

# Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

## chapter 591

Zachary had been biding his time without making any retaliation. However, the business circles were waiting to watch a good show. It didn't matter when it would happen or who would come up on top—it was certain to set off a bloody storm.

"Why are they here to attend Hector and Helena's wedding? Do the two families rely on help from the Lindberg Corporation?" Charlotte asked uneasily.

"You're not too stupid, I see." Zachary pinched her chin lightly.

"Isn't that a great disadvantage to you?" Her expression turned sour. "On top of that, you're dismissing the engagement with the Synder Group. If the Synder Group were to align with the Lindbergs, then—"

"They've already aligned." Zachary rubbed at his temples. "We'll settle everything here once and for all."

"For real?" Charlotte turned pale with fright. "The Synder Group and the Divine Corporation still have ongoing collaboration projects. How could she align with the Lindbergs at this juncture? According to the contract regulations, they would have to compensate ten times their capital in the case of a breach."

"Indeed, it is stated so in the contract, but anyhow, it was my fault. It wouldn't look good if both parties continue fighting over it," Zachary said bluntly. "More importantly, the Nachts are indebted to Taylor Blackwood. I can't make them cough out the compensation."

"Then..."

"We'll terminate the projects, dismiss the contract, and call it quits. From now on, we'll no longer owe the Blackwood family."

Charlotte couldn't come up with any response to his words. Outsiders who were unclear about the situation might think of Zachary as arrogant and impulsive. But she was well aware he was sacrificing these to give her and the children status and a proper home.

Actually, he didn't have to rush with calling off the engagement. Had he been more of a selfish, practical jerk, he could totally marry Sharon Blackwood and deal with the Lindbergs before handling his personal matters.

Yet, he chose otherwise.

He would rather give her and the children a name, even if it meant shouldering a tremendous amount of pressure and risks.

That was how a real man assumed his responsibility.

"Then, aren't you in a disadvantaged position right now?" At the thought of the pressure Zachary was shouldering alone, her heart clenched. "The Lindbergs have the support of the Browns, the Sterlings, and the Blackwoods—that makes them twice as strong. Whereas the Nacht Group has divided its assets into two since the beginning. It's too difficult for you to go against the Lindbergs on your own."

"It's not easy. But don't worry. Your Hubby, I, is more than capable enough to handle it." Zachary caressed her face lovingly.

"I'm sorry. It's me who dragged you down." Charlotte felt exceptionally guilty. If it weren't for her, there would be no grievances between Zachary and the Browns and Sterlings. He wouldn't have broken all ties with the Blackwoods either. As such, it could be said that the three families only went against Zachary because of her.

No wonder Henry once called her a femme fatale. In fact, there was some truth to it.

"Silly girl." Zachary frowned. "You have to have confidence in me."

"All right." She nodded and changed the subject. "There's one thing I don't quite understand. Why would Mr. Blackwood allow Sharon to act so willfully? Does he not care?"

"The Synder Group's shares have already been possessed by the Blackwood mother-daughter duo. Taylor is nowhere near as good as he's made out to be. He's unable to keep her in check."

Zachary was equally speechless when speaking about it.

“Sharon had been raised on the streets since a young age and experienced some hardships. Taylor feels that he owes it to her and was extra indulgent. Add that up with her intelligence and capabilities, Taylor handed the company to her with no expectations that his biological daughter would conquer the family’s assets and overthrow him.”

Charlotte was dumbfounded. “Sharon’s too ruthless!”

“How else could she achieve greatness without being ruthless?” Zachary raised a brow. “If everyone were like you, the business world would be in peace.”

“All right...” She pouted unhappily.

He lifted her face and smirked. “However... Even though you look simple-minded and half-witted, you managed to conquer a king like me. Therefore, you’re the best out of everyone else!”

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These were simple words, but they stirred Charlotte’s heart nonetheless.

Feeling warm and fuzzy on the inside, she extended her arms and hugged him tightly.

“That eager?” Zachary patted her back and teased, “Let’s wait till we get home, hmm? Then you can ravage me however you want.”

“Jerk!” Charlotte bit his neck.

Both of them had a good laugh before getting out of the car.

A gust of spring breeze blew past, lifting a few locks of Charlotte’s silky, black hair. Her angelic features seemed to glow seductively under the glittering sunlight; she was a mesmerizing sight to behold.

The guests present were immediately drawn to her, subconsciously stopping whatever it was they were doing to look over.

Some ignorant wealthy businessmen even approached her to strike up a conversation. Right then, Zachary emerged from the car and placed his hand intimately on her waist, instantly smothering their hopes and effectively keeping them at bay.

Only someone with a death wish would dare to covet Zachary Nacht's woman.

"Mr. Nacht, welcome!"

Both Hector's and Helena's fathers came over to greet them civilly. No matter what business conflicts they had, they did not dare to disrespect Zachary.

"Congratulations," Zachary replied politely.

Right on cue, Ben stepped forward to present a wedding gift.

"You're very kind, Mr. Nacht."

The two elders were very courteous and sincere. Helena's father, Steven, also greeted Charlotte warmly, "You must be Ms. Windt. Glad you could make it!"

"Thank you!" Charlotte nodded with a faint smile.

On the contrary, Hector's father, Samuel, felt slightly awkward in front of Charlotte.

Back then, he was close friends with Richard, who helped him a lot in business-related matters. A union between both families through marriage was initially joyous news, but after tragedy befell Richard, the Sterlings decided to cancel the engagement at the very last second, prompting Charlotte to leave out of anger. What followed was a series of messy events.

At present, Hector was about to marry Helena after divorcing Luna, while Charlotte was dating Zachary. From Samuel's point of view, Charlotte had snagged herself an even more powerful backer, and he couldn't afford to offend or disrespect her.

"You're both our esteemed guests. This way please!"

Both of them led Zachary and Charlotte into the hotel. A group of guests gathered around to exchange customary pleasantries. After Zachary entertained them for a while, he excused himself and brought Charlotte to a private room to rest.

Right then, Bruce hurried in and reported in a hushed voice, "The Lindberg family came in through the side door. Hector and Helena personally went over to welcome them, but it seems like the legendary Mr. L doesn't want to make an appearance yet."

"Keep an eye on him and report to me immediately if anything happens," Zachary ordered.

"Yes, sir." Bruce swiftly retreated to carry out his orders.

After a moment, Ben also rushed in to report, "Mr. Nacht, everything is ready."

Zachary nodded and sipped on his wine languidly with a cold glint in his eyes.

Charlotte felt a little restless. She always had a feeling that Zachary was planning something colossal and that the wedding was, in fact, a stage for the showdown between him and the Lindberg family.

She was perturbed by the fact that the legendary Mr. L was hiding in the shadows, while Zachary was exposed in the open. Hence, it was unclear what the former was really up to.

"Don't be scared." Zachary held her hand in his palm. "I'll be here."

"Mm." Charlotte nodded. She picked up a glass of juice and was about to drink from it when a knock sounded on the door. "Mr. Nacht, may I come in?" came a familiar voice.

"Yes," Zachary replied, to which Ben stepped forward to open the door.

Dressed in an extravagant wedding gown, Helena entered the room holding Hector's arm. The two of them were all smiles; they looked like the happiest couple to walk the earth.

When Charlotte turned her head to look at them, Hector frantically averted his gaze.

"Thank you for attending our wedding, Mr. Nacht."

Helena walked over with Hector and extended her hand toward Zachary with a brilliant smile on her face.

“Congratulations to both of you.” Zachary rose to his feet and shook hands with them, a subtle smile playing on his lips.

“Congratulations!” Charlotte politely shook their hands as well.

“Thank you!” Helena glanced at Charlotte, her smile never once faltering. “You look beautiful today, Charlotte!”

“Not as beautiful as the bride,” Charlotte complimented her in return.

“When will we get to attend your wedding?”

Even though Helena was smiling brightly at Charlotte, the look in her eyes was as sharp as a knife.

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“Next month.” Zachary added, “We’ll send out the invitations soon.”

“Really? You’re both engaged already?”

Helena was shocked, to say the least. She had always believed that Zachary wasn’t serious about Charlotte and wouldn’t actually marry her. Unexpectedly, Zachary himself admitted that they would be holding a wedding the following month.

“Yes.” Zachary gently squeezed Charlotte’s waist. “It’ll take time for Charlotte’s customized wedding gown and accessories to be ready, or I would’ve married her this month itself.”

“What’s the rush?” Hector blurted.

“I wouldn’t want my future wife running away before sealing the deal, would I?” Zachary joked.

Charlotte released a soft giggle in response, and the two looked at each other affectionately.

Jealousy crept into Helena's heart as she looked at Charlotte. It was her wedding, yet Charlotte had stolen her thunder.

Since she was young, she was overshadowed by Charlotte as long they were in the room, even during her own wedding.

With a stiff smile on his face, Hector said insincerely, "That's great. Congratulations."

"Both of you can rest for a while. We have to greet the other guests outside. Please head to the banquet hall later. The official ceremony will begin in half an hour."

Helena flashed one last smile.

"Sure. Don't let us keep you here." Zachary guided Charlotte to sit back down.

Subsequently, Helena tugged Hector away. As soon as they rounded a corner, she couldn't help from castigating him, "Look at how Mr. Nacht treats Charlotte! She's the only thing he sees. Every action and gaze is for her. But what about you? Things were still fine before seeing her, but once you did, it was like I became completely invisible to you."

"You're reading too much into things." Hector explained insipidly, "She's Zachary's woman. How can I think about her that way?"

"So you're saying that you would if she isn't Zachary's woman? Is that it?" Helena glared vehemently at him.

"No..." Hector frowned deeply. "It's our wedding today. Can you stop throwing a tantrum? It's not good for the baby too."

At the mention of the baby, Helena kept her temper in check, but still angrily warned, "Hector, I've sacrificed so much for you. I even resorted to using my own family just to help you. If you let me down, I will never forgive you."

"Don't worry, I won't." Hector held her waist intimately. "Let's go outside. There are other guests waiting for us."

"Mr. L and Mr. Nacht will definitely confront each other today. Let's just sit back and watch. No matter who emerges as the winner, we'll still stand to benefit!"

"Mm. I know."

In the room, Zachary was on the phone, but his eyes were trained on Charlotte the whole time.

Charlotte was munching on some fruits on the sofa, seemingly having a good appetite. She finished an entire bunch of grapes before moving onto some small cakes.

After ending the call, Zachary pulled her into his arms and cupped her cheek. "Look how good your appetite is. Could you really be pregnant? We should check..."

"Nah, I don't think so. I've always had a good appetite." Charlotte continued eating without a care in the world.

"Still, let's check just to be sure. I'll take you to the hospital later."

Zachary hoped for Charlotte to bear him a few more children; the more the merrier.

"No." Charlotte shook her head. "I've already promised Mrs. Berry we'd go visit the countryside right after the wedding."

"You're being disobedient." Zachary bit her bottom lip unhappily.

"S-Stop it!"

Bruce rushed in to report his findings while they were fooling around. When he saw the suggestive scene, he hastily swiveled around. "Mr. Nacht, the wedding is about to begin. Everything is set!"

"Mm." Zachary helped Charlotte to her feet.

Both of them tidied up their clothes and walked out hand-in-hand.

As soon as they stepped out, they ran into Michael, who was walking toward them. He was in an all-black suit with his long hair tied up. Besides his dashing good looks, he gave off an artistic vibe. Upon seeing Charlotte, he was visibly stunned.



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"Michael!" Charlotte was momentarily taken aback, but quickly broke into a smile. "It's been awhile."

"Indeed, it has." Michael's gaze never once left Charlotte. "How are you?"

"Good, good." Sensing the storm brewing in Zachary, Charlotte held his arm in the nick of them and smiled. "We're getting married soon. We hope you can make it!"

"I see. Sure."

Michael's gaze fell on her hand which was curled around Zachary's arm. He resembled a falling star, gradually dimming before winking out completely. How he wished that Charlotte would one day hold his arm like that.

For many years, he had hoped for his wish to come true, but all to no avail. It seems like it'd be close to impossible for that to happen now...

"We'll send you an invitation once the date is confirmed," Zachary stated courteously before walking away with Charlotte.

Charlotte brushed past Michael's shoulder and left without looking back.

Although he had mentally prepared himself and imagined meeting her again more times than he could count, when both of them brushed past each other at that moment, his heart still wrenched painfully in his chest.

He lowered his gaze and stood rooted to the spot, waiting for the footsteps behind him to fade away.

Picturing Charlotte's retreating figure, Michael released a pained sigh. Perhaps we're destined to miss out on each other in this life...

Charlotte felt slightly guilty toward Michael, but she stopped herself from looking back. She knew that a blunt rejection was better than stringing him along by giving him false hope.

“Why didn’t you stay to chat for awhile, seeing as he’s your old friend?” Zachary asked casually.

“He’s probably still there. Why don’t we go back and look for him?” Charlotte pretended to turn back.

“Don’t you dare!” Zachary immediately grabbed her and confined her in his arms, pinching her cheek with a slightly annoyed look on his face. “I’ve been spoiling you too much and you’re getting bolder now, aren’t you?”

“You were the one acting all sarcastic about it.” Charlotte gave him a chaste kiss and explained, “Michael and I never had anything going on between us. If anything, I’m the one who owes him. I never should’ve used him as a shield.”

“It’s all in the past now.”

Zachary also felt that he was a tad too reckless before, but of course, he would never admit that aloud. After all, men were prideful creatures.

Charlotte rolled her eyes at him and changed the subject. “Looks like the wedding’s about to begin. Let’s go.”

Even though she did not approve of Hector and Helena’s marriage, the wedding vibes still got to her, so much so she started planning her own wedding.

Mellow, romantic music was playing in the banquet hall, signifying that the wedding ceremony was about to commence.

Samuel and Steven welcomed Zachary and Charlotte by the entrance, decorously ushering them to sit at the main guest table. The other guests would occasionally smile and greet them earnestly.

Zachary coolly swept his gaze around the hall, but did not catch a glimpse of the man he was looking for, Mr. L.

Since he’s already here, why isn’t he showing himself?

He can't be attending the wedding just to see me, right?

Zachary's expression was glacial even as he elegantly sipped on his wine.

Seated beside him, Charlotte quietly watched the wedding ceremony on the stage.

Her mind drifted back to that night four years ago, when she had almost gotten engaged to Hector. At that time, he was also wearing a white suit like this one, looking noble and dignified.

Only, he used to have a pair of crystal-clear eyes. Though he was flawed, he could never conceal his virtuous nature.

But the present him had a wickedly penetrating gaze that chilled her to the bone.

"Helena Brown, do you take Hector Sterling as your lawful husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do you part?" The ceremony was drawing to a conclusion.

"I do!" Helena answered unhesitatingly.

The emcee turned to Hector. "Hector Sterling, do you take Helena Brown as your lawful wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do you part?"

Hector's eyes darted to the audience below and found Charlotte, but he withdrew his gaze almost immediately. Tugging his lips into a smile, he replied, "I do!"

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This small action did not go unnoticed by Helena. Her face clouded over, but she quickly plastered a smile onto her face and gazed at Hector affectionately.

Charlotte's brows knitted together, but she dismissed it, planning to leave a while later.

Right then, she noticed a small figure standing in the corner. It was Timothy.

He was wearing a smart little suit while standing beside the flower stand, quietly looking up at Hector and Helena on the stage with a complicated expression.

A video clip of Hector proposing to Helena was playing on the big screen.

In the video, Hector was holding Helena's hands on the beach. "Helena, you're the woman I love most in this world, and I promise to make you happy. Marry me!"

Tears of happiness flowed down Helena's face as she hugged Hector tightly.

The two of them kissed passionately on the beach while their friends and relatives cheered for them by the side.

Seeing all of this, Timothy suddenly spoke coldly, "You said the same thing to Mommy too."

Julia rushed over and carried him up. "Timothy, why did you come out here? Didn't we agree that we'd eat in the private room together?"

"I just wanted to come see Daddy..." Timothy watched Hector from below the stage with an unusually calm expression. "I wanted to see if he's happy."

"Your daddy is getting married. Of course, he's happy." Julia hoisted him higher in her arms and found a place to sit down. "Promise me to be a good boy today. Don't cause any trouble, okay?"

"Okay." Timothy nodded obediently.

Julia breathed a sigh of relief. Since the boy was behaving himself, she decided not to forcibly take him away.

He's only slightly over three years old, after all. Keeping him under lock and key for too long can lead to psychological problems one day. He should be excited to see so many guests here today. I'm sure he'll forget about his worries soon enough.

Charlotte released a sad sigh when she saw Timothy. She always believed that children should never be burdened with adult problems.

It's really Timothy's misfortune to have been born into such a complicated family...

"I hereby pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss the bride!"

Hector was leaning forward to kiss Helena when the video clips of their happy moments froze on the screen. Subsequently, the screen went dark and the music stopped abruptly.

The romantic quality in the air vanished and was replaced by tension. The cheerful chatter also ceased as everyone turned to look at the stage, wondering what was going on.

Helena's expression instantly darkened. Hector quickly asked someone to deal with the issue before comforting her, "Maybe it's some kind of technical problem. It'll be fixed soon."

Helena did not respond, but she was still wearing a grim expression.

Samuel hurried onto the stage to apologize for the delay, explaining that there was a technical issue backstage and that it would be fixed very soon.

Suddenly, the screen came back on along with the audio system, but the video playing on the screen it was no longer the romantic one from before. Instead, it was a video of Helena roughing up Luna.

On the screen, several bodyguards belonging to the Brown family were forcing Luna into a car. Helena slapped her continuously while gnashing her teeth.

Then, she snarled viciously, "You b\*tch. Hector doesn't want you anymore, but here you are, harassing him again and again. You even came to our banquet to make a scene. I'll be damned if I don't teach you a lesson!"

"Kill me if you have the guts, but if you don't, I'll harassing both you and Hector for the rest of your lives. I'll make sure you two never have a moment of peace..."

"Still acting tough, aren't you? Very well." Helena grinned wickedly and said, "You want a man so very badly, don't you? I'll grant your wish!"

With that, she turned to her bodyguards. "All of you, serve Mrs. Sterling well. She's been denied pleasure for too long and is desperate for a man's touch!"

"Understood!"