# 2 - Marriage

After that, things progressed smoothly.

Aselina had given her permission, and the people of the Holy Kingdom already considered my marriage to Evan a foregone conclusion.

Even within the Knights, everyone knew that Evan and I were... well, you know.

Or rather, they were mostly speculating that we were, but since most of them thought so and their belief was unwavering, it was more like they firmly believed it.

Many of the Knights seemed to think that Evan felt sorry for me after seeing me constantly sacrificing myself, and that he made tremendous efforts to help me in any way he could, and finally saved me by subduing the Demon King.

'That's kind of true...'

I knew that it was a typical knight or hero story straight out of a fairy tale, so it was bound to appeal to people.

And that it was a story that would ignite the hearts of both men and women.

As for me, the person involved, most of those sacrifices were things I did because I wanted to, and I wasn't suffering while sacrificing myself back then, but rather feeling pure pleasure and laughing "hehe"...

I couldn't just accept it that way, so I often felt burdened by the Knights and priests who thought of Evan and me that way and cheered us on.

And now, they were expecting us to be a sweet couple who were dating but didn't know what to do, just holding hands and trembling.

I wonder if the people of the Holy Kingdom know that not long after Evan and I started dating, I had my first time, and it was such an intense night that it was hard to believe it was my first time...

I can guarantee that only Stella and Aselina know about that. And only those two will ever know...

I received a confidentiality agreement. Aselina was especially ridiculous.

'She really doesn't have any experience...'

As soon as I saw how focused she was on my story, I thought, "Ah, this dragon... she has no experience at all..." And then she screamed "Kyaa!" genuinely after hearing my story...

I ended up explaining things with very explicit words, since it wouldn't do if she knew the sexual terms too well.

For example, Evan's... uh... um... well, I talked about it using the word that young children mainly use... and like... that...

'How did I explain it...'

I shouldn't have done that. I regret it.

I smacked my forehead. I'm an idiot...

I don't think I can face Aselina for a while... Hmm...

"Oh, aren't you the Holy Maiden?"

"[H-Hot...!]”

That voice was Danas's voice.

The moment I recognized it was Danas, I tried to run away right away, even before I could properly see him...

"Congratulations on your marriage!" "[Ah, hahaha... Thank you...]"

I couldn't bring myself to run away at his words, said with a bright smile as soon as he met my eyes, so I answered with an awkward smile.

Of all places, to meet Danas here.

I had a very deep relationship with Danas, to the point where he was even my personal guard...

Danas was a rather monumental figure for me.

'Because he's the first person I saved by risking my life.'

Years ago, when I was still working as a nun before becoming the Holy Maiden.

I still vividly remember saving Danas, who was dying, by giving up my entire life.

That was the first time I felt the sensation of dying.

So, from Danas's point of view, wouldn't he think of me as the Holy Maiden he has to serve for the rest of his life?

He might be upset that I didn't tell him that I was getting married to Evan, even though he wasn't showing it outwardly.

"As long as the Holy Maiden lives happily... I'm satisfied with that. Haha."

"[Hahaha...]" "But you know." Crack.

I felt like Danas's smiling expression was slightly distorted... "Could I... meet the Hero just once?"

"[Y-Yes...?]"

"I won't do anything. In the first place, there's no way someone like me could do anything to someone who's strong enough to subdue the Demon King."

"[Y-Yeah...]"

"But... there's something I absolutely have to talk about as man to man." "[Ah...]"

Man to man.

What are you planning to talk about?

Danas is already married, so maybe he's trying to give him some tips on married life.

Why is it that I feel a strange murderous aura from Danas's expression?

What is this anxiety that makes me feel like an ordinary conversation will never take place?

One thing was certain: I shouldn't let Danas, who was currently boiling with emotion, meet Evan.

Of course, it wasn't like Evan would be killed by Danas, or Evan would kill Danas, or anything like that.

But it was certain that something huge would happen.

"[Ahem... I'm in the middle of an important conversation with Aselina right now... And there are many other important things to do, so I don't think he'll be able to make time for it anytime soon.]"

"Ah... that's a shame."

What's a shame, you crazy bastard. Anyway...

Danas looked at me with a serious expression and asked. "Holy Maiden, are you happy with this?"

"[Happy... you say.]" Happy.

Honestly, I don't know yet.

I feel like I've lost my purpose itself... I feel a bit empty... and I wonder if my choice to live in this world was the right one.

But you know.

"[I've already made my choice. Finding happiness in this life is also... I think it's a way to repay the goddess who believed in me and whom I believed in.]"

That much was sincere.

I was going to find happiness one by one while living with Evan. Danas's expression softened at my answer, and he smiled and said. "That's... enough. I hope you have a good love."

I smiled in response.

"Congratulations on your marriage."

As soon as he heard our news, Argen rushed over to congratulate us.

It felt strange that the Dean of the Academy, of all people, was visiting us to offer his congratulations.

Of course, Argen's relationship with us wasn't bad, and in fact, it was good since we had essentially become members of the same Hero party and subdued the Demon King.

"Valencia said she'll come to the wedding. She said it's a bit difficult to go back and come back again."

"[Hahaha...]" I guess so...

She just finished subduing the Demon King... She was about to go back... She heard about Evan and me getting married.

Valencia must be dumbfounded.

Honestly, I was also feeling dazed because I didn't expect to have a wedding so quickly.

"Hmph..."

Argen looked at Evan and me intently, then smirked as if he understood something.

"You guys, did it?" "...!!"

"..."

Evan was startled, and I was also embarrassed, although I didn't show it. "H-How did you..."

Why are you admitting it?

Argen answered as if it was obvious when Evan asked in genuine surprise.

"If you're getting married this quickly, it can only be that... you're pregnant?"

"..."

"Originally, premarital pregnancy is illegal under imperial law." Evan's face turned pale at his chuckling words.

"I... I will definitely take responsibility. I will... make you happy forever..." "Why are you telling me that? Are you stupid?"

"..."

He must be feeling quite guilty.

I would feel guilty too if I were him.

I thought we would have our first time in a somewhat romantic atmosphere, but I fell for the charm of the curse...

Um, I'll omit the rest.

I was horny and egged him on, but it's definitely Evan's fault for falling for it and acting like an animal.

"If you're going to say something, you should tell your wife, you moron."

Tsk tsk, Evan covered his face with both hands and lowered his head at his clicking tongue.

I hope he doesn't kill himself. I'm starting to feel sorry too.

"[It's okay, Evan. I think that side of Evan is cool too.]"

When I gave Evan a bright smile and hugged him from behind, Evan muttered a small thank you.

Oh my, our Evan, you were upset.

As I stroked his head and patted him, Argen, who was watching from the side, wrapped his arms around himself and shivered.

"Eugh, so cheesy... It wasn't this bad before... I can't take it, I'm going first." "[Yes? Wait a minute...]"

"You said you don't have much time left to prepare for the wedding, so let's meet again then."

Hey, how can you just say what you want and leave?

I stared blankly at Argen, who had disappeared in an instant. It's not that I don't understand why he's reacting like that.

Maybe Argen also wanted to be on such good terms with the previous Hero...

Showing this kind of behavior in front of us is no different from doing something sorry to Argen again.

Even so, you shouldn't just leave... Anyway... he was like a great mage. He always lives the way he wants.

# 3 - Marriage

Was the idea that premarital pregnancy was illegal that shocking?

Actually, it seems like premarital relationships are done in secret, but pregnancy, more than anything, can't be erased, so from the moment it's revealed, it's just over...

That's why contraception needs to be certain. 'Ugh...'

Still, who knew I'd get pregnant from just doing it once?

The timing was incredibly perfect, and the amount Evan released inside me was beyond imagination, so it would have been strange not to get pregnant, but still.

Fortunately, there were many people around us who were willing to help, and even though we were still academy students, no one thought it was strange that we were getting married.

Seeing the academy students congratulate us while also being sad that they wouldn't be able to see us anymore makes me think I haven't lived my life wrong.

'I guess this is goodbye to the academy.'

After the wedding, Evan and I decided to drop out of the academy.

The reason I originally wanted to go to the academy disappeared anyway.

In my case, it was to find Evan, create a party, and defeat the Demon King... and to solve the various crises that occurred in the academy, and in Evan's case, it was to broaden his horizons according to his teacher's words.

In the end, I defeated the Demon King and solved all the crises.

Evan broadened his horizons to the point where he became stronger than anyone else in the world.

Evan had reached a level where he could even beat Valencia, who is said to be unmatched in this era with a sword, so who could teach Evan anything?

Of course, there are still many things to learn in the world, so you shouldn't stop learning, but for now, those aren't the kinds of things you can learn by staying in the academy.

So Evan and I were going to drop out and wander around the world... doing things we hadn't been able to do with Evan while gradually learning about language.

Language.

Speaking of language, that reminds me. Damn it.

I've been so annoyed by this lately.

"At this rate, you'll master the common language soon, right?"

I was wrong to have hope after seeing Stella giggling and saying that... Honestly, it wasn't that I lacked confidence.

I poured all my stats into faith, but after seeing me memorize the Bible in an instant, I started to think that maybe I wasn't so stupid and started a happy delusion.

Of course, that was nonsense.

The reason I was able to read and memorize the Bible so quickly was surprisingly because I had invested so much in faith stats, which had nothing to do with intelligence stats.

Well, isn't there such a case?

Even if you're an idiot, you can get absorbed in something you like.

Even if you think you're not smart, doesn't something like your favorite game or novel... come to mind right away?

At that point, you'll probably remember all the stat numbers of items in the game.

In other words, I have the highest level of faith stats, so I can show a genius-level appearance when it comes to things related to God, but language is related to intelligence.

For about a month, I studied the language hard while preparing for the wedding, but...

"Okay, repeat after me. Marry me." "M-Marry... mee."

"Pwahahaha!"

Stella burst out laughing as if the sky was falling. What the heck.

It's hard enough to follow along.

Especially in my case, I've hardly had a conversation out loud for over three years, so it's even more unfamiliar.

I've only spoken out loud once.

When I went into the Trial of Wisdom! I don't even remember it anymore.

"It's a bit difficult to pronounce... It's like seeing myself when I was young~"

I hung my head at Yuriel's words with a smile. "[I think this is more comfortable...]"

"No, no~ Are you going to talk telepathically at the wedding too? You're going to make an eternal vow with Evan soon."

"..."

Eternal vow.

It is one of the most important elements of a wedding in the Holy Kingdom, which exists only in the Holy Kingdom.

After declaring before God that you will only love the spouse in front of you and live for them for the rest of your life, you kiss each other as proof of that.

If you break that vow, God will punish you... that's the kind of culture they have.

They say you express your love for each other there... but in my case, I have to talk telepathically because I don't know the Imperial Common Language.

"At least you should be able to say 'I love you' properly." "... I wuv you..."

"The pronunciation is a bit off? It's ambiguous." "..."

Ugh!!

Why do I have to learn the language from the beginning!!

"I checked one last time, but I guess it's not going to work."

"The Imperial Common Language is difficult... It's amazing that you learned it in a month."

"... I did it in a day?"

"Eh..."

Yuriel looked blank.

Then she grabbed her head. "Oh, uh... why...?"

It seems like it took Yuriel longer than me. Judging from her reaction, it was almost certain...

"Evan must be preparing too... Aria, how about you?" "[Huh? What do you mean?]"

"The wedding dress, does it suit you?" Suits me well.

At those words, I looked in the mirror.

There, a beautiful girl with long, beautiful blonde hair that looked like it was embroidered with stars was facing me.

And the girl was wearing a pure white dress. 'I'm wearing a wedding dress...'

I've never worn girly clothes before...

No, it's not that I've never worn them, but those were only worn semi- voluntarily, so the feeling I'm feeling now is unfamiliar.

The fact that the feminine clothes I'm wearing voluntarily are a wedding dress is even more absurd.

If I hadn't gotten pregnant so quickly, I would have dated Evan and enjoyed this and that...

Still...

I stroked my stomach.

The feeling of conceiving a new life with Evan and my child was an indescribable joy.

I didn't think the day I would wear this would come so soon, but I could still be purely happy.

'Evan...'

When I first came to this world, I never imagined that I would marry Evan. Who could have imagined it?

I, who had only vowed to defeat the Demon King and return home, not only chose to stay in this world...

But fell in love with the hero... and decided to spend the rest of my life together.

My original world... it's not that I didn't have any regrets, but it's amazing that I made this choice.

What's even more amazing is that I don't have any regrets about my original world even though I made this choice.

I don't regret it.

I still think I made the right choice.

Evan is the kind of person who cares about me so much... I probably wouldn't be able to find him even if I lived my whole life back in my original world.

He was that attractive.

"I'm jealous. I wish I was like you..."

While Stella was looking at me with a wistful expression, someone knocked on the door.

"Yes~"

"The wedding is about to begin!"

Stella answered, and a voice was heard saying that the wedding would begin soon.

Already?

It's been a while since I came here... but I can't shake the feeling that it's already time.

That probably means I'm nervous. More than anything...

'I'm going to have to show him this soon...'

I couldn't help but feel that way because I was going to have to show him this.

I felt embarrassed again when I was about to show him. But...

'I'm excited...'

While I was fidgeting, I was also looking forward to seeing how Evan would react when he saw me.

How much will he cherish me... What does Evan... think of me?

He'll probably tell me I'm pretty as soon as he sees me. He'll also whisper that I'm cute and that he loves me.

I never thought I would love a man this much, but since it's something I never expected, my emotions are even more overwhelming.

Having someone you want to love for the rest of your life is so happy. "[I'll go out.]"

That's why I was able to take a step forward with courage. Towards the place where my hero is waiting for me.

# The Eternal Vow (Complete)

Evan sighed, anxiety gnawing at him. 'The wedding is soon...'

It was the pressure of the impending ceremony that weighed on him.

Of course, marrying Aria was something he had longed for, but he had made a grave mistake with her at a crucial moment.

Aria was still affected by the curse, and given the circumstances, anyone would have been susceptible to its allure, so she said she understood...

'Ugh...'

He didn't remember everything clearly, but the fragmented memories that surfaced reminded him of how harshly and roughly he had treated her.

The more he saw Aria, perfectly fine, loving him, and smiling, the more self-loathing he felt.

But...

'Get a grip...'

Evan slapped his cheeks with both hands.

It was true that he felt sorry for Aria, but she had ultimately accepted his apology for what had happened.

He had to live with the guilt, but he had to remember that dwelling on it and being awkward around Aria as his wife would only hurt her more.

He just needed to treat her well from now on.

'Right. Let's do our best...!'

Even Aselina, who he thought was the final boss, reluctantly agreed and actively helped him, giving him this last chance, this final gate to pass.

To successfully complete this wedding and properly convey his feelings to Aria.

That was the goal of this wedding.

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"Hooray! Congratulations on the wedding!" "Evan! Evan! Evan!"

"Whoo-hoo!!"

As Evan stepped onto the carpet, he looked around at the countless people sending him their blessings and was inwardly shocked.

He never imagined so many people would come to the wedding.

It was a public wedding, but it was also because the hero who saved the world was marrying Aria, who was treated like a saint in both the Empire and the Holy Kingdom.

"Tch..."

There were a few people who seemed suspiciously angry, but most of them were quickly dragged away by the knights or the Empire's citizens who were on standby.

Please welcome the bride.

In the midst of the peaceful wedding ceremony, the officiant's voice calling for the bride drew everyone's attention to the entrance.

And walking out from that entrance was... "Wow..."

"Beautiful..."

The onlookers gasped in admiration.

Aselina, dressed in formal attire, and a beautiful girl in a radiant wedding dress, arm in arm with Aselina, walked side by side.

Aselina's beauty was enough to overshadow anyone, but the girl was just as beautiful, captivating the onlookers with her unique charm.

'Wow...'

Evan stared, his mouth agape.

Aria was always beautiful, but seeing her so elaborately dressed up for the first time made her even more stunning.

Aria seemed incredibly embarrassed, but Evan was so mesmerized that he could only think she was beautiful, even as he saw her expression.

He couldn't see anyone else.

His gaze was solely focused on Aria, who was walking forward bravely, despite her embarrassment.

'Wow, this is insane.'

As soon as I entered the wedding hall, I was greeted by a sea of people.

Honestly, if I had just used my divine power to get a general sense of things without actually seeing and hearing everything, I wouldn't have been so

overwhelmed.

But how could anyone not be overwhelmed by this...?

'Weren't the people getting married embarrassed when they saw this...?' I'm so embarrassed that I can't even make eye contact with anyone...

Especially since the dress I'm wearing is so...

I felt like I was going to lose my mind if I kept looking around, so I turned my head to look at Evan.

I thought it would be better to focus on him. And the moment I met Evan's eyes,

'Wow...'

This guy is so handsome.

I knew Evan was incredibly good-looking even before I met him, but seeing him right before the wedding felt different.

It was like his looks got a bonus boost.

Maybe everyone feels that way when they're in the bride's position.

After all, grooms always think their brides look more beautiful than ever on their wedding day.

So, it's not just my imagination that Evan looks even more handsome. It's only natural that he looks more handsome!

Of course, I didn't fall for Evan because of his looks or his masculine charm, but looks are still an important factor.

It's only natural to prefer a handsome person over someone who is fat and ugly.

What if Evan had been ugly and fat when he saved me and did all those things for me?

I still think things wouldn't have changed if Evan had continued to care for me, but I still don't want to imagine it.

Anyway, Evan finally reached me... and we looked at each other. "Evan..."

At least I didn't mess up his name.

When I called out to Evan, he smiled and looked down at me. "You're beautiful, Aria."

"Ooh!"

The spectators in the front row gasped when they heard us.

He's really saying these embarrassing things so confidently in front of everyone...

It's giving me cognitive dissonance.

I turned my head slightly, feeling embarrassed.

"You're already being lovey-dovey before the wedding even starts..." Aselina said with a dumbfounded expression.

I honestly thought she would come as the Pope, but since she had already revealed her true form as a guardian dragon to everyone, she probably didn't think it was necessary to transform into the Pope.

Or maybe the Pope persona was just a fake identity she used to hide her true self from me, and she didn't want to celebrate my wedding in that guise, so she came in her original form.

...

I don't need to think about that now. I prefer Aselina in her true form.

At Aselina's remark, Evan and I stopped talking and linked arms. Then the wedding began.

The officiant, who I knew well since this was the Holy Kingdom, asked us the formal question of whether we would love each other for eternity.

'Why is the Cardinal officiating...?'

I wondered for a moment, but then I just accepted it.

It's my wedding, and I'm a saint, so... it's not impossible for the Cardinal to be here...

I should probably stop thinking that things are impossible.

Evan and I answered the question confidently, and finally, it was time for the eternal vow that would mark the end of the wedding.

"Please hold this cross together."

At those words, Evan and I placed our hands on the cross.

A light of divine power burst forth from the cross where our hands touched, enveloping us.

"...?!"

"There's no need to be alarmed. The Goddess Romania is watching over you. No one will hear your conversation."

At the Cardinal's words, I was certain.

I could directly feel Romania's divine power.

My slightly nervous heart relaxed, and I looked up at Evan. "[Evan.]"

"Yeah?"

"[Honestly... I think it was too fast. And it was too much back then.]" "..."

I really couldn't have imagined it.

I didn't expect to have a wedding as soon as I got back.

I was going to do it anyway, but I didn't have time to prepare myself.

I was so busy with everything that trying to have a wedding on top of it all was giving me a headache.

But...

"[But now that it's happened... you'll keep your promise, right?]" I asked Evan with a bright smile.

Evan nodded without hesitation, his expression filled with determination. "I will... I will make you happy."

"[It's an embarrassing thing to say... but I think that's what makes you so charming.]"

I smiled.

And then I opened my mouth.

I said the one phrase I had been diligently practicing.

The one phrase that Stella had made sure I knew perfectly. "I love you, Evan."

At my declaration, Evan kissed me.

At the same time as the eternal vow was made, the divine power that had been surrounding us disappeared, and the cheers of the crowd filled the air.

"I love you too, Aria." "Yeah...!"

And so, we finished our wedding.

I hope we can live happily ever after.

End -