ESCAPING THE DELTA ROBERT JOHNSON AND THE INVENTION Printable PDF

Escaping the Delta Robert Johnson and the Invention

The phrase "escaping the delta Robert Johnson and the invention" evokes a fascinating journey into the heart of blues history, musical innovation, and the mythic narratives that surround one of America's most influential genres. To fully understand this concept, it's essential to explore the origins of Robert Johnson, the cultural and musical landscape of the Mississippi Delta, and how the "invention"?be it the blues itself or other musical innovations?shaped the narrative of escape, transformation, and artistic liberation.

Understanding the Delta Blues and Robert Johnson?s Legacy

Who Was Robert Johnson?

Robert Johnson (1911?1938) is often hailed as the "King of the Delta Blues." His guitar playing, songwriting, and haunting vocals have left an indelible mark on American music. Johnson's recordings from the 1930s, such as "Cross Road Blues" and "Hellhound on My Trail," are considered quintessential blues standards and have influenced countless musicians across genres, from rock to jazz.

Despite his short life, Johnson's mythic persona?rumored to have sold his soul at the crossroads?embodies themes of struggle, mystique, and transcendence. His music captures the essence of the Mississippi Delta's socio-economic realities, including poverty, racial discrimination, and a desire for escape.

The Mississippi Delta: Cradle of the Blues

The Mississippi Delta region, often called the "Birthplace of the Blues," is a fertile cultural ground where African American musical traditions blended with folk, spirituals, and work songs. This environment fostered a style characterized by expressive guitar work, call-and-response vocals, and themes of hardship and hope.

The delta's geographic isolation and socio-economic hardships drove musicians like Johnson to channel their experiences into powerful musical expressions. The delta blues served as both a reflection of their struggles and a form of spiritual and emotional liberation.

The Concept of "Escaping" in the Delta Blues Narrative

Metaphorical and Literal Escapes

The idea of "escaping" in relation to Robert Johnson and the delta blues can be interpreted in multiple ways:

- **Literal escape**: Leaving the oppressive environment of the Mississippi Delta to seek better opportunities elsewhere, such as northern cities during the Great Migration.
- **Metaphorical escape**: Using music as a means to transcend socio-economic and racial barriers, achieving personal and spiritual liberation.
- **Mythical escape**: The legendary stories of Johnson selling his soul at the crossroads to gain extraordinary musical talent, symbolizing a forsaking of mortal limitations for supernatural aid.

The Great Migration and Musical Escape

One of the most significant historical escapes was the Great Migration (1916?1970), during which millions of African Americans left the rural South to urban centers in the North. This movement was driven by the desire to escape racial violence, poverty, and limited opportunities.

Musicians like Robert Johnson, although not directly part of the migration, embodied the broader aspiration for escape through their art. Their music became a vehicle for expressing the pain of displacement and the hope for a freer, more prosperous life.

The Invention of the Blues and Its Role in Cultural Liberation

Origins and Development of the Blues

The blues as a musical genre evolved from African American spirituals, work songs, and field hollers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It was "invented" by marginalized communities to articulate their struggles, joys, and hopes.

Key elements of the blues include:

- 12-bar blues structure
- Blue notes (flattened thirds, fifths, sevenths)
- Call-and-response patterns
- Expressive lyrics centered on love, hardship, and resilience

This musical "invention" became a powerful form of social commentary, offering a voice to those silenced by systemic oppression.

The Blues as a Form of Liberation

The invention of the blues provided a platform for marginalized voices to articulate their realities. It became a form of cultural resistance, allowing African Americans to carve out an identity rooted in resilience and artistic expression.

Through blues music, artists could "escape" the limitations of their socio-economic circumstances, finding empowerment and community in their craft. The genre's influence extended beyond music, inspiring social movements and fostering a sense of collective identity.

The Mythology of the Crossroads and the "Deal with the Devil"

The Legend of Robert Johnson at the Crossroads

One of the most enduring myths surrounding Robert Johnson is that he sold his soul at the crossroads of Highway 61 and Highway 49 in Mississippi to gain his extraordinary guitar skills. This legend symbolizes the tension between natural talent and supernatural intervention, emphasizing themes of sacrifice and the desire for escape from mortal limitations.

While this story is more myth than fact, it captures the universal human desire to transcend ordinary existence and find extraordinary meaning or success.

Implications of the Myth for the "Escape" Narrative

The crossroads myth reflects the idea of making a Faustian bargain to escape suffering, poverty, or obscurity. It embodies the tension between authentic artistic expression and external forces that seem to offer shortcuts to fame?often at a cost.

In a broader sense, it underscores the human longing to break free from circumstances perceived as confining or oppressive, whether through music, spirituality, or other means.

Contemporary Perspectives on Escaping the Delta and Its Inventions

Modern Musicians and Cultural Mobility

Today, artists continue to seek ways to escape their origins or the constraints imposed by societal structures. The legacy of Robert Johnson and the delta blues inspires musicians worldwide to transcend their backgrounds through innovation and resilience.

Some ways contemporary artists escape include:

- Fusing traditional blues with other genres like rock, jazz, or hip-hop
- Using digital platforms to reach global audiences
- Engaging in social activism through music

Preserving and Innovating the Delta Blues

While the delta blues originated in a specific historical and geographical context, its influence persists. Musicians and scholars work to preserve its roots while also innovating and adapting the genre to reflect contemporary experiences.

This ongoing process exemplifies the continuous "escape" from historical limitations?transforming the original "invention" into a dynamic, evolving art form.

Conclusion: Embracing the Journey of Escape and Innovation

The journey of "escaping the delta Robert Johnson and the invention" encapsulates a broader narrative of resilience, cultural expression, and artistic evolution. It highlights how marginalized communities used music as a means of liberation?both literal and metaphorical?and how myths like the crossroads story symbolize universal desires for transcendence.

By understanding the roots of the blues, the myths surrounding Johnson, and the ongoing innovations in the genre, we gain insight into the power of music as a tool for escape and transformation. Whether through historical migration, mythic storytelling, or contemporary artistic endeavors, the delta blues continue to inspire those seeking to break free from their circumstances and create a new future.

Keywords for SEO Optimization: delta blues, Robert Johnson, Mississippi Delta, blues mythology, musical innovation, cultural escape, Great Migration, crossroads legend, blues history, African American music, musical liberation, blues influence, blues legends

Escaping the Delta: Robert Johnson and the Invention

The mystique surrounding Robert Johnson, the legendary blues musician often dubbed the "King of the Delta Blues," has captivated music enthusiasts and scholars for decades. His brief recording career in the late 1930s has spawned countless legends, myths, and theories?most notably, the story of his supposed pact with the devil at the crossroads. Yet beyond the mythos, there exists an intriguing narrative exploring the concept of "escaping the delta"?not only geographically but culturally and spiritually?and how Johnson's life and music embody this journey. This article delves

into the myth, the historical context, the mythology of the crossroads, and the broader implications of "the invention" of blues identity.

Understanding the Delta: The Geographic and Cultural Landscape

The Mississippi Delta: Cradle of American Blues

The Mississippi Delta region, stretching from Memphis to Vicksburg, Mississippi, is often regarded as the birthplace of the blues. Characterized by its fertile plains, impoverished communities, and a tumultuous history rooted in slavery and racial segregation, the Delta became a fertile ground for musical expression. The region?s social and economic hardships fostered a unique musical vernacular?blues?that articulated pain, hope, and resilience.

Key features of the Delta include:

- A predominantly African American population
- A landscape dotted with cotton plantations and sharecroppers
- A history of exploitation and cultural suppression
- A melting pot of folk, spiritual, and work songs

This environment profoundly shaped the themes and sounds of Delta blues, with guitar, voice, and lyrics conveying stories of hardship and longing.

Migration and the ?Escape? Narrative

Many Delta residents viewed their music and culture as a form of escape?both physically and spiritually?from the oppressive socio-economic conditions. Artists like Robert Johnson are often seen as emblematic of this desire to transcend their circumstances, seeking liberation through music, spirituality, or migration.

Robert Johnson: The Man, Myth, and Musical Legacy

Biographical Overview

Born in 1911 in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, Robert Johnson's life remains shrouded in mystery. His career comprised only a handful of recordings, yet his influence on blues and rock music is profound. Known for songs like ?Cross Road Blues,? ?Hellhound on My Trail,? and ?Sweet Home Chicago,? Johnson's guitar work and lyrical themes have been extensively analyzed.

Key elements of Johnson?s life include:

- Early exposure to church music and folk traditions
- A reputation for mysterious, possibly supernatural, skills
- Limited documentation on personal history
- Posthumous fame and mythmaking

The Myth of the Crossroads and the Devil

One of the most enduring legends is that Johnson supposedly sold his soul to the devil at a crossroads in exchange for extraordinary musical talent. This story, while unsubstantiated historically, has become a powerful metaphor for the blues? cultural roots and Johnson?s enigmatic persona.

Elements of the myth:

- The ?crossroads? as a place of spiritual negotiation
- Johnson?s sudden mastery of guitar technique
- The association with supernatural forces
- Its reflection of African-American folklore and Christian symbolism

This myth encapsulates a broader narrative about the "invention" of blues as a genre intertwined with notions of spiritual sacrifice and cultural otherness.

The Invention of Blues Identity: Myth vs. Reality

The Mythologization of Robert Johnson

Johnson?s story has been crafted over decades, blending fact and fiction to create a compelling myth. The narrative of the crossroads, the devil, and Johnson?s mysterious death in 1938 at age 27 contribute to the archetype of the tragic, almost supernatural bluesman.

Why this myth persists:

- It offers a romanticized origin story for blues
- It reflects themes of sacrifice, struggle, and transcendence
- It enhances Johnson?s legendary status in popular culture
- It aligns with African-American folklore traditions

However, scholarly analysis suggests that many aspects of the Johnson myth are symbolic or exaggerated, serving to elevate the genre to mythic proportions rather than reflecting actual events.

The Role of Cultural Invention and Transformation

The concept of "invention" in this context extends beyond Johnson?s personal story to the broader construction of blues as a genre. It involves:

- The blending of folk traditions, spirituals, work songs, and secular music
- The commercialization and commodification of blues in the 20th century
- The myth-making processes that shape public perception
- The migration of blues from the Delta to urban centers like Chicago and Detroit

The ?invention? of blues can thus be viewed as a cultural process?one that involved selecting, shaping, and sometimes romanticizing elements of African-American musical and spiritual life to create a genre with enduring appeal.

Escaping the Delta: A Cultural and Spiritual Metaphor

Physical Migration as Escape

Many Delta blues musicians, including Johnson, migrated northward, seeking better economic opportunities and escaping rural poverty. This migration is often viewed as a physical act of "escape" from the constraints of the Delta.

Key aspects:

- The Great Migration (1916-1970)
- Urban centers like Chicago becoming new homes for blues musicians
- The transformation of rural folk music into electrified urban blues

Spiritual and Artistic Liberation

Beyond physical movement, "escaping the delta" also symbolizes a spiritual or artistic release. For Johnson and others, music served as a means to transcend suffering, connect with spiritual forces, or forge a new identity.

Themes include:

- The search for authenticity and self-expression
- Breaking free from societal and racial constraints

- Reclaiming cultural heritage through music

The Myth of the Escape as a Personal Journey

Johnson?s life narrative has been interpreted as a metaphysical journey?an allegory for escaping the confines of rural poverty, racial oppression, and spiritual malaise. The crossroads myth underscores this idea: a point of transition, decision, and liberation.

The Invention of the Blues: Cultural Construction and Commercialization

The Commercialization of Blues and Its Impact

In the mid-20th century, blues transitioned from local folk traditions to a commercial genre. Record labels, producers, and musicians played roles in shaping and ?inventing? a marketable blues identity.

Factors involved:

- The rise of record companies like Paramount, Okeh, and Victor
- The packaging of blues as a ?primitive? or authentic African-American expression
- The commodification of suffering and resilience
- The creation of archetypes like Robert Johnson to sell records

The Role of Media and Mythmaking

Media portrayals, documentaries, and popular culture have perpetuated myths around Johnson and the blues. These narratives often emphasize the supernatural or tragic elements, reinforcing the idea of blues as an "invention" rooted in myth as much as reality.

Consequences of this mythmaking include:

- Elevation of Johnson?s legend beyond historical facts
- The romanticization of blues as a mystical or spiritual experience
- The shaping of a cultural identity that balances authenticity with storytelling

Reevaluating the Narrative: Fact, Fiction, and Cultural Memory

Modern scholarship challenges simplistic narratives, emphasizing:

- The rich diversity of blues styles and regional variations
- The influence of multiple cultural sources
- The agency of musicians in shaping their art
- The complex interplay between real life and myth

This reevaluation reveals that the "invention" of blues is a dynamic process involving cultural, economic, and artistic factors?an ongoing creation rather than a static origin story.

Conclusion: Escaping the Delta and the Power of Myth

The story of Robert Johnson and the broader narrative of blues music exemplify how myths are constructed, sustained, and transformed. Johnson's legend?particularly the crossroads myth?serves as a potent symbol of cultural longing, spiritual negotiation, and artistic transcendence. Yet, beneath these stories lies a complex reality of migration, resilience, and creative invention.

Key takeaways:

- The Delta region?s socio-economic history profoundly influenced blues? themes and sounds.
- Johnson?s mythologized story reflects deeper cultural narratives about sacrifice and transcendence.
- The "invention" of blues involves a blend of authentic tradition and cultural storytelling.
- Escaping the delta symbolizes both physical migration and spiritual liberation.
- Myths serve to elevate and preserve cultural memory but should be critically examined.

As listeners and scholars continue to explore blues history, it becomes clear that "escaping the delta" is as much about cultural imagination and identity as it is about geography. The legends, myths, and stories?like Johnson?s crossroads?remain vital expressions of a collective quest for freedom, authenticity, and artistic salvation.

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QuestionAnswer What is the significance of Robert Johnson's song 'Escape from the Delta' in blues history? While Robert Johnson is a legendary blues figure, there is no widely recognized song titled 'Escape from the Delta.' However, his music often explores themes of escape and longing from the Mississippi Delta, symbolizing personal and cultural liberation within the blues tradition. Did Robert Johnson invent the Delta blues or introduce new techniques? Robert Johnson is credited with popularizing and shaping the Delta blues style through his guitar work and songwriting, but he did not invent the genre. His innovations and expressive playing significantly influenced future musicians. How does the theme of 'escaping the delta' relate to Robert Johnson's life and music? The theme reflects Johnson's personal longing to leave the hardships of the Mississippi Delta, a common motif in blues that symbolizes seeking freedom, better life, or spiritual salvation. His music captures this universal desire for escape. What role did the invention of the electric guitar play in the evolution of blues, as exemplified by Robert Johnson's recordings? While Robert Johnson primarily played acoustic guitar, the invention of the electric guitar later amplified blues' reach and popularity. Johnson's influence paved the way for electric blues, transforming the genre in subsequent decades. Is there a connection between Robert Johnson's myth of making a deal at the crossroads and the idea of escaping the delta? Yes, the crossroads myth symbolizes Johnson's supposed pact to gain mastery over his guitar, representing a metaphorical escape from the limits of his environment and social circumstances, elevating his status in blues lore. How did the invention of recording technology impact Robert Johnson's legacy and the dissemination of Delta blues? Recording technology allowed Robert Johnson's music to reach a broader audience beyond the Delta, cementing his legacy and enabling future generations to access and study his influential style. Are there modern interpretations or songs inspired by Robert Johnson's themes of escape and the Delta? Yes, numerous modern blues and rock musicians draw inspiration from Johnson's themes of longing and escape, incorporating similar motifs into their music to evoke the timeless struggle and hope associated with the Delta blues. What is the significance of the 'invention' in the context of Robert Johnson and the Delta blues? The 'invention' refers to the innovative guitar techniques, songwriting, and mythos Johnson contributed to the Delta blues, shaping the genre's evolution and inspiring countless musicians worldwide.

Related keywords: blues music, Robert Johnson, delta blues, songwriting, guitar techniques, music history, blues legends, musical innovation, blues storytelling, American roots music

Escaping A Royal Wedding Excerpt

escaping a royal wedding excerpt: A Comprehensive Guide to Navigating Escapes from Regal Celebrations

Royal weddings are among the most spectacular and widely celebrated events worldwide. With grandeur, tradition, and media attention, these ceremonies often capture the imagination of millions. However, for some individuals?be it guests, staff, or even members of the royal family?escaping a royal wedding can become a complex, delicate, and sometimes perilous endeavor. Whether motivated by personal reasons, safety concerns, or a desire for privacy, understanding the nuances of "escaping a royal wedding excerpt" is essential for those involved or interested in the behind-the-scenes dynamics of these grand occasions.

In this article, we will explore the concept of escaping a royal wedding excerpt in detail. From the motivations behind such escapes to strategies employed, and the potential risks involved, this comprehensive guide aims to shed light on this intriguing aspect of royal events.

Understanding the Context of Royal Weddings

Before delving into escape strategies, it?s important to understand what makes royal weddings unique and why escaping from them can be particularly challenging.

The Grandeur and Security Measures

Royal weddings are meticulously planned, often involving:

- High-profile guests from around the world
- Extensive security protocols involving law enforcement and royal security teams
- Highly controlled venues and transportation
- Media coverage that leaves little room for privacy

These factors make any attempt to exit a royal wedding scene complicated, requiring careful planning and discretion.

Potential Motivations for Escaping

People may consider escaping a royal wedding for various reasons, including:

- Personal discomfort or anxiety, especially in crowded or formal settings
- Disagreement or conflict with other attendees
- Medical emergencies or health issues
- Desire for privacy or to avoid media attention
- Security threats or safety concerns

Understanding these motivations can help in assessing how escapes are planned and executed.

Strategies for Escaping a Royal Wedding Excerpt

Executing an escape from a royal wedding requires careful strategy and often, quick thinking. Below are common methods and considerations.

Pre-Planning and Intelligence Gathering

Successful escapes often start with thorough planni

Escaping a Royal Wedding Excerpt: An In-Depth Review and Analysis

Royal weddings have long captivated the public?s imagination, blending tradition, pageantry, and fairy-tale romance into a spectacle that is both awe-inspiring and deeply personal. However, within the pages of royal chronicles and fictional narratives alike, the theme of "escaping a royal wedding" emerges as a compelling subplot, rife with intrigue, daring plans, and emotional turmoil. This article delves into the nuances of this theme, exploring its portrayal across various media, its thematic significance, and the elements that make such stories both captivating and complex.

Understanding the Context of Escaping a Royal Wedding

Before diving into specific portrayals or narratives, it?s essential to understand the thematic foundation of "escaping a royal wedding." In literature and media, this theme often symbolizes a desire for personal freedom, resistance to societal expectations, or the pursuit of authentic love beyond royal constraints. The setting?an opulent palace or grand cathedral?serves as a backdrop to the tension between duty and personal happiness.

Key elements often involved include:

- The protagonist?s internal conflict
- External pressures from family, tradition, or state
- The clandestine planning and execution of escape
- Consequences faced after the act

This motif resonates because it taps into universal themes of autonomy, rebellion, and the search for true identity amidst societal roles.

Common Depictions in Literature and Media

Many authors and filmmakers have explored the theme of escaping a royal wedding, often framing it as a pivotal moment in character development or plot progression. These portrayals vary from romanticized fantasies to gritty, realistic narratives.

Fictional Narratives and Popular Media

In popular fiction, stories centered around escaping a royal wedding frequently feature protagonists who are reluctant or conflicted about their arranged marriage or royal duties. For example:

- Fairy-tale inspired stories: The runaway bride trope, where a princess or noblewoman flees her wedding to escape an unwanted match.
- Modern adaptations: Characters grappling with the realities of royal life and seeking authenticity, sometimes risking everything for love or freedom.

Features of these stories include:

- Dramatic clandestine plans
- High-stakes chases or escapes
- Emotional confrontations with family or societal figures
- Often ending with a resolution that favors individual choice

Pros:

- High emotional engagement
- Strong character development opportunities
- Exciting plot twists and suspense

Cons:

- Overly clichéd tropes if not handled innovatively
- Unrealistic portrayals can diminish credibility
- May romanticize rebellion without exploring consequences

Real-Life Incidents and Their Portrayal

Although less common, some narratives draw inspiration from real events where individuals have attempted or succeeded in escaping royal ceremonies or commitments. These stories often highlight

themes of personal agency and resistance.

Notable examples include:

- Historical accounts of princesses or nobles fleeing arranged marriages
- Modern stories of individuals breaking royal protocol for personal reasons

Features:

- Based on actual events, lending authenticity
- Often involve political or social implications

Pros:

- Adds depth and realism
- Encourages reflection on societal constraints

Cons:

- Less romanticized, may lack dramatic flair
- Sensitive subject matter requiring careful handling

Analyzing the Thematic Significance

The act of escaping a royal wedding symbolizes more than a simple act of rebellion; it embodies a profound yearning for personal identity and freedom. It often serves as a critique of societal expectations and the sacrifices demanded by royal life.

Themes Explored Through Escape

- Autonomy and Choice: The protagonist?s desire to make personal decisions against external pressures.
- Love and Authenticity: Choosing genuine love over societal obligation.
- Resistance to Tradition: Challenging centuries-old customs that may feel oppressive.
- Rebellion and Courage: Demonstrating bravery in the face of authority and tradition.

Implications:

- Highlights the tension between individual desires and societal roles.
- Raises questions about duty versus personal happiness.
- Can inspire readers/viewers to reflect on their own choices and constraints.

Storytelling Techniques and Devices

Effective storytelling around escaping a royal wedding employs various literary and cinematic devices:

- Cliffhangers: Keeping the audience on edge during the escape plan.
- Foreshadowing: Dropping hints about the protagonist?s intentions.
- Multiple Perspectives: Showing different viewpoints?e.g., the bride?s, the groom?s, family members?to add depth.
- Symbolism: Using items like a hidden key, a secret passage, or a fleeing carriage to symbolize freedom.

Features:

- High tension and suspense
- Character-driven narratives
- Visual grandeur to depict royal settings

Pros:

- Engages the audience emotionally and intellectually
- Builds anticipation and thrill

Cons:

- Risk of over-complication or plot holes
- Potential reliance on clichés or stereotypes

Pros and Cons of Portrayals of Escaping a Royal Wedding

Pros:

- Encourages critical thinking about societal norms
- Empowers themes of personal agency
- Provides thrilling entertainment with emotional depth
- Reflects universal struggles for autonomy

Cons:

- Can romanticize rebellion, glossing over real risks
- May reinforce stereotypes about royalty or tradition
- Risk of trivializing serious cultural or political issues
- Potential for unrealistic resolutions

Conclusion: The Enduring Fascination with Escape Stories

The narrative of escaping a royal wedding remains a compelling motif across genres and media, resonating deeply with audiences worldwide. Whether depicted as a fairy-tale adventure, a dramatic historical event, or a modern rebellion against societal constraints, these stories tap into universal desires for freedom, love, and authenticity. Their success largely depends on nuanced storytelling that balances excitement with emotional authenticity, avoiding clichés while exploring the complex motivations of characters.

In exploring such stories, creators can offer powerful commentary on individual agency versus societal expectations, making "escaping a royal wedding" not just an exciting plot device, but also a meaningful reflection on human aspirations and struggles. As audiences continue to be captivated by tales of daring escapes and forbidden love, this theme remains an enduring staple that invites both entertainment and introspection.

QuestionAnswer What is the main theme of 'escaping a royal wedding excerpt'? The excerpt primarily explores themes of rebellion, freedom, and breaking away from traditional royal expectations. Who is the protagonist in the excerpt about escaping a royal wedding? The protagonist is a royal family member or guest who desires to escape the constraints of the royal wedding celebration. What motivates the character to escape the royal wedding in the excerpt? The character is motivated by a desire for independence, dissatisfaction with royal duties, or a forbidden love that conflicts with royal obligations. How does the excerpt depict the setting of the royal wedding? The excerpt describes a grand, opulent setting with elaborate decorations, highlighting the contrast between the opulence and the protagonist's urge to escape. What literary devices are prominent in the excerpt about escaping a royal wedding? The excerpt uses imagery, suspense,

and symbolic elements to convey the tension and urgency of the escape. Is the escape in the excerpt successful or unsuccessful? The excerpt leaves the outcome ambiguous or indicates whether the protagonist manages to escape, adding to the story's suspense. How does the excerpt reflect societal expectations versus personal desires? It highlights the conflict between adhering to royal duties and pursuing individual happiness or freedom. What role does secrecy play in the excerpt about escaping a royal wedding? Secrecy is crucial, as the protagonist must hide their intentions to avoid royal or societal repercussions. What can readers learn about character bravery from the excerpt? Readers see a depiction of courage and determination as the protagonist takes bold steps to pursue personal freedom.

Related keywords: royal wedding, escape plan, royal family, wedding excerpt, royal ceremony, royal intrigue, wedding drama, royal scandal, royal escape, wedding storyline

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