

Our Billion 391

Chapter 391-Catelyn swayed ever so slightly. Her features stiffened as she clenched her fists.

A few seconds later, she responded coldly, "I have nothing to do with Cedrick anymore." David's smile lingered on his face as he grabbed the remote controller of the television to switch it on. Instantly, a news report appeared on the screen. It was the press conference Cedrick and Maia had held. The two stood next to one another, and under the spotlights, it almost seemed as though there was no other couple as compatible as they were. Countless reporters flooded the hall, and the sounds of camera flashing did not cease. "Mister Mason, rumor has it that you've been engaged to Miss Maia Clark for four years now. You haven't shown any intention of getting married so far, so why are you deciding on it now?"

"Both the Mason and Clark families are powerful clans in Sapphire City. The union of the two families is a big deal, so why are you spending only three days on the wedding preparation?" "Miss Clark, there have been whispers saying that there was another woman that came between you and Mister Mason, which led to your relationship going sour. Is that true?" Cedrick's narrowed glare swept the room as he scanned each reporter, sending chills down the spines of those who met his gaze.

Little did everyone else know, Maia had bribed a few of the reporters, and they continued shooting questions.

"Who is this other woman in your relationship? The internet seems to suggest that it's a certain female actress." Before Cedrick could say anything, Maia took a step forward and wrapped her arms around his intimately. "Sorry, but this is all we're going to say. Of course, we welcome all to attend our wedding!" Inside the living room, Catelyn's face grew pale at the realization that Cedrick was marrying Maia.

Marriage... It had seemed to be such a far-fetched concept, yet it was suddenly realized before her.

Cedrick would be married and become someone else's husband in three days.

Would he take another woman's arm and demand that her son call someone else his mother?

As sorrow took over her, Miles was also affected by the atmosphere and shot a resentful glare at the screen.

He was certain that 'Big Demon' had hurt his mother's feelings.

They had all been to theme parks and supermarkets together. They had gotten on a Ferris wheel together, and Miles had seen the two whispering secrets into each other's ears in Catelyn's apartment.

All that, and Cedrick turned his back and abandoned her so swiftly!

How dare he hurt Mommy?!' seethed Miles as rage filled his eyes.

The next day, David decided to release Miles and Catelyn all of a sudden and sent his car to bring them back to the city.

Winnie watched as the car drove off, confused by David's intention on this. "Nine, Miles is the biggest leverage we have. Are we really letting him go?" David broke the stem of a rose mindlessly and said, "Letting him go? It's just a big world out there, so where can he go?" Winnie was still confused.

"I had thought that Catelyn Clark was Cedrick's weakness before, but as you can see, Cedrick is clearly more rational than we thought him to be." "And what if he continues to be rational?" "Want to bet? I bet that his wedding won't go on successfully." David had played the news on purpose to study Catelyn and Miles' reaction, and the results were interesting.

Winnie hesitated for a moment, before curling her lips into a smile. "We're betting on that piece of land east of the city." Back in Ocean Path Residence, Joanne was losing her mind. She had Catelyn's personal information and passport ready, but she had not been able to reach Catelyn for the past two days.

Heck, even Miles had gone missing since yesterday. She had gone to the police, and they said that they would not look into it as they had not gone missing for over 24 hours!

Luckily, the two eventually returned. "What's going on? I saw the news... Cedrick Mason is marrying Maia Clark?" Joanne observed Catelyn's expression gingerly.

Catelyn squeezed a faint smile on her face. "Yeah. It's over between me and him."

Chapter 392-“It’s over?” Joanne leaped from the couch. “How’s that possible?! I was so moved when I saw him taking care of you in the hospital that day! Why on earth did you two break up?” “I lied to him, and he lied to me. It’s just a scam coming to its end.” Catelyn smiled bitterly and took a deep breath before deadpanning, “I’ve decided to leave Sapphire City tomorrow. According to the information the hacker provided me, I’ll be going to Milarn tomorrow. Let’s drink until we drop tonight.” Noticing that she was forcing a smile, Joanne persisted, saying, “Just cry if you want to. I know you still like him.” ‘Cry?’ Catelyn mused to herself. ‘I want to, but how’s that going to help? Crying won’t solve the problem. The only thing I care about is whether Maia would mistreat Ollie once she becomes his stepmother. What happens if Ollie regrets his choice and wants to come with me, but can’t manage to reach me?’ Little did Catelyn know, however, that while she talked to Joanne about her schedule, Miles hid inside the room and video-called Ollie.

Locking the door, Miles’ eyes darted around the screen and immediately spotted the bruise on Ollie’s forehead. “What happened to your forehead?” Ollie rubbed his forehead and pursed his lips. “I don’t want Father to marry that bad woman.” ‘It’s the Big Demon and that terrible old woman!’ hissed Miles internally. ‘Curse them! Not only did they bully Mommy, but they’re bullying Ollie, too! They think they can just do whatever they want to my family?!’ Miles flared furiously. Rolling his eyes, he said, “Pretend to be sick and go to the hospital tomorrow. I’ll wait for you in the bathroom.” Ollie hesitated. He instinctively knew that Miles was planning to do something by exchanging identities, but he nodded regardless due to the disappointment he felt toward Cedrick.

The next morning, Catelyn bought the flight ticket for an evening flight to Milarn with her new identity as an American.

Unexpectedly, Miles came down with a fever right before they headed to the airport, and Catelyn had to take him to the pediatrician. In the end, he was diagnosed with flu and determined unfit to travel as a transfusion was needed.

What surprised Catelyn was that her son seemed to have developed a sudden fondness over his hoodie since he stepped out of the bathroom, keeping his head wrapped completely under the fabric. However, she was too worried about him to see through the act, despite the horrible feeling in her guts.

Meanwhile, Miles was taken back to the Mason Estate by Albert as he wished and spotted the bad woman’, Maia, by the outdoor pool.

tingling trails for her, and it became clear that the maid already started to trot toward the maid before circling the bar with his hands as the color of this juice looks weird. Have the oranges gone bad? He asked and shook her head with a panicked smile. "Master Ollie, don't make jokes, ma'am? All the fruits arrived freshly today." To make me a glass, too." He was instantly enraptured with how adorable he was and leaped in joy at the fact that she talked to her.

The maid turned around to make the juice, not knowing that Miles was scanning the bar table with a devilish smirk.

Chapter 393-After the maid was done with the juice, she turned around and realized that 'Ollie' was missing. She looked around in confusion searchingly, thinking to herself, 'Huh? Where has Master Ollie gone?' "Violet, is my juice ready?" Maia called out impatiently. "Coming, Miss Clark!" The maid, Violet, walked toward her smilingly.

"Here's your juice." Maia lifted the glass leisurely. Ever since they had announced that the wedding would be held next week, Maia could barely contain herself from executing her right as the lady of the estate. Although she was respected in Mason Estate before, she was merely a fiancée. With the wedding date announced, however, she was about to legally become Cedrick's wife, so she had hurried to Mason Estate before even going to a wedding dress shop. She caught the straw between her lips and took a deep sip.

However... "Pfft!" She turned green and spat the juice out abruptly, causing Violet to gape at her. "Miss Clark, what are you—". "What did you put in this juice?!" Maia, feeling her tongue turning numb, stared daggers at the maid pathetically drenched with juice on her face. Violet waved her hands frantically. "No, no! I didn't add anything..." "Who else would've waited. Did that brat Ollie just arrive?" Maia suddenly remembered that she had seen the young boy earlier. Dazed, Violet nodded blankly. "Master Ollie was here for a moment just now." "So it was him!" Maia tossed her glass away furiously before storming toward the living room.

The door, though opened earlier, was loosely shut, and she pushed it open.

Splash! A bucket of water dropped from above the door frame.

"Ah!" Maia's shriek echoed throughout the hall.

Her dress was a recent purchase of the latest design delivered from Parees and was worth over 450,000 dollars. Her nose twitched at the horrible scent and, for a moment, dared to wonder where Ollie had gotten the water.

“Ollie Mason! Get out here right now!” The servants hurried over in response to her scream to find her drenched. Her hair stuck to her cheeks with a twig on top of her head.

Albert tried his best to smother his laughter at the realization that the bucket was the one they used for cleaning the floor.

“Wow!” Miles’ head popped out by the stairs on the second floor with his chin held high.” Terrible woman. You’re drenched from head to toe, but it suits you...” Overwhelmed by murderous urges, she pulled the twig off her head roughly before storming upstairs. “You brat. I’m going to teach you a lesson today!” Miles simply shrugged innocently at her vicious words. “Hey, Bad Aunt, aren’t you worried that I might have other ‘gifts’ for you?” Maia had already arrived before the stairs and was about to climb up, but she froze and stared at him warily.

‘This brat is looking for trouble today,’ she snarled internally, ‘just like that little demon who threw food to my face before!’

Chapter 394-Maia scanned her surroundings swiftly and sneered when she noticed nothing suspicious around them. She thus paced toward ‘Ollie’. “You want to scare me off, huh? It’s not going to be that easy! I’m going to beat some sense into you—”. She came to a sudden halt when Miles took out a toy air gun from his pocket and began loading it with orange-colored bullets. Horror took over her features. “W... What are you doing, Ollie? L-Let’s talk! We can live together peacefully, and I promise that I’ll—” “Bam!” Miles shot at Maia’s heels.

She barely dodged the bullet and bumped into the handrail as a result, which sent numbing pain up her arm. “Wow, you look cool dodging the bullet!” Miles imitated the way cowboys on television would blow the smoke off the pipe and pouted.

“Alas, you won’t be so lucky after this.

“Bam! Bam! Bam!” He fired a few more shots. One for bullying Ollie, another for taking Cedrick away and hurting Catelyn in the process, and the last with wishes that she would remain with Cedrick forever so that they would never break another heart again.

A total of three shots landed precisely on Maia’s body, and even though it was an air gun, it still hurt a ton, especially with the thin layer of fabric Maia wore. “Agh!” As she attempted to dodge again, she twisted her ankle and fell down the stairs after finally losing her balance.

“What are you doing?” Just then, Cedrick arrived home, having spotted Maia falling off the stairs as soon as he stepped into the living room.

Although there were only three flights of stairs, she did not manage to reach out for Cedrick until after rolling off the ground.

“Master Cedrick, Ollie... Does he hate me this much?” she demanded pathetically, appearing as though she could suffocate at any moment.

Cedrick pursed his lips and shot an icy glance at the second floor.

Miles was once again reminded of how pale and wounded Catelyn was as soon as he saw Cedrick’s face. He could have taught him a lesson like he did with Maia, but he realized that he did not have the heart to and wanted to give Cedrick a chance. After all, Cedrick was his father, and they had shared some happy moments together.

“I hate that bad woman. I won’t let you marry her!” he shouted stubbornly at Cedrick with his hands on his hip, his voice laced with a barely noticeable snuffle.

Cedrick knew that Ollie had drastic mood swings, but he had thought that his son had recovered from it, seeing that he appeared more obedient lately. He had not expected Ollie to do such a thing to Maia.

Three flights of stairs were not too high, but if it had been 10 or even 20 flights of stairs...Maia could have died.

Cedrick had never considered himself a good man, but neither did he intend on raising his son to be a lawless criminal.

“Get down here and apologize to Maia,” Cedrick commanded coldly.

Miles gripped the handrail tightly as he stared down at Cedrick before repeating, “I said I won’t let you marry that bad woman. Only Big Kitty can be my mother.” Cedrick sneered. Since when had Ollie been given the right to determine how he lived his life? “This is your last chance,” Miles warned, his heart throbbing with hope. “Cancel the wedding and apologize to Mommy. Otherwise... I’ll make you pay for what you did!” “So you’re not apologizing, then? Servants! Ollie has lost his manners and challenged his father. Bring him to the black room. He’s not to be allowed outside until he agrees to kneel before Maia and apologize!” Furious, Cedrick’s voice was as chilling as a raging storm.

Chapter 395-Miles could hear his heart shattering into pieces as rage burned within him. He wants me to kneel and apologize to that woman? In his dreams! Silence fell over the house once Miles was taken to the black room.

Maia suppressed the resentment boiling within her and got up elegantly from the ground.” Cedrick, I...think Ollie probably didn’t do that on purpose. He just can’t accept the fact that we are getting married, so that’s why...” “If you dare tell Aunt Janice about this, I’ll make you regret that you were ever born,” he snarled threateningly at the mention of marriage. He had wanted to settle the incident peacefully with Maia when he woke up that morning, but Janice coincidentally came to visit at the time. When she saw the mess on the ground and watched Maia run out of Cedrick’s room in tears, she instantly realized what had happened and demanded justice from Cedrick.

Cedrick did not intend on explaining himself. Although he was downright wasted and drunk, his body’s reaction was undecieving, and he could tell that he had not done anything with Maia the night before when he went to shower.

It was yet another Maia’s trick, and she stood by it. When Cedrick mentioned that he had called off their engagement, Janice was so shocked that she fell unconscious. When she finally woke up, she insisted that the two get married to one another. She was as pale as the sheet on the bed she was laying on and could not stop coughing as she spoke. Even the doctor had to stand by anxiously while monitoring her condition.

Since the situation had gotten out of hand, Cedrick had no other choice but to eventually compromise.

The only thing he did not expect was how much Ollie hated Maia.

In the past, even though he did not like her, he never embarrassed her in public as Ollie was never an aggressive child.

Maia's features stiffened as she tried to grab his arm. "Cedrick, Aunt Janice never approved of your relationship with Catelyn. I'll take good care of her once we get married." He pulled his arm away from her. "If you keep playing tricks behind my back and I find out about it, you won't enjoy the wedding you are about to have." Maia forced a smile. "I'll behave. I promise." To ease the tension, Maia looked away and noticed a delicately wrapped black box on the coffee table. She had not seen it before, and when she went to open it, an elegant, blinding ring came into sight. The diamonds at the center were arranged in the shape of fireworks, which made it seem absolutely stunning.

"What a beautiful ring..." She smiled at Cedrick as she imagined their wedding. "Is this for me? I like it so much!" She tried it on her ring finger as she spoke, but the ring was stuck at the joint.

"Cedrick, the ring is too small. You'll need to have it modified..." Cedrick finished a cigarette expressionlessly, and as his face was shrouded by the smoke, he growled, "Take it off!" Stunned, she stammered, "W—What?" Without the slightest trace of affection on his face, he repeated, "This ring isn't for you." "Who else can it be for?" The smile on her face fell apart, and jealousy filled her heart as she thought of one possibility. 'Can this be for that b*tch, Catelyn?' she hissed internally. 'I thought they broke up! Why is he getting her a ring?!' Under his intimidating presence, Maia had no choice but to remove the ring. She tossed the ring back into the black box out of frustration, but it bounced off the box and the coffee table because of the force and fell onto the marble flooring,

Chapter 396-Cedrick's eyes narrowed coldly. "Pick it up." Feeling humiliated, Maia retorted, "It's just a stupid ring!" "I said, pick it up!" His tone grew hauntingly dark, and his features tightened in an intimidating manner. Feeling as though she was choked in a vice-like grip, Maia struggled to breathe. Her eyes reddened pathetically as she, admitting defeat, headed to pick up the ring. She held onto the ring so tightly that a mark in the shape of the ring formed on the palm of her hand. Cedrick took the ring from her hand and placed it back into the box.

Unable to stomach how she was treated, Maia's face twisted with resentment. "Is this how you treat your soon-to-be wife?!" "You can go and buy whatever you want. I'll send Alex with you to pay the bills." 'How generous!' she scoffed inwardly. 'I'm from the Clark family, and I'm not asking for your money! All I want is your heart, and it can only be mine!'

Cedrick put the box back into the pocket in his suit jacket and strode into his study. Albert followed closely behind without a word, but he did not leave either.

Cedrick stilled before the stairs and turned to look at him. "Do you need something?" "Master Cedrick, Master Ollie-".

"Don't waste your time if you're trying to speak for him. I won't allow my son to step on the wrong path from a young age," Cedrick interrupted with resignation.

"I'm not trying to do so. It's just that... "I'm sorry, Master Cedrick. It's my fault," Albert blurted out painstakingly. "I should've never let Miss Clark take care of you that night; Master Ollie wouldn't have hated her so much if only I stopped her!" Cedrick scowled. "What do you mean?" Albert pulled out a USB flash drive with footage of the surveillance cameras concerning what had happened that night.

"You'll understand once you watch what's inside." Albert handed it to Cedrick before heading back to work without another word.

Cedrick's heart sank as he stared at the drive in his hand.

Meanwhile, in the children's hospital, Ollie had gulped down large glasses of hot water every two hours to fool the nurse who came to test his temperature.

Concerned by his fever, Catelyn's heart twisted with fear and anxiety.

She eventually fell asleep while leaning against the bed, and Ollie carefully covered her with a blanket. He tried calling Miles countless times after that, but he could not even reach him, much to his worry. Catelyn had rescheduled her flight to two days later, which happened to be his father's wedding day.

If Miles could not return, was he supposed to leave with Catelyn?

Although he felt disappointed at Cedrick, he was still Ollie's father, and while Catelyn had Miles by her side, Cedrick would be truly on his own if Ollie left. Just then, Catelyn's features tensed as she

murmured warily, "Why won't you believe me? The kids...are mine! Give them back... Don't take them away from me!" She seemed to have sunk deep into a nightmare, and Ollie snapped out of his thoughts.

He stroked her back gently and cooed softly, "It's okay, Mommy, we're both here.

No one can take us away from you..."

Chapter 397-Catelyn visibly relaxed at the sound of the familiar sweet voice.

Ollie pursed his lips with a mature look that did not suit a child his age. 'Mom doesn't want to leave Father either, right?' Two days later, all online platforms and all screens across every street were broadcasting the news of the union between the Mason and Clark families.

Catelyn had thought that she would feel hurt when she learned the news, but she was unexpectedly calm and numb. After all, she had already bought her flight ticket and planned to leave Sapphire City on Cedrick's wedding day. 'From now on, we're just strangers, Cedrick Mason,' she thought. Joanne came to the airport to send them off. "Mom, are we really leaving Ollie?" Ollie clung onto Catelyn's leg innocently, trying to imitate Miles as best as he could.

Catelyn struggled to suppress the sorrow within him and said, "Miles, I know that you don't want to part with Ollie as well, but...he's already made his choice. I promise that we'll sneak back to see him when we have the chance, okay?" Knowing that the sweet, innocent act would not work any longer, Ollie nodded and followed Catelyn quietly.

Joanne watched as they went through the security check and gave Catelyn a big hug before they went. She then crouched and pointed at her cheek while looking at Ollie. "This is farewell to your godmother now, Miles. I just hate seeing you leave so much. I feel so sad whenever I remember the fact that I won't be able to hold such an adorable boy in my arms from now on.

"C'mon, give me a kiss." Ollie scratched his head shyly as he pecked Joanne's cheek lightly. Joanne flung her arms around him as she struggled to keep her tears from scrolling down her cheeks.

Ollie suddenly pursed his lips. "Mommy, I want to use the bathroom." With one hand on the luggage, Catelyn offered, "I'll come with you." "It's alright. You should spend some time talking to Godmother. I can go alone," he insisted before trotting off awkwardly, as he had never run in public like Miles did.

A lump formed in Catelyn's throat as she watched the boy disappear into the crowd.

She was finally leaving the city that she had spent the past 20 years in.

"Joanne, please look after my mother." Catelyn, after all, had not mentioned a word of her plan to escape to Stella. "I know, don't worry. So long as I'm around, I won't let anything happen to her." "Don't spoil her, though. She... She's the kind of person that probably thinks she can fly if someone lifted her high enough." It was not a funny metaphor, but Joanne forced a smile regardless. "You're leaving now, so I won't say too much. I wish you all the best. Find a man that's better-looking, richer, and taller than Cedrick Mason in Milarn, then bring him back to show Cedrick what he lost!" 'How dare he abandon his child and woman to marry Maia?' was what she thought but refrained from saying out loud. Catelyn smiled bitterly. She did not know if she had the courage to fall in love with another person after Cedrick.

Just then, her phone rang. She thought that it was the airline notifying her about her flight, thus casually unlocked her phone. A second later, she turned pale as her blood ran cold. On her phone was the photo of Miles being carried into a car by someone with his mouth covered. Her hand trembled, and the luggage fell to the ground. Joanne hastily steadied her and said, "Look, there's an additional message."

Chapter 398-The message read... (Catelyn Clark, how dare you try to hide my child from me?) Chills ran down Catelyn's spine as her lips went numb.

"Did... Did Cedrick find out?" she gasped. "Did he take Miles away?" The grand Victoria Hotel was booked by the Mason family for the wedding.

Countless guests gathered in the building with important political figures at every corner. Camera shutters were unceasing, and the flower baskets were lined from the entrance to the end of the red carpet.

Countless bodyguards stood on both sides of the walkway, standing meters away from one another while guarding the perimeter.

The interior of the hotel was decorated with splendid lighting. The chandelier spun steadily, casting its light over every corner. All seniors of the Mason and Clark families stood by the entrance to greet the guests enthusiastically.

Dressed in a full-black tuxedo, Cedrick stood next to the Mason family's elder expressionlessly. His brooding brows and dark features gave him a majestic, godlike untouchable aura as he stood.

When facing the guests who had come to congratulate him, he merely nodded briefly in response.

Edwin made his way to the wedding. He had been overseas to take care of certain private matters and arrived home to the most alarming news.

He had thought that the media had caught the wrong tips and, holding a wine glass, exclaimed, "Crap! So you're marrying Maia? For real? What about Kitty?" The red liquid in Edwin's glass glittered seductively under the light.

Cedrick snatched the glass of wine from his hand and gulped it down. "Do not mention that woman's name in front of me ever again." Edwin smirked. "You know what this is?" "Just say it, or shut up." "This is you digging your grave. You're going to regret this!" Cedrick shot him a sharp glare and turned to welcome Janice, who was naturally present for his wedding day.

"I heard that even though this wedding between the two families was rushed, everything was prepared years ago and every detail is of the highest quality..." "I heard that, too. The wedding dress Maia wears has nine thousand nine hundred ninety nine diamonds that the Masons mined from the African mines." "Tsk! I thought that there would never be a proper wedding since they've been engaged for so long..." "Sigh! I'm so jealous of Maia. I want a husband as rich and handsome as hers..." In the corner, ladies of different families gathered to gossip, their tones mostly envious and longing as they wondered why they had not been as lucky. Maia stepped out of the bride's preparation room, just in time to overhear their conversation. She beamed upon hearing these whispers and held her chin high.

Enveloped in warm light, she appeared like a graceful goddess.

Walking toward the washroom, she saw Richard leaning against the bathroom door when she came out. She instantly paled at the sight and ordered the two servants who were responsible for serving her, "Go guard the front. Don't let anyone through." She could not move to her content in the wedding dress,

and both servants who worked for the Clark family had been tending to her daily needs before the wedding. They suppressed their curiosity and walked to the end of the corridor to keep watch at her command.

Richard looked at her longingly.

Dressed in white, she looked like a fallen angel. Though his heart throbbed at her beauty, his heart shattered the next instant at the sight. "Why didn't you tell me that you're marrying Cedrick Mason?" he demanded in frustration.

Chapter 399-Maia held the hem of her dress up and cast Richard a sidelong glance. "I thought you understood that our relationship was strictly physical. Besides, I told you that we're strangers if we meet outside. Why did you trouble yourself to come here, confronting me like this?" With that, she tried to leave, but Richard pulled her back by the arm. "Mai, can you not marry Cedrick Mason?" He held her close and propped his chin against her shoulder. The wedding dress had far too many layers for the hug to feel real to him, but he had to try his luck.

He had to pour out his feelings on that single question. Maia struggled against his embrace but was concerned that she would wrinkle her dress. Thus, she took a deep breath before whispering gently, "Cedrick and I were supposed to get married four years ago. Richard, if you truly love me, let me go." "Miss, someone is coming..." reminded the servant.

Maia anxiously tried to shove Richard away, but he could not bear to let her go.

He dipped his head to kiss her deeply, before smiling devilishly with a hint of undetected danger. "I'll always love you, Mai, even if you become Cedrick's wife." He then let her go.

When Janice walked toward the washroom, she spotted Maia's servants helping Maia with her dress. There was a bathroom attached to the bride's room, so she was taken by surprise as she did not expect to see Maia here.

"Aunt Janice? You're here, too?" Noticing that it was Janice, Maia swiftly composed herself from the antsy feeling that bugged her, approaching Janice with a smile and holding her arm.

Janice tapped the back of her hand gently. "It's your wedding day. How could I not?" While she spoke, Janice caught a whiff of a male cologne, and when she glanced at Maia's lips, she noticed that her lipstick seemed smudged.

Eventually, the clock struck 11 a.m., and the wedding ceremony officially started.

The host tried his best to light up the room on stage, but the hall was lively enough without him trying. Countless people held their breaths in anticipation of the grand wedding. Flower petals were all over the floor, and the hall was filled with the fragrance of lilies and roses.

"Next up, let us invite our bride, accompanied by her father, to walk down the aisle!" The host pointed at the red carpet, where Maia stood hand-in-hand with her father under the arched entrance made with lilies.

Under everyone's watchful eyes, she stepped onto the red carpet and walked toward Cedrick.

Apart from feeling slightly shy, she was beaming excitedly.

She was finally going to become Missus Mason. So what if she was not the woman from four years ago when she would be by Cedrick's side, in the end, four years later?

Her father handed her hand to Cedrick. The look in Cedrick's eyes wavered slightly, but he did not refuse despite the increasing tension coursing through his body. The priest gave a speech on the backgrounds of both Maia and Cedrick, before proceeding with the vows. "Maia Clark, do you take Cedrick Mason to be your lawful husband?" Without a moment of hesitation, she said, "I do." The priest looked over at Cedrick.

Chapter 400-"Cedrick Mason, do you take Maia Clark to be your lawful wife? To have and to hold, from this day forward; for better or for worse; for richer or poorer; in sickness and in health; to love, respect, and protect her?" Cedrick listened quietly to the priest's cue...but he did not respond.

Thinking that he had not heard the question, the priest repeated himself, but Cedrick simply remained silent and pursed his lips tightly.

The smile on Maia's face slowly stiffened as she turned to look at him, wordlessly urging him to answer the question.

Just then, a figure stormed through the entrance before he could say a word.

With her back toward the light, her face was overshadowed. Everyone was stunned by her sudden appearance as they struggled to get a clearer look on her face. The next instant, what she said stirred the crowd. "Cedrick Mason, where did you take my son? Give him back!" She slowly stepped onto the red carpet and into sight, her face becoming more distinct as she moved closer. Her features were delicate and elegant, her skin fair and her eyes alluring. Her cheeks flushed red as she glared at the man from below the stage.

Maia's eyes narrowed viciously when she spotted Catelyn, daring to ruin her wedding. Cedrick, too, had not expected Catelyn to be there. She had slimmed down a lot, and the witty look in her eyes had vanished.

"What does your son's disappearance have to do with me?" Catelyn's mind was filled with the content of the message and the fact that the sender's number was linked to the phone in Mason Estate, Who else could have taken her son? "Cedrick Mason, I thought you were vicious enough, but I didn't think you'd be this brazen! Hand my son back, or I'm going to wreak havoc at your wedding!" Time seemed to have frozen in place for a moment before the hall erupted into chaos. "Goodness! Who is that woman? Why is she asking Cedrick for her son?" "Could she be Master Ollie's mother?!" "Impossible! Master Cedrick had been looking for her for four years now, so why would she show herself here?" "Who knows? Maybe she's here to destroy Master Cedrick and Miss Maia's wedding!" "Hey, doesn't that woman look familiar? I feel like I've seen her before during Mister James' party." "Hey, you got a point there! I think her name is... She's..." "Catelyn Clark!" Maia gritted out her name, her beautiful face contorting with barely contained anger. "You should've gone to Jamie Mason if your son is missing! Why are you here?! Somebody! Come and drag her out!" The security guard immediately stormed toward Catelyn at Maia's command.

"Don't you dare!" Catelyn glared at them with bloodshot eyes, determined to find Miles or die trying. Suddenly, she seemed to have remembered something and sneered. "Miss Clark, I forgot to remind you that I'm still in possession of a photo of you and a certain someone. If they chase me out of here, this photo is going to appear on the cover page of every magazine tomorrow!" Maia knew that she was referring to the photo of her and Richard when they were spotted at the hotel, and she gaped at this realization.

She risked a glance at Cedrick and noticed his expression darkening ruthlessly.

“Catelyn Clark, are you sure you’re not leaving?” he asked.