

Regina's Response to Xavier's Love Letter

My dearly deluded Mr. Vistoire,

While it is true I never intended to marry, I believe during our unusual courtship, you missed a pertinent fact about me. I always have, and always will possess a mind of my own. No man is capable of forcing my hand. I have given it to you freely.

As you suggest, I could easily disarm you with a well-placed strike to your person in the midst of our first passionate quarrel as husband and wife. Let us not enter into wedlock with any misperceptions, sir. I find I have developed an appreciation for your splendid form and prefer to keep every part of you intact. If you suffer any injuries during our playful sparring, however, I will happily soothe your hurts with kisses. I may never be an obedient wife, but I will be a loving one.

Society might claim I have been plagued by poor judgment from the moment of our first meeting, if the circumstances were made public, of course. Nevertheless, I hold no regrets for coming to your aid when you were injured during your failed attempt at burglarizing Wedmore House. Have I mentioned I am pleased you have abandoned the occupation? You truly are a terrible thief, although you have managed to steal my heart when I was not looking.

I love you, Xavier. The deed is done, and walking away is not an option. Do I think you are weak for being unable to set me free? My sweet, sweet man, you have liberated me from the false belief I could be content with a life devoid of love. I cannot.

Eager to be yours forever,
Regina