

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-United States, 2021-April 29— /ToStories/-Fiction author Patricia M. Muhammad discusses her romance novel, *Stolen Grace*.

Chateau de Versailles has for centuries been the centerpiece of France. Numerous chandeliers, mirrors, archways and corridors are only a few of the architectural distinctions it is known for. It was also the seasonal home of the French Crown, with a separate apartment for the king and an impressive main ballroom. Thus it would be no surprise that the king hosted many soirees for members of the court. One must attend with the utmost manners, intricately crafted tailcoats and impeccable mantuas and gowns. The pleasantries could only mask true intentions of many of the ennobled who sought the Crown's favour. 18th century was much a homogenous nation, except for the rare few, who bore a distinct lineage which allowed for them to be part of the king's court. There existed at least one family, that of Creole origin, who maintained their inherited and rightful status within the French court. They knew that any slight which involved the House of Moreau could utterly destroy their family name and easily diminish their old wealth. As many vied for elevated status that could only be bestowed by the king, the Moreaus knew to avoid such competition. Some would do almost anything to solidify their place before the king. The House of Moreau was too vulnerable to withstand a false allegation. If only the king had known how close to the throne one young woman, a courtier no less, was to causing irreparable havoc for the Crown, and the House of Moreau...

As we open the first few pages to the story which begins with the House of Moreau, the reader will follow Penelope Moreau, a Creole courtier on her quest to exonerate her brother, Armand and clear her family's name. The only clue she has is a paper given to her containing one clue "Phillipe J." She believes it is he who committed the royal theft and once proven, would refute Armand's alleged complicity in the crime. Pierre LeMercier is also an aristocrat of the king's court and is fascinated by Penelope's rare beauty. He believes that she feigns her lack of interest in him. Though she is resistant to his pursuit, she eventually allows for Pierre to become her suitor. One day while they visited a park, Penelope, Pierre as well as a few other of the ennobled are attacked. He has no choice but see that his heart's desire is cared for and takes her to his manor until Armand can be notified. Upon arrival, Armand is eagerly greeted by Pierre's younger sister, Guinevere. Pierre vowed, as well as Count Alexandre Montegeau a friend of Penelope and Armand's parents, to help with her investigation. He hires another man to search for information by the name of Gustav. Count Montegeau is murdered while in the peculiar company of mademoiselle Charlotte of whom Armand has only met once. Penelope's brother feels the pressure of a royal sentence to be declared against him. Guinevere debuts as a lady in waiting accompanied by Pierre and Penelope as they arrive at the masquerade ball at the king's court. The dances seem to continue with a rehearsed fervor. A strange man approaches Guinevere and kidnaps her into private chambers. She barely escapes. The chandeliers are bright, blinding others to the machinations that some of the courtiers continue to engage in as the festivities continue throughout the night. Servants interweave themselves amongst the crowd to serve beverages. Others stand near columns in the exterior corridors, hoping to get a glimpse of scandal outside the sand-coloured castle. Charlotte displays her jealousy of Armand and François' relationship and confronts François. While outside Château Versailles, Armand is struck in the foot with an arrow from a longbow. The night seems to have an unending spin of madness. Penelope wonders if they will find the evidence in time. All that they have discovered

thus far leads to the royal palace. Pierre knows that he and Penelope cannot have the life they wish for until the perpetrator of the royal theft is revealed. But who is the culprit and will they be caught in time?

Stolen Grace may be purchased as an ebook from these online retailers:

Amazon ASIN: B08JHJFNCQ
Barnes & Noble: 2940162703129
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