

## Chapter 96 Love Triangle

The unusual attention Marco gave Loraine recently made Cayson worried and jealous.

Although Loraine countlessly said that she wanted nothing to do with her ex, this didn't change the fact that she had once loved him deeply.

Cayson was afraid that they might get back together, so he decided to make a move.

Some minutes ago, he stopped by Loraine's office and saw that she was busy.

"I'm sorry, Lorrie. We have had a lot of big projects going on. I was so preoccupied that I neglected you. Let's go out for dinner tonight to unwind. It's my treat."

Loraine waved her hand with a smile. "I'm not angry with you, Cayson. I understand how hectic work can be. You don't have to do this."

Cayson insisted. "Come on, Lorrie. I insist. Besides, I have already made a reservation at a restaurant. Getting a spot there takes about

a week. Let's just go there to let off steam, okay?"

Lorraine had no choice but to agree now that Cayson put it that way.

They walked out of the company together. To their surprise, they bumped into Marco outside.

"What are you doing here?"

Cayson became alert and stood in front of Lorraine when he saw his rival.

"What do you think you are doing? Get out of the way. I need to talk to Lorraine!"

Marco's eyes were fixed on Lorraine.

"What do you have to say?" Cayson sneered.

"I can't let you get to her. Your sister, mother, and grandmother have come to make trouble for her. You had better stay away from her. Besides, she doesn't want to see you!"

These words hit Marco's sore spot, but he still didn't back down.

"Move away! I came here to discuss business!"

"Talk to me then. Since I'm the CEO of Universe Group, you should talk to me if you

have any business to discuss. Go on," Cayson said, folding his arms defiantly.

Marco's face darkened. He spat, "Don't be so arrogant, Cayson. You are just the acting CEO, so you have no right to talk to me like that. What I want to discuss with Loraine is confidential. She's the only one that can help, so move away!"

Loraine was tired of the war of words between the two men. She piped up, "Since you're being so secretive and stubborn, Mr. Bryant, I don't want to hear whatever you have to say. Cayson, let's go."

Loraine didn't care about Marco's feelings. She held Cayson's wrist and began to walk away.

Unwilling to give up, Marco followed them and said, "Let's go together then!"

It was impossible to get rid of Marco, so Loraine allowed him to come with them.

They went to the restaurant and sat at a table. The air around them was awkward.

A waiter came to their table and asked, "Good evening, lady and gentlemen. Our restaurant

is holding a love anniversary celebration tonight. Couples can have a taste of our top chef's dishes for free. Is there a couple amongst you?"

Without hesitation, Cayson said, "Yes, I'm with this lady..."

"I'm her husband!"

Marco interrupted him.

"We are divorced!" Loraine pointed out expressionlessly.

Confusion was written all over the waiter's face as he experienced what seemed like a love triangle.

"I'm sorry... Which of you is the lady's partner?"

With a long face, Cayson picked up the menu and said, "You know what? Just forget about it. We won't take part in the activity. We will just place our orders."

The waiter soon took their orders and left, still confused.

At this time, Marco was jealous because of Cayson's statement.

He blurted out, "Loraine, aren't you dating Rowan? Aren't you afraid that he will get angry if he gets wind of your ambiguous relationship with Cayson?"

As soon as Marco finished speaking, he bit his lower lip in regret.

It was already too late to regret it since he couldn't take back those words.

"What are you insinuating, Marco? Can't a man and a woman be close without being romantically involved? Why do you have such a dirty mind? Gosh!" Loraine chewed him out, glaring at him.

"Did you just say I have a dirty mind?" Marco flipped out immediately. "Fine! How about you explain to me why you are so close to Rowan? You even went to the hospital to be by his side. Only girlfriends or wives do such. Why did you do that?"

Loraine sneered and fired back. "How is that your business? Need I remind you that you are just my ex-husband? You are practically a stranger to me. I don't owe you any explanation. Why are you prying into my

private life?"

The former couple exchanged words fiercely. Cayson tried to join in by speaking up for Loraine, but he was thrown out of the argument as soon as he got in. It seemed like Marco and Loraine were in an enclave that had no room for anyone else.

Suddenly, something unexpected happened. Their phones rang at the same time.

Cayson was the first one to pick up his phone. His face changed almost immediately.

"Stop arguing, you two! There is something wrong with the construction of the smart city project!"

## Chapter 97 Demonstration

Loraine, Marco and Cayson had their appetite curtailed by the phone call. They rushed to the scene.

Upon their arrival, the leader of the engineering department approached Loraine. "Finally, you're here!"

Frowning, Loraine looked around at the construction site. A crowd of countless people surrounded it.

"What's happening here?" she asked.

The lead engineer sighed. "As you know, this project requires a lot of intelligent information technology. To support this, we need to build a signal tower. Construction of the tower has begun, but the surrounding residents found out about it somehow, and they don't agree with it. They're using all kinds of methods to protest."

"Isn't the project a good thing? Why are they protesting?" Loraine couldn't understand the

residents' motivation.

The lead engineer smiled bitterly. "They've been obstructing the site because they think the signal tower will emit harmful radiation. They're hindering our work, but we can't force them to leave. More protesters came out today. There's no way we can continue to work."

Lorraine narrowed her eyes and, in a serious voice, said, "Take us there now."

Following the lead engineer, Lorraine, Marco and Cayson walked towards the construction site.

Along the way, they crossed paths with the protesters, many of whom glared at Lorraine with discernible hate.

Since Lorraine had frequently been a hot topic of late, those who didn't know the truth thought that she was the project's general manager.

"Look! Here comes Lorraine Torres. She's the designer of this project. She designed this harmful signal tower!"

"That vicious bitch! This is our home. Get out!"



Without knowing who started it, the protesters all began chanting. "Get out!"

Some of them even threw rotten eggs at Loraine.

It was chaos.

Before Cayson had the chance, Marco stepped in and began protecting Loraine with his arms, blocking the attacks. His expensive suit was ruined, but he didn't care. He held Loraine tightly.

Cayson, too slow to react, was squeezed out of the crowd and pushed farther and farther away from Loraine.

Fortunately, Marco's subordinates were able to get close enough to stop the protesters.

Loraine, still in the protective cocoon of Marco's arms, was unharmed.

She couldn't let this sort of thing continue. In a loud and comforting voice, she told the crowd, "Everyone, calm down! Please listen to me. The signal tower is not harmful to the human body. It's no more radioactive than a mobile phone."

But no matter how much Loraine reasoned



or explained, the protesters wouldn't listen.

"Don't listen to her," one of them yelled.

"She's a liar. Let's drive her away and protect our home together!"

Once again, the crowd's anger was ignited.

They began to rush forward madly.

Lorraine and others were outnumbered. Now, not even Marco's subordinates could hold the crowd back.

They gathered as closely as they could to protect Lorraine and Marco in the middle.

There were so many protesters that it was difficult to hold them all back.

Amid the chaos, Marco held Lorraine in his arms, protecting her. He didn't let go, even though his clothes had been dirtied by rotten eggs and he was being painfully pressured by the crowd.

All of a sudden, somebody threw an iron sign towards Lorraine.

Without thinking, Marco quickly used his left arm as a shield, taking the hit for her.

Searing pain shot through his arm. Marco absorbed the pain and stayed silent.

It wasn't until Carl arrived with a large team of bodyguards that the situation was finally under control.

"Mr. Bryant! Are you okay?" Carl rushed over. Marco shook his head.

To avoid worrying Loraine, Marco put his arms down calmly and released her, as though nothing had happened

As soon as Loraine was free of his protective hold, she walked towards the crowd. Her only thought was about how to soothe the crowd; she didn't notice that Marco had been hurt.

Loraine tried her best to be persuasive. "Listen to me, everyone. I'm the one in charge of this project. Since you still think the signal tower isn't safe, I will move here during the construction. I wouldn't stay here if I thought I was going to be harmed, right?"

The crowd looked at each other, doubtful. One of the residents shouted, "We'll believe it when we see it! Are you really going to move in?"

"Of course!" Loraine gave them her word.

Satisfied with Loraine's promise, the restless

crowd finally quietened.

The other project leaders arrived shortly after.

The people from the two companies cooperated and took out the test reports of experts and authoritative organizations. They tried their best to prove that the signal tower was not harmful to the human body.

The government officers also promised to compensate the surrounding residents.

Once they'd been appeased, the crowd promised not to hinder the construction any further. They left the scene.

Many people relaxed. Loraine, however, was frowning.

The accusations of the residents had raised a multitude of issues.

For example, how did the crowd know that she was in charge of the design and construction of the signal tower? The fact that that had been insider information only implied that there had been a leak.

Perhaps someone had deliberately manipulated the protesters.

The only other people who knew the details of the tower construction were the employees of Universe Group. Who would want to hurt her?

While Loraine was lost in thought, a warm coat was draped over her shoulders.

"Lorrie, are you okay? This event just now was not as simple as it seemed. Someone wants to hurt you. Don't be afraid. I'll have someone investigate it immediately." Cayson had also noticed the problem, and his displeasure was clear upon his face.

Loraine nodded, put the doubts in her heart aside for the moment, and followed Cayson back.

Marco watched them leave from not too far away, his face darkening. Carl tried to call out to Loraine to stop her, but he was held back by Marco.

"Carl, this was not some simple protest. Someone was behind it. Investigate it at once! And get me the results within the next day!"