a quiet temperament and astute. Growing up, Emmeline notices how much she is shielded within the confines of the plantation manor. She decides one night to escape her life as a household fixture of a home she never truly became a part of. It is here where we discover why she is so mistrusting of others—until she one day meets a handsome duke across the pond by the name of John Harrison.

Permilla is Emmeline's mother. A biracial woman who worked as a domestic and leaves her daughter the tough decision of whether she would pursue her true freedom. She sustained an injury from being branded on her right leg when she was younger. Emmeline never understood what her mother's true status was though she appeared to be a free woman. Permilla whispers one secret that she hopes will guide her daughter to where she is destined to be—away from the mansion to embrace her true life waiting for her in England.



Mr. Edmond Livingston who was likely the primary slave owner of the estate and or co-owner of the land and structure of the estate in the North Carolina colony. Not much is known about the nature of his relationship with Emmeline's mother, Permilla. Mr. Livingston is familiarly related to a kind seaman that Emmeline meets along her way once she begins her seafaring journey across the Atlantic Ocean as a stowaway. This Emmeline will not be aware of until she presents her case before the King's Bench in London, England. However, this newfound relation understands who Emmeline is to him sooner than he—or she had expected.

William is the seaman aboard the schooner that Emmeline became a stowaway on. A few of the brig's other crew discovered her first, manhandling her until William discovered the dispute and secured Emmeline himself. It was he who presented Emmeline to the ship's captain to provide long-terms security until the schooner reached its scheduled destination. Once they arrived at the port of Liverpool which was only the gateway to the shantytowns, William offered Emmeline his tenement. A hardworking seafarer with a kind heart, he had not much use for the slum apartment as he at sea most days. He hailed from a wealthy family, but due to its source, he



kept himself preoccupied with the labor by his hands. Nonetheless, Emmeline thought their encounter would end at the docks, yet William would return in due time, ensuring that the young maiden he silently accepted as his charge remained safe.



Duke John Harrison is a rebellious aristocrat and son of Duke Stephen and Lady Harrison. He is articulate, well groomed, handsome and well-versed in the arts—an esteemed British gentleman. His father desired for him to delve into great mercantile affairs though he desired to be a silversmith. This was not the only matter he opposed his mother and father in. John asserted himself as a gentleman of his own right. Therefore he considered his mother and father's surprise from his autonomous rejection of Lady Edna's interest to be unwarranted. He trusts his personal servant, Nathaniel in all practical matters and in this new social one which concerns the secretive Emmeline.

Yet, Emmeline was able to see deeply into his caring eyes and sense his genuine concern for her. They both realized they yearned for something greater than the paths that others dictated for them to follow.

Duke Stephen Harrison is the patriarch of the House of Harrison and John's father. He deals in the mercantile trade but keeps the subject of his grand deals hidden. It may even appear that he is involved in the conspiracy against John and Emmeline's relationship. He has exquisite taste in mahogany furniture which complements his business acumen. Stephen is not as oblivious as to the ongoings within the House of Harrison as most may assume. It is his silent and keen observations which actually assist his son to have all that he wishes for, including Emmeline.



Nathaniel is the devoted servant of the House of Harrison, especially assigned to assist Duke John in any matters since he was a child. He learned the best of speech, manners and etiquette and will not hesitate to remind his lord of such. This especially so when Duke John breaks protocol soon after dismissing his parents' wishes concerning Lady Edna and ventures to the shantytown of Liverpool. Despite his disapproval of Lord John's fascination with the secretive Emmeline, he keeps his master's secret. After seeing their mutual affection for one another is sincere, Nathaniel becomes a staunch supporter of their relationship. Duke Stephen trusts him with messages concerning the unfortunate experiences Duke John and Emmeline hand due to the connivance of two courtiers.

Mrs. Harrison is a courtier of the king's court, the wife of Duke Stephen Harrison and the mother of Duke John Harrison. John's mother seeks for him to wed Lady Edna and does not conceal her disappointment with her son's decision against the marital arrangement. Stephen's wife is observant and seeks to attain a higher position within the king's court. Lady Harrison will use anyone she can, including those close to her in order for her to accomplish this social goal. She can be found planning soirees or more intimate social gatherings at the House of Harrison. The servants are careful not to make a mistake around her as they find Mrs. Harrison's admonishment more daunting than the lord of the manor.

