# QUEEN AMETHYST; OR, THE LIPS OF SNOW

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Queen Amethyst; Or, the Lips of Snow by Henry Blunt

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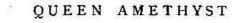
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### **HENRY BLUNT**

# QUEEN AMETHYST; OR, THE LIPS OF SNOW







"The bird lit on his shoulder with a tiny wreath of the sweetest myrtle bloom."-p. 23.

## QUEEN AMETHYST

OR

## The Lips of Snow

By HENRY BLUNT

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS



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### CONTENTS.

CHAP.				PAGE
I.—PRINCE EYEBRIGHT, .			400	. 9
IL-ELIDORE'S BROTHER, .		•		15
III THE PRINCE'S COUNSEL, .		*	***	. 22
IV THE PRINCE'S DOOM, .	23	89	a 2	30
V THE PRINCE LIVES AND LE	ARNS,		T.E.S.	. 40
VI THE PESTILENCE, .	) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) )	·		51
VII FRESH ALARMS,	592	2	25	. 56
VIIITHE ENEMY,	*	W2 2		66
IX.—ISABEL,			¥8	. 73
XOscar,	¥			86
XL-THE PRINCE'S REQUEST, .			#6(	. 98
XII.—BOTANY,	49)	\$10 B		107
XIIIMORE BOTANY,		(* )	# 165 #)	. 114
XIV THE BETROTHAL,	50.¥	3 <b>3</b> 0 1		124
XV THE YOUNG HUNTSMAN, .	ς.	,	50	. 134
XVI.—THE WEDDING,				142
XVII.—THE END,	650		- E	. 151

## Zist of Illustrations.

"The bird lit on his sh	oulde	r with	a ti	ny	wre	ath	of	the	sw	eete	st	PAGE
myrtle bloom	(4)	8.3		١			1	Fre	nti	pie	2)	13
"She wept much on he	er kne	es,"	*		(**)						3.5	14
Elidore's Brother,	134			÷		•		•				15
"Elidore flung herself	on his	breas	t,"						5		94	19
"Advising her as her fa	ather	might	hav	e d	one	,"				**		23
"Kneeling down then	and t	here,"									33	35
"The awkward present	of a	young	hec	lgel	nog,	n						43
"She stood, framed in	the iv	ied po	rch,	1>	•				70		76	46
"Another and another	victio	n was	stru	ck,	4			:		÷		52
His Sister's Portrait,			***		500		æ		•		Ω¥	63
"Now rise, Sir Prince,"	٠.	82		27		્ર		8		233		71
Daffodils, .	•0	225					12					79
"He waited for an ans	wer,"					¥3		<b>3</b>				84
"'You promise?' she s	aid,"	12	4						93		17	95
"The Prince sat on the	e thro	ne,"						a.		<b>x</b> :		99
"He lay on the crisp,	sweet	grass,	17				1		6		97	112
"Amethyst looked at h	im st	raight	for .	a m	om	ent,	n			400		122
"The two young things						000	×		*		93	133
Oueen Amethyst.	28	54		-		27		33		20		154

### QUEEN AMETHYST.

#### CHAPTER I.

PRINCE EYEBRIGHT.

L'ong ago, in a happy little kingdom—happy, because the people's hearts were knit as one round the good old king; and so little, that the king at his best and strongest had known nearly every face in it,—in this happy little kingdom lived a young and handsome prince. The Prince he was, his father's only child and heir. You would certainly have called him handsome, had you seen him in the modest dark-green suit he always wore, with just a little silver lace, which seemed to have grown in its proper place by nature. This humble attire the laws compelled the king's sons

But how well it sat on the Prince, with his short dark locks curling over a pale brow, and a dark eye, keen as his father's used to be, but sad withal, and weary at times. Sad and weary seemed the eyes when at rest, and worn and thin the pale delicate features of the beardless face; for the Prince was very young, though his royal cares and the burden of greatness had made him old and thoughtful enough, even without the special sorrow of the sad doom that lay upon him. Old and thoughtful?—nay, right fatherly and wise you would have said, had you heard his grave, brotherly counsel to young Lady Elidore. A bright, black-eyed girl she was-shall I say a trifle bold and saucy?-no. Brave, we will say-and oh, so sweet! But-well, well, it was said among the ladies at the court that she was-for shame -wooing the young Prince.

They were a foolish people in that kingdom, and had a bad habit of saying plainly what they meant. The old king was no better than the rest, and it had cost the people a sharp little war two years before. But they never gave up the bad habit, yet were a happy little