

Transported To An Isekai From An Anime Con?!

Chapter 2

When Sapphire awoke the next day, a part of her expected to be back in her world. Maybe in a hospital bed, maybe still on the floor of the anime convention with a banging headache, maybe in her own room. Nope. She opened her eyes and sighed as she recounted the past day. Somehow, by the worst possible miracle, she was still trapped in this bizarre, magical, semi-trashy Isekai anime.

Sapphire wanted to hit her head against a wall. Maybe that would wake her up. “Ughhhh,” she groaned as she propped herself up. “What am I going to do...” Her eyes glanced down at herself. At least the dresses and outfits she was offered were adorably beautiful, if there was any silver lining to this bizarre situation. Sapphire much rather preferred to get back to the anime con with her friends, though. Her first day in the new world involved being kidnapped by bandits, threatened with swords, and almost stripped down by admittedly cute maids.

An anime con might have had its creeps, its annoying rules, its downsides. But she’d take the worst convention packed with greasy nerds who didn’t know what deodorant was any day over... this.

Sapphire laid back down. She wanted to sleep. Sleep until this was all over... until she was back in her world. Isekai protagonists usually didn’t want to go back to their world - if they could remember anything about it. Sapphire, though? She supposed she wasn’t a typical Isekai protagonist.

Mostly because she was a real human being.

Just as sleep began to claim her once more, a knock on the door startled Sapphire awake. “C-come in!” She shouted instinctively, shooting up.

The door cautiously opened, and another group of three maids walked in. Same outfits, different looks otherwise. “Good morning, Princess Sapphire.” Sapphire smiled a little. She *did* like getting called a princess. That part she could get used to. “We hope you slept well?”

“Oh. Oh, yes!” Sapphire nodded a bit too eagerly. “It... was probably the comfiest bed I’ve ever slept in!”

The maids exchanged confused looks. Sapphire bit her lip. *Was that the wrong thing to say? They still think I’m a princess from another kingdom, not some... commoner, like I am in the real world...* “We did hear that your kingdom has a custom of... disallowing people to undress its royalty, however, the dresses we gave you are fairly complex to put on. Why don’t we help you today?”

They were already beginning to advance. Sapphire stepped back. “N-no, that’s okay!” She claimed. “I-I am... quite accustomed to frilly, fancy dresses.” She paused, eyeing the maids’ bewilderment and silent questioning. “B-but... thank you...?”

“Y-yes, of... course.” The one in the middle - presumably the most senior maid, if Sapphire had to guess - responded. “We will wait outside. Please notify us if you do need our assistance.”

Sapphire, internally, sighed with relief. “Of course! Um, thank you...”

God. No matter what kind of situation she faced here, Sapphire had no clue how to deal with it properly. Maybe she’d learn. Well, she hoped she wouldn’t be in this world long enough to. The maids bowed their heads, left out the door, and closed it behind them.

Sapphire collapsed back onto the bed. She hadn’t realized she had even gotten to her feet in the pandemonium. “Well... let’s see if I wasn’t lying...” Sapphire walked over to the dresser, and gazed inside. Sure enough, they looked like dresses fitting for royalty. And, indeed, they looked complex. Sapphire held one of them up gingerly, almost feeling like she was tainting it just touching it. *Okay... first step, undressing... that part is easy enough.*

It didn’t take long for Sapphire to get confused once she tried putting on the dress.

It had three layers. Three. And all three had at least two different clips to clip, zippers, or buttons. Sapphire tried to hide her frustration, not letting the maids hear her indignation. She got the first garment on, and her body felt exhausted. She was all sweaty, too, from the excitement of the day before. “One down,” she exhaled, “two to go.”

The second garment was even worse. Sapphire kept trying to pull it over her head, feeling something snag at her shoulders. But she couldn’t figure out what. She turned the dress inside and out at least three times. *Finally*, she found a zipper—

One that she pulled too hard.

Part of the fabric got caught in the dress. Sapphire froze, the blood draining from her face. “No, no, no, no—” She began to panic.

“Princess Sapphire?”

“E-everything’s fine!” Sapphire shouted.

That didn’t help her case. The maids opened the door. Sapphire turned around, hiding her shame. “Please let us help you,” one spoke. “It won’t take us long, we promise—”

“I-I’m fine! I swear!”

And before Sapphire could think, she bolted out of the room. Immediately feeling stupider than she already felt.

Sapphire continued running through the halls of a castle she barely knew, barely dressed and hardly covering herself. *Oh god, oh god, oh god, I hope I don't run into anyone. They'll surely kick me out just for my manners alone...!*

She came to what seemed like a dead end, with nothing but a grand silver door to her left. Footsteps approached her, the sound growing louder as the dread in Sapphire's heart grew. She clasped her hands together, ready to bow or fall to their knees to apologize, just as they did in typical isekai anime.

Ugh... I'm so stupid... Sapphire sulked, tears beginning to form in the corners of her eyes. *What am I going to do if I get kicked out?! I'll just get kidnapped again...!*

Sapphire let out a long, extended sigh, a louder exhale than she was meaning to. She hoped no one heard her... As if to frighten her more, the door next to her opened. Sapphire instinctively yelped, scuffling back against the opposite side of the corridor. She covered what she could of her body, preparing to be scolded by another stranger in another world—

Except, the person sticking her head out was none other than Princess Lilly. Sapphire breathed out in relief – *Wait, I still hardly know Princess Lilly! She could have her guards kill me if she wanted!*

“Princess Sapphire,” she commented with a hint of pleasant surprise. “How did you find your way over here?”

“I-I... um... I, uh...” Sapphire sighed. There was really no way to lie properly, especially when she was only half-dressed. “Y-your maids wanted to dress me, but, um, I got nervous. So I...”

Princess Lilly giggled, putting her hand against her lips gently. “You ran away, Princess Sapphire? You're so funny. Would you come into my room?”

“W-well—” *Nope*, Sapphire reminded herself, *don't protest. Can't decline a Princess' orders in her own castle.* “Sure! Thank you for having me in...”

She quickly made her way into Lilly's room. Now with a private moment, Sapphire was able to fix her attire at least a little. As she did, she looked around the spacious room with tall walls and fancy windows. As she'd expect, Lilly's room was decorated with flowers or floral patterns all around, the same theme going for all her furniture. Her bed looked like a princess' bed, with one of those curtains hanging above it.

Before Sapphire could take in her surroundings fully, Lilly grabbed onto her arm and began pulling. A playful grin sat on Lilly's face, and only grew when she saw Sapphire's surprise. “C'mon, Sapphire! I was about to take a bath, and now you can join me!”

What.

Sapphire's mind tried to process what Lilly just suggested. Her jaw was on the floor, her eyes wide with bewilderment. Did Lilly just... invite her to take a bath with her?

Lilly sure seemed determined to do so. Sapphire's mind had broken for a moment, but she began to piece herself back together and protest, "N-no! We... we can't do that! I-I mean, I hardly know you, and - and I can't share a bath! I've never done that!"

"But there's a first time for everything, Princess Sapphire!" Lilly giggled. "C'mon! Don't you want to see what some men argue to marry over?" She motioned with her other hand to her body - particularly, her chest and curves.

Sapphire's eyes followed Lilly's hand, and her face turned red like a tomato and hot like a furnace. She hadn't had a chance to truly look at Lilly's body, but now that she got a good look, her lesbian panic began to set in.

Princess Lilly truly had the body of royalty.

Sapphire wasn't worthy. Moreover, if Lilly *did* get Sapphire to take a bath with her, they'd surely...! "P-Princess Lilly, I--"

Lilly opened the door to her own personal bathroom -- which was just as ornate and royal as her bedroom -- and pulled Sapphire inside. "I can turn the water on so it's nice and warm," she continued, "and then we can clean each other! I've never gotten to do this with a friend before!"

Neither had Sapphire. She definitely wanted to keep it that way.

"I know your kingdom's values mean I can't undress you... but at least you can watch me undress, y'know...?" Princess Lilly smiled, her own face blushing as well. She averted her eyes and began to take off her clothes.

Oh god oh god oh god oh god oh god.

Sapphire was completely speechless. This isekai anime she somehow ended up in had *fanservice* too? She was not going to be able to hold herself together. If... If Princess Lilly was going to show herself off 'for the fans', as they'd say, then would that knight and the other beautiful women do so too?

Sapphire's mind worked at a million miles a minute. Princess Lilly pulled her top off, the steam covering her just enough...

And then Sapphire's lesbian panic had her sprinting out of the room, apologizing profusely.

"Wait, Princess Sapphire!" Lilly's voice dropped, having less of a teasing tone and more of a worried one. Princess Sapphire stopped in her tracks, before she could leave Lilly's room. Meekly, she turned around, and they met eyes with each other. She'd putten her shirt back on, that was at least good...

"I... I do hope I didn't make you uncomfortable... But, but is there a reason you won't take a bath with me?"

Sapphire's heart broke. She was... disappointing Lilly. It wasn't only that she was frightened of getting kicked out for doing so, but Sapphire didn't want to hurt Lilly as a friend, either. They'd only known each other for a night, but...

Sapphire sighed, quickly trying to think of an excuse that would placate her friend. "I apologize, Princess Lilly. It's... considered rude in my kingdom to, um, to undress in front of someone, before you've, um, before you've known them for a week. I-I'm sorry." Another crappy excuse, blaming it on this 'kingdom' Sapphire piled lies onto. She was going to have to find a way to keep track of them.

How many of these lies was Sapphire going to have to make up? And how many of them could she keep track of? Most importantly, how many times will she lie before she inevitably gets caught?!

"I understand, Princess Sapphire." Princess Lilly's voice was soft, and though Sapphire could sense some hints of sensitivity and melancholy, mostly – she sounded happy to still have a friend. And she sounded reassured.

Sapphire held in her exhale. "R-right. I'm... I'm going to, uh... take a shower. W-would you please tell your maids that I'm – I'm okay dressing myself and that I will call them should anything, um, happen?"

"Of course," Princess Lilly answered, and Sapphire could sense the smile on her lips.

Awkwardly, and as quietly as possible, she sauntered back to her room. Wherever it was... Sapphire wasn't actually sure. As best she could, she tried to retrace her steps. Thoughts and concerns rampaged through Sapphire's brain, trying to process her situation, thinking of how – and where – her friends might be.

But as her mind wandered aimlessly, Sapphire came to when she felt her body bump lightly into someone else's.

"I'm so sorry!" She immediately burst into apologies. "That was so clumsy of me, I apolog—"

Sapphire's long string of apologies and pleas for mercy ended. Looking down at her – at Sapphire, still dressed with nothing but a bath towel – was the Queen of the castle. She sure wasn't happy when Sapphire arrived at her mansion, and she definitely didn't look pleased now.

Her eyes glinted with malice, looking Sapphire's body up and down. "Princess Sapphire," she regarded, "does it happen that your kingdom teaches its subjects to bump into royalty sans any clothes?"

"O-of course not, your Majesty," Sapphire bowed her head lightly and closed her eyes shut. "That was extremely clumsy of me. I promise, I will be more—"

"Spare me," the Queen snapped. "I haven't the time for your useless apologies. My daughter has requested we be merciful, despite your outlandish... everything. And I intend to

honor her wishes. And yet, I happened to hear your little conversation in her room. And I happened to hear how disappointed and let down my daughter sounded.”

Sapphire’s jaw hung slack. She didn’t know what to say. Her instincts were to run away, leave in a hurry – but she couldn’t. Not only because she was *still* almost naked. But because she had nowhere else to go.

“Do note,” the Queen continued, glaring down at Sapphire, “just because I am royalty does not mean I am not trained in combat and magic as well. I have studied the sword for years, and magic for even longer. Princess Sapphire, I will continue to allow your presence. But...”

The Queen grabbed Sapphire’s chin and gripped it – not tight enough to hurt, but tight enough to assert dominance.

“Should you do anything – *absolutely* anything – to hurt my dear daughter, I will have you obliterated in mere seconds.”

“I... I understand, your Majesty,” Sapphire whimpered through her broken, anxiety-ridden voice.

Finally, the Queen let her go. “Good,” she sighed. “Do keep those words in mind.”

And with no other words, the Queen turned around and left. Where to? Her chambers? Sapphire shook her head. That wasn’t her main concern, not in the slightest. She was more worried about the prospect of getting killed.

Though... maybe getting killed would send her back to the real world?

No. She couldn’t think such things. Sapphire, as quietly as possible, returned to her room.

The second the door was locked, Sapphire dropped the bath towel, and collapsed on the ground. Adrenaline ran through her body, her heart raced, and sweat dripped down her temples. This world was far too dangerous, if something like turning down a joint bath would put her life at risk.

Trying to banish those grim thoughts from her mind, Sapphire looked through her dresser. Normally, she would find the most gorgeous dress, something that would bring out her natural charm and beauty. But she just tried to find the thing that was easiest to put on. Which, somehow, was still a three piece dress involving a corset, an underlayer, and the dress itself.

With not much else to do – other than remain stunned at how beautiful even the most simple dress was – Sapphire sat on the bed, hunched over, and meditated on her current situation.

She didn’t know what to do. Neither how to get back to her world, nor how to navigate this one.

Sapphire wasn't given much time to linger in her worries, for soon after she got dressed and sat down for a second, a gentle bell rang at her door.

"Princess Sapphire?" The voice of Princess Lilly asked, soft and gentle, "are you all right? May I come in?"

"Y-yeah! Um, I mean, yes, of course! Please come in, your highness," Sapphire stumbled, forcing her speech into an elegant and high-class tone.

Princess Lilly opened the door and walked in. She was smiling, though even Sapphire could see the anxiety behind it. Was she still nervous about her earlier blunder? Or was she nervous about having a new friend? Sapphire could relate to both, for sure.

"Good morning to you," she curtsied, her form past perfection. "You look so beautiful in that dress. Does it fit well? I hope it doesn't deviate too far from your kingdom's natural attire."

"G-good morning!" Sapphire stood up and bowed. "N-not at all! I love this dress a lot, all of them were so beautiful. I... thank you again for letting me stay here, your highness." Sapphire curtsied back — or tried to — but her form was not nearly as practiced.

Lilly's smile widened, some of the tension easing on her face. "Am I so glad to hear that! I was hoping you could come with me. I'm unsure how long you will be here, so I would love to show you around our castle. Would you join me, Sapphire?"

Her heart skipped. All Lilly was offering was a house tour and yet it sounded like a date. "T-that would be amazing, your highness! Please, show me around anywhere you'd like."

Princess Lilly smiled bashfully and waved her hands, "please, just Lilly is fine. At least, not whilst around my parents."

"Just... Lilly," Sapphire echoed. "Of course! I understand, Lilly."

"Very well," Lilly straightened out her dress. "Shall we, then?"

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Sapphire knew the castle would be large, judging just by the exterior and what she saw. But she still underestimated it far too much. The castle was enormous, and extravagant in every way imaginable. All of the maids were trained, well-mannered, and courteous to "Princess" Sapphire despite her bizarre aesthetic. They had *multiple* libraries, *multiple* theaters for personal performances, hell, Lilly had a whole wing to herself. If places like this existed in Sapphire's world, she sure had no clue about it.

Lilly promised to save the best part for last, trying — and sadly failing — to contain her excitement. And finally on the way to the aforementioned 'best part', someone caught Lilly's attention. She beamed as she called them over.

“Oh my gosh, I have to introduce you!” Princess Lilly grabbed Sapphire by the wrist and dragged her along before she could express any restraint. “This is my magic teacher, Princess Sapphire!”

“Hmm?” The person they approached — a tall elf with two braids, a cloak painted with various obscure symbols, and a calm demeanor about her — looked Sapphire up and down with surprise. But then she turned her attention to Princess Lilly.

“Your highness,” she chided, putting a hand on Lilly’s shoulder to stop her. “You know better than to run in the hallways. But, it’s lovely to see you.”

And then she turned to Sapphire, her eyes narrowed with a hint of judgement, “and... this is...?”

”Princess Sapphire!”

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-They go into the library/study room, and Lilly tries a simple spell - making a ball of light in her hands - but she can't do it too well and it fails. Her teacher is reassuring and says she's still learning, she's improved a lot in the last month.

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-This gives Lilly an idea to show Sapphire some of her magic artifacts. She gets called away for something royal/important but tells Sapphire to meet her by the large spiral staircase later. Sapphire wanders around and eventually finds the spiral staircase - Lilly is already there, and drags Sapphire down to the basement. There's a room where Lilly keeps all the magic artifacts. She then shows Sapphire there's a secret door she knows of, with all of her parent's magic belongings, but she doesn't know how to open it for real.

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-Just as she starts to try, a knight comes down and orders Sapphire and Lilly to come back up and report to the King and Queen. They rush to the chambers and find the most prominent soldiers at the ready. It turns out that a neighboring kingdom has been attacked by the Demon

Lord's lackies, reported by a citizen who escaped the kingdom. (Sapphire thinks "well it wouldn't be an isekai without a Demon Lord")

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-The King and Queen begin planning. Lilly suggests they should perform the Seven Heroes creation ritual. The King says that Sapphire should be taken home so she is not involved in any more danger so they plan to have her start to have her escorted out of the kingdom. Lilly says that she and Sapphire will take care of finding the rest of the Seven Heroes. Sapphire sees this as a way to get out of having to lie her way out of explaining where she is from, So she says that she would be happy to return the favor of having her life be saved by helping fight against the demon lord. The King and Queen reluctantly agree.

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-Sapphire and Lilly go to the library to start looking for hints and clues. Hyacinth joins them and says she wants to join them in their quest (actually, the King just asked her to keep them safe). Hyacinth is clearly a female himbo and suggests they just venture off with no information.

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-After a bit of searching - Hyacinth isn't reading, she's just telling Sapphire about her various adventures - Lilly finds a book that reads out the fairy tale - it describes each of the heroes in each of the kingdoms. Lilly recognizes one of the kingdoms, and they agree to get some rest and go there first thing in the morning.