

# Once Upon A Grey Day

By KisshuXxMewKimiko

Submitted: May 5, 2007

Updated: May 5, 2007

*A Shaman King fan fiction that's a little bit twisted into a fantasy novel type thing, but not enough to shame the author.*

Provided by Fanart Central.

<http://www.fanart-central.net/stories/user/KisshuXxMewKimiko/45435/Once-Upon-A-Grey-Day>

<b>Chapter 1 - Most Stories Begin With "Once Upon A Time"</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Chapter 2 - A Hole In My Life</b>	<b>6</b>

# 1 - Most Stories Begin With "Once Upon A Time"

A "Shaman King" fan fiction by the ultimate "Shaman King" guru. I've made a few twists, but not so many it insults the author. I adore Hiroyuki Takei.

---

Disclaimer: I do not own the manga and/or anime "Shaman King" or any traits referring to it in any way, for I am not Hiroyuki Takei and I did not sit in a studio for thirteen hours a day surrounded only by pen, paper, and a few assistant mangakas. Not yet, at least (lol). However, any Ladies-In-Waiting you may find I own, as well as any Knights, villagers, Princesses, ect. The two main characters I really wish to put highlights on are Finn and Ryce, the two main female characters. It takes a while to get used to personalities such as these characters, and I'm fairly proud of them.

Also!:

Some of you may notice that the first chapter is based on a scenerio from the Junior Highschool Musical, "Once Upon A Matress." I do not rightfully own this scene, and I swear that it will be the only scene I use from "Once Upon A Matress." However, I must admit, the title was inspired by the title of the play. Deal with it! ^.^~

One last thing!: (I swear!)

You may see Ren's name come up as "Prince Ren" or Jun's name come up as "Princess Jun". Believe me, I am in no way confused about their social status. Simply put, it is a way of informing the Knights and Ladies-In-Waiting that the family they serve is superior.

All done!

---

**Once Upon A Grey Day**

**Prologue**

**"Throughout the land, no one may wed 'till Ren Tao to the altar's led."**

**This is the law that so many people lived by for many years. An appaulling law that nobody could seem to cope with. Oridinarily, this sort of law would not be a problem with the people of the Ghiouze Province. However, the "Prince" refused to accept any of the Princesses interviewed as his bride, even the daughter of the Great Emporer of China. And whenever he thought he had found a decent match, his twin sister, Ryce, would always plot up a test that was impossible to pass. I hated this law for the longest time, for until the Prince were married, no one throughout the Ghiouze Province could bewed.**

**My name is Lady Finn. At that time, I was the Lady-In-Waiting for the only daughter of the ruler's family. Well respected among my fellow Ladies-In-Waiting, I served as sort of a ro-model, some say. However, I'm not saying this to brag. The title is not an easy one to keep up with. No, no. Every day, I tried my hardest not to bawl in the face of fear. Believe you me, this was no ordinary family we served.**

**However, despite all of the feuds we all faced, almost every Lady-In-Waiting had a special knight she adored; myself included. The knight I admired most was well known as Sir Kenric. Many years from then, I'm starting to question why I was so incredibly blind towards what I really wanted. Who could blame a girl, though? Sir Kenric could have been mistaken for an angel if not for his cold stare.**

**"Lady Finn," he used to say. "If not for the wretched law, and the Prince's stubborn nature, I'd have you already."**

And I would always reply, "As far as I'm concerned, we're already eternally tied."  
I couldn't stand the thought of not marrying.  
I suppose that's the reason that my thoughts were so clouded. As far as I knew, Sir Kenric would  
be my eternal love once the Prince were married.  
I was entirely wrong.

---

## Chapter One

### Some Stories Start With "Once Upon A Time"

Finn's heart was beating loudly in her head, like the sound of war drums. Could this Princess  
finally be the one?

Finn stood there, the other Ladies-In-Waiting crowding behind her. Excited whispers were  
escaping the girls' lips as the Prince scrutinized the Princess thoroughly. The tension was  
rising in both the hearts of the Ladies-In-Waiting and the Princess. Princess No. Twelve stood  
there, still as a tree, her gentle hands clasped behind her back and her head held high. The  
Prince seemed to admire how she stood proudly, but there was an unsure expression on his  
face.

Finn couldn't understand why he wouldn't want a girl such as this Princess. She was everything  
that the others had lacked.

This young lady did not wear something revealing; Instead, a simple, yellow summer dress that  
reached her knees and flip-flop shoes. Her hair was light brown-- almost golden in the right  
light-- and her eyes were a gorgeous oceanic blue. She knew when to speak and when to hold  
her tongue, and she seemed so comfortable near the Prince. Princess No. Twelve did not fear  
him at all, and clearly wasn't concerned with the wealth that would come along with it. Simple  
and clean. That's what this girl was.

"Maybe," the Prince said, quietly, his eyes still scanning the Princess like a computer. "Maybe..."

Princess Ryce stood from her chair. "Ren!" She cried, making her way down towards her  
brother.

Finn raised her eyebrows and rolled her eyes. Everybody knew what was coming.

"I refuse to allow my brother to bewed a Princess if she is not properly educated!" Ryce said, her  
voice growing shrill and impatient. "And because I knew you would be so blind as to look past  
this feature, I've prepared a well plotted out test for the occasion."

Nobody had ever passed one of Princess Ryce's tests. Not ever. The questions always began  
quite easy; Things like the color of the sky, the name of a mythological creature with scales and  
the wings of the devil. However, soon after, the questions became a bit challenging; The name of  
a mythological creature with the body of a horse and the head of a man, the reason the sky is  
blue, and the name of the wife's second husband whom gave birth to the child whom grew into a  
man commonly known as King Arthur.

Finn had completely lost hope by now. Why was Ryce so cruel?

"Now," Ryce began. "Please answer the questions as follows. One: What was the name of a man commonly known as 'The Knight of the Red Cross'? Two: What beast did he slay? And three: What was the middle name of the daughter in law of the blacksmith whom forged the sword which slain the beast?"

Princess No. Twelve looked confident at first. "One," she began, "King Ethelred. Two, the dragon. And three..." She paused for a moment. "Er... u-uhm..."

"What? Don't you know?" Ryce's voice was mocking and cold, as it always was. She put an arm around her twin brother's shoulder. "You've got ten seconds."

Finn gulped.

Princess No. Twelve suddenly lost her cool. She began fidgeting and twirling strands of hair between her fingers while digging deep into her mind to find the answer that she did not know. "Uh...uhm..."

"I'm terribly sorry," Ryce said, a sinister smile creeping across her pale lips. "Your time is up."

"No!" Princess No. Twelve exhaled, softly. She stomped her foot on the floor in a way that proved her frustration.

Prince Ren made a sour face and brushed his sister's arm off.

"Thank you so much for the amusement!" Ryce said, bitterly mocking the Princess. "Remember, blood will tell, and yours just didn't tell enough. Goodbye! Good luck! Get out."

Princess No. Twelve turned in a huff and left the room with a flourish. Many groans and grumbles emerged from the mouths of the Ladies-In-Waiting and the Knights.

Finn folded her arms over her chest and exhaled, loudly. What a drag her job was turning out to be. She didn't mind being Princess Jun's Lady-In-Waiting, however she despised the tension of awaiting for the Prince to finally marry so that she may be with Sir Kenric.

Ryce led her brother up the stairs and away from the Great Hall rather quickly when she saw the glares she was receiving from the spectators. "I don't like this," she had said to her brother in a low whisper. "I'll cut their eyes out later." With that, she hooked arms with Prince Ren and swept away gracefully, as if she had never been there.

Why is Ryce so cruel? Finn always thought. She should be happy for her brother if he decides to be-wed another. It only means that she may marry someone herself one day.

"Alright girls," Finn said, cracking her knuckles. "Back to work."

---

That's all for now!

What will the future bring for our beloved Prince?

Will Finn ever marry Sir Kenric?

*Just what is with Ryce?*

*Find out NEXT TIME!*

*Just the beginning chapter. Please R&R!*

## 2 - A Hole In My Life

### *Once Upon A Grey Day*

*A "Shaman King" fan fiction by the ultimate "Shaman King" guru. I've made a few twists, but not so many it insults the author. I adore Hiroyuki Takei.*

---

*Disclaimer: I do not own the manga and/or anime "Shaman King" or any traits referring to it in any way, for I am not Hiroyuki Takei and I did not sit in a studio for thirteen hours a day surrounded only by pen, paper, and a few assistant mangakas. Not yet, at least (lol). However, any Ladies-In-Waiting you may find I own, as well as any Knights, villagers, Princesses, ect. The two main characters I really wish to put highlights on are Finn and Ryce, the two main female characters. It takes a while to get used to personalities such as these characters, and I'm fairly proud of them.*

### *Also!:*

Of course, everything about the names and such are posted on the first chapter and introduction pages, so I won't waste the strength in my fingers to type all of it up again. A few more characters I would love to put highlights on:

- 1) Lady Finn, Jun's lead Lady-In-Waiting
- 2) Princess Ryce Tao, Ren's bossy twin sister
- 3) Lady Alene, Finn's dearest friend and librarian as well as tutor to Princess Ryce and Prince Ren
- 4) Sir Haiyess, Finn's elder brother and Knight to the Tao family and would-be Princess Ryce's fiance
- 5) Sir Xavior, Knight to the Tao family and would-be Lady Alene's fiance
- 6) Sir Kenric, Knight to the Tao family and would-be Lady Finn's fiance

The three main girls in my story are Lady Finn, Princess Ryce, and Lady Alene. As well as their would-be fiances. Yep, yep, they're mine. All are based on real live people, including the would-be fiances, so judging them would be a sin; as well as stealing anybody's characters in the first place, unless you have a disclaimer. Disclaimers are good things. ^\_^

---

### *Once Upon A Grey Day*

#### *Chapter Two*

#### *A Hole In My Life*

The next few days dragged on like a hot day in Hell. No more Princesses had come to be interviewed, and the afternoons were moving on rather sluggishly. Except for Ryce, whom felt rather proud of herself for making the twelfth Princess fail the test. She could have hugged herself, she was so confident. Ryce went on through the next few days singing and humming, skipping and dancing, and over all loving life. The smile never left her face, even in the presence of her brutal father.

Things were going differently for Ren. He was beyond depressed. Everything seemed to annoy him, making him raise an eyebrow and roll his eyes. It wasn't as if he'd ever smiled in the

first place, but the kid just didn't seem too cheerful. Nothing-- not even the lessons he received from another Lady-In-Waiting-- could cheer him up.

"Ren?" Alene asked one day, pushing her glasses closer to her chocolate-brown eyes. "Is something troubling you at all?"

Ren simply shrugged as if that would get rid of all of his problems. Not very many things humored him-- Alene knew this-- but he'd been particularly upset lately.

Alene pushed her red bangs away from her face and messed with her ponytail that hung tied by her neck. She was the librarian of the residence. Often times, when you went into the large room that sheltered so many books, Alene wouldn't even notice your presence. Her eyes would be scanning the letters engraved on the white sheets of paper protected by a hard, wood cover. Books. Oh, yes, Alene loved books. The best idea of a good time in Alene's mind would be a chilly winter's night, curled up in a blanket next to the fireplace with a warm mug of hot chocolate and a book. The typical, every day book-worm.

The study in which Alene taught Ren and Ryce what normal teenagers won't learn until college had an extremely high ceiling. Book shelves full-- not a single space for another book to take refuge-- they reached all the way up to the ceiling. A person had to use a ladder to reach the top, which always made Alene wonder how exactly the books up there were stacked so neatly from such a high area. Did they pick themselves up and climb to the top? Or did regular people have to levitate them to put them up there? Questions almost always loomed in Alene's mind. Still, she never spoke of what she thought. "Nonsense!" Everybody would say. "You're crazy. A complete lunatic!"

Everybody but Lady Finn, Alene's greatest friend in these times of desperation.

"Ren." Alene's voice was a bit more assertive than usual. "Don't hide things from me. I have sources."

"Yeah? Like what?"

Ren impatiently tapped his fingers on the surface of the desk. A smug smile crept across Alene's face. "Oh, I don't know," she said with sarcasm. "Maybe the array of Knights that salute you every day. Maybe the Ladies-In-Waiting than can only dream of being a Princess to win your love."

"I don't want love," Ren insisted. "I just want to be left alone."

Alene chewed on the end of her pencil. Not a moment after his words, Ryce came into the study.

"Hello, my darling brother, dear!" She said in song, wrapping her arms kindly around her brother's neck. "Are we having a bad day?"

Ren didn't answer, which only caused Ryce to act up more.

"Have a headache?" She asked. "Is your head ready to explode? Anxiety building in your heart and seeping at your soul, dear brother? Or is it the depression keeping your thoughts bound because that one little Princess was not able to pass the test."

"Stop, Ryce," Ren ordered. "You're acting childish."

"And you're acting too grown up," Ryce whined. "Come on. Let's skip out on lessons today and go train out in the back yard. What do you say, brother? Or are you too grown up for training now?"

Ren shrugged off her grasp and stood from his seat. "If I were to fight with you right now, I'd rip your spleen out while you watched, sister," he said, bitterly. "That's how much you are pissing me off."

Ryce giggled a little bit, sounding a bit disturbed for a moment and making Alene shudder.

"Silly brother," Ryce cooed. "Don't you want to play with your sister anymore?"

Ren made a sour face. He felt like spitting in her direction. She'd been acting sick lately. "I'd rather tear my fingernails out with pliers." He growled.

Ryce glared at him. "Whatever," she complained. "Just remember that I'm still your sister. Your twin, to be precise. My dear brother, try as you might, you cannot change my birth, and you cannot change yours."

Just you wait, Ren wanted to shout. You'll see. My purpose in life will be complete the day that you rust on my blade.

However, rather than spouting off what would sound like nonsense to his imp of a sister, he simply stuffed his hands in his pants pockets, walked in the opposite direction and pretended to examine a few books.

"Interesting." Alene said. Ryce almost hadn't noticed she was there. "I can see that there's a bit of emotional tension going on here."

Ryce snickered. "And did you figure that one out all on your own?" There was sarcasm in her tone. "What a smart little librarian you must be."

"Don't be snippy, Ryce," Alene snapped. "You may be the Princess, but if not for me, you wouldn't have the knowledge to even know the answers to the questions you give to those poor Princesses."

Ryce smirked. "Right, right."

She ran a finger across the table as she made her way over to a chair. Immediately, she sat down and wiped off the dust that had been left on her fingertip.

Dearest brother, she thought, her inhuman stare moving towards Ren. You don't even know it. But slowly, surely, you're beginning to give in to me.

Suddenly, Ren felt a sudden jolt in the side of his head, which soon after erupted into a raging headache. He decided he had had enough for one day, and left the library so that he could rest in his bedroom. It had been a long day even before his meeting with Ryce and Alene.

----

*That's all for now, folks!*

*What is it Ryce is truly planning?*

*Will Ren ever fall in love?*

*Will my chapters ever be a bit longer?*

*Find out NEXT TIME!*

*Please R&R!*

*-Larken*