

## Chapter 402 Tit For Tat

Aloys and Melissa had to stay alert as they ate the dinner.

After a while of conversation, Aloys received a message explaining that another group was following him. They were almost finished chatting, and so they decided it was time to pay the bill.

"The total is three thousand dollars, please," the cashier said.

Melissa smiled, nodding and pulling her card out confidently. As she set it on the counter, she was surprised to see that another card was pushed in front of hers.

"I'm paying," Aloys said.

"Absolutely not," Melissa frowned, grasping Aloys' hand. "This is your first meal since returning. It's my treat."

"I'm a VIP member here. Just allow me to pay."

As the two bickered about the bill, a figure approached them and stood beside the pair. Melissa felt her heart drop. She suddenly had a sick feeling.

As she peeked from the corner of her eye, she recognized the pair of cold eyes. Her heart pounded with apprehension. Why was Everett here now?

"What a coincidence," Everett's jaw was clenched, as he shot a fake smile at them. "Mr. Brustin, when did you return? Does your family know?"

Aloys' face darkened as he recognized the voice that spoke to him. He slammed his credit card on the counter with a polite smile, but his eyes burned with hostility. "It's hardly your business, Mr. Mayfield. Since you're still alive, your first focus should be on the Mayfield Group."

The air became heavy with malice as the two hit each other's sore spots with their shared words. The cashier behind the front counter was silent, as even she could feel the hostility between the two.

Melissa stood between the two, feeling terribly uncomfortable. She waved her hands in an effort to get them to calm down, as she turned to Everett and explained, "Aloys just got back today, and we decided to get dinner together. Let us pay the bill and leave."

"I see." Everett gave a small nod, but his gaze was frozen as his emotion seemed unwavering. Instead of retreating from the situation, he stepped forward and spoke lightheartedly. "In that case, I'll pay the bill for you, then Melissa will come with me. The children said they wanted to sleep with their mommy tonight."

When had Lindsey and Merrick said that? Melissa felt anger bubble up in her throat, and she felt like she couldn't breathe. She looked up at Everett with sparkling eyes. She was there. Why would Everett lie?

Before she could speak, Aloys stepped in front of her, speaking with a steady voice. "There's no need for that. We can pay the bill ourselves. Mr. Mayfield, you just passed through, and you'd do best by minding your own business. I haven't seen Melissa for a long time, and we still have plenty to talk about. Maybe we will find a cafe to talk in, and then I will send her home."

"Are you sure, Mr. Brustin?" Obviously, Everett wasn't convinced. He turned slightly, looking to the people at the door. "I think you'd better tell your family that you're back. Otherwise, they'll worry about you. After all, Melissa is a member of the Sherman family. Is it really appropriate for her to be with someone from the Brustin family?"

He kept emotion out of his statements, but there was a hidden threat.

Aloys had also noticed the people outside the restaurant. It was apparent that they were sent to monitor him again. Because of this, it would be difficult to have time to speak with Melissa. But he couldn't let Melissa go with Everett.

Melissa suddenly spoke, as she noticed the dilemma that Aloys had found himself in. "Aloys, you can leave. I'll just pay the bill and go home by myself. I drove my car here, anyway."

"Let me pay the bill," Aloys insisted, understanding what Melissa was doing. "I'll come see you tomorrow. Besides, I haven't tasted one of your meals in so long. I'll head out now and contact you tomorrow. Please, be careful. And remember to notify me when you get home safely."