

= Pig Bride =

Pig Bride ( Korean : ????? ??? ) is a manhwa written and illustrated by Huh Kook @-@ hwa ( ??? ) and Kim Su @-@ jin ( ??? ) . The story follows Si @-@ Joon Lee , who was tricked as an eight @-@ year @-@ old boy , into fulfilling a prophecy and marrying the mysterious " Pig Bride " - a young blonde girl who hides her supposedly disfigured face under a pig @-@ faced mask . When Si @-@ Joon turns sixteen , the Bride reappears and causes havoc , interrupting the blossoming romance between Si @-@ Joon and classmate Doe @-@ Doe .

The series was released in five volumes between 2007 and 2008 in South Korea by Haksan Publishing and later localized by Yen Press for North American distribution . Yen Press also serialized Pig Bride in Yen Plus , a manga anthology . Yen Press 's localization kept the Korean onomatopoeia and sound effects and used Anglicization followed by the English translation . Reception of the initial volumes was mixed and the entire series was reviewed negatively by Manga Critic 's Katherine Dacey as one of the worst manga of 2009 . The artwork and styling received mixed praise , but the manhwa @-@ style artwork was noted to be a divisive aspect for readers .

= = Plot = =

Rebellious and spoiled eight @-@ year @-@ old Si @-@ Joon Lee is sent to a summer camp in the mountains by his senator father . He escapes and finds himself lost , but is saved when he finds a house in the middle of nowhere . A mysterious woman who lives there reveals to him that he is part of an ancient prophecy and must marry her daughter , Mu @-@ Yeon , a descendant of the Park family of the ' Park Bride ' folktale . The daughter is a small girl of Si @-@ Joon 's age who hides her face behind a smiling pig mask . Tempted by food , Si @-@ Joon agrees to the marriage . That night , Mu @-@ Yeon tells him she will meet him on his sixteenth birthday . True to her words , on his sixteenth birthday , she appears before Si @-@ Joon with her sister and bodyguard , Mu @-@ Hwa . A holy priest who serves Si @-@ Joon 's family reveals that the marriage must commence and the prophecy must be fulfilled or Si @-@ Joon will die before the year ends . Si @-@ Joon attempts to live his life normally , but begins to experience flashbacks involving his past life and Mu @-@ Yeon . The last volume 's epilogue reveals that Mu @-@ Yeon became South Korea 's first female president , Si @-@ Joon continues to " work behind the scenes " , Ji @-@ Oh became a doctor , Mu @-@ Hwa became the head of Secret Service , and Doe Doe became a banker .

= = Production = =

Huh had difficulty in designing the Pig Girl 's mask and attempted several different designs which were rejected before arriving at the chosen mask , but cannot imagine Mu @-@ Yeon wearing any other mask now . Yen Press licensed Pig Bride for an English @-@ language release in North America and began serializing it in the manga anthology Yen Plus . The final issue of Yen Plus in July 2010 contained the conclusion to Pig Bride . The English localization process included Korean onomatopoeia and sound effects with the anglicized word followed by the English translations . Signage and text is commonly written with English translations in or near the panel it appears instead of replacing the original text .

= = Volume list = =

= = Reception = =

Joy Kim of Manga Life also praised the art style saying the characters were distinctive . She criticized the relationship of the lead couple , Si @-@ Joon Lee and Mu @-@ Yeon Park , saying that Mu @-@ Yeon should not be so sweet and protective of someone who does not return her

feelings . Kim praised the character Ji @-@ Oh Yun as the most interesting character in the series and that his relationship with Mu @-@ Hwa Park is interesting . Melinda Beasi of Manga Bookshelf reviewed the first volume and concluded that despite being " somewhat muddled , the visual storytelling is not . The art is clean , lovely , and easy to follow , with a nicely restrained use of elaborate backgrounds and imaginative panel layouts . The character designs are pretty , distinct , and occasionally even creepy , as with Mu @-@ Yeon 's eternally smiling mask . The overall look is undeniably " manhwa " ? a draw for some and a turn @-@ off for others . " Erin Jones of Mania.com noted the distinct and typical romance story in the first volume , but found the first volume enjoyable and noted that the interactions of the " Pig Girl " are what will drive the series despite the volume ending without strong development of the characters . A review of volume two by Pop Culture Shock gave it a " B + " despite confusion caused by the plot and " vagueness on the villain front , Pig Bride is still a very entertaining tale . "

The series was received negatively by Katherine Dacey of Mangacritic.com where it was listed as fifth on Manga Critic 's " The 2009 Manga Hall of Shame Inductees " . Dacey criticized the series ' lack of comedy , art style , and the personality of girls stating the author must hate girls . Kurt Hassler of Yen Press rebutted Mangacritics review and disagreed and praised the characters and the art style . Hassler 's response to the review led to Dacey modifying her review to specify it was not hatred of women , but of the characters . Hassler also highlighted a quote from a review by Julie of Manga Maniac Cafe , a personal website , which stated , " The art alone makes this title worthy of a read , with its fine lines , elegant details , and overall attractiveness ? the vision revealed inside this book is gorgeous . Dramatic and comedic scenes are played out with equal effectiveness , making the visuals a joy to behold . "