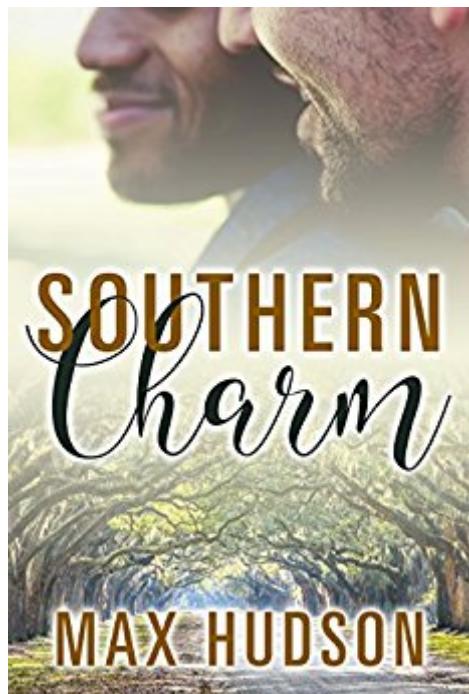


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# Southern Charm



## **Synopsis**

Clifford Bannister cannot seem to find his footing. Even though he is a successful attorney and the youngest partner ever at his New York law firm, he finds himself unsettled— but he can't quite put his finger on why. His expensive penthouse gives him little satisfaction, and his friends can only make superficial suggestions that do not go to the root of his discomfort. However, at a dinner party, a woman reads his palm and suggests there are many changes ahead. This intrigues, Cliff, but he is also skeptical and dismisses her predictions. Then Cliff finds himself assigned to a task for the law firm that takes him to a resort island off the coast of Georgia— his task is to negotiate a real estate deal for an important client. From New York to the boonies of Georgia? Cliff is puzzled as to what he can be doing in a place like this. However, the deal he is to negotiate is to buy a historic hotel for a large hotel chain for redevelopment. But Cliff is surprised to find himself succumbing to the area's many charms, and most especially the beautiful old hotel. Rajiv Suri is the son of the Indian owners of the hotel. His father is parsimonious and cautious about the hotel's management. The hotel has fallen on hard times and the guests are dwindling. But his father refuses to take the steps necessary to improve the situation. But when Rajiv and Cliff meet, sparks fly and major change is in the air. Cliff's news that he is there to buy the hotel and displace the family from the business ignites a rush of activity. Cliff and Rajiv discover they have a lot in common and the resulting turmoil creates opportunity and change that no one could have anticipated. Please Note: This book contains Adult Language & Steamy Adult Activities, it is intended for 18+ Adults Only. Novella, approx. 30,000 words in length. HEA (happy ever after ending). Does not end with a "cliffhanger".

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Our characters are just nice people and the story around them flows well. You might question the speed the relationship develops but I know from experience and we've been together for 42 years. It's a quick read but well worth it.

A successful attorney from New York City goes to Georgia to close a real estate deal and discovers love. Too perfect to be true.

Excellent story with Cliff going out to an Inn on the shore to buy some real estate for a client. Rijiv's parents own the inn, but his dad hasn't the money to make improvements and doesn't believe in taking out loans. When they meet, they are drawn to each other. Rijiv has been hiding that he is gay from his parents, but not he wonders if he has met the love of his life. Cliff thinks Rijiv is hot and he himself is out and proud. Cliff feels at peace for the first time in a long time on this plot of land that leads to the ocean with beaches to roam and the quaint inn to stay in. Ideas are awakened in his mind and he and Rijiv finds these ideas get his own mind working. There is a satisfying HEA at the end of the story. Good story and would recommend to anyone to read. I have voluntarily read and reviewed this ARC book.

This is a light short story about a lawyer, Clifford Bannister and Rajiv Suri, a young man that helps his parents out at their hotel. Clifford feels something is missing in his perfect world in NYC, but he just couldn't put his finger on what it was. Bannister was one of the youngest of three partners in their law firm. He once had the fire in his belly to go after clients and brought in many accounts since he has been with the firm and was an excellent attorney. At one time that seemed to be enough for him but now his perfect world was crumbling. His depression and lack of enthusiasm started to be noticed by his partners and finally one partner approached him about it.

Clifford thought he'd been keeping that part of himself hidden, but it seems he couldn't hide it anymore. He promised to do better. He needed to talk to someone and who better than his best friend from college. At a dinner party his best friend had invited him to he met a women who sat next to him at dinner. One thing she was extremely good at was palm reading. Cliff was quite taken with her and she offered to read his palm. She saw many changes coming very soon in his life that was going to happen simultaneously involving his career, moving, and romance. Clifford took it with a grain of salt that any such thing would happen in his life, except later he was asked by his partner to go to a resort island off the coast of Georgia to negotiate a real estate deal for an important client. And sure enough things started changing in his life. The hotel was in need of a lot of repairs. It was owned by the Suri family and there were only four family members who did all the work. Though the father Kamal Suri didn't do much of anything anymore and his mother mainly cooked the evening meals, but the daughter Mira and son, Rajiv did the rest of the work. Rajiv didn't have much time off because there was always something that needed to be fixed or guest to tend to. Rajiv was their maintenance man for those things he couldn't do himself as well as tending the front desk and guest. The family desperately needed to hire more help but there wasn't enough money to do that, it was hard enough to afford the repairs that need to be done. It was at the Suri's hotel that Rajiv met Clifford at the front desk when he first arrived. Cliff found the young man very attractive as did Rajiv about Clifford. Rajiv knew he shouldn't be thinking about a fling with the handsome lawyer, but the strong attraction brought them together. The two actually hook up the first night and then spent a lot of time after that together. Both the men connected and fit well together. Their relationship grew quickly, like a matter of days— maybe love at first sight. Cliff started what he had come down to do and that was to talk and negotiate with Rajiv father about the purchasing of the hotel. What Cliff didn't count on was he was dealing with a man who was closely tied to the hotel. Even though Kamal needed money to keep his home he didn't like what the client wanted to do with the place. After a couple of chats with the owner, Cliff started to understand where the man was coming from. Kamal countered offer that he and his wife be allowed to stay in their home and continue managing the business. After a couple of chats with the father, Cliff started to understand where the man was coming from. This had been their home since they came here from India and they didn't want to move. Cliff had asked Rajiv what he thought of going back to NY with him to stay, but the young man couldn't do that to his parents with Mira going off to college and there wasn't anyone else to help run the hotel. Cliff

came up with a great idea that would solve every ones problem. Cliff and Rajiv wanted to be together so Cliff and Rajiv's father made a deal that Cliff would put his money into the hotel and hold the majority of shares in the business. This way Cliff had an investment to make money, could still be with Rajiv and his parents could stay in their home. I liked the story and how it ended. Everyone was happy. It's your typical romance and a pleasant read. Anyone would enjoy the sweet romance. \*\*I read a complimentary Advanced Reader Copy of this book & am voluntarily leaving an honest and unbiased review. \*\*\*

This is a love story of forever at first sight...We start with Cliff who is a very young partner in his law firm. However he is starting to get bored with his current day New York City life. One of his other partners calls him into his office and states they are starting to see a difference in his work and he needs to pick it up a little. They send him to a small island in Georgia to wrap up some negotiations for a client to buy a hotel. At the family owned boutique hotel we have the Indian family with mom dad brother and sister. That is all there is to run the whole hotel. Most of the work falls to Rajiv, the son. He is a gay man struggling in a small town with not very many other gay men around. There is a park where he goes for quickies when he needs to go but is looking for more. He has not come out to his parents, he has only told his sister and a few friends. He is working constantly on the hotel and the grounds meanwhile having dreams of what he wants to do to make changes when he gets control of the property. He never gets a day off due to all the work there is and is constantly asking his father to hire more help. Cliff arrives at the hotel and checks in with the help of Rajiv and they both feel an instantaneous attraction to each other but are not sure if the other is gay. Cliff is pretty sure he Rajiv is and starts to include him in his activities. He asks for a tour of the grounds and asks what there is to do at night all the while not explaining why he is there. After dinner at the hotel he asks for a tour. They head out to the rise and view the ocean and Cliff starts to ask questions about the hotel and property. After taking a staircase to the beach Cliff informs Rajiv that not only is he attracted to him but the real reason he is there...How will Cliff's work effect the family??? Will Cliff and Rajiv keep seeing each other??? Will Rajiv ever come out to his parents??? I read a complimentary Advanced Reader Copy of this book & I am voluntarily leaving an honest and unbiased review.

Cliff had everything, the perfect job as a lawyer and he even made partner but lately his been feeling off his game. When Cliff's partner gives him a new acquisition to close for a client in a small town Cliff takes it. Rajiv is from a traditional Indian family, he's still in the closet and cruises now and

then to satisfy his needs. When Rajiv sees Cliff the new guest at their hotel his attraction is instant. Cliff and Rajiv goes from hot to steamy in an instant. Cliff knows what he wants and not afraid to make certain decisions to ensure his happiness. Beautiful and sweet story that you'll simply love to bits. "I read a complimentary advanced reader copy of this book & am voluntarily leaving an honest and unbiased review."

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