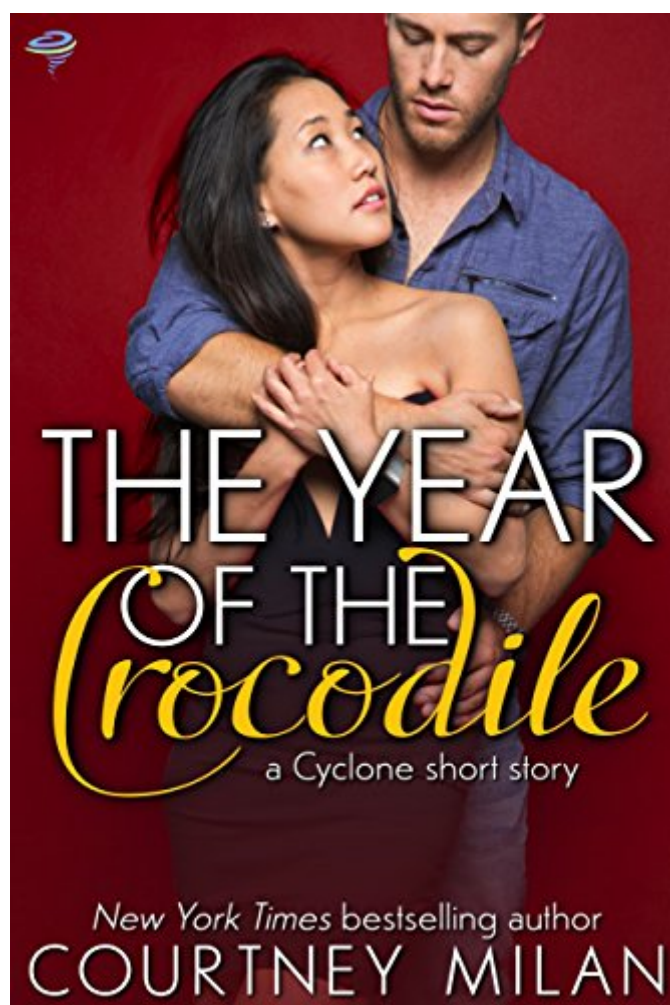


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## The Year Of The Crocodile (Cyclone)



## Synopsis

Tina Chen and Blake Reynolds have been together for almost a year. In that time, they've grown closer on just about every front. The one exception? Blake's father has never let anything stop him. Tina's parents have never let anyone push them around. And they've never met. That's about to change. But don't worry—fireworks are traditional at Chinese New Years. Note: This is a short story (10,000 words) that assumes that you've already read Trade Me.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am still struggling with historical romance writers who decide to go "modern". I am a big fan of Courtney Milan and have, I believe, read all of her prior books. I wouldn't say I loved this short story, but nor would I say it's not worth a read since it'll probably take you no more than half an hour. I will also say I am intrigued by the email Adam sent to an unknown person toward the end of the story. I personally didn't need the inclusion of a bit of sex, but other readers might expect it. Will be interested to see where Milan goes with all of this.

"You want to do something risky? Invite my dad to join your family this weekend."FINAL DECISION: Simply fabulous. I loved just about everything in this story. I liked seeing Tina and Blake and I just adore Adam Reynolds! He's a difficult person to love but Milan makes it possible. More please!THE STORY: Tina Chen and Blake Reynolds have been together for almost a year but their parents have not met. This story is about that first meeting between Blake's father and Tina's parents.OPINION: Absolutely amazing! Admittedly only for fans (it really requires reading TRADE ME first), this story manages to give an update on Tina and Blake, give some serious hints as to where Adam's story is going (surprise! surprise!) and still be incredibly entertaining.Milan has created an incredible character with Adam Reynolds who has a personality which just leaps from the pages. He's a jerk (AR would certainly use more colorful language!), is incredibly messed up, and loves his son.This vignette manages to be funny, personable, informative and fascinating at the same time. Don't get me wrong: it's the story of Adam meeting Tina's parents but the story did not go in any fashion I expected. It's short and relies upon the reader knowing the characters already. But for what it is, I loved it!More Adam soon, please!WORTH MENTIONING:CONNECTED BOOKS: This short story should only be read after TRADE ME. The story assumes knowledge of the characters in that book.STAR RATING: I give this short story 5 stars.

Loved this short novella. It catches you up with Tina and Blake and sets up Adam's story. For a story so short, it jams in Chinese guilt, parental interaction, food issues, and still fit in a bit of steaminess. F^#%\*â -% loved it to quote Adam and Blake.

I've long admired Courtney Milan for giving her characters syndromes or emotional difficulties in a sympathetic way.What was she doing here? Using Tourette's Syndrome? That's the only explanation I could devise.I've met some characters like Adam in real life and liked many of them, but they were all able to find variety and even humor in the way they expressed themselves while using "bad" language.Adam's insistence on using the-f-word-one-should-not-use-on- grew wearisome. If I wanted to hear someone use that same swear word several times in each sentence, I'd go to the local mall during Teenage Parade time (I sometimes think of the groups of teens walking around watching each other as a sort of latter-day version of circling the park in historical novels).Like Adam, I don't think of myself as a prude. Perhaps we are both wrong. But the emphasis on one of the heaviest-hitter foul words distracted me from the point of the story. The heroine's mother and the hero's father are evenly matched. They can fight a battle of wits. There must be a better, more interesting way to show that.

Oh my goodness, I had forgotten how much I like Adam Effing Reynolds. The guy is a foul-mouthed stick of dynamite and I LOVE LOVE LOVE how he expresses himself. I also love how much he adores his son. But this short is about more than AFR. It's also about Tina's parents and their own brand of dynamite. Not going to lie, Tina's mom's cake was...genius. Utterly fantastic. She does me proud. The woman isn't afraid to speak (or draw) her mind. I appreciate that. And then there's Tina and Blake. THOSE TWO. I like them. I like them very, very much. From Blake's intensity when he's focused on a problem to Tina's creativity when it comes to carving out some alone time for the two of them. \*thumbs up\* This series, man. It's good. Very good. It's highly possible AFR might actually kill me dead before it's over. THAT GUY! - Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

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