

Five more minutes...

My steps thumped lightly on the tiled floor while I nervously paced around the bathroom. I hadn't been feeling very well for a while and I didn't know why. It appeared so suddenly. It started with dizziness and I got tired more quickly than usual. And later it got even worse with often feeling nauseous. At first I thought that my heart condition was the reason for this again, the symptoms were very similar, or I just caught a bad stomach bug. But then my period just didn't come. And it clicked in my head. I mean, there was certainly the possibility for...

My steps came to a hold and I took a deep breath. A quick glance on my phone screen told me that not even two minutes had passed. I was so incredibly nervous. Syo had to leave very early in the morning again and I called in sick at work so I took the opportunity and went to the store almost immediately after he left. I wanted to clear this suspicion up as soon as I could.

I wonder what the cashier thought when she saw me putting three pregnancy tests and a water bottle in front of her on the counter. At least she didn't say anything mean...

I must've been so pale. I have generally very light skin by nature but I felt so sick this morning that I probably looked even paler than usual. And then I was here again, in our home's bathroom, waiting for the tests to show their, hopefully, clear results. Some people may think it was crazy to take three tests at once but I really wanted to make sure. It was very important after all.

I started walking around the bathroom again. It was almost time for the reveal. My heart was beating so fast. I bit down onto my lower lip and winced. I could feel it throbbing and it certainly was swollen from all the biting I already did before. A deep sigh escaped me. Thankfully, the nausea that I felt earlier subdued a little.

[brrrring-]

The timer that I set on my phone went off. It was time. There was no turning back now. I took the pregnancy tests from the counter, without looking at them, and sat down on the tile floor with my back leaning against the heater. I felt a little lightheaded all of a sudden. I took another deep breath before turning one of the little sticks over.

Okay, Jules. Here goes nothing...

I cautiously looked down at it. The first test showed the two red lines bright and clear. Positive. My breath got stuck in my throat. I looked at the other pregnancy tests. The little windows showed that they were also positive. There was no doubt. My body fell back against the heater as if all the built up stress from inside of me went away. The breath that was stuck in my throat came out in a slow, shaky sigh.

"So my instincts were right. I am pregnant. I really have a little Kurusu bean, or even more, inside of me...", I quietly said to myself.

I guess that was a way for me to make it more real in my head. I was really pregnant. Syo and I really would be...parents. This was real.

And then, suddenly, I couldn't stop tearing up, smiling and laughing. A big wave of pure happiness just crashed over me. I didn't know if it was because of the hormones as well but I knew that the thought of finally having my own little family with the prince of my dreams made me so incredibly happy. One of my hands rested gently on my stomach. I was already falling in love with our little Kurusu family addition and I wanted to protect them. Was that how others before me felt too?

Though, there were still worries in my mind. True, Syo and I had talked about having kids and we both definitely wanted them, but what if it was bad timing? Even though the pregnancy wasn't unplanned, what if Syo wasn't ready yet...?

What if Syo comes home tonight and tells me that he got a new big job somewhere and had to leave for a while?

I shook my head to get rid of these thoughts. I've always had the bad habit of overthinking things. We're happily married! Everything would be alright. The most important thing was to tell my husband the big and exciting news. I took the phone out of my pocket and looked at Syo's number on the display. But then I decided against calling or texting him.

"This is something important to talk about face-to-face. I'll wait until tonight to tell him! But how should I tell him?", I wondered.

I wasn't sure if I should tell Syo with a big surprise pregnancy announcement like the ones on Youtube or something else. But this wasn't really me, honestly. Something simple sounded better. After some thought I decided to cook Syo's favorite meal to surprise him and then later tell him the news traditionally without overly done gifts. Just the two of us and the little future addition to our family in my belly. I nodded with a smile. I really wondered how my husband would react to the news. My phone vibrated in my hands. I looked at the device again in surprise and saw a new message from Syo. Great timing!

My Prince 👑🍷

Hey, Princess! 👑💖

I have a quick break and I wanted to check in on how you're feeling. The meeting is going well and it seems like I'm coming home earlier this evening. Is there anything I should fetch for you later on my way home? 💖✨

Me

Hey, babe~! 💖💖 I'm feeling a lot better. Thanks for asking! ☺ I'm really happy that the meeting is going well for you. You definitely have to tell me all about it later! And, since you asked, could you please get strawberries for me? And the soy sauce is almost empty as well. Thank you! 💖

My Prince 👑🍷

I'm really glad to hear that, Princess! And thank you for your everlasting support! It means a lot! I'll fetch strawberries and soy sauce for you then. I have to go back now. See ya at around 5 pm! Love ya! 🥰💖

Me

Can't wait! I love you too, My Prince~! ❤️❤️❤️

I held my phone close to my chest with a big smile. This was perfect. He was coming home earlier. And I still had more than half of the day to prepare. I couldn't wait. Then I heard little footsteps approaching and I knew exactly who it was. And indeed came our Alaskan Malamute into the bathroom and laid down closely beside me. I gently ran my hand through his fluffy fur.

"Prince, did you wanna check how I'm doing? That's really sweet of you. I'm doing a lot better now. Our family's gonna get bigger soon, buddy! Please protect them too, alright?", I told him.

Prince's ears perked up at my words. I pointed at my stomach happily and the young dog barked as if he understood what I meant and agreed to my request. What a smart boy! I slowly got up from the floor and started cleaning up. Didn't want my husband to find out the news before I told him after all. It didn't take long. I finished up and put the pregnancy tests safely away into the upper drawer of my bedside table. The nausea and dizziness were gone and I just felt happy.

The next few hours felt like they went by faster than usual. I spent most of the time playing with Prince, cleaning and reading up on important tips for a safe pregnancy. And soon the clock was almost at 5 pm. Syo said he'd be home sooner or later. I was busy in the kitchen preparing Syo's favorite meal for the surprise like I had planned. Prince was lying near the door waiting for my husband to come home as well. It was something he's been doing since he was a little puppy. My thoughts once again wandered towards the pregnancy and how Syo could react to it.

Suddenly, I heard Prince barking excitedly which meant that the man of the hour finally arrived. A few minutes passed until Syo came into the kitchen with a big smile on his face. The exact smile that's always lighting up my world. My husband wrapped his arms around me and gave me a loving kiss on the cheek.

"Good evening, my beautiful Princess Wife! I'm home! How are you feeling?"

"Heh. Hey, babe! I'm feeling a lot better than this morning for sure. Your little message helped as well. How was your day?"

Syo chuckled warmly.

"I'm glad to hear that. My work day was great. The meeting continued to go well. That role sounds really cool. I'm happy that I got it."

I smiled back at him.

"That's great! I'm so happy for you! You definitely deserve it."

“Thank you, Princess!”

My blonde man looked in front of me and noticed what I was cooking.

“Is that...? You made my favorite meal?”

“It’s an important day after all! I wanted to surprise you with this. Do you like it?”

Syo nodded and gave me a long kiss on the lips.

“You’re the best wife ever! Can I have a taste?”

I nodded and gave Syo a spoon with which he taste tested the food. Judging from his face, he really liked it. I was happy to see that. After I told my husband that I didn’t need any help in the kitchen, though it was sweet of him to offer, did Syo take Prince outside while I finished cooking.

The rest of the evening went really well. A little while later we both sat at the set table with our food and talked for what felt like hours. Even though we’ve been together for so long we never went out of topics to talk about. I’ve always liked these sweet and pretty tranquil moments we shared with each other. I really hoped these moments between us would never end. Syo went on about his day during the dinner and I was listening intensely. His stories and “idol adventures” were so interesting to me and I could listen to them forever.

It was already 8 pm when we decided to watch a movie in our bedroom. The dishes were done and we were cuddling on the bed with a bowl of popcorn balancing on our laps. On the screen was a young man, the main character, who was playing with a few kids. It was a cute scene which made me emotional. My light blue eyes wandered over to Syo who was concentrating on the TV. Even though it was dark, I could see a light smile on his face. I hadn’t told him about the pregnancy yet but I knew that it was time to break the news to him. I couldn’t keep it to myself any longer. Not that I wanted to do that anyways. My hand found his and gave it a gentle squeeze which Syo noticed and made him look back at me.

“Is everything alright, Princess?”, he asked.

Was everything alright? I mean, of course it was but I became so nervous all of a sudden. Was that normal? Everything would turn out to be okay, right? I tried my best to cover up my nervousness and smiled with a nod.

“Uh, yeah! Yeah, everything’s fine. Just...could we talk for a moment, babe? I know we’re in the middle of a movie right now but it’s kind of important...”, I answered.

My husband’s blue eyes reflected his curiosity and a little worry but he nodded, turned on the light, and paused the movie. Syo turned completely over to me and gave me his full attention while still holding my hand. I took a deep breath before starting.

“Thanks. Uh. Syo, do you remember the small weekend vacation that we took a little while ago? The one far up in Japan’s natural parts?”

Syo nodded lightly.

"Yeah, I remember! It was the first one that we took in a while. You were really excited for this time alone and so was I. It was a nice weekend."

I nodded at his words. It really was.

"Yeah. And, uh, do you also remember that one special night that we spent in that inn...?"

I could feel myself blushing like crazy at that last sentence. It was a bit embarrassing for me. Syo's reaction was the same, a pinkish blush but paired with a sweet smile. He looked away for just a small moment before meeting my gaze again.

"Of course. How could I forget?", Syo answered in a soft tone which made my heart skip a beat.

Suddenly he looked alarmed and almost panicked.

"W-wait, I didn't hurt you, did I!?", he asked.

I immediately shook my head.

"No! No, of course not! You were as gentle as ever. That's not it, babe. Please don't worry!", I fastly explained and Syo visibly relaxed again.

"It's just...you know that I'm not feeling 100% lately, right? And, well, that's because in the inn, um, something **else** happened during that night, babe. Something very special. That's why I've been feeling sick recently, y'know..."

I saw Syo's expression change from confused worry to realization after I was done talking. He definitely caught onto the little hints I gave him. I knew he would. My husband came closer to me and took both of my hands gently in his. Syo's blue eyes were full of emotions. I think mine were too if I could've seen them at that moment. His thumbs rubbed circles into the back of my hands as he asked his big question.

"Princess, are you... Are you saying that you're...pregnant?", Syo finally asked with hope in his voice.

I only nodded at first. That was all I could do at that moment. I was too overwhelmed by my emotions and at a loss for words. I, thankfully, found my voice again and could answer him.

"Y-yes, I am. I'm pregnant...", I said softly.

My husband smiled brightly from ear to ear. I think the last time that I saw him smiling big like that was on our wedding day. And there was also this sparkle in his eyes. Syo hugged me tightly without saying a word but I could feel his excitement so much that I had tears in my eyes.

"That's amazing news! I... I'm gonna be a dad! We're gonna be a real little family now! Gosh, I love you so much, Princess...that's... B-but when did you find out? Are you feeling okay or...? I have so many questions!", babbled Syo.

I chuckled at Syo's enthusiasm. It definitely made me feel a lot more reassured. I slowly turned around in Syo's arms, opened my bedside table's upper drawer and carefully gave him the three pregnancy tests. My blonde husband looked at them with great curiosity. I think seeing them made it even more real for him and, even though I already knew, for me too.

"I took these pregnancy tests this morning after I bought them at the store. All three of them. That's when I found out, so I didn't know for that long actually. When you texted me during your break today I already knew.", I said to him.

"Why didn't you tell me on the phone, Princess?"

"I actually wanted to tell you but I decided in the end that I wanted to break the news to you face-to-face. It's more personal that way."

"Yeah, you're right about that. Wait! Oh my god. Wait, ew, I'm actually touching the ***pee sticks*** right now! You peed on them, didn't you? Ew.", exclaimed Syo lightheartedly.

I knew from his tone and expression that my husband was indeed joking around. What a dork! I let out a soft laugh and lightly punched his arm.

"Pfft, don't worry, ***my dearest husband***! I used a disposable cup.", I answered.

"Heh, I'm kidding! I'm kidding!"

I smiled gently at him.

"...Are you happy, babe?", I asked Syo quietly.

I didn't know why I asked that. It was obvious, right? It just came out of my mouth. My husband smiled back at me and came closer to lay his forehead against mine. I felt his warmth and that greatly soothed me. It's always been nice to be so close to him. Syo started to speak.

"Of course I'm happy, Princess. Having children with you has always been such a big dream of mine and now...it's coming true. I couldn't be happier right now. Really. You're the best wife in the whole world. I'm truly a lucky guy."

Syo leaned forward and planted a long, sweet kiss on my lips. I could feel his smile which made me smile in return.

"Thank you, Princess. I love you so much."

He gently put his hand on my stomach with an emotion filled smile still on his face. His expression brought the tears back into my eyes. Syo looked down to my stomach and his hand.

“...And I love you too.”, he finished in a whisper.

I couldn't keep the tears in any longer and just let them finally fall. How did I ever get so lucky? I tightly wrapped my arms around Syo and hugged him. Syo hugged me back. We stayed like this for a while. I didn't know how long but it wasn't important. Syo's lips brushed over my nose in a light peck after we broke up the hug. He wiped away my tears as well as he could.

“I, ***we***, love you too.”, I answered him softly.

“I got an appointment at the gynecologist for the first pregnancy check up tomorrow morning. Do you maybe wanna come with me?”

Syo nodded enthusiastically.

“Of course, Princess! There is no way I'm gonna miss this important appointment! I definitely wanna accompany you. It's the very first check up after all! I can't wait to experience this new big and exciting chapter in our lives with you.”

“Oh really? Even with the constant sickness, mood swings, maybe even cravings and anything else not exactly 'pretty' that comes with a pregnancy?”, I asked Syo with a smirk.

He let out a laugh.

“Haha, yeah, even with that! Not that I'd mind anyways. It's my duty to protect and take care of you after all! I love you, Princess!”

I smiled at Syo and gave him a meaningful peck on the cheek.

“I love you too, babe.”