

# Snatched a Billionaire to be My Husband ( Cora Lane ) - Season 1 Episode 71

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Harry was a little surprised by that, and he asked, "Byron?"

He didn't expect Byron to have such a strong aversion towards Cora, not even wanting to ride in the same elevator with her.

Jane felt both puzzled and somewhat unsurprised, offering Cora an apologetic smile.

After all, in her eyes, the relationship between Byron and Cora was based on Carter. Since Cora accompanied Carter for a drink the last time, it was likely that they had broken up. So it was normal for Byron to dislike her now.

Only Carter remained poker-faced throughout, as if everything had nothing to do with him.

This made Sally even more anxious.

Seeing the elevator doors closing, Sally quickly asked, "What happened between you and Mr. Pope? Is there any misunderstanding? Should I call him back and help you clarify things?"

Enter title...

Deep down, she believed Carter had been kind and considerate towards Cora before. Otherwise, how could he have caught the attention of his boss, Byron?

"No need, Sally. It's already over between him and me."

Cora was referring to Byron.

"Didn't you break up a month ago? Actually, I had sensed it, but I didn't want to ask to avoid making you feel sad."

Although Sally appeared lively and carefree, she was actually very perceptive. She had noticed a month ago that Cora no longer seemed as happy as before, and even her smiles had become less frequent. And sometimes Cora would stare blankly out the window. Sally had anticipated something was wrong, but she just hadn't dared to ask about it.

"Hmm." Cora nodded, her eyes slightly reddening.

"It's okay. It's not as difficult as you think to find a suitable man. Tyler is a good option. I'll help you dress up nicely for the dinner tonight and try to win him over in one go."

Sally had always been an actionist, so that night, she directly dressed Cora in a slim blue dress with a white sweater jacket, which made Cora appear both pure and alluring.

The dinner was set at the Majestic Global Restaurant. When Sally led Cora into the private room, there were already several people sitting inside.

Tyler had also arrived, wearing a white shirt and beige pants. With his tall and well-proportioned figure, his strikingly handsome face had an irresistible charm, attracting the attention of almost all the women in the room.

However, Tyler mostly listened to others and only occasionally responded with a few words.

Elegance and dignity were perfectly integrated and expressed in him.

It wasn't until he saw Cora's arrival that he stood up from his seat to greet her,

"Cora, long time no see."

"Tyler, it's been a while."

Cora and Tyler were more familiar with each other compared to others. Not only were they classmates, but there was also the fact that when their professor didn't have time to answer Cora's questions, he would arrange for Tyler to help her.

Therefore, Tyler could be considered as a half-mentor to Cora.

“Tyler, you’re too biased. When I came in, you only noticed Cora and didn’t even  
greet me.”

Sally teased as she approached them, causing Tyler to apologize repeatedly,  
treating her like an honored guest and guiding her to the seat.

With Sally, a social butterfly, the atmosphere at this dinner was relatively relaxed.

Halfway through the dinner, Cora went to the restroom.

She had drunk a few sips of wine earlier and felt a bit dizzy. She splashed some  
water on her face to refresh herself and, as she looked up through the mirror, she  
saw Tyler standing behind her.

“Cora, are you okay?” Tyler noticed that the alcohol content of her drink was  
quite high, so he followed her out because he was afraid that she would run into  
trouble if she came out alone.

“I’m fine, quite sober, actually.”

Tyler handed Cora a pack of tissues, and she began wiping the water off her  
cheeks.

In her slim dress, she looked like a beautiful vase, her enchanting curves fully  
displayed.

In addition, her face had a slight flush from the alcohol, accentuating her  
charming demeanor. It easily made people want to protect her delicate beauty  
and shield her from any harm.

Tyler had the same thought, so he suddenly spoke up again, “I’m not leaving  
again after returning to New York this time. If anything happens, you can always  
call me.”

When Cora looked up, she realized Tyler was looking down at her, his gaze  
seemingly filled with an unusual desire.

“Thank you, Tyler.”

Listening to her distant gratitude, Tyler narrowed his deep eyes slightly and

stared at her without his usual aloofness. It seemed that something was breaking free from its cocoon.

“Cora, don’t thank me. I’ve heard about what happened to your family, and I couldn’t help much. I’m sorry... I came back late.”

Both of them had been drinking tonight, and this state made it suitable for revealing certain words hidden in their hearts.

However, just as Tyler approached Cora, a sound suddenly came from the smoking area across the restroom.

They both turned their heads in response and saw Byron walking out from there.

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“Byron?” Tyler was taken aback and greeted him first.

Byron had just extinguished his cigarette, and the smell of smoke still lingered around him. “When did you come back?”

Both men had identical perfect body proportions and equally exceptional charisma.

The difference was in their auras. If Tyler, in his white shirt and beige trousers, looked as clean and angelic as ever, Byron, in his black shirt and black pants, seemed like a devil wandering in the dark.

Byron’s gaze was profound and icy, as if it emitted a chilling effect. Even Tyler couldn’t help but shiver when he got closer.

“Today.” Tyler felt that something was off about Byron’s demeanor today, but he couldn’t pinpoint what exactly it was.

“Well, let’s meet another day then.”

As Byron passed by them, his gaze briefly swept across Cora’s face.

Enter title...

Remembering his indifference and avoidance earlier in the day, Cora imitated him by not making eye contact and treating him as a complete stranger.

“I definitely will. I’ll treat next time.”

Tyler watched Byron walk away and wanted to say something to Cora.

But Cora said first, “Tyler, I need to use the restroom. You go back first.”

“Alright, I’ll wait for you in the private room.”

Byron’s presence disrupted the atmosphere, and Tyler couldn’t find the same feeling as before. Certain words couldn’t be spoken anymore.

Cora nodded in response, turned around, and went into the bathroom.

But what she never expected was that when she came out of the bathroom, Tyler had left, but Byron was standing in front of the sink smoking a cigarette.

The smoke diffused around him, and with his slightly tilted head and tense jawline, he exuded a seductive aura.

Upon hearing the sound, his gaze fell unabashedly on Cora.

On this late autumn night, she was wearing a slim-fit blue dress with a white cardigan draped over it.

That enchanting appearance made him involuntarily think about whether she was as irresistible when lying beneath Tyler as she was when she was with him.

Cora felt a scorching sensation from his brazen gaze, which made her earlier tipsy feeling almost disappear.

She clenched the bag in her hand and was about to quickly walk past Byron, intending to continue to treat him as a stranger just like before.

However, Cora couldn’t have anticipated that just as she was about to pass by Byron, he suddenly grabbed her waist and pulled her tightly into his embrace.

“Are you trying to seduce Tyler?”

His eyes narrowed slightly, and his whole demeanor became deep and cold.

Cora struggled for a moment, but she found that the more she resisted, the

tighter Byron's hold became until there was no space left between them. She could clearly feel the temperature rising in Byron's body, afraid that he would lose control completely. So, she changed her strategy.

"Mr. Hansen, you have sharp eyes." She stopped struggling and didn't touch Byron with her hands. Instead, she held onto her handbag and smiled seductively at him.

"Did you succeed?"

Byron had obvious sarcasm in his tone.

"Mr. Hansen, if you hadn't interrupted just now, I probably would have succeeded."

Cora was still smiling at him, and her slightly drunk eyes were full of charm.

"After succeeding, are you planning to marry into the Cooper family? Their threshold is even higher than the Hansen family's."

Byron's tone was as icy as freezing cold.

But Cora's tone was even colder than his. "If the threshold is high, so be it. I didn't be with him aiming to get married anyway."

Without Byron reminding her, Cora knew that although the Cooper family wasn't one of the top four prominent families in New York, they were an influential and well-connected family. Every wealthy family had to establish good relations with them and try to form an alliance.

She had never thought of marrying the social ladder of the Cooper family. It was just Byron's harsh words and stern demeanor that ignited her rebellious spirit. It wasn't her fault that her background suddenly became humble!

Seemingly angered by her, Byron tightened his embrace around her waist once again. "Not aiming to get married? Aiming for the benefits he can give you instead?"

"Why not!"

“He can offer a price, and I can afford it,” Byron said, his expression almost devouring Cora.

“Mr. Hansen, I know you are wealthy and powerful, but at the moment, I prefer Tyler.”

But when Cora sweetly called out “Tyler,” it felt like Byron’s eyebrows were about to freeze into ice.

He took a deep drag on his cigarette and blew the smoke toward Cora’s face.

“Are you sure Tyler can satisfy you?”

Cora turned her face away, but the smoke still made her cough a few times, slightly annoyed.

“I heard that a man’s 25th year is a turning point. I believe Tyler is more capable than you, Mr. Hansen.”

But Cora, being too naive, didn’t know that provoking Byron was unwise.

As expected, as soon as Byron was suspected of not having good skills in bed by Cora, he lost all rationality and forcefully pushed Cora int

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Cora never expected that Byron would do such a thing to her in this cramped bathroom.

There were people passing by outside from time to time, occasionally accompanied by the sound of their conversations.

But those people would never have guessed that a clandestine affair was unfolding in this tiny space.

“Cora?”

“Are you in there, Cora?”

In the hazy state of mind, Cora heard Tyler’s slightly anxious voice calling out to

her.

Cora's consciousness returned, and she wanted to break free from Byron's grasp.

But Byron didn't let go, and he lowered his voice to ask her, "Are you sure you want to see Tyler in this state?"

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Cora lowered her head and looked at her own embarrassed state alongside Byron's. She had no choice but to give up struggling.

It wasn't because she was afraid of Tyler finding out something, but simply because she didn't want anyone to think that she was such a loose woman.

However, in Byron's eyes, her silence was a sign of her concern for Tyler. This feeling drove him completely out of control and made him lose his mind.

Cora also felt like she was on the verge of a breakdown. Fortunately, at that moment, she heard Tyler's voice outside as he called Sally.

"Sally, Cora is not in the restroom. Can you see if she's near the private room? I'll check the fire escape over there."

Accompanied by his words, Tyler's footsteps gradually faded away.

After that, Cora finally felt relieved.

At the same time, Byron's phone started ringing.

The abrupt ringtone caused both of them to visibly startle.

But Byron had no intention of answering the call. He let the phone ring and continued his intimate actions.

Cora, unwilling to be possessed by Byron, took advantage of his distraction and retrieved the phone from his pocket.

On the phone screen, there was only a string of mobile numbers displayed without a contact name.

But Cora had a good memory, and she instantly recognized that these numbers



were the same as the ones from that day when she mistakenly answered Jane's  
phone call.

"Your fiancée is calling you!"

Her eyes were filled with a drunken blush, exuding charm and allure, but deep  
down in her gaze, there was only provocation.

"If your fiancée sees you shamelessly forcing another woman but refusing to  
meet her, what expression do you think she would have?"

While provoking, Cora's thumb was still gesturing near the edge of the call button  
as if to tell Byron that if he didn't stop violating her, she would call Jane to come  
and see what her fiancé was doing behind closed doors!

But Cora never expected Byron's response to be. "Go ahead and call her. I'm  
curious about her expression too!"

Cora was stunned.

Speaking of shamelessness, she is really no match for this man.

But in the end, the intimacy was interrupted.

It was because they heard Harry and Jane's conversation from outside.

"I just heard Byron's phone ringtone coming from inside this restroom."

"Jane, you must have misheard. This is the ladies' restroom."

"I didn't mishear. The sound came from inside. Let me go in and take a look."

"This..."

After all, Byron had no interest in displaying explicit scenes in front of others, so  
he let go of Cora in the end, tidied up his clothes, and went out.

"Byron?"

As soon as he appeared, both Jane and Harry were slightly stunned.

"How did you get into this restroom?"

Byron indifferently passed the two of them without saying a word.

Harry frowned and wanted to say something, but he noticed that Byron had one

hand in his pocket.

In addition, after Byron came out, the bathroom just now was closed from the inside again.

As men, Harry naturally understood what was going on, so he quickly defused the situation. “He must have had too much to drink and got the wrong restroom.”

“Did Byron drink too much just now? I didn’t see him drink much.”

Jane didn’t notice the commotion in the restroom. All her attention was focused on Byron, but she had a vague feeling that something was off.

“Jane, you may not have noticed that the alcohol content of the drink tonight is high.”

Harry fooled Jane with a serious expression, and then he led her back to the private room.

When the sound of footsteps outside gradually faded away, Cora breathed a sigh of relief.

But she also knew that she wasn’t in the right state to return to Tyler’s dinner party. So she sent a message to Sally, saying that she had some things to attend to and left after tidying up her sticky body.

But as soon as she returned to the entrance of her apartment building, Byron was standing by the flower bed, smoking a cigarette.

He squinted his eyes, accompanied by the flickering cigarette in his hand. His expression was as elusive as the ever-changing depths of the dark sea, leaving people unable to grasp or fathom.

Cora glanced at him but ignored him like a stranger, calmly entering the elevator

As the elevator doors were about to close, Byron, who had just been smoking by the flowerbed some distance away, stubbed out his cigarette and rushed in.

Cora ignored him and retreated to a corner.

She couldn't help but secretly glance at him.

Byron adjusted his tie and tilted his head slightly to gaze at the ceiling lights of the elevator. The mole at the corner of his eye tightened along with the tense line of his jaw, making him more captivating.

Just now, their intimate activities only went halfway, and there was still the scent of each other on their bodies.

Beneath their calm expressions, certain thoughts couldn't help but stir restlessly. Cora struggled to control her thoughts, not wanting them to be influenced by him.

As soon as the elevator doors opened, she quickly walked out.

However, Byron followed closely behind, unexpectedly lifting her up from the waist and skillfully grabbing her hand. He unlocked the password lock and

Enter title...

forcefully took her into the room, where he began to do as he pleased with her.

"Mr. Hansen, I don't want this anymore." Seeing Byron tearing at her clothes, trying to get straight to the point, Cora struggled.

But Byron ignored her resistance and continued forcefully pushing her down.

"You don't want it? You took the initiative at the beginning."

"I took the initiative, but didn't you take advantage of me? Can't you let me go?"

But Byron showed her through his actions that letting her go was impossible.

He asked her, "Do you still think I'm useless now?"

He was so fierce in their intimate moments, making Cora feel great discomfort and even causing her to cry.

"Why are you so annoying? I just don't want to be with a married man. Why do you want to humiliate me like this? It's not my fault that my family has fallen, and I

didn't provoke you on purpose. Why don't you let me go?"

The tearing pain in her body caused Cora to collapse, causing her to cry uncontrollably and vent out all the accumulated helplessness and resentment she had been harboring in her heart during that period.

Seeing the teary-eyed woman in his arms, Byron couldn't help but soften his actions.

"I'm not a married man." Although he felt there was no need to explain, seeing how much Cora cared about the issue, Byron explained casually.

"You already have a fiancée. Aren't you just a married man? Aren't you being hypocritical?" Cora was angry and spoke without thinking.

Byron didn't take her words seriously in this state. "My father thought she was suitable for me and wanted me to consider her as a girlfriend. We don't have any determined relationship, let alone any engagement ceremony. What kind of fiancée is that?"

Cora clearly didn't believe it. "If she's not your fiancée, then why do you let others call her that?"

"Their mouths aren't sewn shut. Can I stop them one by one?"

Seeing that Cora still didn't believe him, Byron asked, "Weren't you close with Eason and his family before? Did you hear about my engagement from them?"

Cora was stunned. She hadn't heard about it.

So, it meant that Jane and Harry believed that the supposedly confirmed marriage between Byron and Jane was actually just Jane's wishful thinking. From beginning to end, their relationship never received recognition from Byron, the Hansen family, or even the Patton family.

This discovery made Cora suddenly feel that Jane was also quite pitiful.

Somehow, Byron seemed to see through her thoughts and suddenly sneered, "Do you think she is pitiful? Have you ever thought about how much benefits she

gained by claiming her relationship with me to the outside world?"

Cora frowned. "Mr. Hansen, you don't seem like someone who would make a loss. Why would you let her gain benefits for no reason?"

"It wasn't for no reason that she gained those benefits. My father wanted me to settle down quickly, but I didn't want to enter the grave of marriage so soon. Besides, someone doesn't accept a married man. Taking her as a shield isn't a bad thing either."

Byron explained it quite clearly. Jane and her family benefited from her status as his fiancée, while Byron used Jane as a shield to ward off various arranged blind dates set up by Osborn.

Byron only treated their relationship as a mutually beneficial cooperative relationship, but Jane couldn't see through it.

However, after listening to all this, Cora didn't know whether to sympathize with Jane or herself.

Although Jane had not been recognized by Byron or the Hansen family, it was only temporary.

If one day, when Byron decided to settle down, she would smoothly become Byron's wife.

As for her, Byron might seem exceptionally kind to her, but he probably never had any intention of marrying her.

Otherwise, he wouldn't refuse to bring her home just because she didn't accept a married man and would rather use Jane as a shield.

But Cora felt it might not be a bad thing for her. She was well aware of the predicament she faced if she wanted to marry into the Hansen family.

As long as Byron wasn't a married man and could temporarily provide her with a spiritual haven, she felt it would maintain this kind of relationship was not bad.

Although Cora had such thoughts, she still felt a pang in her heart.

Was her already scarred heart handed over by her again in such conflict and hesitation?

Feeling restless, she needed some solace. So when Byron kissed her again, she didn't refuse, and she even actively clung to his neck, enjoying the moment with him.

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The next morning, when Cora woke up, Byron had already left the apartment. Cora endured the soreness all over her body as she tried to get out of bed, only to find a string of anklets on her left foot.

It was made of rose gold and exquisite rubies, and both the clarity and design were exceptional, indicating their high value.

She couldn't help but recall Byron playing with her ankle last night, so it must have been him who put them on her at that time.

However, every time they were intimate, Byron liked to hold her ankle and kiss it devoutly, so she didn't pay much attention to it then.

She had to admit that Byron had good taste, and the anklet suited her very well. The anklet adorned her foot, accentuating her snow-white skin and making her feet appear delicate and charming. With a casual move, she exuded irresistible allure.

Cora looked at the anklet for a while, took out her phone, took a photo, and sent it to Byron: [Mr. Hansen, is this my reward from last night?]

Enter title...

Byron, on the other end of the phone, seemed to be idle, responding to her messages almost instantly.

[Yes, hard work pays off. Keep working hard in the future.]

Cora suddenly blushed. She felt like she had just been teased.

However, what Cora didn't know was that the man who replied to her message was currently in a conference room.

Many executives were waiting for Byron to give feedback on the plan, but he was replying to the message with his mobile phone. He even smirked slightly after saving the WhatsApp image.

Since taking over the Hansen Group, the executives had never seen him smile like this before.

The only time they witnessed him lose control was when he got angry during a video call with his S\*\*ual partner and then abruptly left, leaving everyone behind. So the executives who witnessed all of this couldn't help but suspect that Byron's rare smile had something to do with his S\*\*ual partner again.

But they dared not communicate directly with Byron about these questions, so they shifted their gossiping eyes to Carter, who was next to Byron.

Naturally, Carter was too lazy to explain these messy things to them, so when he noticed their gossiping eyes, he started to rebuke an executive sternly.

"Mr. Brown, why don't you start by sharing your thoughts on these two proposals?"

This executive's beer belly resembled a belly of a pregnant woman, and he was the most curious one. He was the perfect target for criticism.

This executive's desire for gossip instantly vanished, and he began to anxiously pile up various adjectives to express his opinions.

Seeing how miserable this executive was, others dared not gossip anymore and immediately threw themselves wholeheartedly into this meeting.

In the following days, except for occasional business trips, Byron stayed at Cora's LO apartment every night.

Most of their time together was filled with intimacy, with little communication in

other aspects.

But the two of them were perfectly compatible in this matter and always reached  
the peak of pleasure.

However, after each moment of pleasure, Cora would secretly build fortresses in  
her heart to prevent herself from completely falling.

She needed to hold onto either her body or her heart so as not to be completely  
engulfed in this quagmire.

In a blink of an eye, Jane's birthday was approaching.

So today, at a gathering with Byron, Harry, and other New York rich young men,  
Jane generously invited everyone.

"It's my birthday this weekend, and I plan to have a party on Breezy Tides. I invite  
you all to join me."

Harry loved leisure activities like this, where he could enjoy nature and escape  
from work, so he immediately agreed, "No problem. But it will take more than ten  
hours by ferry to get to Breezy Tides. Should we go together or individually?"

"Let's go there together. At that time, I'll have my grandfather arrange for our  
family's Princess to pick you up. We can just have an overnight party on the  
yacht together."

In addition to medical-related businesses, the Yoris family also had some resorts  
and tourism investments.

One of the resorts on Breezy Tides was under the Yoris family's management.

The Yoris family's Princess was an international luxury cruise ship used for  
routes. Apart from accommodating over 2000 passengers, it had various  
luxurious entertainment facilities, and the service was said to be top-notch in the  
country.

So when Jane mentioned having an overnight party on the Princess for her  
birthday, almost everyone got excited.



“With accommodations on Breezy Tides Island and tickets for the Princess, plus the suspension of the Princess and the Breezy Tides during this period... Wow, Jane’s birthday party will cost a fortune.”

“If I did something like this for my birthday, my mom would kill me.”

“What’s the point of comparing yourself with Jane? She’s the only girl in the Yoris family, everyone’s cherished treasure. The girls in your family are as abundant as dirt.”

Listening to the comments of others, Jane remained composed on the surface but felt happy inside.

Although she was indeed the cherished treasure of the Yoris family, it was the first time she had organized such a lavish birthday party.

And her purpose was Byron.

“Byron, you’ll come, right?”

Jane looked at Byron with a hint of shyness.

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Snatched a Billionaire to be My Husband ( Cora Lane )

Snatched a Billionaire to be My Husband ( Cora Lane )

Bride Behind The Mask Novel by (Frederick and Mr. Winston)

Score 9.9

Status: OngoingType: Hot RomanceAuthor: Cora, Cora LaneArtist: Cora LaneReleased:

10/5/2023Native Language: English

Fav Romance Lovely Top Billionaire

Snatched a Billionaire to be My Husband ( Cora Lane )”In a thrilling story, a hot billionaire CEO is a fascinating main character who has lots of money and looks really good. They experience love, power, and excitement in a rich and passionate world. Read More Bride Behind The Mask Novel by

(Frederick and Mr. Winston)

Snatched a Billionaire to be My Husband ( Cora Lane )

Description of Novels

Title: Snatched a Billionaire to be My Husband

Author: – Cora Lane )

Rating: 9.3 (Very Good)

Read Online Snatched a Billionaire to be My Husband ( Cora Lane)

Her scumbag fiancé ended their engagement after her family went bankrupt. Seeking solace, she went to a bar and ended up sleeping with the wealthiest man in the country, coincidentally, also that scumbag's uncle. Initially, he insisted it was a mistake and had no intention of maintaining any further connection with her. However, he couldn't resist lending a hand whenever she needed financial assistance or when she faced humiliation from that scumbag and his new girlfriend. Then she tricked him into marriage by faking a pregnancy, to seek revenge against her ex, and surprisingly, find happiness in their marriage. Yet, she constantly lived in fear of her secret being exposed. One day, she confessed, "Um... I faked the pregnancy. If you can't handle that, let's just get divorced." The billionaire embraced her and replied, "My darling, it doesn't matter. Let's have a baby NOW to compensate for my loss."

Some Important Questions And Answer Related to the Story

Who are the main characters introduced in the passage?

Answer: The main characters introduced in the passage are Cora Lane, Byron Hansen, and Eason Patton.

What is the setting for the majority of the passage?

Answer: The majority of the passage is set in Spire 73, the highest rooftop bar in the western hemisphere, and later in Byron Hansen's hotel room.

Why did Cora approach Eason Patton for money?

Answer: Cora approached Eason Patton for money because her family was bankrupt, and her mother's medical bills were overdue, potentially leading to debt collection and damaging her credit.

What is Byron Hansen's reaction when he discovers Cora in Eason Patton's house?

Answer: When Byron Hansen discovers Cora in Eason Patton's house, their gazes lock, but the passage does not provide explicit details about his reaction at that moment.

What kind of relationship does Cora expect to have with Byron Hansen after their one-night stand?

Answer: Cora does not expect a serious relationship with Byron Hansen after their one-night stand, as she describes him as the notorious "ice-king," and they both seem to understand that their encounter was a one-time thing.

#### Conclusion

In this passage, Cora and Byron engage in a passionate encounter, but it's clear their connection is fleeting. Cora's financial struggles may lead to unexpected consequences in the future.

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But Byron was still drinking and didn't make a sound, but he took a rare look at Jane.

In the dim light, his deep and mysterious eyes seemed even more captivating, with a touch of debauchery on his handsome face due to the influence of alcohol.

Even the mole in the corner of his eye appeared more alluring.

Jane was deeply captivated by him with one glance but soon followed by her anxiety and concern over his lack of response.

The Yoris family was organizing such a grand birthday party for her this time as they wanted to expedite finalizing her marriage plans with Byron.

However, if Byron couldn't even attend her party, she didn't know how to face her parents, grandparents, and all her uncles and aunts when she returned.

Just as Jane's mind was spinning with anxiety, Harry spoke up, "Jane, isn't this

needless concern? With your relationship with Byron, even if you don't invite him to your birthday party, he will definitely show up."

Actually, Byron would come over today and join them for the party, which was arranged by Harry to help Jane.

Enter title...

At this juncture, he naturally couldn't just stand by and watch Jane feel embarrassed.

"Is that so?" Jane smiled and looked at Byron again.

Although Byron did not respond to either of them, he also did not refute their words.

With that, Jane's anxious heart finally settled down, and after chatting and laughing with Harry for a while, she suddenly shifted her gaze to Carter, who was quietly drinking in the corner.

"Carter, when the time comes, you can invite Dr. Lane to the party as well."

As soon as the words fell, Carter's hand holding the drink froze imperceptibly.

Not only Carter, but even the smile on Harry's face also inevitably frozen.

It was because he wasn't sure whether Jane intended to throw a birthday party for herself or meet with her love rival!

But Jane seemed oblivious to their unusual expressions and continued to smile, saying, "I remember she's on the weekend off. Let's invite her to come and have fun with everyone, to relax a bit!"

After Jane decided to hold the birthday party, she specifically checked Cora's schedule.

In fact, Jane had already noticed the change in attitude from both Byron and Carter towards Cora since their encounter at the elevator when Harry was discharged from the hospital.

But she wasn't sure if Carter had broken up with Cora, so she wanted to take this

opportunity to test Cora whether she could gain attention in front of Byron or not. However, her seemingly clever test appeared rather foolish in the eyes of these men.

Carter couldn't easily answer questions about Cora, so he didn't respond to Jane immediately. Instead, he pushed up his glasses and looked at Byron for instruction.

Byron was smoking a cigarette, his other hand turning the lighter. Upon seeing the inquiring eyes from Carter, his hand that was turning lighter paused, and he not only nodded but also spoke up, "Sure."

Harry was stunned when he witnessed it all.

Byron neglected everything about Jane but readily answered anything about Cora.

This was clearly a double-standard situation!

At that moment, Harry felt so sorry for Jane, fearing that Byron's attitude would hurt her.

But as he turned around, he saw that Jane, after only a brief hesitation, had already handed the birthday party invitation card and schedule to Carter. "Carter, please take these to Dr. Lane. Oh, and remind her to bring sunscreen and a swimsuit. If the weather permits, we can go swimming."

Jane hadn't expected Byron actually to respond to the matter about Cora. She didn't receive such treatment herself.

But then she thought that since Carter was also from one of the four prominent families in New York, he gave up competing for the Pope family's inheritance and chose to work with Byron, so naturally, Byron appreciated him.

And so, she believed that Carter had asked Byron for permission regarding Cora's participation in the birthday party, and Byron responded because he didn't want to embarrass Carter.

Of course, what surprised Jane even more was that Carter hadn't broken up with Cora yet.

But in her opinion, it was just a matter of time. The incident where Cora accompanied another man for drinks last time definitely caused an unpleasant situation between them.

Once there was a crack in their relationship, it was like a domino effect that one pushed, and it would easily collapse.

Even if their relationship hadn't ruptured yet, Jane would definitely find a way to make their relationship collapse during the overnight party on the cruise.

However, Jane believed that her plan was flawless, unaware that the party schedule she had given to Carter was actually handed over to Cora by Byron himself.

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When Byron entered Cora's apartment, he saw her wearing an apron, adjusting her wooden carving with a file.

Apart from studying medicine, Cora's biggest hobby was wood carving.

She had always enjoyed playing with wood carvings to pass the time, and several ornaments in her LO apartment were her own creations.

However, Cora's mother, Flora, didn't like this little hobby of hers, so all the finished pieces she carved had to be stored in her own little space.

Unexpectedly, she survived the big fire because of that.

"So you really like these pieces of wood?" Byron hugged her from behind.

"Don't you think it's fun to carve lifelike things on a piece of ordinary wood?"

Cora felt the familiar yet unfamiliar warmth behind her and remained focused on the file in her hand.

“I always thought that only old men liked this sort of thing.”

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In fact, Byron had met several people who enjoyed wood carving, the most representative being Jane's grandfather.

That old man's love for wood carving bordered on obsession.

After retiring, he devoted himself to wood carving and even became known for his mastery of the craft. He became a master in wood carving. It was said that he was still searching for a last apprentice to pass on his skills.

“Mr. Hansen, if you find my personality dull and uninteresting, you shouldn't have come looking for me. Why beat around the bush like this?”

Cora didn't allow anyone to belittle her beloved hobby, so she coldly pushed away Byron's hands.

However, Byron held her tight in his embrace. “I was just expressing my opinion on wood carving. Where did your mind go off to?”

Cora didn't respond, clearly not believing these nonsense words.

Since she continued to look at him with a cold face without uttering a word, Byron had to resort to his “money power” once again to make amends.

“If you love wood so much, how about I give you a piece of rosewood?”

Cora didn't say anything, but her shimmering eyes clearly lit up.

Rosewood was a precious wood that, when polished and waxed, exhibited a deep black color, making it extremely beautiful.

However, this material was not only expensive but also difficult to find.

Seeing how badly she wanted it, yet pretending to be innocent with half-lowered eyes, Byron furrowed his brow slightly.

Other women would go to great lengths to hook up with him, but she not only tried to distance herself from him in public but also calculated how to benefit from him behind his back.

Often, after Cora received his gift, the tense relationship between them would be alleviated.

This made Byron unable to help but wonder if someday he ran out of money, would she hesitate to leave him without a second thought?

Thinking about this, Byron inexplicably felt a bit annoyed. "If you want the rosewood, come with me on the weekend to attend a party at Breezy Tides Island."

"What kind of party is it?"

Cora's rationality wasn't swept away by the allure of the rosewood. Even if she were given billions of dollars, she wouldn't go if it was a partner-swapping party or something similar.

Although she was currently poor, she still had control over her own body.

"See for yourself." Byron couldn't be bothered to explain further and simply handed Cora the paper schedule and invitation card that Carter had just given him.

Cora only looked at the invitation card and immediately furrowed her brows.

"Your fiancée's birthday party? What am I supposed to do there? Isn't that too much to bear?"

Although she already knew that Jane wasn't officially Byron's fiancée yet, Cora couldn't help but provoke him.

"If she doesn't mind, what's your problem?" Byron lit a cigarette and asked.

"Is life too easy for you wealthy people that you intentionally hurt others' feelings to seek excitement?"

Cora's eyes dimmed slightly, but she didn't lose her temper. Instead, she flipped through the schedule of the party.

After finishing his cigarette, Byron pulled the woman who was still standing beside him into his arms and asked, "So, are you going or not?"



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“Sure, where else can I find such a good place where I can enjoy delicious food, have a great time, and even acquire a piece of exquisite rosewood?”

Cora sat in Byron’s arms, running her slender fingers along his Adam’s apple, hiding her fear beneath her enchanting smile.

Feeling tantalized by her flirt motion, Byron’s inner restlessness swelled, prompting him to firmly grasp the woman’s chin and kiss her passionately.

At first, Cora wanted to push the man away. “Stop it. I haven’t taken a shower yet.”

“No need. You’re going to wash up later anyway,” Byron said, and his voice was already hoarse.

And then, it was another passionate night...

In the blink of an eye, the weekend arrived, and Cora arrived at the Princess Cruise as planned.

Back when the Lane family was not bankrupt, Cora had also sailed on luxury cruises like this, so she wasn’t impressed by the extravagant entertainment

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facilities on the Princess Cruise.

However, during the Lane family’s heyday, wherever Cora went, there would be a group of enthusiastic girls flattering her.

Now, those people were just as flattering as before, but their flattery was no longer directed at Cora, but at the ugly and phony Mia, who had desperately tried to surpass her in order to gain favor.

“Mia, when is your wedding with Eason? Can I be your bridesmaid and share in your happiness?”

“Mia, why have you lost so much weight recently? Look at how delicate your chin has become.”

A group of girls swarmed around Mia, chatting away as if they were close friends. Cora couldn't understand how they could say so many insincere words to Mia's round face.

They used to say it was morally wrong to steal someone else's boyfriend and that attending Cora's wedding would bring bad luck. However, their current enthusiasm to become Mia's bridesmaids was perplexing, as they appeared desperate to partake in her misfortune.

Cora wasn't interested in their duplicity, but they instead came to provoke her. Among them, Ruby, dressed in a pink maxi dress, who looked like an internet celebrity, said the most unpleasant words.

“Cora, why are you here too? I remember your relationship with Miss Yoris isn't so good. Are you here for Eason?”

Cora remembered that in order to become her bosom friend, Ruby had once gone out of her way to mock Mia, just like she was doing to her now.

Ruby was probably afraid that Mia would hold a grudge against her for having previously mocked Mia on Cora's behalf. So she tried her best to perform.

“Eason and Mia are engaged. It's not right for you to still have your eye on him.”

Mia didn't say anything to stop Ruby. She just stood among the flatterers and watched Cora like it had nothing to do with her.

Mia and Cora had never gotten along well due to their feelings for Eason, and the incident where Cora had used a recorded threat against Mia further strained their relationship. Mia didn't like Cora.

Mia believed that Cora would be scared away by the hurtful words. However, Cora tucked her tousled hair, which was blown onto her cheeks by the sea breeze, adjusted her enchanting red halter dress, and smiled calmly at Ruby.

“Ms. Kallis, don’t you know what happened at their engagement banquet?”

Before Ruby could respond, Cora continued, “Oh, I remember now. It seems like the Kallis family hasn’t been doing so well lately, and naturally, you wouldn’t be qualified to attend such a grand occasion.”

These seemingly simple words cut deep into the hearts of the two individuals.

The Kallis family had been on a decline recently, so the Donald family’s engagement didn’t even include them on the guest list. This had been itching at Ruby. But Cora openly revealed the reason in front of so many people, which was like killing Ruby with her words!

Mia felt even more strongly about it. Just as everyone appeared to have forgotten about the humiliating incident that occurred at the engagement party, Cora unexpectedly talked about that topic again. It was as if she had conjured back everyone’s memories, and everyone heard that smile meaningfully.

Mia felt an immediate surge of anger, wishing she could tear Cora’s heart out!

In fact, Mia was really ready to take a move.

But Cora acted faster than her!

“I’m just here as an invited guest for the birthday party. Don’t provoke me, or else...”

Cora didn’t finish her sentence. She simply waved her phone in Mia’s direction. Cora’s intentions were clear. She was telling Mia that she still had the recording of Jane issuing a fake medical certificate for Mia. If Mia caused trouble for her at the birthday party, Cora wouldn’t mind exposing the recording. By then, Mia and her beloved bosom friends would both be in big trouble.

Mia stared at Cora, her eyes almost popping out. However, since Cora held the recording, Mia didn't dare to confront her head-on. If the recording were to be exposed, it wouldn't just implicate Jane and the Yoris family but also jeopardize Mia's engagement with Eason.

But Ruby was different.

Since Cora had nothing on her, Ruby wouldn't let Cora have the upper hand.

Otherwise, everyone would bully her.

"The Kallis family may not be doing well these years, but we're still better off than the Lane family. At least our homes aren't ruined, and none of my family died."

After poking at Cora's most sensitive issue in just a few words, Ruby confronted

Cora arrogantly. "You've been broken, so which st\* pid person invited you?"

In this circle, everyone was extremely pragmatic.

When a family like the Lane family had fallen into such a state, there was basically no benefit in associating with them. No one would waste their time to make a friend with Cora, just like Ruby.

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Ruby guessed that Cora had come uninvited to this party and wanted to seize this opportunity to expose Cora's lies and kick her off the Princess Cruise. Cora was in a terrible mood. In addition to Ruby persistently bringing up the Lane family's downfall, she also sensed the gazes of others in the room, enjoying her distress.

She coldly replied, "I'm afraid that if I tell you who invited me, you'll be scared of calling him st\* pid."

In fact, Cora had thought about directly mentioning Byron's name at that time, just to see if these people would dare to continue showing off in front of her. But mentioning Byron's name wasn't a good idea. Moreover, Cora believed that Byron didn't want others to know about their relationship, especially at his

supposed fiancée's birthday party.

If she were to reveal it and Byron denied it, wouldn't that be embarrassing?

So, in the end, Cora didn't mention Byron's name.

But because she couldn't name the person who invited her, Ruby became even more delighted.

"You don't even dare to mention this fool's name. Maybe there isn't such a person!"

The Kallis family hadn't broken like the Lane family, yet she still had not received a direct invitation card. She only had the chance to board the ship through her friendship with Mia.

"In my opinion, if no one knows this person, then you shouldn't waste the Yoris family's resources here."

"When did it become your decision? Is the Yoris family out of people?"

Mia was about to join in and support Ruby, but from the corner of her eye, she caught sight of Byron and Jane boarding the ship...

As soon as Byron got on board, his gaze fixed on a certain spot.

Jane kept a close eye on Byron, so she quickly noticed this abnormality. She followed his gaze and saw Cora in the crowd.

Cora was very stunning and had a great fashion sense. She knew how to present herself beautifully.

The red V-neck maxi dress perfectly matched Cora's innocence and allure, making her more captivating than any other woman.

Amongst the group of women, Cora stood out like a beam of light, grabbing everyone's attention.

But what bothered Jane even more, was the aggressiveness that Byron unconsciously revealed in his deep eyes when looking at Cora.

It was the gaze of a man looking at his own woman!

This made Jane suspect that if it weren't for Carter between them, Byron might have made a move on Cora earlier.

This thought filled Jane with a sense of crisis, but it also led her to think of a solution.

Of course, Jane wasn't foolish. She wouldn't do anything in front of Byron. She simply smiled and walked toward the crowd, asking, "What's happening?" Everyone was crowded together, so obviously, something unpleasant had just occurred.

Her intuition told her that this incident was directly related to Cora.

"Miss Yoris, let me explain..."

When Ruby saw Jane, she felt like she had found support and exaggerated what Cora had done.

Because Ruby was too self-assured, she didn't notice the strange expressions on Jane and Byron's faces when she criticized the person who invited Cora.

Byron deliberately glanced at Cora, and his eyes remained deep and inscrutable. Even though Cora met his gaze, she couldn't quite figure out his intentions.

"I suspect that no one invited Cora. Isn't that right, Miss Yoris?"

Ruby continued to rant.

The crease between Jane's eyebrows deepened. At that moment, Byron, who had been standing beside her, coldly interjected, "I'm the one foolish enough to invite her. Do you have any problems with that?"

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When the magnetic voice of the man fell, a deathly silence descended upon the surroundings.

They didn't expect Byron would actually invite Cora.

And they were all wondering if Byron and Cora were together.

But since Byron said that in front of Jane, especially at her birthday party, this was not just a simple case of infidelity. It was a slap in the face to Jane and the

Yoris family.

Of course, many people understand the wisdom of not being the first to speak out against the powerful. So they didn't dare say anything in front of Jane.

And Ruby's smug smile from earlier faded upon hearing Byron's words.

"Mr. Hansen, did you invite Cora? How is this possible..."

At this moment, apart from being amazed by the sudden friendship between these two people, who seemed completely unrelated, Ruby was more panicked.

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Ruby's repeated insults towards the person who invited Cora here implied that she had insulted Byron multiple times, which could be considered a severe

offense.

Given the current power and influence of the Hansen family in New York, the future predicament of the Kallis family might be even worse off than the Lane

family.

Byron glanced coldly at Ruby and was about to say something when Jane preempted him.

"It was actually me who invited Dr. Lane. I asked Byron to help me make Carter pass on the invitation to her. Dr. Lane is currently working at the First Hospital, and we are colleagues."

Jane didn't like people looking at her with pity, and she didn't like others thinking that Cora and Byron had a close relationship.

So, this seemingly simple explanation was also a way of telling others that the person who truly had a deep connection with Cora was her and Carter, not

Byron.

The first one to regain her senses was Ruby.

She breathed a sigh of relief and said, "So that's how it is."

If it was Jane who asked Byron to invite Cora, then the future situation of the Kallis family might not be as bad as the Lane family's. After all, the cooperation between the Kallis family and the Yoris family was not that extensive.

The expressions of the others were more or less relaxed. After all, when Ruby was mocking Cora just now, they either watched indifferently or joined in the mockery.

If Cora really had a deep relationship with Byron, then they would have offended Byron as well.

But if Cora was invited to this party simply because she was Jane's colleague, then everything would be fine.

"Byron, I apologize for getting you involved." Jane just wanted to restore peace as soon as possible, so she only apologized to Byron, who she wanted to get closer to and who was at the center of the incident.

She thought that by taking the initiative to shoulder the blame, she should be forgiven.

However, Byron said, "The person you should truly apologize to is not me."

As Byron spoke, he glanced at Cora.

Jane naturally understood that Byron gestured for her to apologize to Cora. But in her eyes, Cora wasn't deserving of her apology. After all, Jane's status was much more noble than Cora's.

However, because Byron said so, Jane could only go along with his intentions. "I apologize, Dr. Lane. It was my fault for not arranging things properly today. I hope you can forgive me."

Cora glanced at Byron quietly, suddenly understanding his intention.

"I think this apology should not be said by Dr. Yoris," Cora nodded at Jane and



then fixed her gaze on Ruby.

Actually, women shouldn't make things difficult for other women, and Cora didn't want to do that either.

But the problem was, Cora didn't want to find trouble with those women, yet they wanted to mess up with her. So it was better to take the initiative.

Of course, if it weren't for Byron's support, she wouldn't dare to be so aggressive.

But Byron glanced at her just now, and he even asked Jane to apologize to her.

He was clearly backing her up.