



# INSIDE SHOWBIZ WEEKLY

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**EXCLUSIVE**  
**TELL-ALL INTERVIEW!**

“I am preparing to forgive everything and to own up to my own mistakes because we will make them in the course of our whole marriage”

## ALL SET FOR MARRIAGE

Coleen Garcia shares her insights on love and marriage as a cast member of Valentine's Day movie *Sin Island* and also as a bride-to-be

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# INSIDE SHOWBIZ WEEKLY

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# READY FOR LOVE

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Coleen Garcia is a mix of poise, sweetness, wisdom, and self-confidence as she talks about her upcoming movie and forthcoming wedding to Billy Crawford





INSIDE SHOWBIZ EXCLUSIVE

In a few months time, at the age of 25, Coleen Garcia will be Mrs. Billy Crawford. While others are agog about the details of their wedding, Coleen is more than willing to talk about how she intends to make her marriage work and last. The bride-to-be knows that her marriage to Billy is way more important than the wedding ceremony. This proves that beyond her sweetness and innocent charm, she has self-assurance and wisdom well beyond her years.

“They say that for you to get married, you have to be very ready because you can’t just leave the person you are with once you are already married. Right now, I am preparing myself for that in every way. I am preparing to forgive everything and to own up to my own mistakes because we will make them in the course of our whole marriage,” she shares with *Inside Showbiz Weekly*.

“It’s only normal, it’s only human for us to make mistakes. The important thing is that we have open communication with each other. As early as now, we are already working on that,” she goes on. Coleen and Billy made their relationship known in July 2014. The couple got engaged in December two years later.









## CONSTANT FORGIVENESS

She notes that her current views on love and marriage have been somewhat affected by her latest movie role. She headlines Star Cinema's *Sin Island* as Kanika, a married flight attendant who has an affair with a pilot portrayed by TJ Trinidad. Her husband, played by Xian Lim, goes off and has an affair, too, with the character of Nathalie Hart. Conflict arises when Kanika decides she wants her husband back.

"I used to think that okay, if somebody cheats on you, definitely leave the person. And while that could be true if you are in a relationship, it is different when you are in a marriage," she confesses. "There's a really big difference. I believe in forgiving; you just can't leave someone."

She also shares some lessons which she picked up while doing the movie. "I learned that as long as two people are willing to make a relationship work, it will definitely work. It can't just be one person, it has to be both people. What I learned from my character is to just fight and never give up."

## EDGY AND DIFFERENT

At a young age, Coleen has already tackled adult roles in ABS-CBN soap operas *Pasion de Amor* and *Ikaw Lang ang Ibigin*. She has also portrayed characters beyond her years in Star Cinema's *Ex with Benefits* and *Love Me Tomorrow*. But she claims that her role in *Sin Island* is the most mature role she has ever done because it centered on marital infidelity.

"It's very edgy. It's out-of-the-box especially for Star Cinema films which are normally wholesome, focused on the theme of family, and even romantic-comedies. This one is just a completely different genre. The theme is something that's been done over and over before, but the execution is new. The plot and the writing are completely different from movies that talk about cheating."

Coleen even asked her Instagram followers in a post about her movie, "What's the greatest sin you've committed for love?"

When asked if committing a sin in the name of love is really worth it, Coleen replies with a gentle laugh, "It depends on what it is but at the end of the day, you know, there's always a right way of doing something."





▷ 9A

10

▷ 10

KODAK TX 5063





9

▷ 9A



10

▷ 1

KODAK TX 5063



▷ 14A





Her co-star, Xian, describes the movie in another interview, "This movie has a lot of emotion." They had worked on *Sin Island* for around eight months. Finally, the film directed by Gino M. Santos will be shown nationwide on February 14. International screenings will ensue beginning February 22.

## **OUT-OF-THE-BOX**

Showing a movie about marital infidelity (with a tinge of a suspense thriller) on the *Day of Hearts* is unusual to some extent. This is because moviegoers have been treated to feel-good Valentine's love stories in recent years. "We are used to watching a lot of sappy love stories during Valentine's Day and it's nice to do something different for a change. It's something that both the singles and those in a relationship would enjoy."

She continues, "It's something you can take someone on a date to and it's something you can go watch with your *barkada* at the same time so you don't have to be with your significant other to watch this film. You can be with pretty much anyone and it's something that everyone can watch." Coleen also says that the risk being taken on the movie is quite overwhelming.



"We are very excited. It's a very good playdate for us and it's perfect for the movie as well because it will make your Valentine's very edgy. I don't think a lot of love stories are coming out this Valentine's Day. The trends for Valentine's Day is kind of shifting and changing," she adds.

The actress hopes that the risk will pay off greatly for the industry. "It feels great because if this movie works, if people end up liking it, then it will open doors to more risks, more possible risks that we can all take in the future—Star Cinema and the artists, writers, and directors. It will encourage us to create edgier materials."

## **STEPPING UP THE FILM**

*Sin Island* is Coleen's fourth film with Direk Gino. They first worked together on the coming-of-age independent film *#Y* together with Elmo Magalona, Sophie Albert, and Kit Thompson. It was *#Y* that paved the way for Coleen's acting skills to be noticed. The indie teen flick received a Special Citation for Ensemble Acting at the 2014 *Cinemalaya Film Festival*. Blockbuster hit *Ex With Benefits*, which also starred Derek Ramsay and Meg Imperial, was their second movie together. Their third movie was *Love Me Tomorrow* which featured a love triangle among Coleen, Piolo Pascual, and Dawn Zulueta.





INSIDE SHOW EXCLUSIVE







Coleen talks about the perks of working with *Direk Gino* for the fourth time. “It’s so much easier to understand each other now. We understand each other’s taste and just how the other works. And it’s so much faster when he gives instructions, I get it right away and when he needs to motivate me, he knows already what to say. There’s so much familiarity and I’ve known him since I was 10 so we have a history together as friends.”

Despite their familiarity, Coleen reveals that they had to step up for their latest movie. They knew that there should be no room for complacency. “For this project, we both had to mature because neither of us are married yet. So we both had to really study and we both had to immerse ourselves and just really think about how we are going to execute this whole film.”

Working with Xian, meanwhile, was more memorable the second time around. “We’ve only ever done *Maalaala Mo Kaya* (MMK) together and that was actually very fast. I didn’t get to talk to him so much and we didn’t really get to bond there. For this movie, it was different. I felt like we had more time to get to know each other and it was a less busy set because in movies, it takes longer to set up and it takes longer to mount so we spent a lot of idle time together.”





INSIDE SHOWBIZ EXCLUSIVE




Coleen has been a commercial model since she was a child. She made the transition into TV acting in 2011. Her early TV appearances include *MMK*, *My Binondo Girl* (she did not have scenes with Xian), *Oka Tokat*, and *Little Champ*. She ventured into TV hosting in 2012 as an addition to *It's Showtime* where Billy was one of the main hosts. During the July 24, 2014 episode of *It's Showtime*, Billy admitted that he and Coleen were in a relationship. A couple of years after, on December 20, 2016, Coleen said "Yes!" to Billy's proposal.

Coleen said goodbye to *It's Showtime* in 2016 so that she could focus on her acting career. Fans of the BiCol love team are still hopeful that Coleen will make a comeback on *It's Showtime* soon. "My doors are not closed if ever an offer comes. But I don't think it's going to happen anytime soon. I'm really enjoying acting right now and it's giving me so much fulfillment. For now, I think I'm just going to stick to this first," she states.

She also dispels talks that she will be taking a break from acting after the wedding. "It all depends on the people giving me opportunities. I'm very thankful to Star Cinema especially because they've given me really nice projects. As long as they are willing to give me some more, then I'm just going to keep on taking them."





“Right now, I’m really in love with film so if anything, I want to be able to get better and better at that first before doing anything else. But once I do, I want to learn how to do this job better because there’s more to it than just acting. So you kind of have to be good at everything. And I’m not,” she says with a giggle.

## **SUCH A CHILL BRIDE**

With her big screen comeback only a few days away and her wedding happening soon, one could expect Coleen to be all over the place. But she is the exact opposite. The bride-to-be is, in fact, already shining and blooming as if her schedule is not jam-packed. She was even able to squeeze in a bachelorette trip to Hawaii on February 5.





Coleen declares that she is a bridechilla which means a chill bride as opposed to a stressed-out bride a.k.a. bridezilla. “I have such a good team especially my Maid of Honor [actress] Ria Atayde and my wedding planner. They are really on top of everything. I could not thank them more. I don’t think I’d be able to survive this season without them.” Meanwhile, she is still tightlipped about the exact details of her wedding.

“It’s just a few months away, and what else could I share? It’s just a very intimate gathering. A lot of our closest friends and family will be there. And we look forward to bonding with them days before the wedding as well. A lot of people will be there early,” she says with a twinkle in her eyes. Her face brightens when asked about the home that she and Billy will move into after getting hitched. “We’re moving into a new house so that’s definitely really, really exciting.”

Coleen is most probably so chill about her wedding because this early on, she is already aware of what is needed to make a marriage work. “Again, as long as two people are willing to try, then things are going to work.” And with her recent pronouncements on love, marriage, forgiveness, and adulting, Coleen is certainly more than ready to walk down the aisle, tie the knot, and become Mrs. Crawford.





PRIME SHOWBIZ EXCLUSIVE

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