

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge 101-110

Of all the days, let's say today is the most awaited day for Asher.

After gathering ample evidence, assisting in the investigation, and engaging in lengthy discussions, finally, what Asher has been striving for can soon be realized.

Truly, from the outset of knowing the turmoil happening in Aurora's household, Asher has been fed up and wants to resolve it immediately without any residue. But, because Aurora is overly kind, the significant real problem was left untouched, with the excuse of granting forgiveness and a chance simultaneously.

And, what happened in the end?

Aurora's kindness was instead betrayed. Instead of being grateful for the chance to improve herself, Savana acted up. It started with the attack at the hospital. Then it continued with the slanderous accusations that the old woman spread to everyone.

Perhaps, Savana felt on top of the world. The slander she spread actually managed to influence Alden's mother and ultimately led her to ask Aurora and Alden to temporarily end their relationship.

Because of this, Asher can no longer tolerate it. Whatever it takes, he will make sure Savana puts an end to her madness. And if necessary, Asher will silence and give a deterrent effect to the old woman to prevent her from repeating her actions.

"Why are you so surprised?"

In front of Savana's house, Asher flashed a smile. He was delighted to see Savana, who froze for a moment as if surprised by his sudden arrival.

"What are you here for?" Savana returned Asher's gaze. She asked again the purpose of Aurora's sibling coming to her house.

“Me?” Asher pointed to himself. “What for? Of course, to settle the mess Mrs. Savana has made.”

Savana laughed then. There was nothing funny at all about Asher’s recent statement.

“What could you possibly settle? Besides, I don’t feel like I have any issues with you.”

Asher laughed back.

“Mrs. Savana may not have direct issues with me. But, the repeated actions Mrs. Savana has done to Aurora make it impossible for me to stay silent.”

Instead of feeling guilty or slightly moved, Savana laughed dismissively. From her annoying face, it was clear that she didn’t regret any of her evil deeds so far.

“What actions are you talking about? Did I do something evil? Criminal? Or what?”

“Do you not feel guilty at all?”

Savana shook her head without a hint of guilt. She considered all her actions so far to be within reason.

“I think everything I’ve done to Aurora is something that should have been done. Moreover, Aurora has ruined my and Alex’s lives. She made my life difficult like it is now. So, she deserves all of this.”

Savana’s heart seemed to be made of stone or something. Despite clearly causing harm to many, she neither felt guilty nor remorseful, but rather kept babbling and trying to justify her actions.

“So, you’re making Aurora the scapegoat for the problems in your family?”

This time, Savana nodded. For her, Aurora was the only one who should take responsibility.

“She’s the cause of all this chaos, right? If Alex and I can’t be happy, it means Aurora shouldn’t be happy either.”

Asher shook his head in disbelief. Not long after, before he could confront Savana again, Rayyen appeared at the Arab descendant woman’s house. Asher’s cousin was accompanied by several burly men. They all immediately approached Asher, who was standing right in front of the door.

“Just take this woman straight to the police station. Let’s settle everything there.”

Asher ordered. And immediately, this made Savana react. The woman glared. She was surprised and confused because all of a sudden she was going to be taken to the police station without any discussion or at least permission beforehand.

Savana was convinced she wasn’t a terrorist. But, the number of officers who came and their strict actions made her feel like a serious criminal.

“No!” Savana shouted, refusing what Asher instructed to the burly men who turned out to be police officers. “You can’t just take me like this!”

“Who said we can’t?” Asher replied casually. This time, he would show how he dealt with Savana. “The police officers today have an official warrant to arrest and process your actions legally.”

“No!” Savana shouted again. She tried to defend herself. If necessary, she had to be able to defend herself. “What did I do wrong? I don’t feel like I committed a criminal act. So why should I be taken to the police station?”

Asher burst out laughing. With so many evil deeds Savana had committed, it seemed she had forgotten or perhaps had amnesia about her own actions.

“What did you do wrong? You had the audacity to assault Aurora, causing her injuries. Not only that, you also spread slander. Tarnishing her reputation, even accusing Aurora of things she never did.” Then Asher turned to one of the police officers next to him. He then invited him to

speak and answer Savana's question. "Please explain to this lady, Sir. What punishment will she receive for all the evil deeds she has done?"

The officer nodded. He glanced at Savana.

"You are charged with assault and battery resulting in injuries to the victim. Then there are charges of defamation and spreading false news. For these cases, you could face a prison sentence of up to two years as well as a hefty fine."

Savana widened her eyes. Seeing Asher serious, she tried to defend herself again.

"You can't just arrest and take me to the police station like this. I don't feel guilty."

"Oh, really?" Asher replied, laughing. "Please defend yourself or explain later at the police station. The most important thing is, I ensure this time you can't escape and must experience what it's like to be behind bars."

Asher was serious in his words. Realizing this, Savana was naturally worried and anxious. Even staying in a smaller house made her feel uncomfortable and tortured. What would happen if she had to move and live in prison for quite some time after this?

Oh, insane!

Savana shuddered instantly. She was scared just imagining the bad things that would happen to her. Besides, two years is not a short time.

"Please, don't."

Suddenly, Savana's attitude softened. She, who had been arrogant and even unwilling to be blamed at all, now slowly looked frightened.

"Please don't overdo it. We can discuss this properly."

Asher smirked. He looked meaningfully into Savana's eyes, who was kneeling before him.

“Unfortunately, I’m not interested in talking nicely to heartless people like you. Rather than wasting time, it’s better to process it immediately so you can go to jail.”

Savana shook her head vigorously. She tried to persuade Asher to negotiate.

“I beg you, it seems we can still discuss this properly. I know my actions went too far. But—”

“No ‘buts.’ Please present your defense later at the police station.”

When the officers tried to take her away, Savana resisted. She screamed, begging to be released.

“Please don’t arrest me like this. I don’t want to go to jail.”

Asher didn’t care. His patience had run out from being played around with heartless people like Savana.

“Please, Asher. I truly regret it. Please don’t imprison me,” Savana pleaded. “I’ll do anything. But please don’t arrest me, let alone put me in jail like this.”

Then Savana approached Asher. For the first time, she humbled herself, even kneeling down and begging for forgiveness from Asher.

“I’ll do anything. But please don’t imprison me. Have mercy on Alex.” Belonging to

Asher grinned. He looked into Savana’s eyes as she knelt before him.

“Maybe I can be a little merciful. But there’s a fair price and you, Mrs. Savana, have to do it.”

“I’ll do anything as long as you don’t imprison me.”

Asher nodded. He asked Savana to rise. After that, he asked the woman along with the police officers to go to a place he wanted to visit this afternoon as well.

Once there, Asher asked Savana to follow. Entering a restaurant, he stood up and greeted everyone there.

“Good afternoon. Please pay attention for a moment.”

Everyone in the restaurant immediately turned their heads and focused their attention on Asher. Seconds later, he spoke again in a loud voice.

“I apologize if I’m disturbing the ladies’ event here. I came here just to convey something important that you all need to know.”

In one of the rows, there was Zendaya’s figure. Alden’s mother continued to watch and did not shift her gaze at all.

“I’m sure all of you ladies know this person.”

Then, Asher waved. Asking Savana to come to him, who was standing in the middle of the restaurant.

“Today...” Asher continued. “Mrs. Savana will clarify and reveal the truth about the rumors and slanders she has been spreading all this time.”

Whether she wanted to or not, Savana complied. She walked towards Asher. Then stood right in the middle.

Instantly, everyone there became excited. Waiting eagerly, what clarification Savana wanted to convey.

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Alden had just finished showering. As soon as he heard the phone ringing, he hurriedly ran towards the nightstand. Lately, he had always been enthusiastic when his phone rang.

Often, Alden hoped it was Aurora calling him, although the likelihood was very slim.

When he checked, Asher's name was clearly displayed on the phone screen. Realizing that this was an important call, he quickly answered.

"Alden, where are you?" Without even saying hello, Asher immediately asked, ensuring once again where Alden was currently located.

"I'm still at the apartment. Why, Ash?"

"Can you come meet me right now?"

"Meet you?" Alden repeated. His brow furrowed with curiosity as to where Asher was inviting him to meet. From the tone of his voice, Alden guessed the man seemed to be in a hurry.

"Yes. Come meet me at the place we discussed before."

Alden nodded. He understood what Asher meant. It seemed that Aurora's brother was indeed inviting him to meet at one of the restaurants where their mother attended her social gatherings.

"To the restaurant, right?"

"Yes."

While holding his phone, Alden reflexively nodded.

"Okay. I'll get ready now and head there right away. Maybe I'll be there in about ten minutes."

"In that case, see you at the event venue."

Once the call was ended, Alden hurriedly got ready. He put on some casual clothes, then grabbed his car keys to quickly join Asher at the agreed-upon location.

Because it was nearby, Alden arrived first. Just as he got out of the car, apparently, his mother spotted him.

"Alden." Zendaya called out. The middle-aged woman approached with two other friends.

“Why are you here? Are you coming to see Mama or what?”

Alden shook his head. He gave his answer, “I have plans to meet a friend at this restaurant.”

“Where’s your friend?” Zendaya looked around. Alden glanced around too. Afterwards, he concluded that Asher hadn’t arrived at the restaurant yet.

“It seems he hasn’t arrived.”

Zendaya nodded.

“Well, just come in with Mama first. When your friend arrives, then you can go meet him.”

“Okay, Alden,” said Zendaya’s other friends. “Just come in. Join Auntie and your mom’s other friends. Some of them have brought their daughters too. Who knows, you might want to get to know them.”

“Let’s go in,” Zendaya urged again.

Actually, Alden was very reluctant to join. Imagining himself engaging in small talk, especially being introduced to new people, not to mention being asked various questions, made him tired just thinking about it. But, because his mother begged him and he didn’t want to seem rude, Alden reluctantly followed his mother inside.

Fortunately, a few minutes later, Asher finally arrived at the restaurant. What surprised Alden was that his coworker brought along someone who had been the cause of trouble and turmoil that damaged his relationship with Aurora.

“Aunt Savana?”

Alden murmured. He observed how boldly Asher sought the attention of everyone gathered in the restaurant. Then, firmly calling out, he asked Savana to come over.

“To the socialite ladies gathered here,” Asher requested everyone to focus on him.

“Beforehand, I heard that Mrs. Savana had been spreading unpleasant rumors about Aurora Harperwood, who is my sister. So, Mrs. Savana here has been throwing wild assumptions to the public and accusing and defaming Aurora in various ways. Therefore, today I will ask all of you here to listen to the actual truth.”

Asher then turned to Savana. Smiling, he invited her to speak to everyone.

“Please. Tell them what Mrs. Savana should say.”

Savana remained silent for a moment. Swallowing hard, she observed the people around who now seemed focused and eagerly waiting for what she wanted to say.

“Come on!” Asher urged when Savana still didn’t speak. “Or do you want to go straight to the police station, Mrs. Savana?”

Savana quickly shook her head. Her position was indeed precarious at the moment. Asher held control over her. If she didn’t comply, she was already given two options. Jail or a mental hospital?

Savana was doomed!

The thought of going to jail made Savana afraid. At the same time, she took a deep breath, then lifted her face and spoke to everyone.

“Before... I did tell you about Aurora, who was my daughter-in-law for two years. That’s true. But, the rumors about Aurora being divorced because she was barren and even leaving debts behind, those are completely false.”

“So, for what reason did Mrs. Savana’s child and Aurora divorce?”

One of the arisan members, curious, asked. The others were also eager, waiting for an answer.

“Come on, Mrs. Savana, answer!” Asher impatiently commanded.

“Because of infidelity,” Savana replied softly.

“Who cheated? Aurora or Alex?”

Asher stared sharply. His gaze seemed to threaten to tear Savana’s body apart if she answered carelessly or not in line with the truth.

“Alex,” she murmured, head bowed.

“How many times did Alex cheat? And who facilitated this infidelity?”

Savana took a deep breath and reluctantly answered.

“I asked Alex’s secretary to deliberately seduce him and become his mistress.”

The restaurant patrons immediately buzzed upon hearing Savana’s statement. They were surprised to learn the extent of the misconduct of the single mother. This is from

“So...” Asher continued. “Mrs. Savana’s child was caught cheating with his secretary twice by Aurora. Not only that, during their marriage, Alex also often used company funds for his revelries. Is that correct, Mrs. Savana?” Asher asked, turning to the bowed Savana.

“Y-yes.”

“And then, about being barren, who is actually barren and unable to have children?”

Reluctantly, Savana conveyed another fact to the people in front of her. Though deeply ashamed, she had no other choice.

“According to the doctor’s examination, Alex is the one who is barren and has difficulty having children. Not Aurora. And it’s Alex who has a lot of debt.”

Whispers immediately ensued. Almost everyone gathered scoffed at Savana's actions.

"What about the slander Mrs. Savana accused me and my mother of?"

Alden, who had been listening, finally spoke up. Since the elderly woman was confessing her sins, he took the opportunity to clear his and his mother's names.

"T-that..."

"What is it, Aunt Savana? Please tell everyone that your accusations weren't true."

Savana nodded. It seemed futile to deny now.

"Yes. Everything I accused Zendaya and her daughter of is 100% untrue. I did all of this solely out of spite and jealousy, not wanting to see Aurora happy with someone else. I couldn't accept her taking all the wealth I had. That's why I wanted to make her suffer."

"Is that all?" Alden confirmed.

Savana nodded again.

"Actually, I don't have any personal issues with Zendaya and her family. Honestly, I did all of this just because I didn't want to see Aurora with another man and living happily. That's why I kept spreading rumors so that no one would pity or empathize with her."

Alden shook his head, unable to comprehend the evil Savana had done. He glanced and found his mother looking relieved at Savana's clarification.

"Zendaya..." one of the arisan participants called out, approaching and even giving her a hug. "Sorry if I was influenced by Savana's words."

"I apologize too," added another.

“Yes, we all apologize. Actually, we didn’t believe Savana’s nonsense either. Besides, how could a wealthy person like you sell your own child for business purposes?”

Again, Alden shook his head at the hypocrisy of the women he had considered so judgmental. Yet yesterday, they had slandered him and his mother. Now, without knowing, they changed their tune and seemed to be licking boots.

Meanwhile, Asher, believing all the problems were resolved, then escorted Savana to another place. Instead of going to the police station, he took the middle-aged woman under the supervision of officers to Rayyen’s office.

“Mrs. Savana,” Asher called when they arrived and were now sitting face to face. Rayyen and the officers were also present.

“Since you are willing to cooperate, I will make you a good offer.”

Savana looked up, anxiously wondering what kind of offer Asher would make. Surely, she prayed it wasn’t jail that he offered her.

“Since I’m not sure if you’ll keep your word 100%, after this, Mrs. Savana, you won’t need to stay in Indonesia anymore.”

Savana’s brow furrowed immediately.

“What do you mean?”

“Information from Aurora, Mrs. Savana has a large family in Turkey and Qatar, right? So, I offer Mrs. Savana to move there.”

“Move abroad?”

Asher nodded.

“Rather than me telling you to stay in jail or a mental hospital, Mrs. Savana, which one do you choose?”

“B-but... what about Alex? How could I leave him alone here?”

Asher responded calmly to Savana's recent concerns.

"You're free to take him or not. Don't worry, I'll cover all his accommodation costs. As a bonus, Aurora has also left money for Mrs. Savana to live there for several months. The rest, you can find on your own. How's that? I'm being very generous, aren't I?"

Savana couldn't think. Choosing was also difficult. Instead of going to jail, she reluctantly agreed to the offer.

"Fine, I agree."

"In that case, please sign this agreement letter." Rayyen handed over a document. He gave Savana a pen to sign it.

"It says here that if Mrs. Savana returns to Indonesia or engages in any misconduct again, I will demand compensation and Mrs. Savana will be imprisoned for a considerable period. And here, the police officers and my lawyer will act as witnesses."

Savana obediently nodded. Like a lion losing its fangs, she complied with all of Asher's requests. She signed the agreement letter right then and there, resigning herself to her fate thereafter.

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"What? Living abroad?"

Alex had just finished showering and was getting ready for breakfast. Just as he settled his body, he received news that immediately made him seriously wonder.

"Yes. Mom has made an agreement with Asher, Aurora's younger brother. Next week, Mom has to leave for Turkey. Can Mom really move there alone?"

Alex still couldn't accept it. Even though his mother seemed so pleading, it felt very burdensome to grant such a request.

Besides, starting a new life over there would take Alex quite some time to adjust. Even though he had lived there before and had many relatives, it still felt difficult.

"How am I supposed to move to Turkey? I just got accepted to work at one of the foreign companies, and the position matches what I chose."

"Then, are you just going to leave Mom there alone?"

Alex sighed. He felt torn.

"Isn't there a lot of Mom's relatives there? Almost our entire extended family is there, right? Besides, why Turkey?"

"Well, what else can I do?" Savana replied, sounding both irritated and resigned. If given a choice, she would also prefer not to move too far.

"Mom doesn't have any other options. Rather than staying in prison or a mental hospital, it's better to just follow their request to move. But, if not with you, Mom won't do it!"

Alex sighed deeply. If only his mother hadn't caused trouble, maybe this wouldn't have happened. But if he blamed her, she would definitely get angry and not accept it. After all, he had warned her from the beginning not to act beyond bounds, which now was causing trouble for everyone.

"If I go with Mom, what about my job? If I don't work, how can I support Mom?"

Fortunately, when making the agreement with Asher, Savana had anticipated this. Because she didn't want to suffer, she made one condition that she considered easy to fulfill.

"Before signing this agreement, may I ask for something?" Asher, who was sitting in front of her at the time, immediately gave her a deep look. He looked at Savana seriously.

"After all the drama, Mrs. Savana wants to ask for something?"

“If possible, why not?” Asher laughed. This woman in front of him had no shame and didn’t want to suffer losses. “What does Mrs. Savana want?”

Savana spoke cautiously, hoping that her request would be understood and granted by Asher. Moreover, she was sure that what she would ask for wouldn’t be too difficult or troublesome for someone like Asher.

“I plan to bring Alex to move to Turkey. But, I’m worried that when he’s there, he’ll have trouble finding a job. How can I stay there if Alex doesn’t have money to support us? Even if you give us a lot of savings, it will eventually run out.” This material belongs to

“Wait,” Asher interrupted when he understood what Savana meant. “Is Mrs. Savana asking me to find a job for Alex? Is that what you mean?”

Savana nodded repeatedly, grateful that Asher understood what she wanted. That meant she didn’t need to explain further.

“My request is not extravagant, just asking for help to find a job for Alex in our new place later.”

Asher, looking handsome, thought for a moment. Rubbing his chin covered with fine hairs, he nodded casually.

“No problem,” the man said casually. As if Savana’s request was something easy to grant. “In Turkey, I have a cousin who happens to own a large shopping center. If Alex is interested, he can work there.”

“Alex will definitely be interested,” Savana said confidently. Rather than struggling to find a job later, she might as well seize this opportunity. Instead of Asher changing his mind later, she would just accept it.

“Okay. I will arrange everything. From tickets, passports, residence permits, accommodations, and so on. But, please make sure not to have any contact or disturb Aurora anymore. Just consider that after this, we don’t know each other anymore. If Mrs. Savana violates the agreement, I will make sure she pays dearly for what she has done.”

Listening to his mother's story, Alex could only sigh resignedly. He was sure that no matter how hard he resisted, in the end, he would be powerless.

"Come on, Alex," Savana begged. "Mom doesn't have anyone else in this world except you. If we're separated like that, who will take care of Mom there? Are you going to let Mom live alone? What if Mom gets sick or something happens, what then?"

See? When scolded like this, how could Alex argue?

"Besides, I was just about to start a new life here. I was even happy because I got a job that matches my field, Ma."

"Actually, you can start a new life in Turkey. Who knows, maybe you'll find a better match than before. The important thing is, you have to follow Mom to move. We can try everything, dear."

Alex didn't respond anymore. It's pointless. His arguments wouldn't be heard anyway. Now, he could only resign himself to his mother's wishes even though it felt heavy.

Zendaya walked slowly down the corridors of Santa Monica Hospital. Today, she dared to meet Alden face to face.

After Savana's confession at the restaurant yesterday, Alden seemed unwilling to forgive Zendaya. The evidence was when he tried to contact him, his son didn't respond at all.

Feeling genuinely guilty, Zendaya decided to visit Alden in person. She intentionally took the time to meet her son at the hospital.

"Alden... can I come in?"

After making sure Alden was in his room, Zendaya knocked on the door immediately, asking for permission to enter.

"Yes. Come in."

Alden rose. He gestured for his mother to sit down.

“Are you still angry with Mom?”

Zendaya got straight to the point. Besides, she knew that her son wasn't the type to beat around the bush or prolong small talk.

“I'm not angry,” the man said firmly. “I'm just disappointed with the attitude and decisions you've made before. You acted as if you didn't believe I could handle the situation.”

Zendaya could see the deep disappointment in her son's eyes. However, she admitted that she was indeed at fault here.

“I'm sorry,” Zendaya whispered softly. “With all my heart, I apologize. Truly, I am truly sorry for what happened.”

Alden didn't react. His demeanor remained the same upon hearing his mother's apology.

“I've already said, I'm not angry. So, there's no need to apologize. In fact, Mom should apologize to Aurora because she's the one who's been hurt here.”

Zendaya had already thought about this. Actually, even without Alden's instruction, she intended to apologize directly to Aurora.

“I will do that, Alden.”

“It should have been done already. Besides, because of Mom's unreasonable request, Aurora has now disappeared somewhere. I'm the one suffering, Ma.”

Feeling even more guilty after hearing Alden's words, Zendaya concluded that if she wanted to regain her son's trust and respect, she had to apologize directly to Aurora. And if necessary, bring the woman back to Alden immediately.

“I will find a way to apologize to Aurora as soon as possible. I will prove that I am truly sorry for the mistakes that have occurred before.”

So Zendaya immediately proved her words. After meeting Alden, she didn't go straight home. She chose to go to the leadership room to meet Asher directly. Zendaya thought that only he could help her.

"I apologize if I'm interrupting your time."

Asher nodded understandingly. He welcomed his guest warmly.

"No problem. If I may ask, what brings you here to see me?"

Zendaya took a deep breath, then explained her purpose and intention for the meeting.

"I know, my arrival may seem bold or perhaps inappropriate. Therefore, beforehand, I sincerely apologize to the Harperwood family. And regarding my visit here, I actually want to ask for help from Mr. Asher."

Asher's eyebrows immediately furrowed.

"Ask for help?"

"Yes," Zendaya nodded confidently. "If permitted, may I meet with Aurora? I beg you, there's something I need to discuss with her."

Asher stared intently at Zendaya speaking before him. He observed carefully how the middle-aged woman seemed to place great hope in him. Perhaps hoping that Asher would grant what she asked for.

So, will Asher kindly tell her where Aurora is currently located?

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"Geez, seriously! Turns out you've been lying to me all this time."

In one of the cafes, Regina grumbled angrily. She didn't care if there were some customers who were watching her that afternoon.

After previously avoiding, even seemingly intentionally not wanting to respond, only today did Regina manage to meet Nicole. And even that, their meeting happened as if by accident.

Initially, Regina wanted to have lunch. Because God was being kind, she was brought together with her friend in the same place.

“Gina, can you speak softly, please? It’s embarrassing to be stared at by so many people!”

Nicole glanced around. From the corner of her eye, she realized that other cafe patrons were watching because of the commotion Regina had caused.

“Let them! Let everyone hear and know.”

Nicole sighed in annoyance. She pulled Regina, who was standing, to sit in the available chair next to her. However, she was embarrassed to be the center of attention of so many people. Published by Nôv'elD/rama.Org.

“Come here, sit. Speak properly. No need to shout. I’m not deaf,” Nicole said, irritated with herself.

Regina looked displeased. Taking advantage of the moment, she used the opportunity to bombard and clarify everything that had happened so far. Regina was upset because she just realized that she was one of the victims of Nicole’s lies.

“How could you lie to me like this? Is this what friends do?”

“What lie? I don’t feel like I’ve lied to you!” Nicole retorted. How could she be accused like this right off the bat?

“Don’t you feel it? You lied to me about Aurora. You said she was a disrespectful cousin. A cousin who deliberately stole your husband until you got divorced, and I believed it? Oh, God!”

Regina was really upset. All this time, as a friend, she empathized and felt sorry for Nicole, who had just gotten married, only to be divorced within hours.

Regina was swayed, she just believed that Nicole divorced because of Aurora; the cousin who allegedly destroyed Nicole's marriage.

Even when she was told that Aurora, who was supposedly the destroyer of Nicole's marriage, actually worked in the same place as her, Regina was willing to be asked to interfere and even ruin the relationship the woman was building. Especially when she found out that the man who was getting close to Aurora was someone she had liked for a long time.

Continuing to be swayed and provoked, Regina acted excessively. As a result of her actions, she had to deal with Asher, who was the head of the hospital.

"I thought I was standing up for you, Nicole," Regina said angrily. "Imagine, I stood up for you. I even willingly helped you make that seductive woman suffer and regret her actions. But, what's the reality? It's not Aurora who's been evil all this time. But, you're the seducer yourself! You're the one who seduced her husband until you both cheated and betrayed!"

Regina's voice rose again. She let out all her frustration without holding back. Anyway, Regina had to resolve this issue with Nicole once and for all.

"I really considered you a friend. But, it turns out you were just using me? How rude!!!"

Nicole took a deep breath while watching and listening to Regina's rant. Once she was convinced that the woman had finished venting her anger, she responded in turn.

"I admit I was wrong."

"Not wrong, but you've sinned!" Regina added. "You've been playing the victim."

“Okay... okay,” Nicole responded again. She had resigned herself to being called all sorts of things by her friend. “You’re free to call me whatever you want. I won’t deny it. I admit it, it wasn’t Aurora but me who seduced and stole her husband. I even intentionally provoked and sought your support because I was truly angry about everything she had done to me.”

“Insane! You’ve really crossed the line, Nicole.”

“Just so you know, there’s a reason behind all of that. Just imagine, since childhood, Aurora could get anything she wanted. Her life was easy!”

Nicole seemed passionate. It was her turn to let out everything that had been stored in her heart.

“A lot of guys were competing to be her partner. And me? No one even glanced at me because I had nothing. I don’t understand why God isn’t fair like this. That’s why I tried to change. I deliberately got a job and seduced her husband. Besides, at that time Mas Alex’s mother gave her blessing and I really liked him at that time.”

“So, just because you were jealous, you ruined her marriage? Where’s your brain? Did she want to be rich from birth?”

Regina shook her head in disbelief at the crazy thoughts Nicole had expressed. How foolish she was to be swayed and believe in the lies her friend had told her.

“Yet, I wanted to help because I sympathized and felt sorry for the baby in your womb. Turns out, you were wrong from the beginning. Mentally ill! I regret following all your words.”

“I’m sorry. Initially, I didn’t intend to involve you this much.”

Nicole sighed. Judging from Regina’s demeanor, she believed the woman wouldn’t forgive her actions.

“But, what’s the reality? You made me a tool to fuel your crazy obsession, right? I was stupid to believe it!”

“I’m really sorry for what I did to you, Gina.” Nicole’s voice weakened. “I sincerely apologize to you.”

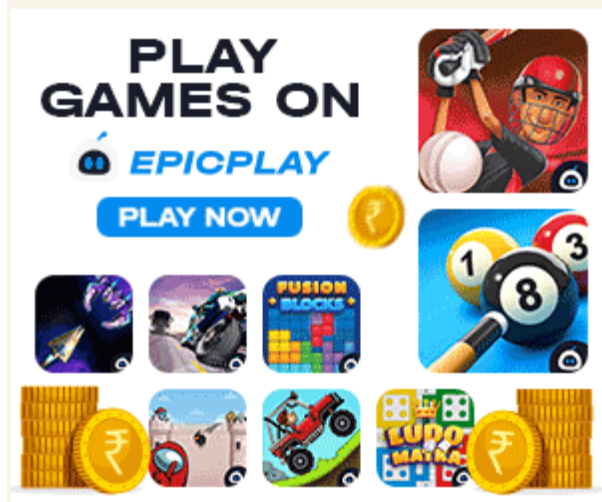
Regina shook her head. She had no interest in forgiving Nicole, who had pushed her into the abyss. If not warned by Asher, she might have truly sunk and eventually been destroyed without a trace.

“You better apologize to Aurora. You’ve caused her too much harm. That’s if she’s willing to forgive your outrageous behavior. And as for our friendship, I think it’s best to end it here. I’m not interested in being friends with toxic people like you! So, there’s no need to come or contact me again.”

“But, Gina, we can—”

“No. Let’s just leave it at that.”

Regina got up. She left Nicole without even wanting to look back, let alone bother to listen to the woman’s explanation. She was determined that from now on, she would never have any relationship with Nicole, or if necessary, she would not consider Nicole as her friend.



Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

“Aurora, everything’s settled. So, when are you coming back?”

That night, after having dinner together at both of their parents’ residence, Asher deliberately contacted Aurora. He wanted to convey the news of the progress regarding Savana’s issue, which had now been resolved well.

Asher and Elenna seemed impatient. Hoping that after this, Aurora would decide to return and live a normal life as before.

“Why? Do you miss me?”

Asher laughed. Wanting to evade because of pride, but the truth was he did miss his sister.

“Well, just say so. Besides, it’s pitiful for Mom to be lonely every day because she can’t go to the mall, the salon, and sleep with her daughter. Just so you know, Dad becomes the victim of Mom’s nagging.”

Laughter could be heard from the other end. If asked if she missed home, Aurora would definitely be longing to return soon.

“It’s only been a week. Weren’t you planning to go for a month?”

“Insane!” Asher rolled his eyes. “I’ll deduct your salary at the hospital in full without any leftovers.”

“It’s okay,” Aurora replied casually. “I’m already rich anyway. And if I’m short, I can just ask Dad.”

Asher sighed. His sister never ran out of words to answer him. Besides, Aurora was right. If they ran out of money, what’s the harm in asking their father?

“But…” Asher started again. He paused for a moment, which made Aurora curious.

“But, what?”

“The other day, Alden’s mother came to see me at the hospital.”

“Alden’s mother?” Aurora repeated to confirm. She was sure her ears didn’t deceive her. “She came to see you for what?”

“Well, at first, she apologized. She said she felt guilty and uncomfortable because she had asked you to stay away from Alden for a while.”

Asher told Aurora everything. He explained all the intentions and purposes behind Zendaya meeting him at the hospital that day.

“I realize I’ve made a huge mistake. I should have listened to Alden’s words to be more patient. I should have supported all of you instead of asking Aurora to stay away. That’s why today, I apologize.”

Asher, who had been listening all this time, simply nodded in understanding. He didn’t judge and tried to think positively because Zendaya might have wanted to protect Alden from the gossip of many people.

“Don’t worry about it, Ma’am. The most important thing is that the problem has been resolved. Everyone knows who’s really at fault. And, I’m sure Aurora has forgiven and understood Mrs. Zendaya’s request from the beginning.”

Alden’s mother nodded.

“But, may I be allowed to meet with Aurora? I know, it seems presumptuous of me. But, I want to apologize to her in person.”

At that moment, Asher looked at Zendaya with utmost seriousness. It was clear from her face that the middle-aged woman felt guilty for what she had asked Aurora before.

“I’m sorry...” Asher said softly. He shook his head, responding to Zendaya’s request. “I can’t help and grant Mrs. Zendaya’s request to meet or inform her where Aurora is currently.”

“Really can’t? Poor Alden. He must be suffering because he doesn’t know where to find Aurora.”

“If you feel sorry, why did Mrs. Zendaya separate them in the first place?”

Zendaya sighed deeply. She realized she had made a huge mistake. Because she was too selfish and only thought about other people’s words, she sacrificed Alden’s happiness, even though he had clearly asked for a chance.

“I am indeed wrong and sinful. That’s why I want to apologize and persuade Aurora to come back soon. If necessary, I will ask Alden to propose and marry Aurora immediately.”

Asher smiled.

“Even if they truly love each other, they can’t get married that quickly, Mrs. Zendaya. It’s worth noting, at the moment, Aurora needs time for herself. So, let’s just respect her decision. Later, when she returns, Mrs. Zendaya can meet her directly. Talk and apologize as you wish.”

Aurora laughed at the conversation on the phone. She had to give a thumbs up to her brother for giving such a clever answer to Zendaya who wanted to meet her.

“Enough already. Let me be calm and enjoy my solitude for a while. I’ll definitely come back when I get bored, brother.”

“I know.” Asher immediately responded. “But, don’t take too long. Feel sorry for your patients. If you disappear for too long, Alden might get taken away by someone else.”

“Let it be!” Aurora replied casually. “If it’s meant to be, it will be, right? Even if it’s really love, he’ll wait for me. Besides, this is only temporary, not for years.”

Asher, who was now laughing, couldn’t argue with that.

“Alright then. The important thing is for you to take care of yourself there. Take care of your health. Let me know when you’re ready to come back.”

After contacting Aurora, Asher told Elenna and Joshua everything he had discussed with Aurora over the phone.

Since it was late, he bid them farewell and intended to go home.

However, when he opened the door, Asher was surprised. In front of his parents' house, he found Nicole suddenly appearing, and he had no idea what her purpose was. This is from

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Asher admits that Nicole used to be a cousin who could be described as good and obedient. She was also smart, accomplished, and had a beautiful appearance.

In truth, there was nothing wrong with Nicole. However, after her father's business failed and he passed away, Nicole seemed to distance herself from the extended family.

As Asher knows, Nicole became the backbone of her family. Being the eldest child, she had to support her mother and siblings, whether she liked it or not.

She used to attend college while working part-time. Once, Asher's mother offered Nicole a job at her boutique to help with finances. However, Nicole declined at that time. But, a few years later, perhaps because she needed a job, Nicole asked Aurora for employment.

Being family, Aurora didn't suspect anything. She offered Nicole a job as a secretary in the company Alex owned. Little did anyone know, asking for this job was one of Nicole's premeditated plans. She intentionally wanted to work in the same office as Alex to get closer to him.

Nicole has done many wicked deeds. She clearly flirted, seduced, and even persuaded Alex to marry her. Regardless of how broken Aurora's heart was when she found out about their affair.

Even after being caught, Nicole became even more audacious. She tried to get closer again, and unfortunately, Alex was tempted for a second time, repeating the same mistake.

It's not Aurora's fault for being suspicious. Asher himself was infuriated by Nicole's behavior. Even when he managed to retaliate, Nicole still held grudges. Fortunately, once again, Asher managed to silence her and render her powerless.

And now, finding Nicole unexpectedly visiting her parents' home, Asher grew suspicious. He wondered why she brought her mother and siblings along.

“What are you doing here?”

Asher asked, full of questions. He let Nicole and her mother stand right at the doorstep of his parents' house.

“I have something important to tell you.”

“Important?”

Nicole nodded. From her expression, it was evident that she hoped Asher would grant her request to speak about something important.

“What is it, Ash?”

Elenna, noticing her door was still open, approached. She faintly heard her son's voice and was curious about whom Asher was talking to in front of the house.

“Nicole and Aunt Senia are here, Mom.”

Hearing this, Elenna hurried closer. Seeing Senia and Nicole left standing, she immediately invited them into her house.

“Come in,” Elenna requested politely. Even though Nicole had clearly wrecked Aurora's marriage, her beloved daughter's, Elenna didn't allow herself to act wickedly like the mothers in drama series. Otherwise, she

might have already grabbed Nicole's hair or scratched her out of sheer anger.

"Enough with the small talk. What brings you here?"

"Asher!"

Elenna reprimanded immediately. She looked at Asher and shook her head. Despite Asher's rudeness, she didn't allow her son to behave impolitely, even though she knew he acted this way because he was still upset about what Nicole had done.

"Yes, Mom, sorry, Asher apologizes."

Elenna sighed. Then she turned her gaze towards Nicole, who was clearly hanging her head.

"What's up, Nicole? Senia? Do you have something to say?"

Nicole nodded. From her face, it was obvious she was very nervous. Perhaps she felt guilty or realized she had made a big mistake before.

It took courage for her to step into Aurora's parents' home.

"Mama Elena..." she whispered softly. "Before I speak at length, Nicole wants to apologize."

Elenna furrowed her brows. She didn't expect what Nicole had just said.

"Apologize?"

Nicole nodded repeatedly.

"By God, sincerely from the bottom of my heart, Nicole truly apologizes to Uncle Joshua, Mama, Asher, and also Aurora. I apologize for Nicole's outrageous behavior all this time."

Elenna listened carefully to what Nicole said. Delving into her sparkling brown eyes, Elenna believed her niece spoke sincerely.

“Is this a genuine apology? No hidden agenda, right? Later on, we might find out there’s a hidden motive. Or are you perhaps asking for compensation for childbirth? That’s why you keep coming here, talking so nicely with a pitiful face.”

Asher sneered. It was difficult for him to trust Nicole after what she had done. Once tainted, it was hard for him to repair her image in his eyes.

“Asher...” Elenna intervened again. “Enough. Don’t be like that. Appreciate Nicole’s good intentions. She came here to apologize.”

“Yes, Elenna. Please forgive Nicole,” Senia added, trying to assist her daughter who was cornered. Despite previously being disrespectful by telling everyone that she was deceased and Nicole was an orphan living alone, Senia couldn’t hate her own daughter.

“I’ve forgiven Nicole. So you don’t have to worry. But, to forget her actions, I can’t. Nicole has done too many evil things to Aurora.”

Hearing this, a moment later, without being asked, Nicole immediately knelt at Elenna’s feet. Feeling immensely guilty for the sins she had committed.

Just call Nicole a case of biting the hand that feeds. She’s been helped so much, given a good job and trust, but deliberately stabbed backs and committed betrayal. She even kept bothering, seemingly unsatisfied until she saw Aurora suffer.

“Forgive me, Mom. Please forgive me. This time, Nicole truly regrets it and asks for forgiveness. Nicole promises she’ll never repeat such actions again.”

Elenna nodded. She briskly lifted Nicole’s body, then instructed her to sit back down.

“Mom has forgiven you. The important thing is, you won’t repeat the bad things you’ve done.”

“If it happens again, Asher will happily teach her a lesson, Mom,” he added, still sounding resentful.

Feeling that Asher still doubted her explanation and apology, Nicole turned to her cousin. Anyway, tonight she had to settle everything.

Nicole's courage was actually small. But she had to try hard so her cousin would forgive her. Truly, she was still afraid of the threats Asher had directed at her earlier.

"I know you probably don't believe all my words. It's okay, I understand. This is the risk of what I've done all this time."

"It's good that you're self-aware."

Immediately, Elenna nudged Asher's arm, signaling for her son to be more polite.

"But I genuinely regret it and apologize. Don't worry, soon Mama and I will also leave from here. We promise not to disturb or appear in front of the Harperwood extended family again."

Elenna was surprised. She turned, making sure of the news she had just heard from Nicole.

"You want to move?"

Nicole nodded.

"Yes, Mama Elena. The plan is, Nicole will move to Singapore."

"With whom?"

"With Bastian," Nicole answered confidently.

"Bastian? Alex's equally troublesome friend, right?" Asher confirmed.

"Yes." Nicole reluctantly explained. She felt she needed to tell everything. "After discussing and thinking it over, Nicole and Bastian decided to get married next week. After that, Nicole will follow him to Singapore because he got a job there. And also, knowing that no one is taking care of Mama and my siblings, Nicole just brought them all."

Asher finally understood. There was a sense of relief that Nicole would leave on her own without him having to tell her.

“Okay... I hope your life will be better there. And hopefully, after this, there won't be any more drama or actions from you that trouble many people.”Belongs to NôvelDrama.Org - All rights reserved.

“No,” Nicole affirmed. “Nicole makes sure she will never bother Aurora again.”

After a lengthy discussion to convey her intentions, Nicole then decided to leave. The important thing was, she now felt relieved because she had asked for forgiveness.

And Asher was truly grateful. He hoped that after this, there would be no more problems, and his extended family could live happily.

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

In total, it's been two months since Aurora left Alden. As if comfortable maintaining distance while also pausing the relationship, not a single piece of news or string of messages that Alden sent received any response from the beautiful woman.

Feeling like an outcast, Alden initially felt sad, lonely, and tormented. For almost a month, he even deliberately kept his distance from his mother because he felt too disappointed.

Alden thought, if only his mother hadn't visited Aurora and forced his girlfriend to stay away, they would still be together and working at the hospital as usual.

However, Asher provided understanding every day. He helped Alden slowly accept all the decisions Aurora had made. As a result, as time went on, Alden began to try to be patient. He started reconnecting with his mother. And he didn't forget to pray to God to soften Aurora's heart, so she would soon return and reunite with him.

“The fried rice Mama cooked isn’t too salty, right?”

Because he intentionally stayed at his mother’s house last night, Alden didn’t need to bother preparing his own breakfast this morning. He was delighted that his mother made a breakfast menu that Alden liked.

“It’s just right. This is what Alden usually eats.”

Zendaya smiled broadly. She was grateful that her son liked what she cooked. Since she was busy with business and various jobs, Zendaya rarely cooked by herself. Only during important moments or specific times like this morning, for example, did she find time to enter the kitchen to cook her son’s favorite food.

“Mama was worried. Afraid it wouldn’t taste as good as before.”

“Don’t worry,” Alden replied, continuing to chew his food. “If it wasn’t good, Alden wouldn’t have finished it.”

“In that case, you can take the rest as your lunch. There’s still plenty of chicken left.”

Alden nodded in agreement. He didn’t refuse what Zendaya suggested to him.

“I was planning to take it for lunch later. Because today is going to be really busy. Alden is sure he won’t have time to rest.”

“Anyway, no matter how busy you are, make time to eat. It’s not funny if the doctor gets sick instead.”

Then Zendaya got up. She stepped to get the lunch box from the cupboard, then handed it to Alden. She also helped her beloved son prepare his lunch so he could eat it later in the afternoon.

“Any news from Aurora yet?”

Zendaya suddenly asked. Actually, it took more courage to bring up this topic. However, Zendaya really wanted to know. She was just curious

whether her son had received any updates from his sweetheart after so long.

“Not yet, Ma.”

Alden shook his head softly. There was a hint of sadness on his handsome face. And this made Zendaya concerned too. Instantly, she felt guilty for her actions that had led to unexpected consequences.

If she could turn back time, she swore she wouldn't do something so foolish.

“Mama apologizes, Al.”

Zendaya expressed full regret. Although she had been forgiven, she still felt guilty. She had also tried to ask Asher to let her know where Aurora was, but the result was still nothing.

“Never mind, Ma. Don't worry about it. Later, when it's time to come back, Aurora will definitely return soon.”

“In that case, you have to be patient.”

Alden nodded. The sad expression that had been there earlier faded away, replaced by a wide smile.

“Don't worry, Alden's patience stock is still plenty. Even waiting for one, two, or three months, Alden has done it before, right?”

Zendaya chuckled. Seeing that Alden was much better now, she felt relieved. Zendaya also promised that when Aurora returned, she would immediately propose to the woman for her son without thinking too much.

“Alright, I'm leaving now. Is Mama going to the office with the driver or do you want to come with me?”

“Mama will go with the driver. It would be a pity if you're late.”

Alden nodded. Giving his mother a quick hug, he bid her farewell.

“Alden’s heading to work now. Mama, take care too.”

Then, Alden hurried to the office. Today, he had an appointment with Asher to discuss a patient’s family who would undergo heart bypass surgery.

Because Asher’s schedule was packed, the patient initially under Asher’s care was reassigned to Alden. That’s why, before proceeding with the procedure, Alden needed to conduct a thorough observation.

Upon arriving at the hospital, Alden immediately approached Asher in his office. He engaged in a discussion for almost two hours. Until shortly, one of the nurses came, reminding Alden that he needed to prepare for the surgery.

For Alden, he preferred his schedule to be busy like today. Focusing on many patients allowed his mind to be momentarily distracted from Aurora.

“Doctor Alden.”

Regina called out as Alden emerged from the operating room and walked along the hospital corridor. Approaching, she matched her steps to walk alongside him.

“If you want to have lunch together, I can’t. I brought lunch from home.”

Although Regina hadn’t said anything yet, Alden confidently spoke as if he knew what Regina was going to say.

“Oh God... who wants to have lunch together? You’re so confident.”

Regina squinted. Perhaps because she used to bother Alden a lot and invite him to lunch, the man had all sorts of thoughts.

“I’m not asking you to have lunch,” Regina clarified.

“Then, if not for lunch, why did you come to me? We have different specializations. So, it’s unlikely that we would discuss patient matters.”

Regina laughed. As they continued walking and finally arrived in front of Alden's room, she handed a bag containing a box of cakes to the man in front of her.

"I actually came to give this to Doctor Alden."

Alden immediately furrowed his brow. Instead of accepting, he asked a lot of questions. Basically, he was suspicious of Regina.

"Cake? What's it for?"

"To be eaten, of course. Not to be stared at."

"I know," Alden sighed irritably. "What's the purpose of giving cake? If you forget, I won't accept anything —"

"Related to your feelings, right?" Regina interrupted as if she knew what Alden was going to say. "Don't worry. I'm 100% self-aware. I also remember that Doctor Alden only sees me as a friend. Don't worry. I'm just giving out cakes to all the doctors and nurses in the hospital for my birthday."

Alden looked at Regina incredulously.

"It's your birthday?"

Regina nodded repeatedly. But even if Alden didn't believe it, he just surrendered. What else could he do? Regina was sure that the man had trust issues since he had experienced a lot of mistreatment.

"Yes. Today happens to be my birthday. Did Doctor forget my birthday?"

"Do I have to remind you?"

Regina shook her head.

"No, you don't have to. The point is, today is my happy day, so I'm giving out cakes. There's no other meaning. So, please accept it!"

"This doesn't have any specific purpose or motive, right?"

Regina nodded again. Apparently, it was difficult to convince the man in front of her.

“For God’s sake, there’s no ulterior motive.”

Alden looked closely at Regina, who kept smiling at him. Trying to convince himself, he finally accepted the cake box that Regina had been offering him since earlier. At least after this, the woman would leave.

“Alright, I’ll take this. Thank you very much for the cake. Happy birthday too. I wish you health and find a partner as you wish.”

“If I pray for you to find a partner, Doctor Alden, how about that?”

Alden reflexively sighed. Before he could protest, Regina spoke first.

“Just kidding... you’re already grumbling. You’ll know the feeling when you grow old.”

Alden pursed his lips. Luckily, his mood was good today.

“Alright, I’m not in the mood for jokes. I’ll accept this cake from you. Anyway, thank you very much. Once again, happy birthday.” This content © Nôv/elDr(a)m/a.Org.

Regina laughed heartily. She found it amusing to see Doctor Alden’s behavior as he tried to avoid her.

“You’re welcome, Doc. But seriously, you don’t want to have lunch with me?”

Alden immediately shook his head. He outright refused Regina’s offer.

“No, thanks.”

“Well then. Offered a blessing, but you declined.”

Regina then left. While Alden, carrying the cake, chose to enter his office. However, after closing the door to his room, he found a woman sitting on the couch as if waiting for him.

“If you have lunch with me, how about that? Do you have time?”

Alden froze. He was at a loss for words to respond.

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Alden remained motionless. His gaze didn't waver even slightly from the woman smiling at him, who now sat while looking in his direction.

Alden was sure he wasn't mistaken. Even pinching his cheek, he felt pain. That meant Alden wasn't dreaming at the moment.

“Aurora?”

Indeed, the figure sitting in front of Alden was Aurora. After disappearing for two months as if swallowed by the earth, without permission or any news, the woman suddenly returned and was now sitting elegantly on the sofa in Alden's room. As if waiting deliberately. Or perhaps wanting to surprise Alden.

“Yes, it's me. Aurora Harperwood. Not a hallucination or a ghost.”

While Alden remained still. Not giving any response because he might still be engulfed in his astonishment. Even though Alden had already reached a stage of acceptance. He hadn't been as frantic as a madman when he first found out Aurora had disappeared.

“Don't you like seeing me come back? You said you missed me?”

Alden took a breath. Stepping closer, he instead gave a pinch to the woman's arm in front of him.

“Alden!”

Aurora exclaimed then winced in pain. Of course, she protested why she wasn't hugged but instead pinched hard. Even though she had hoped the man in front of her would now express his longing.

Imagine, two months they were apart. Aurora was sure Alden must miss her as much as she missed him.

“Why the pinch? It hurts.”

“Let it be!” Alden didn’t care. At the moment, what he felt was happiness, sadness, anger, everything mixed into one. Alden seemed unable to believe that Aurora was truly back and present before him.

“Besides, you’re so mean. How could you leave me for months!”

Aurora laughed. While rubbing the marks of the pinch on her arm, she also found Alden’s expression adorable. Seen from Alden’s eyes, it seemed to tell her that the man had long been harboring a tremendous amount of longing.

“I’m not mean, Al. I just followed your mom’s request to stay away for a while.”

“But not for two months! And you couldn’t be contacted at all. Don’t you know that? I was so confused trying to find you everywhere. Calls couldn’t get through. Messages couldn’t be delivered. My God, I was almost stressed out losing you.” Alden protested openly. He grumbled, pouring out all the feelings he had kept to himself for the past few months.

Almost every day Alden felt lost. Trying constantly to find her but with no results. He had been stressed and heartbroken, until eventually, he had to reluctantly let go.

“I was even planning to stay for a year. Besides, I’ve gotten used to the new place. I even thought about trying to find a new partner.”

Alden scoffed then pursed his lips. Irritated to the core hearing Aurora deliberately teasing him.

“Well, if that’s what you want. Then why come back now? Just go marry the new guy. So that the old events can happen again.”

“Gosh...” Aurora’s eyes widened. “Why are you wishing for bad things?”

“Not wishing,” Alden quickly corrected. “I’m cursing. Besides, it’s a hobby of yours to leave people. Don’t you feel sorry? I’ve waited for you twice now.”

Aurora chuckled. It was amusing to see Alden getting angry with her.

“You’re so fierce!” teased Aurora then laughed. “I was just joking, darling.”

Hearing himself suddenly being called ‘darling’ made Alden’s heart skip a beat. Previously, when they were still in an intense relationship, she almost never, or perhaps out of embarrassment, replied when he called her darling.

And now, out of nowhere, the sacred word came out of Aurora’s lips. Well, of course, Alden was more than happy.

“What was that? Can you say it again?” This content ©
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“Sweetheart,” Aurora repeated happily. It was rare for her to comply when Alden asked her to repeat. “Are you really not happy to see me back?”

Alden sighed. Sitting down on the sofa, he locked eyes with Aurora to prevent her from turning away.

“No need to ask. I’m definitely happy. Very happy that you’re finally back. There are no plans to disappear again, right?”

Aurora smiled. She shook her head. She felt it was enough to be alone. Upon reflection, it felt better to be with people she cared about. Including friends, colleagues, family, and also her lover.

“No. Don’t worry. I won’t disappear again.”

“Promise?”

Aurora nodded repeatedly. She had also promised herself to put an end to the solitude she had been experiencing for the past two months.

“Promise. Besides, I can’t stand being separated from you for too long. Holding back this longing is tough. Especially when the longing is for a handsome, kind, attentive, and funny guy like you.”

“Oh God, you’re exaggerating!”

Aurora chuckled. She should be the one saying that.

They both laughed. So happy that they could finally meet again.

As it was lunchtime and remembering he had brought food, Alden invited Aurora to eat together.

“So, if I may ask, where have you been hiding for the past two months? Seriously, I’m curious. I’ve asked Asher, but he’s so stingy he won’t tell me.”

While feeding Aurora, Alden interrogated her. He was just curious about where Aurora had been hiding all this time.

“For the past two months, I’ve been staying in Dubai.”

Alden was stunned by Aurora’s answer. He hadn’t thought that she had gone so far abroad. He thought his girlfriend had just gone for healing in Bali or maybe Labuan Bajo. Basically, somewhere around Indonesia.

“Dubai is so far away. You must have been really comfortable there that you didn’t want to come back.”

Aurora laughed again. Especially when Alden spoke as if he were being sarcastic.

“From the start, I chose Dubai. Besides the place being nice, it coincided with Abi’s company there, which had just been inaugurated. So, I decided to help out for a while.”

“Are you sure that’s the only reason?”

Aurora tried to convince him.

“Yes. Besides, if I chose a place or city nearby, you’d easily find out where I was.”

“You’re so sneaky!”

“Not sneaky. Look, I’m back now, right?”

Alden nodded. Regardless of all the reasons that made Aurora leave, now was the time to be grateful. If necessary, he would celebrate Aurora’s return. And after this, he wouldn’t let his lover leave again.

“Since you’re back now and sitting in front of me, can I confirm something?”

“What do you want to confirm?” Aurora asked curiously.

Alden’s face looked serious. He gazed at Aurora intently, then asked carefully.

“So, when can I propose to you and marry you?”

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Aurora had just arrived home. Opening the door, she heard her mother calling repeatedly as if there was something important and urgent that needed to be communicated.

Aurora made her way to the kitchen. As expected, she found Elenna busy cooking a meal to be eaten together at dinner time.

“Oh my, called and called, and here you are hiding.”

Aurora approached. Perhaps her mother was so focused on preparing the food that she didn’t realize or hear when Aurora called repeatedly.

“Mom!” Aurora called out again. Her voice louder this time, Elenna finally noticed and turned around.

“Oh, you’re home already?”

Aurora sighed and nodded. Even though she had been calling out since she stepped foot in the house, her mother didn’t respond.

“Yeah. I’ve been calling out from the front door, but you didn’t answer or respond.”

Elenna laughed. While tasting the dish she was preparing, she responded to her daughter’s protest.

“I was busy cooking, how could I hear you? And why were you calling out anyway? You knew I was home, you could have just come straight to me.”

Elenna’s words made sense. Instead of wasting energy calling out or shouting, Aurora could have just looked for her mother who was not far from the kitchen or the flower garden behind the house.

“Gosh... just for fun. That’s why Aurora called out.”

“What do you want to say, then?” Elenna became curious. If Aurora was searching so intensely, there must be something important she wanted to discuss or inform her about.

“It’s about Alden, Mom.”

“What about Alden? Is he mad at you for suddenly coming back?”

Aurora shook her head.

“No, it’s not that.”

“Then what?”

“He proposed to Aurora and asked when we could get married.”

Both of Elenna’s eyes widened. She was also surprised to hear the news that Aurora had just conveyed. Although she knew her daughter was in a serious relationship, she didn’t expect Alden to propose so hastily.

Especially since Aurora had just returned after disappearing for two months.

“So, he proposed to you?”

“Yes! Before, Alden had asked me to marry him. But Aurora asked for a month to think. And now, he’s asking again and wants a definite answer.”

Elenna’s surprise didn’t diminish at all. She was also happy that her daughter was proposed to by someone she considered suitable. “So, what did you answer when Alden asked for a decision?”

Aurora sat down at a chair near the dining table. She took a deep breath to calm her mixed feelings. After composing herself, she continued to tell her story.

“Aurora was stunned at first. It was unexpected.”

Elenna laughed. She imagined Aurora’s stunned face when proposed to by Alden.

“And then... and then?”

“Aurora just said we should discuss first how to proceed. If possible, you should invite your mother to meet my parents first.”

“You said that?” Elenna asked to confirm.

“Yeah, I did. We have to ask Dad and Mom first.”

At the same time, Joshua along with Asher and Clara were seen arriving. Since they felt everyone was already gathered, they decided to prepare and then enjoy dinner together while discussing the issue of Aurora being proposed to by Alden.

“So, according to Dad, what do you think? Should Aurora just accept Alden’s proposal? Or does it need to be carefully considered?”
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This time, Aurora had to make sure that her father was 100% supportive. For heaven's sake, she didn't want the past to repeat itself, where Joshua was half-hearted in letting her marry Alex.

Because he didn't fully approve from the start, Joshua had asked Aurora to reconsider before accepting Alex's proposal. But, being stubborn, Aurora kept pushing her father until he finally relented and gave his permission. And what happened in the end? Her marriage to Alex didn't work out. Exactly what Joshua had feared from the beginning.

That's why, this time Aurora would try to listen to all forms of advice from her father, mother, and her sibling. If they were okay with it, only then would Aurora make a decision.

"Before anything else, Dad asks first. Are you really sure about Alden? I mean, are there no doubts at all about marrying him and be her wife?"

Aurora nodded firmly. From the look in her eyes, she had no doubts about her choice this time. There were many things that made her confident that Alden was different from other men out there.

"There are many things that make Aurora believe that Alden is the right person to be her life partner. Aurora is sure, this time she won't make the same mistake as before."

Joshua smiled. Seeing Aurora's attitude, he gave the response his daughter had been waiting for.

"In that case, you can accept Alden's proposal. For your choice this time, Papa also doesn't have any doubts. Alden is a good man, polite, hardworking, and appears very responsible. Moreover, you've been officially divorced for more than three months. So, it's not a problem if you want to rebuild your marriage."

"Yes, Aurora," Asher chimed in. "If I may, Papa and Mama also agree that you should remarry and choose Alden as your husband. In our eyes, he is the right person to accompany you. While you were away, he never once got bored asking about your whereabouts. Not angry or disappointed, but patiently waiting until you finally returned."

Aurora nodded. She also thanked Alden for patiently waiting.

“That’s why I’m sure I chose him.”

Asher seemed to agree.

“And hopefully, your choice brings happiness. So that in the future, you can continue living together until death do you part.”

Aurora was touched. She was happy that all her family members gave their blessings to her decision to rebuild her marriage. If everyone prayed like this, it would be easy for her to give her decision to Alden.

“So, everyone agrees, right?” Aurora asked to confirm.

“Yes,” Joshua affirmed. “You can tell Alden to bring his mother here to discuss the future of your relationship.”

Elenna, who was happy, approached Aurora and hugged her. Touched because her beloved daughter could once again feel happiness with her chosen man.

“Mama prays for the best for Aurora. Hopefully everything goes smoothly until Aurora officially becomes Alden’s partner.”

In an emotional state, Aurora received a guest. Her assistant, who had opened the door and asked the guest to come in, approached Aurora and gave a report.

“Ma’am, sorry to disturb. Someone is looking for you. They’re waiting in the living room.”

Aurora nodded. Getting up from the dining room, she made her way to the living room. As she arrived, she was surprised by the presence of Alden who came with his mother.

“Alden... Aunt Zendaya.”

Both of them stood up. Zendaya even gave a tight hug after shaking hands with Aurora. She expressed her joy and gratitude for finally being able to meet Aurora again.

“I’m finally able to meet you again. Aunt apologizes for the mistakes Aunt has made.”

Aurora nodded. She was sure Alden’s mother must feel guilty and uneasy because she had previously asked her to stay away from her son.

“Aunt is not wrong. So, there’s no need to apologize.”

Zendaya shook her head.

“But, because of Aunt, you left. Aunt shouldn’t have been selfish at that time. If only Aunt had been a little patient, maybe all of this wouldn’t have happened. It’s a pity that both of you became victims.”

Aurora nodded understandingly. She felt sad seeing Zendaya who truly felt guilty and seemed to regret her actions.

“That’s enough. There’s no need to discuss the past anymore. Aurora has already forgotten everything. What’s important is that we can all meet and gather again like before.”

Aurora then invited Zendaya to sit back down. Engaging in conversation, until eventually Alden and Zendaya stated their purpose for coming to Aurora’s house late at night.

“I hope my and Mama’s visit tonight doesn’t bother you, does it?”

Aurora shook her head. Moreover, the internal discussion between herself and her extended family had already been concluded.

“No, don’t worry.”

“I brought Mama here on purpose to meet you. And I think the timing is right because your parents are also here.”

Then Alden turned to Zendaya. He let his mother speak.

“So, tonight Aunt hurriedly stopped by because Alden told me that you’ve returned. Honestly, Aunt is happy. Besides wanting to apologize, Aunt also wants to accompany Alden who wants to propose to you.”

Aurora was startled. Just this afternoon, Alden had discussed the proposal, and she had asked him to schedule a meeting so that he could bring his mother to meet her parents.

Who would have thought that Alden moved quickly and immediately brought his mother to Aurora’s house tonight to meet her. Is this really the definition of being eager to get married?

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Just needed three days after the engagement event reached an agreement, Zendaya, unaccompanied by Alden, was seen visiting Aurora’s parents’ house again, bringing various luxurious items as gifts.

That night, with solemnity, Zendaya and the extended Harperwood family offered prayers together before having dinner, followed by the ring exchange as a symbol of the accepted engagement.

Zendaya couldn’t hide her immense happiness. Continuously wearing a broad smile, she carefully placed the ring Alden had bought and entrusted to be placed on Aurora’s beautiful finger.

Not only that, Zendaya gave many gifts to her future daughter-in-law that night. From a set of jewelry, bags, shoes, makeup, and various other items.

“Auntie can’t wait to see Aurora and Alden getting married early next month,” Zendaya continued to smile. Even though Alden was an only child. Usually, many mothers feel sad when their only child has to get married and start their own family.

However, Zendaya was different. The woman didn’t feel the slightest sadness or loss. Instead, she was enthusiastic and impatient.

Now, the middle-aged woman was sitting with Aurora and her extended family in the living room.

“Tomorrow afternoon, if you two can, schedule a meeting with the wedding organizer. Then, after that, don’t forget to visit Auntie’s favorite boutique for the bridal gown fitting.”

Aurora nodded while smiling back. She was delighted that everything was arranged like this by Alden’s extended family.

“Yes, Auntie. Tomorrow, Aurora will make time to meet with the wedding organizer and also go for the bridal gown fitting with Alden.”

This was Aurora’s second marriage. Just like her first marriage, her wedding party with Alden was also celebrated grandly and lavishly. Many guests were invited to join in the celebration of this sacred event.

With nothing more to discuss, Zendaya decided to head home so that Aurora could rest.

Meanwhile, in the living room, Clara, Alissa, and Alinna were seen arranging gift boxes. The three of them were busy organizing while chatting, discussing the items Alden gave to Aurora.

“There are so many gifts,” remarked Alinna. She looked at each item in the box that Alissa was arranging on the table.

“Yes, it reminds me of the past, when I got married,” Clara added. Like Alinna, she also looked amazed. Especially considering the numerous items Alden gave to Aurora that night.

“But, when you got married, Asher also gave you a lot of gifts. I remember vividly how Azzam and I helped Asher choose what to include. You know, he even wanted to give a car as a gift.”

Alinna nodded in agreement.

“Yeah, that’s true. I was so stunned by Asher’s luxurious gifts. Because of the luxurious items he gave, I even begged to marry Asher instead.”

Clara laughed.

“Yeah, I remember. At that time, Asher didn’t even know about love, right? But he was brave enough to give so many expensive gifts.”

“It’s because he’s wealthy,” Asher, who was being gossiped about, chimed in. He approached and hugged Clara from behind.

“I would give expensive and numerous gifts even if I didn’t love. But especially when already in love from the beginning, like Alden and Aurora, maybe the gifts would be even more.”

“Alright, just give the gifts now. I accept them wholeheartedly,” Clara said, playfully. Asher pinched his wife’s cheek.

“Are the gifts still not enough?”

This time, Clara laughed.

“No, dear. It’s more than enough. It’s better if you prepare the money to give gifts to Aurora.”

“Aurora doesn’t need gifts. She has plenty of money. Her husband is also rich,” Asher said.

Aurora just shook her head at the antics of her younger brother and sisters-in-law. But she also felt happy because they were all busy preparing for her wedding.

The next morning, while at the hospital, Velia was excited. Knowing that Aurora would marry Alden soon, she couldn’t contain her excitement.

“Anyway, I suggest you have your honeymoon in Korea or Switzerland. Those are the best places for newlyweds.”

Velia gave her advice. Acting like a tour guide, she explained to Aurora the best routes usually taken by couples on their honeymoon.

“In Korea, you can visit the Namsan Tower, put a love lock, and have dinner at the sky tower restaurant. I’m sure it will be very romantic. But,

if you choose Switzerland, you and Alden can visit Lauterbrunnen, Bern, or Interlaken. Those places are perfect for both of you.”

Aurora just nodded while smiling. She agreed with the lengthy advice her friend gave her.

“Are you sure those places are the best?”

“Yes, Aurora,” Velia replied confidently. “Many people have gone there.”

“And what about you? Have you been there?”

Velia shook her head and scratched her head sheepishly when Aurora asked.

“Actually, not yet, hehehe.”

“Well, then how do you know Korea and Switzerland are good places to visit?”

“I saw it on TikTok, social media, and the reviews from vloggers. You can tell if a place is good or not from there. Nowadays, everything is easy. If you want to know something, just check TikTok or YouTube. There are plenty of honest reviews.”

Aurora laughed. She thought Velia must have known and understood the destinations she explained because she was experienced and had visited them multiple times. But as it turned out, they were in the same boat—they hadn’t been there either.

“But, Aurora...” Velia interjected again. “If I may ask, after you’re married, where will you and Alden live? At your place or Alden’s? Because the house you currently occupy used to be Alex’s. Does Alden want to live there? And if you choose to live in an apartment, it’s too small for a married couple.”
NôvelDrama.Org holds this content.

Aurora had already thought about this. She had discussed with Alden that if he didn’t want to live in her house, she didn’t mind moving to his prospective husband’s apartment. The most important thing was that they wouldn’t be living with their parents.

“It’s easy to decide where to live. If we’re confused, we can just buy a new house, right?”

Velia sighed upon hearing Aurora’s relaxed and carefree response. Her inner missqueen spirit squirmed at how easily her friend seemed to talk about buying a house, knowing well that it wasn’t cheap.

“It’s so nice to be rich. Buying a house is like buying a Lego toy. Just talk about it.”

“Well, talking is one thing, isn’t it?”

“It’s up to you, Aurora. I’m tired of talking to you.”

Velia became annoyed. Meanwhile, Aurora just laughed in response to the frustration of the woman in front of her.

Moments later, Aurora checked her phone. There was a short message from Alden reminding her to go to the lobby because they would both take permission to meet the wedding organizer and have a bridal gown fitting.

After bidding farewell to Velia, Aurora walked a little faster into the elevator. Just as she stepped out, she ran into Regina.

Since her arrival, today was the first time they met face to face. As Aurora was about to pass by, the woman who used to have feelings for Alden called out.

“Doctor Aurora.”

Aurora turned. She looked at Regina with a cautious gaze.

“Sorry if I’m bothering you for a moment.”

Aurora nodded casually. She let Regina continue her sentence.

“I want to talk for a moment. Is that okay?”

“Sure. What does Doctor Regina want to talk about?”

Regina still maintained her smile. Completely unfazed, she spoke confidently.

“First of all, I want to apologize for what I’ve done to Doctor Aurora. God knows, I deeply regret all the stupid actions I’ve taken.”

At first, Aurora didn’t respond. She listened silently to what Regina had to say.

“I’ve tempted Alden many times. No matter how much love I have, or how hard I try, it seems futile. Alden’s love seems to be only for Aurora. It’s true what Doctor said before. No matter how hard I try, if Alden’s destined partner is Aurora, all my efforts would be in vain. That’s why I chose to step back and willingly let go.”

Aurora smiled. Seeing Regina genuinely regretful and willing to let go, she responded wisely.

“Thank you for understanding. I’ve forgotten all the bad deeds of the past. So, Doctor Regina, don’t worry.”

Regina smiled widely. She extended her hand to Aurora.

“In that case, can we be friends from now on?”

Aurora accepted Regina’s outstretched hand. Without hesitation, she accepted the woman’s invitation to become close friends.

“Okay.”

“Thank you very much, Doctor Aurora. I also pray that Doctor Aurora and Doctor Alden’s wedding plans go smoothly without any obstacles.”

Aurora nodded.

“You’re welcome. Don’t forget to come to my wedding party with Doctor Alden.”

“I will definitely come.”

Convinced that there were no more obstacles or anything else that needed to be discussed, Aurora chose to leave. Feeling relieved in her heart because all the issues had been resolved amicably.