

## Chapter 70 Can I Have This Dance

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Rowan's baritone voice echoed in the hall.

"Lorraine is a very excellent and professional woman. I appreciate her talent and upright character. It came as a shock to me that sensationalist media outlets went out of their way to report something untrue just because she had a meal with me and my assistant. The sex-for-power scandal is outrageous and a blatant lie! Although the rumor has been put to rest, I took it upon myself to make this clarification tonight because I just can't sit back and watch a promising architectural designer like Lorraine be at the receiving end of a smear campaign. Let it be known that she is innocent of whatever allegations leveled against her."

Rowan paused and cast a disgusted glance in Marina's direction.

A shiver ran down Marina's spine at this moment. She averted her gaze uneasily.

"That said, I would like to state that Lorraine and I have known each other for quite a while. She

designed my house, which is the best architectural design I have ever seen in my life."

Rowan's eyes glistened with pride as he spoke. Standing in the crowd, Loraine's face flushed as she heard Rowan defend her and praise her designing skills in front of all these people.

It warmed her heart, but she was still a little embarrassed.

Rowan told no lies.

Her graduation coincidentally happened at the same time her family's villa needed serious renovation.

Aldo, who was so proud of his granddaughter, commissioned her to be in charge of the interior and exterior decorations.

This was the first real project she handled as a certified architectural designer.

Loraine was just a newbie at that time, so her design wasn't so excellent.

But in the eyes of her uncles and grandfather, it was a masterpiece. They never failed to shower praises on her and tell whoever cared to listen that she was the one responsible for the new decor.

As Loraine reminisced, she smiled brightly and



blushed. She didn't notice that all eyes were on her.

A great number of the guests had thought that Loraine recently seduced Rowan. However, it turned out that these two had known each other for a long time.

It was obvious that Rowan attached great importance to Loraine, so the attitude of the guests changed. Those beside her even gave her thumbs up and flashed smiles at her.

Somewhere in the crowd, Marco stood with his arms folded. He felt a cramp in his chest as he looked at Rowan, who was still praising Loraine to the high heavens.

It came as an unpleasant surprise to him that Rowan knew Loraine so well that he entrusted her with the decoration of his house. Marco couldn't put it past Rowan that the latter had more than admiration for Loraine.

Standing next to his friend, Jimmie alternated his gaze between Rowan and Loraine.

He also suspected that there was more to their so-called friendship than met the eye, but he couldn't place his finger on it.

As a playboy, he could tell when two people

were romantically involved with each other. In his opinion, Rowan and Loraine were more than just friends, but not lovers.

What exactly was the relationship between these two?

After the brief speech, it was now time for dance.

Rowan had the honor of opening the dance floor since he was the most distinguished guest. As soon as he descended the stage, several beautiful women flocked around him.

They all wanted to dance with this dashing high-ranking government official.

To their disappointment, Rowan turned them down politely.

"I'm sorry, ladies. I already have a dance partner."

Rowan walked up to Loraine and bowed. He stretched out one of his hands and asked with a smile, "Hey, charming lady. Can I have this dance?"

Marina, who watched Loraine become the focus of attention for the umpteenth time tonight, turned green with envy. She thumped her foot on the floor and grumbled.



"Not again! How come Loraine always gets the attention of the most handsome men? What did they all see in her? After all, she's just a plain Jane!"

Marina wasn't the only one who shared this sentiment. The other female guests, who got turned down, were also annoyed with Loraine.

When they mistook Hubert for the mysterious high-ranking official, they only had contempt for Loraine.

Hubert was an unattractive guy, so they didn't want him.

On the other hand, Rowan was so dashing. He had great power coupled with his good looks. His physical appearance had swept the female guests off their feet. They wanted him so bad. And this was why they got extremely jealous after he chose Loraine over them.

In their eyes, Loraine had nothing on them. They were gorgeous ladies who came from prestigious families.

It was a slap in the face that Rowan didn't spare them a second glance. He looked over them only to pick a woman from the countryside as his dance partner. How ridiculous!

All eyes were on Loraine at this time. The guests were waiting to see how she would respond to Rowan's request.

As her date for the party, Cayson took a step back, making room for the two of them to have this moment.

Marco's heart tightened at the sight of this.


Loraine was on the verge of agreeing to the dance since Cayson acquiesced.

An indescribable force suddenly pushed Marco forward. "What kind of boss are you, Cayson? Didn't you say that it was your duty to protect your employees at all times? Why are you going back on your words now?"

Marco put his hand between Loraine and Rowan. He then looked at her and said earnestly, "You should turn him down if you don't want to dance with him."

For some reason, he felt obligated to stick up for Loraine even though she didn't ask for his help.



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