

"My lady!"

It was all I could say. My soul was burning with a mysterious joy, yet I could give it no expression.

"Why did you go away?" she asked.

"I dared not stay."

"To-morrow came, and —"

"I could not have been sent away. The only thing was to go without seeing you. Was I not right?"

"I do not know," she answered. "I only know you left a very unhappy woman in Vienna."

"And now — now you are here," I whispered; "here in my home."

"The Duchess came to me in Austria, and told me about you. She urged me to come to England. I tried so hard to do my duty. Often I have been in great peril, and afraid. You were no longer near to help me and give me courage. Yet sometimes I talked of you to the little maid. Yes, I found her and made her come to me. I have brought her with me to England. The Duchess said —"

Her hands were in mine, but she held back from me.

"They would not have me in Dravstadt; Austria was in trouble because of me; so —"

"Suzanne! My Princess Suzanne!"

"A Princess without a kingdom."

"I have no kingdom to give you," I whispered, "only love. All unworthy though I be, I dare to love you. Without you, the world must for ever be empty. Oh, my dear, since last we stood together I have lived through the hardest days of my life. I have thought of