## Be Yours 171

Chapter 171 Miss Dickman, You Have Asked the Wrong Person

Yvonne went on without letting Jenny get a word in. "Alec brought me home to have dinner with Grandpa because we're going to be family soon and will be getting in touch more often. Do you agree?"

"Miss Dickman, you have asked the wrong person. I'm not interested in the fact that you're family." Jenny rolled her eyes at Yvonne and went into the living room, ignoring the two. She didn't say a word to Alec or acknowledge him, as though he did not exist.

"Alec..."

"Can't you shut up?" He looked at Yvonne and admonished her with a cold voice. Currently, he was in a foul mood, especially when he saw Jenny's indifferent attitude. He almost ran to her and grabbed her, asking what else he could do to matter to her.

Yvonne felt the iciness from his attitude, sending her trembling from head to toe. She understood that, despite the rumors, Alec had never promised to marry her. Although he had not objected to the idea, his vague response worried her, as she felt he would not forgive her.

Old Mr. Faust immediately beamed when Jenny appeared in the living room. "You're here!" he said." You're early today."

"Yeah. I was off work early today." She went up and sat beside him.

He had wanted to chat, but his face fell when he spotted Alec and Yvonne entering the house. He scoffed and said to Alec, "Why did you bring her home? Is it to anger me?"

"She wanted to meet you, so I brought her home." Alec wanted to clear the air by indirectly telling Jenny that it was Yvonne who wanted to come to the Old Mansion. But Jenny didn't care about the explanation as she sipped on the tea that Warren prepared for her.

Sensing the hostility from Old Mr. Faust's gaze, Yvonne bit the bullet and said, "Grandpa, you watched me grow up. I am Alec's childhood friend. Are you unhappy with me in any way?"

She was confused by Old Mr. Faust's change in attitude because the old man once favored her. However, he seemed unhappy when she was about to marry into the Faust Family.

"Hmph! You were like a granddaughter to me once. That's why I was good to you. But now? Who do you think you are? How dare you plot against my grandson? Did you think you could marry into the family with those dirty tricks? Dream on!" Old Mr. Faust was direct and harsh without caring for Yvonne's feelings.

Yvonne was ashen after the scolding and was at a loss for words. She hadn't anticipated Old Mr. Faust's animosity before visiting the Old Mansion. Considering her relationship with him in the past, she hoped to receive his approval, but it all went south.

Old Mr. Faust did not let her interject. He declared, "The only granddaughter-in-law I'd approve of is Jenny. No one else should dream of getting my approval and marrying into this family!"

Whatever plans Alec was brewing, Old Mr. Faust decided to be upfront from the start. It'd be great if Yvonne could bow out after learning she wasn't welcomed, but if she didn't, he wouldn't hesitate to take further action.

Jenny, who had been sipping on her tea, was involuntarily dragged into the middle of the fight. She could sense the hatred in Yvonne's eyes. At first, she wanted to clarify, but she decided to stay quiet because there was no point in explaining just to make Yvonne feel better. Instead, she smiled at Yvonne, and that successfully fanned the fire.

Since Old Mr. Faust was around, Yvonne had to suppress her rage, a delightful sight for Jenny.

Meanwhile, Alec was staring at Jenny again. He snapped back to reality when Yvonne tugged at his sleeve and stared at him with a pitiful expression.

Chapter 172 Away for a Few Months

The dinner was uncomfortable for Jenny. She had to watch as Yvonne fed Alec across from her and whispered sweet nothings. At one point, she regretted accepting Old Mr. Faust's invitation.

She also noted Alec's ambivalence toward Yvonne-he did not respond to her, but neither did he turn down her advances. That was typical jerk behavior.

When she was silently badmouthing Alec, the two suddenly locked eyes. Feeling caught, she hurriedly looked away and pretended that nothing had happened.

Old Mr. Faust was unconcerned by the odd atmosphere surrounding the dinner table and turned to Jenny. "Jenny, are you free tomorrow? Want to go hiking with me?"

"Grandpa, tomorrow won't do." She put down her cutlery. "The hospital has arranged for me to work at one of its free clinics in the countryside. I'll only be back after a few months."

"How many months will you be posted?" Old Mr. Faust appeared shocked and glanced at Alec.

Alec froze upon learning that she'd be away, but he soon collected himself and remarked, "That's very kind of you, Dr. Walter! But do the free clinics need a famous doctor like you?"

In his opinion, only average doctors would be stationed at the free clinics. Posting an excellent resource like Jenny would be a huge loss to the hospital and the patients of Parrington.

"It's for charity, after all. It has nothing to do with the popularity of doctors. If we're measuring profit and loss while performing charity, that's no different from putting on a show." She stared at him coolly in her usual hostile attitude.

As they were at Old Mr. Faust's place, Alec could do nothing about it. He understood the sarcasm in her words-she implied he was greedy and materialistic. He gritted his teeth and glared at her. "As the main shareholder of the hospital, it looks like I have neglected to ask for updates. No one bothered to inform me about this program."

"Mr. Faust, I know you're the main shareholder of Parrington Hospital, but you'd better not interfere in the operations because you're not familjar with the medical field."

Jenny's remark sent him into a rage, and his grip on his cutleries tightened. He shot her a cold look with an air of animosity. Jenny remained unbothered because she knew that he was powerless in front of Old Mr. Faust.

Finally, Old Mr. Faust coughed and inserted himself into the conversation. "Jenny is right. Working at the free clinic is a great service. She could help those who needed medical attention. Alec, you should learn from her."

"Got it, Grandpa." Alec nodded. "Fll increase the amount of donations this year. I believe many will benefit from it."

The Faust Group made charitable donations every year but never made them public. Alec thought it was time to market their efforts to change the perception that he was an evil capitalist.

At dinner, Old Mr. Faust chatted away with Alec and Jenny while Yvonne was sidelined. She felt that she was watching a family of three. Alec and Jenny were especially comfortable together. They took jabs at each other, but it all sounded like a lover's quarrel.

"I'll have to call it a day. I'm a tired old man. Time to rest." Old Mr. Faust stood up to leave. Before that, he turned around and reminded Alec, "You should give Jenny a house tour."

With that, he went up to his bedroom. Throughout the night, he did not as much as spare Yvonne a glance.

Chapter 173 Get Me Into Trouble With Him

After Old Mr. Faust left, the atmosphere in the living room became tense. Jenny checked the time and decided to leave as she needed to pack her belongings for the trip tomorrow.

She stood up. "It's getting late. I shall excuse myself."

Alec followed suit. He walked over to her. "Grandpa told me to take you on a walk around the Old Mansion. If you leave right now, you'll only get me into trouble with him."

"I won't..."

"Cool. If so, follow me. It's just a walk around the grounds. Do you even worry about that, Dr. Walter?" He insisted aggressively without giving her a chance to leave.

Jenny was reluctant to be shown around the house, especially if it meant spending time alone with Alec. She turned to Yvonne and said, "Miss Dickman, why don't you join us? I don't want to cause any misunderstanding."

"Sure-" Wonne answered.

"Yvonne isn't that petty. There won't be any misunderstanding." Alec cut Yvonne off.

Her expression crumbled, but she quickly put on a smile. "Alec's right. Miss Walter, enjoy the walk. I'm fine.

Speechless, Jenny glanced at Alec, who now stood tall and victorious. She nodded with a smile. "Alright." Even though her eyes gleamed with resentment, it didn't bother Alec. The pair walked into the backyard, leaving Yvonne staring at them and gritting her teeth.

In the backyard, Jenny followed right behind Alec, praying she could get home soon. The tour was unnecessary, for she had visited the Old Mansion countless times. It was merely Old Mr. Faust's attempt at matchmaking. She wondered about the reason behind his stubbornness, given that she was incompatible with Alec.

Deep in thought, she didn't notice that Alec had come to a stop and promptly bumped into him. "Ouch!" she gasped and looked up, only to find him staring at her.

He flashed her a half-smile and asked, "Are you looking to get intimate, Dr. Walker?"

She said nothing and rolled her eyes at him, hoping that she had made herself clear. His expression fell, and the smile was wiped off his face. "Why go to the countryside and work at the free clinic?"

She would be posted there for three months-the thought of not seeing her suffocated him.

"Mr. Faust, is everything okay? I told you it was the hospital that made the assignments. Dumbfounded, she refused to engage in further conversation and turned around to leave. However, he grabbed her wrist and trapped her on the spot.

"But you could turn down the assignment!" Although he had little clue about the details of the rural free clinic program details, he was confident that the hospital would not force Jenny to participate if she turned it down.

"Why would I?" she fired back, thinking he was being ridiculous. How could he grill her on unimportant details when his fiancée was sitting in the living room?

"He's such a jerk!" she thought.

"Are you running away from something?" He gave her a deep look as though he wanted to read all her secrets.

That hit a nerve in her, and she raised her voice. "Running away? Why don't you tell me what I'm running away from?"

"You can't accept the fact that I'm marrying Yvonne. That's why you need to run away." He looked at her intently, desperate to force an admission from her.

Jenny, as expected, would not confess and tell him what he wanted to hear. Instead, she shook off his grip and bellowed, "Are you sick in the head? What does your marriage have to do with me? You damn narcissist!"

Chapter 174 You Care About My Marriage, Don't You?

Enraged, Jenny decided to leave. She could not stand another minute around Alec. However, at the height of her emotions, she didn't realize that she had overreacted to his question.

Refusing to let her leave, Alec pushed her up against the wall. "If the marriage has nothing to do with you, why are you agitated?"

"Am I? I'm not," she denied and shook her head, but she felt guilty about lying. She admitted that she might have overreacted.

"But why? I shouldn't have overreacted!" she thought.

"You care about my marriage, don't you?" He was inches away from her. His deep voice rang in her ears, seducing her. She looked up and was about to deny his claim, but she found herself meeting his tender gaze and was captivated by it.

Silence fell between them. She didn't say a word. All they could hear was each other's breathing.

Feeling hot and losing his restraint, Alec looked down and moved his lips closer to her forehead. At this time, Jenny felt she must push him away and slap him in the face, but she was spellbound and paralyzed.

She trembled when she sensed the warmth from his lips on her forehead. He was delighted to find that she didn't fight back. He lifted her chin, forcing her to look into his eyes. Romance and seduction filled the air between them.

A forehead kiss could not satisfy Alec, who wanted more. His lips traveled down and almost touched hers.

"Alec! Where are you?" They could hear Yvonne's voice nearby. Jenny snapped back to reality and shoved Alec away as fury and remorse overcame her.

Glaring at him, she swiftly freed herself from his embrace and kept a distance between them. She didn't forget that he would marry Yvonne soon. The thought angered her even more. She couldn't believe that she was almost seduced by an engaged man!

"Jenny Walter, you're not yourself!" she silently berated herself. Then, she emerged from the corner and found Yvonne standing not far away. She regained her composure and addressed Yvonne, "Miss Dickman, why the rush to find Mr. Faust? Are you worried that he'd be seduced?"

Yvonne turned around and saw Jenny behind her. She checked the surroundings and, after confirming that Alec was not around, she revealed her true self and sneered, "I'm worried that some shameless woman might seduce my fiancé!"

"Your fiancé? I don't think he has ever acknowledged it. Don't you think it's all in your head? Jenny fired back just to irritate Yvonne. When she checked the corner again, Alec was nowhere to be found.

Meanwhile, Jenny's words angered Yvonne, who marched up with a dark expression. "All in my head? Jenny Walter, he will definitely marry me if you don't seduce him!"

"Is that so?" Jenny raised her brow. "I don't think you're confident about that."

"You" Humiliated and incensed, Yvonne was about to give Jenny a slap across the cheek. She had wanted to do it for a long time, but she had not found the perfect chance to do so. Since no one was around, she could slap Jenny and deny it later.

At the thought of it, she increased the force of her slap as though she would only be satisfied if she ruined Jenny's face. Surprisingly, Jenny stood there calmly without any sign of dodging the assault.

Chapter 175 How Dare You Compare Yourself to Her?

In the end, Yvonne didn't lay a finger on Jenny because someone held her back even before Jenny reached out to stop her.

"Alec..." Yvonne's heart sank when she saw Alec appearing out of nowhere. She was anxious that he might get angry at her for trying to slap Jenny.

Jenny looked at him as well. Since he approached from the front, she guessed he might have taken a detour from the other side of the wall.

"Huh, he must be afraid that he'd get busted by Yvonne," Jenny thought. "He's a huge jerk for dragging me along while worrying about Yvonne finding out."

Still, she was mostly angry at herself. After learning that Alec was a jerk, she still fell for his seduction. The more she thought about it, the more she wanted to slap him to calm her anger.

Yvonne's wrist was in pain from Alec's tight grip, and she almost fell to her knees. "Alec, I..." Tears welled up in her eyes as she searched for an excuse.

He let go of her and said in a strict but doting tone, "Dr. Walter is Grandpa's guest. You're being a little rude to her."

Yvonne was in disbelief at his cool response. She gathered herself and looked at Jenny. "I'm sorry, Miss Walter. I was too agitated just now. I shouldn't have been rude to you."

Jenny remained silent as she examined Alec. Was that all he had to say about the situation? His inaction weighed heavily on her heart, and she found it hard to breathe.

The memory of their secret kiss in the corner was fresh in mind, yet Alec was now protecting Yvonne, as though he didn't care about Yvonne trying to slap her.

Since Jenny didn't say a word, Yvonne had to speak again, "Miss Walter, I believe you're easygoing. You won't hold it against me, right?"

"Of course. Dr. Walter has always been forgiving." Alec chimed in. Jenny only had one thought, which was to escape from their exchange and never see them again.

"I am. Had Mr. Faust not stopped you, I would've done the same to you as revenge. We would be even then," Jenny smiled and spoke the truth-she had seriously considered the idea just now.

Yvonne's expression fell upon hearing Jenny's blunt statement. Jenny walked to the main entrance while saying, "It's late. I won't overstay my welcome. I'll get going."

Alec didn't stop her. When she was gone, he called Warren and instructed, "Get someone to send Dr. Walter home. Look out for her safety."

After that, he ended the call and turned his attention to Yvonne. Her heart was palpitating from his uneasy glare, and she muttered, "Alec, my emotions got the better of me just now. I was worried that Jenny

would take you away from me. I didn't intend to hurt her in the first place."

"You're worried that she might take me from you?" He smirked as if she had told him a joke...

"Alec..."

"How dare you compare yourself to her?" he fired away with an icy expression. His remark confused her. One minute ago, he had helped her, but his attitude was different now.

"Did you seriously think I'd marry you?" He broke into a laugh.

"You won't? Why didn't you clarify this to the public then?" She was puzzled by his decision to bring up the topic at this time. He stared at her without explaining. Yvonne was not dumb, though. When she recalled how Alec had treated Jenny just now, she arrived at the truth-one that made her descend into madness.

Chapter 176 The Textbook Case of a Jerk

"Did you do that to her on purpose because you wanted her jealous? Are you just using me?" Yvonne demanded answers, but Alec ignored all her questions. She didn't let it slip. In fact, she didn't expect an answer from him, for she already knew the truth. Inexplicable rage filled her, and she howled at him, Why? Why did you do this to me? Am I not as good as her? Why can't you work on accepting me?"

He snickered and said coldly, "Why did I do that to you? Don't you know that you deserve this? Yvonne, you could've had a good life, but you walked down the wrong path. I'm keeping you around because you are of use to me. Else, I would have..." He paused and added, "Did you really believe that the cover-up was perfect? Framing Jenny for Steven's murder? If I want to look into a case, you bet I'll get to the bottom of

it."

Yvonne stumbled backward in shock. She believed it when he said he was capable of uncovering the truth. Cornered, she bit her lips and gave him a pitiful look. "Alec, I'm sorry. I drugged you because I had no other choice. We don't have to get married. In return for your mercy, I'll get rid of the internet rumors and stay away from you. How does that sound?"

The last thing she wanted was to serve a jail sentence. She'd go mad if she had to serve a life sentence at such a young age.

"Why didn't you think of showing Jenny mercy when you framed her?" Alec asked aloud. At first, he had wanted to spare Yvonne out of consideration for their longtime friendship, but Yvonne missed the opportunity.

Yvonne stared at her childhood friend, who looked unfamiliar to her right now. Shaking her head, she smiled bitterly. "So you won't spare me?"

"Turn yourself in at the police station first thing in the morning. If you do that, you could at least save your reputation. You don't want more trouble," Alec ordered.

"He wants me to turn myself in?" she thought, smiling. That was impossible for her-never!

"Okay, I understand your decision." She nodded and agreed to his proposal, but she had thought of a better idea, which was her only way out.

After Yvonne left, Alec sighed and headed back to the living room. To his surprise, Old Mr. Faust was seated on the couch, grinning at him. He thought his grandfather had retired to the bedroom. Feeling uneasy, he walked up to him. "Grandpa, it's late. Why aren't you resting?"

"If I did, I would have missed the show." Old Mr. Faust chuckled, clearly in a good mood.

"What show?" Alec questioned.

Since he refused to bring up the topic, Old Mr. Faust confessed, "You don't have to keep things from me. I saw everything from the second floor."

Alec's face darkened. "Instead of sleeping at night, you're peeping on us from your room?"

"How's that peeping? I could see everything clearly from the window on the second floor. It's not my fault.

Old Mr. Faust made a sad face at his grandson. Indeed, he didn't plan to spy on anyone. He

coincidentally witnessed the backyard scene between Alec and Jenny while he was strolling on the second floor."

Alec rolled his fists in embarrassment. He would have acted on his anger had Old Mr. Faust not been his grandfather.

"Don't be shy! I've been through these youthful shenanigans. I promise not to laugh at you," Old Mr. Faust

remarked with a grin.

"You'd better not!" Alec looked grim and depressed.

Old Mr. Faust changed the topic of conversation. "When did you settle things with Jenny? And why didn't you tell me about it? I was worried about you two for a while. But you helping Miss Dickman was a foolish move. Jenny is obviously angry at you now. You must look like the textbook case of a jerk in her eyes."

Chapter 177 Blind to the Truth

When Old Mr. Faust finished talking, Alec chuckled and asked, "Is Jenny angry? Why do I feel that she doesn't care?"

He desperately wanted to pick up any emotions, including anger, from Jenny's expression, but he found nothing. She had an air of indifference regarding his relationship with other women or his lack of protection for her.

"You're blind to the truth. I'm sure Jenny's angry at you," Old Mr. Faust assured him.

Alec glanced at him but wondered if he was telling the truth. After all, his grandpa could say anything just to get them back together. After a pause, he said, "Maybe. Anyway, you don't have to worry about this. I'll

handle it."

"You will?" Old Mr. Faust sounded unconvinced. "You'd better not mess up and anger her even more." Judging from Alec's actions, he might come up with ways to make Jenny hate him more.

Alec glared at Old Mr. Faust and wondered, "Is he really my grandpa?"

"I'm going home. You should rest early." Alec gave up on arguing with his grandpa because it was futile. Old Mr. Faust chuckled and said, "Why don't you stay the night? You'll be alone in Faust Mansion anyway." Speechless, Alec knew that Old Mr. Faust was hitting where it hurt the most, and he left without looking back. 1

Old Mr. Faust was fine with Alec not staying because he only casually suggested it anyway. Feeling jolly, he said to Warren, "Didn't I say they're a good match? Take my word for it-they'll be back together in no time. It's their destiny."

"You're right," Warren concurred and nodded.

It was midnight when Jenny was done packing her luggage at Perry Residence. However, sleep eluded her as the memories from the secluded corner with Alec occupied her mind. She was bothered by the kiss on the lips that didn't happen and further upset by the thought of Alec speaking up for Yvonne. She tossed and turned on the bed but could not fall asleep. Finally, she gave up and opened her laptop to work.

At the Dickmans', Yvonne shut herself in her room to throw a fit. Once she was finished, she marched into the study.

"Dad!" she called out to George Dickman, who stared at her without warmth.

"What's the matter? Did your trip not go smoothly?" He was asking for the sake of it because he knew how it went, judging from Yvonne's outburst in her bedroom next door.

She nodded at him and said, "I will marry Sam Bloom."

"Oh?' George was surprised. He thought she came to ask for more time.

She explained, "I gave it some thought. I'd rather marry Sam Bloom than marry someone like Alec Faust. He clearly doesn't love me. At least that fatso isn't as difficult as Alec."

She understood that her hands would be tied if she married Alec. She'd have to submit to him. However, things would be different if she married Sam Bloom. She had a few interactions with that fatso before and concluded that he was naive. She believed she could one day control the Blooms' wealth if she executed her plan well.

Since there was a slim chance that she could marry Alec or take over the Dickmans, her only hope lay

with the Blooms.

George beamed and felt glad that she agreed with his idea. "That's right! I told you that the Blooms are really sincere about the marriage. You'll be happy if you marry Sam!"

"Yes. You're right." She dropped her head to hide the resentment in her expression.

## Chapter 178 Ignore Them

The next day, Alec arrived at the Perry Residence, only to find that Jenny had boarded the earliest flight to Claymond City. He called Vincent to get the location of Jenny's program. In the end, he reminded Vincent, "Send me all her latest updates in the future."

He refused to be put in a passive position anymore. After the call, he drove to the Faust Group office. During the trip, he made another call to Max, saying, "There's an arranged marriage between the Dickmans and the Blooms. I'm afraid you can't acquire Dickman LLC with Gilbert anymore."

"So? What's your reason for calling?" It was rare for Max not to take jabs at Alec. Not only that, he sounded exhausted.

Alec passed by the building of Dickman LLC during the call. He slowed down and glanced at it. Then, he muttered, "I like Dickman LLC's building."

"Huh?" Max thought he had misheard Alec.

"I'll join forces with you to stop the Blooms from helping the Dickmans," Alec suggested.

Max instantly sat up straight and asked sternly, "Are you serious? Why?"

"No reason. I guess I never liked the Dickmans," Alec answered, his eyes gleaming with malice when he recalled the Dickmans' actions.

Max chuckled. "I bet you're avenging Jenny because Yvonne Dickman framed her."

Alec was silent, but Max didn't expect an answer, for he already knew the truth.

"Alright. I'll discuss it with Gilbert." Max hung up and stared at the pile of files in front of him as a headache crept in. The Dickmans really caused him a lot of trouble lately.

At noon, the Dickmans and the Blooms issued a joint statement to clarify that the marriage to Alec Faust was a rumor. They also announced Yvonne's upcoming nuptials with Sam.

The news struck the public like lightning, especially those who had been following the developments of Alec and Yvonne's marriage. Everyone was prepared for the wedding, but things took a turn. That stirred. up a lot of controversies online, but netizens were mostly gossiping about Alec and suspecting him of canceling the marriage with Yvonne. As a result, the stock price of Faust Group experienced a slight drop.

Back at the office, Vincent informed Alec of the online chatter and waited for instructions.

"Ignore them," Alec replied and added, "Publicize our donations this year."

"Yes, sir." Vincent was surprised at the directive because Faust Group had always been lowkey about its charitable contributions. Alec's decision to announce came as a shock.

He was about to leave when Alec asked him, "Where is she?"

"She's at Clearwater Village in the Elmwood District," Vincent answered and submitted a file with information about the village. "It's an underdeveloped area with limited internet connection. You might not reach her for a while."

Alec frowned after skimming through the information about the village. He wondered how Jenny could survive living in such poor conditions. Soon, he put away the file and said, "Get the car-ready. We'll leave in the afternoon."

"Mr. Faust, you have an appointment with a client in the afternoon. There are a lot of things happening at Faust Group lately," Vincent reminded him of his responsibility as the company CEO. Traveling far to a remote village without advance notice would only hurt his work at the company. Moreover, he was

concerned about Alec's safety in a small village like Clearwater. Even though Clearwater had electricity, there were no street lights, which would be a nightmare for Alec if he were to leave for home at night.

Alec thought it over and sighed defeatedly. "Let's settle the work at the company for now. Keep a tab on her life over there. Let me know right away if anything happens."

"Got it." Vincent heaved a sigh of relief.

Chapter 179 A Rare Moment of Peace

Alec's concerns for Jenny were unfounded. Jenny, who grew up in a village, adjusted immediately to life in Clearwater and even took a liking to it because the village reminded her of her old life in Orchid Village.

"Dr. Walter, this is your accommodation. Let me know if you have any issues with it." The village chief brought Jenny to a hotel-the only one in the village.

She checked out the old but clean hotel and said, "I'm happy with it. Sorry for the trouble."

"No, it's no trouble at all!" The chief shook his head. He heard from the higher-ups that the doctor who volunteered this time was skilled, and because of that, he was attentive to her needs.

After Jenny had placed her luggage in her room, the chief informed her, "We don't have Internet in the village. Come to my house if you want to make calls. I have a landline."

Before arriving at Clearwater, Jenny had learned about the internet situation. She wasn't surprised and replied, "Sure. I'll come to you if I need anything."

As she had explained the internet conditions to people around her before leaving, they would not worry too much if they couldn't contact her. She also believed she didn't need to contact anyone during her stay.

Later, the chief brought her to the clinic in the village, where she'd treat her patients for the next three months.

"We have some basic medical supplies here. If we have a serious case, we will consider sending the patient for further treatment outside the village," the chief explained while Jenny nodded. She realized that the villagers were not stubborn and stuck in the old ways, given that they were willing to receive treatment in the city. The chief added, "Come to my place for your meals. All the doctors before you did the same."

She was okay with it and nodded. "Got it. I will have to trouble you for the next three months."

"It's no trouble at all. We're happy to have you here." The village chief was an elderly farmer who worked in the fields all year round. He had tanned skin and looked just like any average farmer.

"I'll start work in the afternoon. Please inform the villagers needing medical help to drop by any time." Since the village lacked a good transportation system, she worried that the villagers might postpone their visits to the doctor. She was eager to jump right into work, which surprised the chief.

"Don't you need to rest for a few days?" he asked.

The doctors assigned before Jenny all took a few days of rest before officially starting work, and the chief was used to it.

Jenny shook her head. "No. I'm not tired."

"Great. I'll inform the villagers with the horn." The horn was a unique channel of communication in the village. Everyone would be alerted via the sound of the horn.

After the chief left, Jenny started strolling around the village. Clearwater had great views, lush greenery, and fresh air. While walking down the path, she felt as if she was floating in heaven. All the drama surrounding Alec and Yvonne was at the back of her mind as she savored the rare moment of peace. At that moment, Jenny was unaware of the changes in Parrington. She thought Alec and Yvonne would be married by the time she went home. She would be greatly surprised to find Yvonne married into the Bloom Family. The internet chatter continued for some time, but Jenny was insulated from the news in Clearwater with no internet connection.

The wedding of Yvonne and Sam was hastily commenced. A week after the joint announcement of the marriage, the two families announced the wedding date. The public was puzzled by Yvonne's rush to get married. Only Alec and those in the know understood the rationale behind the decision.

Chapter 180 I Never Thought You'd End up Like This

The Blooms would only help the Dickmans if Yvonne married Sam as soon as possible. Dickman LLC wouldn't last long under the current circumstances otherwise.

Although the wedding venue was magnificently decorated, one could tell that it was hastily set up. Alec attended the event upon receiving the invitation out of respect for the Blooms, even if he couldn't care

less about the Dickmans.

The Blooms were as influential as the Fausts in Parrington. Not only that, the family had a long history of doing business. The Fausts started to build their empire from Old Mr. Faust's generation, but it was nothing compared to the Blooms, who had hundreds of years of history and owned countless assets just

like the Fausts.

At the event, Alec listened to the conversations around him with a glass of wine in his hand. Most of the guests were mocking the marriage.

Max and Gilbert were among the guests as well. Even though they were in a bitter fight with the Dickmans, they attended the event out of courtesy after receiving an invitation from the Blooms.

Max spotted Alec and went up to him. "Oh, you're not marrying Yvonne! I thought you would."

"Marry her if you like her. I won't hold you back," Alec remarked.

Max chuckled and said, "Unlike you, I'm not her childhood friend, nor did I sleep with her. I have no reason to marry her."

Alec's expression fell. He warned Max coldly, "You'd better watch your mouth. Remember that you're asking for my favor."

Max sneered and said indignantly, "I didn't! We're working with each other."

"Is that so?" Alec smirked and questioned, "I wonder which of us would suffer a greater loss if we canceled the partnership?"

That immediately shut Max up. Of course, he would suffer the greatest loss if the partnership fell through.

but he'd never admit to that.

"Gilbert and I have agreed to work with you against the Dickmans." Max changed the topic while staring at the bride and groom, who were in the middle of a ceremony. He added, "Are you sure you want to go against the Dickmans? It's not too nice to turn against your family friends."

Max was astonished when Alec proposed the partnership yesterday. He always assumed that Alec would never hurt the Dickmans because of the long history between the two families, but Alec surprised him.

Alec downed the wine in the glass and retracted his gaze. "If Yvonne wasn't dead set on hurting Jenny, I wouldn't have to go up against the Dickmans."

In the end, the only reason he went against the Dickmans was because of Jenny.

Max stared at him with a cheeky grin. "I never thought you'd end up like this." Alec frowned and looked at him. Max went on, "I thought I'd never find your Achilles' heel, but look what I found today."

When Alec was first married, Max had planned to look into the background of his new.bride and use her to threaten him. But he soon ditched the plan after Alec showed no interest in his wife. After some twists and turns, Alec unexpectedly fell in love with Jenny. Perhaps, the two were destined to be together.

"I'm curious how in love you are with Jenny, and how much you're willing to give up for her." Grinning wickedly, he wondered aloud, "Would you hand over control of Faust Group to me if I abduct her to

blackmail you?"

Alec was as cold as winter. "I strongly advise you against trying it."

"Oh? You sound like you really care about her." Max lifted a brow in amusement and was tempted to put his plan into action.

"If you don't want the Pearsons to end up like the Dickmans, I advise you to drop that plan," Alec warned. him with a threatening tone and shot a frosty look at him.