Dear Diary,

Today has been quite a normal, but eventful and lively day. I don’t think that there is ever a day where there is a lack of events or tasks on hand, being a queen of an exceedingly powerful empire requires full commitment and dedication. That being said, today has been a pleasing and productive day, despite a few minor concerns that I possess regarding my husband’s ideas for the kingdom, but I will get started on my recollection of today’s events.

I woke up to the sound of many hard working Assyrians, who were building a new palace for the King and our family. I did hint to my husband that building another palace might have been slightly unnecessary seeing as we already have two others that took a very long time to build and required a copious amount of resources, but despite my endeavor, he refused to come to a compromise on this matter. Later on I got dressed in my best garments and made my way down the palace steps to greet my family and have breakfast served by the cooks. I asked my son and daughter what their plans were for today, and they replied with “training to fight” and “finish school work”. I considered these reasonable tasks so I let them get on with it and carried on with my day.

I usually do not see much of the king, but when I do, he is quite a different man to the strong, fearless, independent man he portrays himself as to the public. When it is just the two of us, or just close family, his softer side often comes out, and his peculiar but likeable idiosyncrasies shine through. This is quite rare though, as again I do not see him as often as I would like to. I usually spend time with my son and our eunuch, who I have built strong bonds with. On this particular day, my son was busy attending his training to become a skilled fighter, so I had more time to spend with the eunuch. As usual, we discussed matters that did bare significance, but were not of enough importance to be dealt with by the king. When I did mention my concern regarding the new palace being built, and how it might put a strain on the working people of Assyria, to my surprise the eunuch did not come to the king’s defense. He listened to me without objection, and then said “My lady, whether a king or not, it is in a man’s nature to be stubborn. I would suggest approaching the king in a slightly more upfront manner, or at least try to see the positive side of the new palace being constructed.” I was slightly surprised to hear the man’s interpretation of my predicament, and his advice was deeply appreciated.

The rest of the day seemed to go by quite quickly, as I only remember small things of it, like checking on my standing army, greeting a few of my people, and going out to see how far the palace’s construction was. When I got back to the palace I wrote a letter to a friend of mine asking if she would like to come and visit me any time soon, and placed my signature seal on it, and sent it off. I thought that the company of a friend would help get my mind off my concerns. After some contemplation though, I decided that I had no real reasons to object against my
husband's decision to build a new palace, as it places Assyria at a higher standard. It shows other kingdoms just how wealthy and powerful ours is, and that makes me feel a lot safer and at ease regarding the circumstance of our empire.

I dined in the evening with my family. The meal consisted of traditional Assyrian cuisine, which was a platter of ground lamb, with some bread, pine nuts and other spices. For dessert we had delectable pastries. After dining, I did my usual routine of walking around the palace and admiring its architecture, as even after being a queen for so long, the beautiful palace was still a wonder to me. I strolled around the public and private courtyards, the throne room, and the treasury, all while admiring the intricately carved stone walls, that told stories of significant events of the king and his strong army. I then came back to my room, and thought about my day, which had been a tiring but pleasurable day indeed.