## **The Other Secret Ending**

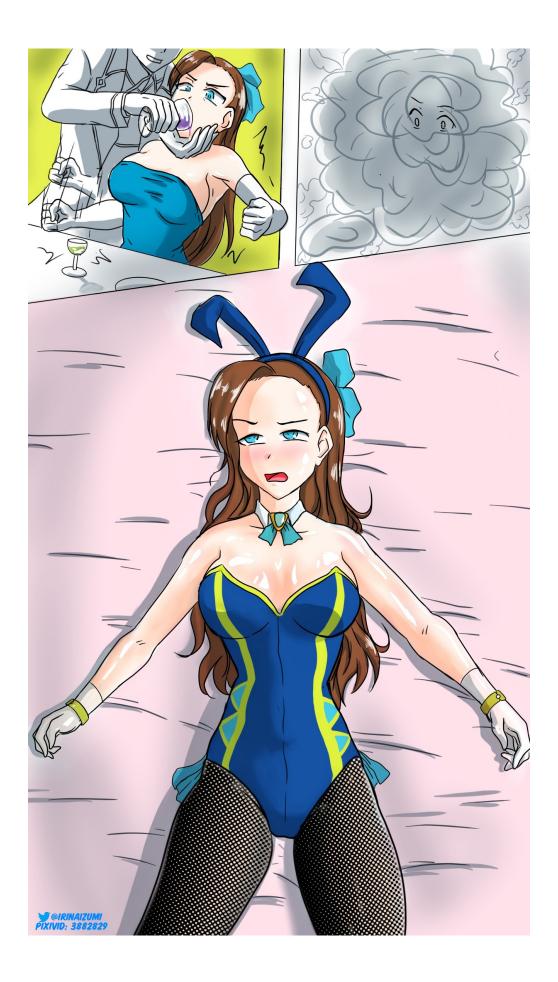
Written by "Ina Izumi"

It has been a long 6 years for Katarina. Since learning that she was reborn into an otome game, life has been a struggle to ward off her doom. Now 21 years old, Katarina has managed to avoid most of the Bad Ends that awaited her, with one big exception: she is still engaged to Gerald because he refuses to break it off. Although this whole affair is her younger self's fault to begin with, were she forced to consider it, that doesn't much help her in the present. Like all of her suitors, Gerald's heart is set and he has never given up hope of making her his. Ignorant of his feelings and fearing that any change one way or the other could lead to doom, Katarina has done everything she can to keep pushing back the wedding.

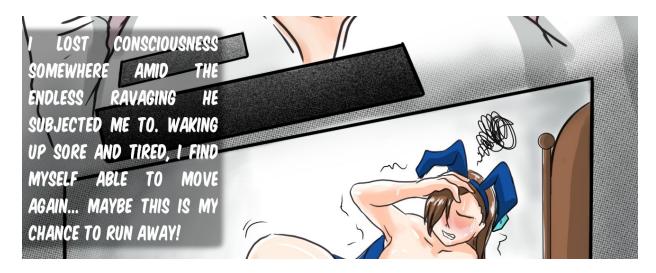
As part of his efforts to win her over, Gerald often invites Katarina to romantic dinners. In the past, Katarina has always shown up with various friends of hers, because who knows what would happen were they alone together. This time though, everyone Katarina contacted was busy or otherwise unable to attend. She considered skipping the dinner, but that too might lead to doom. As a last resort, Katarina fell back on Keith, her adopted brother. He is very protective and surely wouldn't let anything happen to her.

On the eve of her dinner date, Katarina was supposed to meet up with Keith so they could arrive at Gerald's place together. After several hours of waiting, with the scheduled time come and gone, there was still no sign of him. Perhaps Keith got into an accident? Suddenly, without warning, something heavy hits her from behind and she crumples to the ground unconscious. An indeterminate amount of time later, Katarina wakes up seated in a chair with a glass of wine and a fine plate of food set before her on a table. As she tries to move though, she finds her butt has been magically affixed to the seat. Recognizing the architecture of Gerald's castle, a chill runs down her spine. Looking around the room, Katarina spots a number of scary looking implements and a large cylinder filled with some strange looking fluid. She gets the impression this is some kind of torture room and immediately renews her efforts to get up and leave, but to no avail.

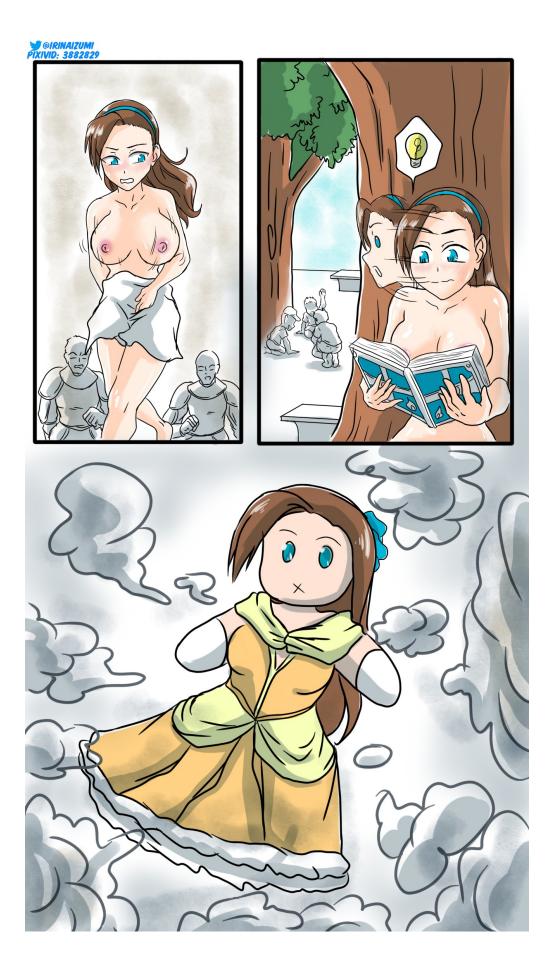
After Katarina has had time to work herself into a proper frenzy of fear, Gerald finally shows himself. His demeanor is that of the genial host, thanking Katarina for coming alone and wondering if she is enjoying the accommodations. Katarina can do nothing but scream and struggle even harder. As she does so, a look comes over Gerald and he warns her to calm down, or he'll be forced to make her calm down through "unorthodox methods". Gerald waits a few moments to see if his words got through, but Katarina continues right on panicking. In response Gerald takes up the glass of wine, forces open Katarina's mouth, and pours the contents down her throat. Katarina splutters violently when he lets go, but is shocked to see her skin start to take on an artificial hue. Little did she know that the wine was spiked with the same magical liquid that was in the cylinder, and it is quickly turning her into a lifesize doll. Soon her skin became a rubbery, plastic-like substance and the only part of her body still able to move is her eyes, which dart wildly back and forth. Gerald takes the opportunity offered by Katarina's newfound stillness to strip and redress her in a bunny girl outfit, before tossing her bodily onto his bed. Katarina wonders if he got tired of waiting and decided to settle for a sex doll instead.



The next day Katarina wakes up naked, her head and body aching all over. Gerald had apparently left her laying on the bed after he was done with her. Realizing she can move once again, Katarina gets up and stretches. Her memory is blank after her mind succumbed to the pleasure, but she can guess what happened from the state of the room and how she feels. Looking around, Katarina flinches as she spots Gerald lying fast asleep on the other side of the bed. In a fresh panic, she decides to try escaping out the window. Not seeing her dress anywhere, Katarina wraps her naked body in a discarded sheet and lowers herself over the window sill.



Landing on the ground, Katarina realizes there are guards everywhere, and a few are already heading towards her. Seeing no alternative, she flees into the woods beyond the courtyard, the guards hot on her heels. Despite her state of undress, Katarina outpaces them and eventually finds a hollow at the base of a tree to hide in. She is shocked to find that she is not alone though, for lying inside is what appears to be a magic tome. Magic has never been Katarina's forte, but she has improved some in recent months and thinks this might be her way to escape from Gerald once and for all. If she could hide as an innocuous object, the guards wouldn't be able to find her and she could wait them out. Looking through the grimoire, Katarina finds just such a spell, one which will transform a person into a kind of puppet plushie. Having spied a group of children not long back in her mad dash through the woods, she settles on a plan. Sneaking onto the path in front of the way they were headed, Katarina recites the incantation and falls to the ground as a cute little puppet. Soon, she hears the voices of the children as they come near. They are delighted to find a lost toy all alone in the woods and happily take her home with them.



Everything was going according to plan, until hours later when the children got around to playing with Katarina. It wasn't mentioned in the grimoire, but a side effect of this particular transformation is that when someone put their hand into her "opening", it was like being penetrated by Gerald all over again. Better, even. Katarina had no idea what the children did with her after that, or how many hours passed, lost in a haze of ecstasy as she was. That was bad enough, but in the days of play that follow Katarina comes to realize her other mistake. When she cast the spell she was certain it had a time limit, but here she is still trapped as a stuffed puppet. At least Katarina has lots of time to wonder where she went wrong, and if she will be stuck as a plushie for the rest of her days.}

