

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge 26-30

From behind, someone called out. Turning around, Alex's eyes widened instantly. He felt like he wanted to die upon realizing that Nicole was already standing in front of him.

"You've been here all this time? Why didn't you pick up my call, huh? I've been trying to reach --"

"Oh, so Nicole is here too?"

At that moment, Aurora suddenly arrived. Without warning, she interjected. This immediately startled both Alex and Nicole, leaving them stiff.

"Did you two not plan to meet here?"

Alex shook his head repeatedly, clearly denying Aurora's accusation just now.

"No, Sweetheart. I wouldn't dare break a promise."

"Okay."

Alex looked very confused and nervous. His face turned pale. Suddenly, he was stressed about what explanation he would give to his wife.

Meanwhile, Aurora chose to sit back down. Looking at Nicole, she smiled.

"Why are you just standing there? Come, sit down. Might as well join us. You're probably here to eat, right?"

"Aurora --"

Aurora raised her hand in the air, signaling for Alex not to continue his explanation.

“It’s okay, relax. I’m fine.” Turning away from Alex, Aurora looked at Nicole, who was still standing stiffly. Once again, she invited her cousin to join them at the table. “Come on, sit down. Are you afraid or something? If there’s nothing wrong, just relax. Besides, I’m just inviting you to eat together, not to fight.”

Standing in her place, Nicole, who was initially nervous, began to gather courage. Trying to act casual, she pulled out a chair and then sat down.

Kind-hearted Aurora even helped summon a waiter. She encouraged her cousin to order her favorite food.

“Feel free to order. Since you’re here, just order your favorite dish.”

Nicole remained silent. Looking at the menu, she deliberately chose the most expensive dish. After all, the reason for coming to this five-star restaurant was to enjoy good food, right?

Once all the orders arrived, the three of them enjoyed their respective meals in silence. No one spoke until Aurora, taking the lead, opened up the conversation.

“Looking at you, you’re getting prettier, aren’t you?”

Aurora said to Nicole, who was enjoying her food on her plate. She looked at her cousin without blinking.

“I guess you must be going to an expensive spa for treatments.”

Nicole lifted her face. She returned Aurora’s gaze without the previous fear and anxiety.

“Of course. I go to an expensive spa, that’s why I can keep looking this beautiful. Being beautiful and maintaining appearance can make the guy I’m close to happy and not regret choosing me.”

Aurora nodded, smiling.

“Hopefully, maintaining your appearance isn’t to please someone else’s husband.”

Alex suddenly choked. His ears suddenly felt hot upon hearing Aurora’s sarcasm, which seemed to be directed at him.

“Because...” Aurora sounded like she was continuing her sentence. She was incredibly spirited in her speech tonight. “It’s such a shame to invest in expensive treatments, have a beautiful face, and a sexy body, only to be treated as a mistress. Not a Queen.”

This time, Nicole’s face turned red. She was angry and offended by what Aurora had just said. Her cousin was blatantly mocking her.

“No, calm down,” Aurora retorted, not willing to back down. “You don’t need to worry. Even if I’m currently someone’s mistress, I’m sure I’ll soon be made a Queen by my partner here. Especially since I know his wife has just been a decoration all this time.”

Aurora nodded. She smiled sincerely, affirming what Nicole had just said.

“Hopefully, yes. I wish you all the best.”

Alex could only stay silent. If he responded, he was afraid it would backfire on him. He couldn’t even bring himself to look at Nicole. He was afraid Aurora might catch him and accuse him of all sorts of things.

Instead of risking it, he sought a safe way out without doing anything suspicious. He simply enjoyed his meal until it was time to go home.

“Let’s go, Sweetheart. We’re leaving now.”

Aurora got up first. She reached out her hand, urging Alex to get up. Then she affectionately linked arms with him.

“Nicole, we’re leaving first. You can go home by yourself, right?”

Nicole, still enjoying the remnants of her meal, nodded. She replied briefly, “Yes.” This is property © NôvelDrama.Org.

“Well then, enjoy the rest of your dinner peacefully.”

Aurora then pulled Alex away to leave. They briefly stopped by the cashier’s desk, then quickly headed to the car.

Meanwhile, Nicole was seething as she enjoyed her steak on her plate. She cursed and swore at Aurora for belittling her earlier.

“Aurora is such a witch! Just you wait, I’ll snatch Alex from you. When the time comes, I swear I’ll be the only queen in Alex’s heart and life. We’ll see about that.”

Right after she finished saying those words, Nicole intended to leave. But before she could take a step, a restaurant waiter approached to intercept her.

“Excuse me, Miss. The bill for this table hasn’t been paid yet.”

Nicole was taken aback. Apparently, Alex and Aurora hadn’t paid for the food they ordered.

“Well, how much is the bill?”

The waiter handed the bill to Nicole. Standing beside the table, he waited for her to pay it immediately.

“What? The total is \$2000?”

Nicole’s throat felt constricted. She almost went crazy upon realizing the unexpectedly high bill she had to pay. She deliberately chose the premium steak hoping that Aurora would pay for it. But why did it end up like this?

“Yes, Miss. The bill is high because there was one order that chose premium steak.”

Nicole closed her eyes. Suddenly, her head began to throb painfully. How was she going to pay such an unreasonable bill?

As if her headache wasn't enough, the waiter handed her a piece of paper.

"This is also for you, Miss."

Nicole immediately took it and read carefully what was written on it.

"If you want to be a socialite, first try paying a restaurant bill that costs \$2000. If you don't have the money to pay, just sell the bag you're carrying. That bag of yours could fetch of thousand dollar if sold. Anyway, I just realized that our bags are actually identical. Surely the person who bought them is the same too. But I'm sure they used my money to buy it. So, enjoy your dinner. Hopefully you can sleep well tonight. That is, if you can sleep at all."

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Since returning from the restaurant until now, Alex hasn't dared to say anything. Yet, his mind feels full. His breath is also labored, and his heart has been irregular since earlier.

Occasionally, Alex curses silently. What kind of dream did he have yesterday to meet Nicole while he was having dinner with Aurora?

Is God deliberately giving him shock therapy?

For God's sake, Alex is afraid that his affair will be exposed again this time. He's not ready. He hasn't even thought about the answers and reasons in case his wife bombards him with many questions. Especially when at the restaurant earlier, Aurora often hinted with sarcastic remarks.

However, ever since they arrived home and were in the bedroom, Aurora's demeanor has been normal. She hasn't mentioned or hinted at the meeting with Nicole at the restaurant earlier at all.

Could it be that his wife doesn't suspect him at all?

"Aurora..."

Alex dares to call out. He just wants to make sure his fear isn't confirmed.

"Are you okay?"

Aurora, who just finished washing her face, then walks over to the bed. Since it's already eleven at night and she's feeling tired, she immediately lies down to get ready for bed.

"What's wrong with me?"

Alex, feeling nervous, wonders what he should respond to Aurora's question.

"T-this..."

"What is it?"

"About our accidental encounter with Nicole earlier."

"And then?"

A soft sigh escapes Alex's nose. Trying to calm himself, he answers very carefully. If he says the wrong thing here, it will surely lead to a huge fight.

"I'm just afraid you might misunderstand."

"Misunderstand?" Aurora pursues. She looks puzzled and doesn't seem to understand what Alex means. For Aurora, if Alex is good at acting, she can do the same. "Misunderstand what?"

“Seriously, I have no connection with Nicole anymore. I don’t even know why she was at the restaurant.”

“Am I accusing you?”

Alex immediately swallows his saliva. He takes a breath, trying to control his emotions.

“I’m just afraid that you might think-”

Aurora sighs. She groans.

“I’m sleepy. I have a morning shift at the hospital tomorrow. Let’s talk about this some other time. Besides, I’m not interested in discussing Nicole in my bed.”

Aurora then pulls the blanket. Closing her eyes, she leaves Alex to sleep first. She’s already said she’s not keen on engaging in small talk with her husband.

The next day, as agreed upon and because they have to visit her in-laws in the evening, Aurora agrees to let Alex drive her to work. After spending a few hours doing all her tasks and duties, Aurora decides to take a leave as she has to go to Rayyen’s office.

“Aurora, where are you going? You seem to be in a hurry.”

Velia, noticing that Aurora has been busy lately, immediately questions her. Besides, she wants to know where her friend and colleague is going during working hours like this.

“I have an appointment and some matters to attend to outside.”

“An appointment? With whom?”

“With Rayyen. I’m going to his office for a bit.”

Velia furrows her brow. For what reason is Aurora visiting her cousin's law firm? Suddenly, she feels worried that something might be happening to her friend.

“Are you not in trouble, are you?”

Aurora just smiles, neither confirming nor denying Velia's question.

From the start, since she found out about Alex's affair, she deliberately didn't tell Velia about it. Aurora just doesn't want to hear the lectures or long-winded nagging that she believes will happen every day from her friend. Especially since Velia had warned her repeatedly from the beginning.

“Tell me later. I'm seriously in a rush. Plus, I haven't ordered an online taxi yet.”

“Where are you headed anyway?”

Now, Alden suddenly asks. Why does this guy always show up when she needs help?

“Aurora is going to her cousin's law firm, Doc.”Text © by Nove/IDrama.Org.

As usual, without needing any prompting or invitation, Velia chimes in. She even provokes Alden as usual.

“She's been struggling to order an online taxi since earlier. If you're not busy, Doctor Alden, why don't you just take her? It'll be safer for Aurora.”

Aurora turns around to glare at Velia. Damn her friend. Why does she always embarrass her like this?

“No. Velia, stop it, Doc,” Aurora defends herself. “I am going, but it's not as complicated as Velia just said.”

“But, if you want, I can take you. Besides, my schedule is empty today anyway. So, it's no problem to drop you off and wait.”

“Well then, just accept Doctor Alden’s offer. It’s better than the hassle of ordering a taxi back and forth. Plus, its safety isn’t guaranteed. What if you get kidnapped?”

“Don’t be reckless.”

Velia glares. “Seriously. There are so many cases of online taxi drivers kidnapping and sexually harassing their customers. Aren’t you scared?”

Velia speaks like a convincing salesperson. She won’t stop until her bait is accepted.

“Besides...” she continues her endless chatter. “Consider it a cost-saving measure too. Even though you’re rich and your money won’t run out just for taxi fares, waiting for someone who used to be special surely feels different.”

Velia keeps provoking. She won’t stop until Aurora accepts Alden’s offer.

“Come on,” Alden invites again. Although not explicitly, from the gleam in his eyes, he feels glad to have Velia’s support. “I’ll take you. It’s free anyway.”

“The problem is, I won’t be quick. If you wait, you’ll get bored because it’ll take a while.”

Aurora is sure there will be a lot of time she’ll spend with Rayyen considering they have important matters to discuss. Aurora doesn’t want Alden to get bored waiting for her to finish her business.

“It’s no problem. I’d wait for hours, even years, for you.”

“So sweet.”

Velia cheers happily. She’s the one who’s emotional hearing Alden’s words directed at Aurora.

“Enough. Just accept Doctor Alden’s offer. He might change his mind.”

Because she's tired of Velia's teasing, Aurora eventually agrees. She lets Alden take her to Rayyen's office.

"I'll wait here. Just let me know when you're done."

When they arrive at Rayyen's law firm, Alden chooses to sit in the waiting area. Meanwhile, Aurora hurriedly heads to Rayyen's office and finds her cousin already waiting for her.

"So, Ray, any news?"

"I've got all the answers you need."

Aurora sits down immediately. She reads through the documents Rayyen gave her. Soon enough, her eyes widen.

"So, Alex really used company money for personal expenses?"

Rayyen nods. He laughs.

"You can see the lists of inappropriate expenditures and the absurd amounts. I've also synchronized them with Alex's debit and credit card expenses. For the debit card, there are even transactions that are consistently directed to the same place, almost every few days."

"I'm sure it's going to Nicole's account."

Rayyen nods again and laughs once more.

"Exactly. As we suspected earlier, Alex is indeed spoiling his mistress."

Aurora sighs irritably. She gathers and crumples the papers she's been holding onto.

"Watch out for both of them. I'll make sure Alex and Nicole pay dearly for their actions."

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Alex had just finished his work. Since morning, his concentration had been disturbed by thoughts of last night's events. So determined not to be disturbed, Alex even went as far as turning off his phone for the whole day. He even instructed his secretary not to receive any guests or allow anyone to enter his office.

However, the calm he had been trying to maintain since then was instantly shattered. Suddenly, from the direction of the office door, Nicole appeared and promptly closed the door behind her.

“Alex, we need to talk seriously!”

Nicole paid no attention to her surroundings, conflicting with the agreement she had made with Alex. Regardless, today she had to meet and speak directly with him.

“I've told you repeatedly, never show up at the office!”

Alex looked annoyed. He even rose from his seat, walked towards the window, deliberately closed the curtains so that people outside couldn't peek or see what he and Nicole were doing inside the room.

“Do you think I wanted to come here? Who told you to turn off your phone since morning?”

“I deliberately turned off my phone because I didn't want to be disturbed.”

“What did you say? Didn't want to be disturbed? After the damn incident last night, you casually shirk responsibility?”

“Responsibility? What did I do?”

Nicole looked furious. She vented all the frustration she had felt since last night. Having to pay a restaurant bill worth 22 million, Nicole had to dig into all her savings to avoid embarrassment. And now? Alex acted as if there were no problems at all? Damn! That money spent on steak could've bought a motorcycle outright if she wanted.

“I’m sure you knew and realized that Aurora deliberately embarrassed me last night. Why didn’t you stop her, huh? Are you happy to see me suffer? Just imagine, I had to lose thousands of dollars overnight! All because of your damn wife!”

“The money you used to pay for the steak last night was Aurora’s too, Nicole.”

“But it’s already my property.” Nicole argued. She refused to be cornered.

“Besides, why did you decide to follow along with Wolfgang? If you hadn’t gone there last night, I’m sure this wouldn’t have happened.”

Nicole was getting angrier. She took out her phone and approached Alex to show him the text messages she received last night. This belongs to NôvelDrama.Org - ©.

“READ IT!!!”

Nicole asked Alex to carefully read all the messages she received last night. Yet the man shamelessly blamed her.

“Who promised to accompany me for dinner? Who agreed to meet at Wolfgang’s? It was you!”

“I didn’t even receive your message, let alone reply to it.”

“That’s impossible. You’re lying so I won’t keep blaming you.”

“By God,” Alex swore, trying to convince her. “I didn’t reply to your message.”

“Then who did? Aurora?”

Then both fell silent reflexively. Afterwards, they both realized that their relationship might have been sniffed out by Aurora.

“This is bad.”

Alex's face suddenly became frustrated. He, who had tried to remain calm, was now panicking again.

"I'm sure Aurora replied. That means she—"

"Yeah, it means Aurora knows about our relationship."

Nicole interjected calmly. She didn't care if her cousin caught them cheating again. Anyway, Nicole swore, this time she wouldn't give in.

"Come on, Alex. Just relax. It's time Aurora knows that you can't live without me."

"Don't be ridiculous! We could both end up dead!"

Alex sighed in annoyance. He shook his head repeatedly.

"This can't be ignored. I'm sure Aurora will be very angry. It's like suicide. When something like this happens, we can't meet or continue the relationship."

Nicole immediately glared. She didn't accept Alex's decision that sounded unilateral.

"No. I don't want to!" Nicole shook her head. Anyway, she didn't want to comply with Alex's request. It's easy for him to ask her to give in again. "I don't want to if I have to separate from you. Why not just let go of Aurora and live with me?"

Alex laughed. There was nothing funny about Nicole's statement, which was actually serious. From the start, she wanted to make Alex hers alone.

"No, Nicole. There's no way I can just let go of Aurora like that. Besides, my decision is final. For now, and to ensure our safety, it's better if we don't meet for a while."

"But, Alex—"

Alex quickly grabbed Nicole's arm. Leading her out of his office.

Meanwhile, Nicole, who was not willing to be treated like garbage, started to cry. Along the Lumire corridor, she looked angrily grumpy.

“Letting you go back to Aurora? No way! Let’s see what I’ll do to win you back from Aurora.”

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“Is your matter finished?”

Exiting Rayyen’s room, Aurora nodded. She felt bad because she had made Alden wait. It was all because of Velia. If only her friend wasn’t so clueless, maybe Alden wouldn’t have been provoked and agreed to accompany and wait for her at Rayyen’s office.

“I’m entrusting Aurora to Doctor Alden. Please escort her and wait until she’s finished, Doc. Perhaps this is the first step towards restoring your relationship to its former closeness. Hopefully, you can be as close as you used to be.”

It was unbelievable that Velia had flirted while they were at the hospital earlier. After all, she knew she was still Alex’s wife. Why was she so eager to matchmake Aurora with Alden?

However, returning to Alden’s question, for Aurora, two hours wasn’t a short time. Just imagine, from eleven o’clock until now at one in the afternoon, Alden hadn’t moved an inch. Even though he said it was okay, Aurora still believed that Alden must have felt bored at some point.

“I’m really sorry if I took long.”

Alden rose from his seat. Both of them walked towards the first floor, preparing to enter the car.

“No problem. Like I said, whether it’s long or short, I’ll still wait until you open your heart again.”

“What? What was that just now?”

Alden turned his head. He smiled because he enjoyed seeing Aurora’s confused expression. Holding the door open, inviting Aurora in, he said jokingly, “There’s no replay. It’s your fault if you didn’t hear it properly.”

“Oh dear... that’s your habit from before.”

Again, Alden laughed heartily seeing Aurora’s momentarily pouting face. From his ex-girlfriend’s words, Alden believed that Aurora still remembered the habits he used to do to her.

“Are we going back to the hospital or do you want me to take you home?”

Once inside the car before driving off, Alden asked, making sure Aurora had other plans. He was happy to accompany her. Exclusive content © by Nô(v)el/Dr/ama.Org.

“Let’s just go to the hospital. But, please make a quick stop at the mini-market.”

“Is there something you need to buy?”

Aurora nodded.

“I want to buy you something as a thank you for escorting and waiting for me.”

“You’re buying for me?”

“Yeah.”

“If I can guess, you must want to buy ice cream, right?”

Aurora laughed. What else could she do? The man’s guess was spot on.

“Just relax. Don’t hesitate. I sincerely want to help you. In fact, I’m glad.”

Aurora turned to him, furrowing her smooth brow.

“Why are you glad?”

“Consider it as a way to get closer again. We’ve known each other for a long time. But, at the hospital, we acted like enemies. And you seemed to deliberately avoid me.”

Alden didn’t know why Aurora intentionally did that. It’s not that he didn’t want to be friends. Aurora just worried that she might become emotional because she kept remembering past moments.

“Ah, that’s just your feeling. The fact that I was willing to accompany you back and forth proves that. But it wasn’t smooth. We argued at the beginning. Although it was normal. I didn’t mean anything bad. I just wanted to be friends with you. Luckily, Velia helped convince you.”

Aurora just chuckled. Upon observation, Alden and Velia were indeed suited to be allies.

“Yeah, I know. Thanks again for the trouble of escorting and waiting for me. Anyway, don’t forget to stop by the mini-market. There’s something I want to find and buy too.”

Alden didn’t mind at all. On one of the main roads, when he saw the mini-market, he deliberately parked his car. He gestured for Aurora to get out.

“Just wait a moment, okay? I won’t be long.”

“Sure, take your time. No rush.”

Aurora immediately entered the mini-market. She intentionally stopped by because she wanted to buy Alden some ice cream. She knew very well that he had always liked Vanilla or coconut-flavored ice cream.

Back when they were dating, Alden once said that his happiness and mood could instantly improve if he ate ice cream. His anger could also quickly dissipate if he was bribed with Vanilla ice cream. It was just like

dealing with a child. Oh God, why was she reminiscing about the past again? Dangerous!

Believing that the ice cream she chose was more than enough, Aurora moved to another aisle to buy other necessities. Aurora intended to buy some fruits and snacks to eat with Velia. She felt sorry for her colleague for having to handle work while she wasn't there.

However, when she looked to her left, as if receiving a miracle, Aurora accidentally met Nicole. Whatever good deed she had done today, it seemed that God was kind. Without needing to search, that cursed woman could appear in front of her again.

“Hi... Nicole.”

When their eyes met, Aurora deliberately initiated the conversation first. Smiling broadly, she even walked closer.

“How was last night? Did you sleep well after eating that expensive steak?”

Nicole grunted. Her expression clearly showed her annoyance and perhaps even anger. But, this was exactly what Aurora wanted. Her goal last night was to tease Nicole to embarrass her and possibly make her angry.

“Why couldn't I sleep well?”

“Maybe you had a stomach ache after eating expensive food last night. Usually, if someone isn't used to eating premium meat, their stomach might hurt. Especially if the payment was made with dirty money.”

Nicole flinched. Trying to hold back her emotions, she maintained her composure by giving a smile. Nicole vowed not to be defeated by Aurora.

“Don't worry, Aurora. I slept just fine. Had sweet dreams too. Besides, thousands of dollars aren't a big deal for me. I didn't even have to sell a bag.”

Nicole seemed to boast. She didn't want to lose, especially not to be humiliated again by Aurora.

"Moreover..." Nicole continued. "Even if I run out of money, I can just call Alex to ask for more."

"Oh, really?"

Nicole openly mentioned Alex's name. After all, there was no point in hiding it. Aurora was already aware of the affair she and Alex were having again.

So, instead of being humiliated, Nicole decided to fight back. If necessary, she would openly declare war on her cousin.

"Just so you know..." Nicole approached. Closing the distance between her and Aurora, she spoke while locking eyes with her opponent. "It's not difficult for me to ask money from Alex. I just have to please him until he's satisfied. After that, whatever I ask for, he'll give it to me right away."

Aurora chuckled. She couldn't believe Nicole was so proud of sharing her tricks to easily get money. Whether she realized it or not, her cousin was demeaning herself.

"Nicole... Nicole. You're really pitiful, aren't you? Wanting a lot of money so badly you have to sell yourself first. But it's true. Most women like you only need a bit of itchiness and no self-respect to get a lot of money."

"Shouldn't you pity yourself instead, Aurora?"

Nicole didn't accept it. If Aurora could insult, she could do the same. Especially since Nicole felt she was far superior to her cousin.

Nicole believed that if Aurora were better than her, Alex wouldn't have betrayed her and chosen to turn to her. Twice.

"What should I pity, Nicole?"

“Your face might be pretty. Your status might be wealthy, but unfortunately, you’re being cheated on by your own husband. And the reason for his infidelity is because you can’t satisfy Alex in bed. Aren’t you ashamed of your shortcomings?”

Aurora laughed again. Not only was she not hurt, she wasn’t offended at all by Nicole’s deliberately harsh words. Aurora knew Nicole was trying to provoke her emotions.

“You’re amusing, aren’t you? Why should I bother feeling insecure or ashamed? In fact, I’m grateful because God has shown what the truth really is.”

Aurora took a step forward. She leaned her face closer to speak directly into Nicole’s ear. Perhaps she intended for the woman to listen carefully. If necessary, to digest and remember every word she was about to say next.

“Now, you can feel superior all you want. Enjoy your pleasures while you can. But, remember this very well, no matter how skilled you are in bed, I dare to bet that in the end, Alex will still choose me, not you. Why? Because trash remains trash. Even if it’s picked up, it’ll still rot and stink up the whole house.”

Then Aurora left just like that. Leaving Nicole irritated because the woman’s words had indeed come true. Nicole didn’t forget that Alex had even asked for their relationship to end before.

In this situation, Nicole had to think hard. She couldn’t afford to lose to Aurora even a little bit. And she knew what she had to do now.

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At exactly five in the evening, Alex picked up Aurora from the hospital. Despite the high likelihood that Aurora already knew Alex was cheating

again with Nicole, she still kept her promise to visit Alex's parents' house together.

Outside the hospital, Alex waited with an uneasy heart. He kept asking himself, if he met Aurora, would she immediately file for divorce?

Just imagine, after being caught cheating, Aurora, out of her kindness, gave him a second chance. And now? He had squandered the opportunity his wife had given him by repeating the same foolishness. Truly foolish! Ah, he didn't know how lucky he was.

Alex admitted he was truly clueless. But, to part from Aurora, he really couldn't. That's why, when his wife was already in the car, on the way to his parents' house, Alex tried to find the right moment. Basically, Alex wanted to sincerely apologize even though Aurora hadn't mentioned anything since earlier.

"Aurora...." There was no response to this call. That's why he called again. "Aurora?"

"Hmm...." Aurora responded with a sigh. Peeking from the corner of his eye, Alex found his wife only focused on staring straight ahead. Her expression clearly indicated reluctance to talk. Perhaps she was angry and disappointed because she found out her husband was cheating again.

"I'm sure you must be really mad at me. I don't know when you found out about this, but I swear to God, I'm truly sorry for my mistake of repeating the same error."

Then Alex looked again, making sure what expression Aurora would show. But, after a few minutes, she didn't answer or respond to his apology. Was she really furious?

"Aurora Harperwood..." Alex tried to call again. Softer, gentler. Trying to keep drawing her attention. "Forgive me for disappointing you yet again. I promise, something like this will never happen again. This time, you can trust me. So, please give me one more chance."

Aurora laughed instead. Yet, Alex was serious. None of his words were joking. Alex was being sincere.

“Words need to be backed up, not just held, Alex.”

“I did this out of a lapse in judgment.”

“A lapse in judgment, you say?” Alex nodded repeatedly. Very confident with his statement.

“This is all beyond my control.”

Aurora’s laughter grew louder than before. What kind of joke was Alex telling? Was the man really brainless? How could he betray her again and even repeat it twice, yet consider it beyond his control? Absolutely clueless. How could there be such manipulative people? Worse, Aurora just realized it now.

“A lapse in judgment is done unintentionally. If it’s repeated several times, it’s called a hobby.”

Then Aurora shifted her seating position. Deliberately speaking while looking at Alex who was driving.

“Buying me a limited edition bag that turns out to be identical to Nicole’s, that’s definitely intentional. Not to mention the facilities and other stuff you’ve given her on every occasion. I’m sure you gave those consciously. You couldn’t have been possessed while doing that. And if I may ask, whose money did you use to lavish Nicole with gifts?”

Alex struggled to swallow his saliva. What could he possibly answer to all the questions Aurora was throwing at him? This is property ©
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There was nothing Alex could do but to take deep breaths repeatedly. He carefully chose his words so as not to invite any further disaster.

“Okay. I was wrong. Forgive me for repeatedly disappointing you. Please give me one more chance.”

Alex’s voice sounded soft and full of pleading. Although difficult, he still hoped this time Aurora would give him another chance. Maybe his wife would be kindhearted again.

“What do you think, are all the things you’ve done worthy of my forgiveness?”

Alex fell silent. Asking his conscience, he knew his actions had gone too far.

“I’m sure you’re not really sorry for your mistake,” Aurora continued. “You act and behave as if you’re sorry just because you got caught. If I didn’t know, you’d probably be cozying up to Nicole right now.”

Alex swallowed hard again. Aurora’s words, so piercing, succeeded in making his heart ache. It felt like her words pierced right into his heart.

“Not like that, Aurora. Besides, this isn’t entirely my fault. Nicole kept pursuing me. Almost every day she tempted me in various ways until I fell for it again. I tried to resist.”

“But in the end, you gave in, didn’t you?”

Aurora laughed. What kind of excuse was that? How could Alex throw stones and make Nicole the scapegoat for his own mistakes?

“You’re both the same. One’s an indecent temptress. The other is easily tempted and deliberately opens his heart to other women.”

“That’s not true. I swear.”

“Don’t bring God into this. God might be ashamed to have a follower like you. Besides, I already gave you a chance even though the mistake you made was extremely fatal. If you had been grateful for having me from the start, this affair would never have happened.”

Alex sighed. He was almost out of words. Judging from her gestures, Aurora seemed unwilling to accept any explanations or excuses he gave.

“I love you, Aurora. I can’t bear it if we have to-”

“STOP! Be quiet!”

Aurora cut him off. She stared sharply. “Don’t waste your energy on meaningless talk. Today is the last day I’ll respect you as a husband. Tomorrow, I’ll take care of our divorce myself. Don’t worry, you don’t need to do anything. I’ll handle everything.”

Alex’s hope of reconciling with Aurora was dashed. Only a miracle could possibly bring him and Aurora back together.