

**The  
June  
2026  
Issue**

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**The World  
of  
Weddings:**

**Pro Darty  
Planner  
Interview**

**Wannabe  
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Interview**



## A June Wedding?!

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife."

- Jane Austen, *Pride & Prejudice*, 1813



『あまねく認められている真理として、資産家たる独身男性には妻が必要である。』

- ジェイン・オースティン, 高慢と偏見, 1813

This **quote** is one of the most famous in English **literature**. It is by a classic **author** named Jane Austen (1775-1817) from the U.K. It is the first line in her most famous book called *Pride and Prejudice*. It is not a totally serious line; there is a little bit of secret **humor** in it. In Jane Austen's era in England, many women were not allowed to have jobs or have their own **land**. So, **marriage** to a man was a woman's best chance at a good life... but that doesn't mean it was simple. Of course, times are different now. For example, I am not married but I obviously can still have a job and I am able survive.

But in fact, throughout **history**, every culture / country has had its own ideas about marriage and weddings. Things like: how many people, what **genders**, the best **age**, different family names, how much money, family houses, and even what **clothes** are in the wedding itself. Did you know that "**white wedding dress**" that we all know so well now, only became so popular after Queen Victoria (1819-1901) wore one for her wedding to Prince Albert in 1840? Before then, most women in the Europe and the U.S. just wore the best dresses they had on their wedding day.

If we look at how various **societies** think about marriage, especially the wedding events themselves, I think we can learn a lot about what those cultures **value** in life! I think that some values that are becoming stronger recently like **LGBTQ+** marriage are good! However, some older traditions like child marriage that are still not over are very bad.

Please read my interviews with my mother and Hinata about their views on wedding planning! It is wonderful to learn about all these interesting cultures! **HOWEVER, just because you love a certain wedding look, that does not mean that you can freely take it for yourself. Please respect the culture and listen to its people to learn what is respectful!**

### Pro Party Planner Interview *with Mrs. Carter*

Mrs. Carter's Halloween Wedding 10/31/1992



#### 1. What was your job and what did you do?

“I was a professional party planner for many, many years! I worked for a few different **event venues (イベント会場)** that had weddings and other **receptions (宴会)** too. For weddings, I coordinated many details of the whole event. For example: the service (usually non-religious), and the party after with **catering**, decorating, and music/dancing. In the U.S.A., there are standard traditions such as: a **rehearsal dinner**- gathering the night before the wedding, the first dance- the bride and groom's couple dance during the party after the wedding, and the father daughter/mother son dance- parents have a last dance with their children as 'kids' at the party. There is almost always a **DJ** or a live band for weddings here. Sheila says that in Japan, there is no dancing at weddings? How interesting!

In addition, I was a **Catholic (カソリック)** Wedding Planner too at our local **church**. I would coordinate the Catholic **masses (ミサ)** for couples within the church because there are many important rules. Sheila went to Catholic school and learned some of these **traditions** so please ask her about it!”

#### 2. How and why did you get this job?

“I have loved parties since I was old enough to go to them! In my first professional job after college, I showed that I was **creative** and **hardworking**. So, I got the job of planning social events like weddings, parties, and meeting at a theater space. I visited the **caterers (ケータリング業者)**, **networked** with many **professionals**, and asked a LOT of questions. I attended every event for nearly my entire 4 years there even though someone else would work the events - and that is how I learned. Plus, I was at the age a lot of friends were getting married (I was in 14 weddings!). Years later, I had the chance to work at another venue that had great **potential** with little activity. Having the experience, I was able to create a large and **successful** wedding and party business. In the **Washington DC** area, I worked with many **international couples** and families from all over the world. It was so fun and the food was delicious!”

#### 3. What was the best and worst part of the job?

“The best part of the job was that even though I handled hundreds of weddings, every couple had their own **energy**, their own visions, traditions, and family **dynamics**. I loved hearing how they first met and how they wanted to **personalize** things. For example: signature drinks, creative centerpieces named after their favorite restaurants or countries they had visited, fun desserts such pies, ice cream sundae stations, donuts - not just **wedding cake**...”

The worst part was when the couple was too much about the 'show' - the expensive *look* of a wedding vs. the *feel* of a marriage, starting a new life together. In the Instagram era, a lot of couples were **obsessed** with photos making the event seem rich with money but not very rich in heart. Couples also sometimes had a lot of strange or strict **demands**.”

## 4. What is your approach to working with people from various backgrounds and different traditions?

"I would tell them **honestly** that I was from the Catholic background but love learning about their cultures and traditions. I can't know everything but here are some fun special cultural elements I have helped with:

In **South Asia**, there are pre-wedding events called the *Mehndi Ceremony* and the *Sangeet Ceremony*, held a few days before the wedding. These celebrations bring the families together to **celebrate** the couple with music, dance, **henna** designs, and delicious food.



In **Jewish** weddings, usually both parents walk the bride down the **aisle** (not just the traditional father/father figure). The couple also steps on and breaks a glass (wrapped in cloth) at the end of the ceremony.



The **African American** tradition of "jumping the broom" is from the time of slavery. It is a public way of showing a couple's **commitment!**

One **Nigerian** tradition is to have guests and/or family members wear the "family **cloth**" - the exact same fabric made into their unique, personalized outfits to show unity.



**Filipino** Catholic weddings have wonderful symbols like "sponsors" who bring coins for **prosperity**, a **veil** for **unity** and **protection** and the **cord**, put in a figure 8 shape around the couple to show an **eternal** bond.



In a '**fusion**' wedding, you would have two people from very different backgrounds - for example a **bride** from **Thailand** and a **groom** from **Guatemala** - that would join cultures, **cuisine**, and family. It was so wonderful and unique!

## 5. Do you have any tips for our students who want to become wedding or party planners in the future?

"Work in the **hospitality** business, either at a hotel, restaurant or for a caterer. The best way to learn the business is to be around events. Also, if you are part of a **religion**, check where their weddings are - a **temple**, for example, and see if there is a planner on staff you can 'shadow' or **assist**. While the very good event planners make a lot of money... most people in the event business do it because they love people and **entertaining**. Remember, weddings are mostly a weekend type of work. It can be **tricky** if you have young children. Also, full wedding planning is a very **tiring** job! You can be on your feet working for 14 hours! It is best for younger people. You also can't do it alone. You need to make good working **relationships** with people so you can be a strong team. I loved the parties so much, but I think now it's time for me to go back home and rest!"

## 6. What does 'love' mean to you?

"Even with high **divorce** rates, I believe that every couple has a chance at a wonderful & happy life. At work, I watch how a couple **behaves** with each other, if they treat each other **respectfully**, and are open to each other's **opinions**. But I **cheer** for all of them. And of course, I have planned many 2nd (and 3rd) weddings. **I hope all get a happy ending!**"

**Thanks,  
Mrs. Carter**

## Wannabe Wedding Planner Interview *with Hinata*

### 1. What is your dream job?

“My dream job is to be a wedding planner. I am also interested in cultures from other countries. By **combining** these two dreams, I came up with the idea of creating a wedding service in Japan where people can experience different wedding styles from around the world. From what I have researched, there is no company like this, so I want to create one by myself.”

### 2. How and when did you learn about this job?

“I learned about this job when I went to my relative's wedding. I became interested in it after seeing beautiful wedding posts on **social media**. I didn't learn about wedding venues with different wedding styles from many countries. I thought of this idea by myself. I thought that this kind of wedding venue could make the world of weddings bigger.”

### 3. Why did you choose this dream job?

“**I chose this dream job because I want to make many people happy.** I want to be a planner that people can trust on their special day. This is the kind of planner I want to become. I want to help create a wonderful day for them. I believe I can create a special wedding by listening to customers' wishes.”

### 4. What are the steps to get this job?

“To get this job, I do not know the exact way yet. This is because I came up with this job idea by myself. I think this is my plan about now: **First**, I will study English to study abroad. I want to get an Eiken certificate, go to a university with an international studies department, and study abroad. **Second**, while I am in university, I want to improve my English skills and work part-time at a wedding venue. I also want to learn basic knowledge about being a wedding planner. **Third**, after that, I want to work at a wedding venue in Japan. **Fourth**, I want to travel to many countries and learn about different wedding styles. **Last**, if I start my own company in the future, I will also study business. These are the steps I am thinking about now.”

### 5. If you could plan a wedding & after-party from any country in the world, where would it be?

“I want to learn about and experience wedding styles from many countries and create a wedding place in Japan. The reason is that not everyone can travel to other countries. I want people to enjoy and experience different wedding styles without leaving Japan. However, if I could plan a wedding and after-party in any country, I would choose a country in Europe. This is because I love the beautiful cities and nature in Europe. No matter which country I choose, I want to create a wedding that shows the special charm of that country.”

### 6. What does 'love' mean to you?

“To me, love is the strongest feeling that cannot be explained with words. I think words have limits, and love can show feelings that are bigger than words. Love cannot be seen and it does not leave a shape, but I believe it is always there. That is what I think! This question is difficult for me as a sixth-year student at an all-girls school!”

Love,  
**Hinata**



# Hinata

## The Keika Chronicle Answer Key 5

### ヒナタの答え

1. What is your dream job?

→私の夢の仕事はウエブデザインです。また私は海外にも興味があります。この二つの夢を組み合わせると日本でも様々な結婚式のスタイルを行える結婚式場を作りたいと思います。私が調べたところ前例はないので自分でそんな結婚式場を作りたいと考えています。

2. How and when did you learn about this job?

→親戚の結婚式に出席した時に、この仕事について学びました。SNSで素敵な結婚式の投稿を見て、興味を持ちました。私は様々な国の様々な結婚式スタイルを体験できる結婚式場については、自分で考えたアイデアなどでどこかで学んだわけではありません。このような結婚式場は、結婚式の世界をより広げることができると思います。

3. Why did you choose this dream job?

→私は沢山の人が笑顔にしたいと思えるこの夢の仕事を選びました。私は、人々が一生に一度の素敵な1日をこの人に任せたいと思えるようなプランナーになりたいです。これが私の理想像です。私は素晴らしい一日を作る手伝いがしたいです。お客様のご要望に耳を傾けて特別な結婚式を創り出すことができるという自信があります！

4. What are the steps to get this job?

→この仕事に就くための手順はまだ正確な方法が分かりません。自分でこの仕事のアイデアを思いついたからです。私はこの手順で進もうと考えています。まず、多くの国で使用されている言語である英語を勉強します。英検を取得し、国際学部のある大学に進学し、その後留学したいです。大学生生活では、英語力をあげるのと並行して結婚式場でアルバイトとして働きたいと考えています。大学生のうち英語力とウェディングに関する基本的な知識を学びます。その後、日本の結婚式場で働きたいです。それから、様々な国へ行き様々な結婚式のスタイルについて学び、将来的に自分の会社を立ち上げるなら企業についても学ばないといけないと考えています。これが私が今考えている手順です。

5. If you could plan a wedding & after-party from any country in the world, where would it be?

→多くの国の結婚式スタイルを学び日本で体験できる結婚式場を作りたいです。理由はすべての人が海外へ行くことができるわけではないからです。私は、人々が日本にいながらもさまざまな結婚式のスタイルを楽しみ、体験することができるようにしたいです。

もしどの国でも結婚式やアフターパーティーを計画できるとしたら、ヨーロッパの国を選びます。なぜならヨーロッパの美しい都市と自然が好きだからです。どの国を選んでもその国の魅力を活かした結婚式を作りたいです。

6. What does 'love' mean to you?

→私にとって愛とは言葉では説明できない最上級の感情だと思います。言葉で表すには限界があり愛は言葉では伝えきれない感情を伝えられるとわたしは思います。愛は目には見えませんが物としてそこにあるわけではないです。常にそこにあるものだと思います。これが私の考えです！この質問は女子校の6年目である私にとって難しく