### Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge 31-40

Meanwhile, when they arrived at Alex's parents' house, Aurora remained friendly and casual. As usual, she politely helped Savana prepare dinner. Serving food on the table, then they ate together while chatting lightly.

"How's your job, Alex? Everything going smoothly?"

Alex nodded as if nothing had happened. In reality, even swallowing food felt difficult. He was preoccupied with figuring out how to tell his parents about the fate of his crumbling marriage.

"Smooth, Mom. No problems with work."

"Thank God." A moment later, Savana turned to Aurora. Now, it was her daughter-in-law's turn to be questioned, akin to a student being interrogated. "And how about you, Rin? Is your job at the hospital going well? I heard you've been working overtime a lot lately."

Aurora grumbled inwardly. She was certain her in-laws knew about her coming home late from their son. It was ridiculous to her. Why should she have to explain all this? Moreover, whether she worked overtime, came home early, or didn't come home at all, it was none of their business.

"It's been quite busy lately. There was an emergency patient I had to assist with for the past week."

"So, because of this patient, you've been working overtime every day?"

Aurora just nodded. In reality, she came home late because she didn't want to meet Alex.

"Yes, Mom."

"Don't be too busy."

Savana responded. The middle-aged woman had already prepared a lengthy lecture for her daughter-in-law. Somehow, at every meeting, Aurora was at fault, as if she could never do anything right in Savana's eyes.

"The duty of a wife is to take care of her husband at home, not to be busy outside. Besides, you're wealthy. What else are you looking for?"

Aurora's face remained calm. She responded to Savana's always harsh remarks.

"Work isn't just about making money, Mom. Even before marriage, Aurora has been a doctor whose duty is to help people. Moreover, Aurora has never neglected her duties as a wife."

Savana looked disdainful. She disregarded the reasons Aurora gave. If she didn't like it, no matter how good Aurora's behavior was, it would still be bad in her eyes.

"But if you're more occupied outside, poor Alex will be neglected because no one's taking care of him. If you work in the morning and come home late at night, Alex might find a new wife. Do you want Alex to be taken care of by another woman?"

Aurora chuckled. At a serious lecture, she deliberately laughed. Surely her action would be met with a response from Savana. This action was undoubtedly considered disrespectful.

"Why are you laughing? Is there something funny about Mama's words?"

"No, Mom."

"Then?"

Aurora stopped eating. Placing her spoon and fork on the plate, she intended to speak while looking at her mother-in-law.

"For two years as a wife, Aurora has tried her best to come home from work before Alex arrives home. From morning, when Alex wakes up until he goes to sleep, Aurora also tries her best to make Alex happy and fulfill all his needs. Almost everything Alex asks for, Aurora complies. But, do you know what Mama's beloved son's response was?"

Savana's eyebrows furrowed. She observed closely what Aurora wanted to do or say next.

"Mama, take a look at this."

Aurora took an envelope from her bag. She opened it, then handed it to Savana. "See what's inside."

Savana complied. She opened the brown envelope Aurora gave her. Taking out its contents, Savana found several photos showing her son hugging and intimately holding hands with another woman. There was even one photo showing how Alex posed intimately, kissing another woman while in a public area.

"Aurora has tried her best to be a good wife, Mom. But what's Alex's response? He's cheating with a woman who is actually still related to Aurora as a cousin."

Beside Savana, Alex closed his eyes full of regret. He never expected Aurora to expose his rottenness directly, even today, in front of his mother. What would his fate be after this?

"Ma... Alex can explain all this."

Savana raised her hand, asking Alex not to say anything. "Shut up, Alex!" Then Savana turned to Aurora. She returned her daughter-in-law's cold gaze.

"Mama won't be surprised if Alex cheats. You should be aware of why your husband could stoop so low."Text © by Nove/lDrama.Org.

"So, Mama condones what Alex did? He cheated, Mom. Consciously betraying Aurora. Not just once, but twice!" Aurora's voice was trembling. Emotions had taken over her. She was angry, mad, and also resentful because Savana seemed to belittle what her son had done.

"Oh, come on, Aurora. Don't exaggerate. Mama perfectly understands why Alex would cheat when his wife behaves like you."

"Mama, that's too much!"

Savana didn't care. She got up from her seat, grumbling.

"Just so you know, Mama doesn't regret at all what Alex did. In fact, Mama is very grateful that Alex opened his eyes by seeking another woman who is much better."

Then Savana walked towards the bedroom, and as she left, she somehow managed to grab Nicole who had been there for who knows how long.

Alex himself was shocked at that moment. He had warned Nicole not to meet or continue their relationship. Why would she visit his parents' house?

"For God's sake, Aurora..." Savana continued. She gestured for Nicole to sit next to Alex. "Mama doesn't mind if Alex cheats with anyone or finds a new partner. Especially if that woman can give Alex children."

"Even if they get married, Aurora is sure Alex will still struggle to have children, Mom."

"Shut your mouth!"

Savana seemed not to accept it. She refused to have her beloved son insulted and called names, especially by Aurora.

"Who says Alex can't have children? Nicole is proof that she can conceive Alex's child."

"What? Nicole is pregnant?"

Aurora was stunned. What kind of joke was this that her mother-in-law was throwing?

"Yes. Nicole is currently pregnant with Alex's child. Whether you agree or not, Mama will still approve of their relationship or even marry them as soon as possible."

# **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

Don't ask how frustrated and hurt Nicole felt when she was humiliated by Aurora over the matter of paying a restaurant bill that amounted to tens of millions. Not to mention when she met Alex, instead of being defended, the man actually asked Nicole to stay away or even end the relationship that she had painstakingly maintained.

It didn't stop there. Amidst the distress, resentment, and anger that piled up, God brought Nicole into another ironic situation. In one of the minimarkets, she accidentally crossed paths with Aurora.

Are they meant to be together?

Why do they always encounter each other?

Nicole pondered to herself, why couldn't her cousin, who also happened to be the wife of the man she liked, just disappear or go to hell. Nicole was truly disgusted. Especially when Aurora clearly demeaned her selfworth.

"No matter how beautiful you are. Sexy, or even superior in bed, I bet Alex will still choose me. Why? Because no matter what, Alex can surely distinguish between who he can make a home with, a place to return to. And who the trash is that he should throw away."

Nicole was heartbroken beyond words. How could her pretty self be compared to trash by her own cousin? Unwilling to accept all the insults Aurora hurled, Nicole was determined to retaliate. She had one last way to silence Aurora and snatch her cousin's husband away from her.

That's why, without any hesitation, after encountering Aurora in the mini-market, Nicole decided to immediately go somewhere. Anyway, today she had to report and seek support from someone.

Luckily when she reached her destination, she was warmly welcomed. Not wanting to waste much time, Nicole just got straight to the point and stated her sudden purpose and goal without prior notice.

"Mom... I'm pregnant."

Without much talk or small talk, Nicole got straight to the point. It's predictable that her statement immediately invited astonishment from her interlocutor.

Just imagine, coming to visit in the afternoon. No wind, let alone a storm, and suddenly bringing news that she's pregnant.

"W-what? You're pregnant?"

Across from Nicole sat Savana Wildblood. Indeed, it was her house that Nicole visited this afternoon. Nicole was convinced, only Savana could help her get out of this difficult situation.

"Yes, Mom. I'm pregnant with Alex's child."

Instead of getting angry, insulting, or even kicking her out, Savana got up from her seat. Smiling, she invited Nicole to tell her story in her room.

And when Aurora and Alex came to visit, Savana was waiting for the right moment to discuss Nicole's pregnancy. Fortunately, Aurora brought up the issue of infidelity. Deeming the timing right, Savana immediately brought Nicole to sit together. Discussing the continuation of the woman's pregnancy issue.

"Right now Nicole is pregnant with Alex's child. Whether you like it or not, Mom will still marry them as soon as possible." Across from her, Aurora shook her head in disbelief. She questioned where her mother-in-law's conscience was. Was there no empathy for her? Yet, upon reflection, she was the victim in this matter.

Likewise, Alex, sitting beside Nicole, could only remain silent. He had been confused about how to express himself since earlier. Did he need to feel happy? Or should he be sad?

"So, Mama wants to approve Alex to marry his mistress? Mama doesn't even care about my feelings?"

Savana laughed dismissively. She showed no compassion to the daughterin-law who had devoted her life to her son for the past two years. Instead of being grateful, Savana made Aurora seem like the troublemaker in the current marital issues.

"Do you think Mama considered her own feelings, waiting uncertainly from the beginning, when you would give her grandchildren? Besides... you need to know, Mama initially asked Nicole to approach Alex."

Both Aurora and Alex were equally stunned by Savana's recent statement. They discovered an unexpected truth this afternoon.

"W-what?" Aurora stammered. She was sure her ears were still functioning normally, hearing the words that had just come out of her mother-in-law's mouth. "Mama asked Nicole to approach Alex? Why would Mama be this evil? What did Aurora do wrong?"

Aurora thought Alex was the most despicable figure in the problems that were happening in their household. Turns out, there was another figure just as disrespectful, even seemingly intent on ruining the relationship that she had painstakingly maintained.

Meanwhile, Savana seemed indifferent. She lifted her chin high while looking disdainfully at Aurora.

"Who's the evil one? From the beginning, since I first met Nicole who worked at Alex's office, I liked her attitude and personality. She was clever at pleasing me. Obedient. She never once contradicted what I ordered."

Savana then remembered an incident from a few months ago. At that time, she was extremely desperate because her only child had not yet had offspring. Somehow, she believed it was all because of her incompetent daughter-in-law.

Provoked by the instigation of friends and family, Savana even planned to find a new wife for Alex. Little did she know that she would meet Nicole when she visited Alex's office several times.

Falling in love with all the kindness that Nicole showed, a month later Savana dared to invite Nicole to meet so they could speak freely face-toface.

"Do you have a partner?"

"Not yet, Auntie."

"Just call me Mom. All of Alex's friends call me Auntie as Mom. Let's be close."

Nicole smiled and nodded in agreement.

"Yes, Mom. And about a partner, right now Nicole doesn't have a partner."

"If you were to be Alex's partner, would you?"

Nicole frowned. She had to make sure what Savana had just asked.

"What do you mean?"

"Mom intends to find Alex a partner."

"Sorry, but doesn't Mr. Alex already have a wife?"

Savana's face instantly turned sour. She got angry right away when her daughter-in-law was mentioned.

"He does have one. But she's useless. She can't give Alex any offspring. That's why Mama wants to find Alex a new wife."

Nicole smiled shyly. Carefully, she responded, "Actually, from the beginning, Nicole has had a crush on Mr. Alex. But she's aware that he already has a wife. Besides, I'm just a secretary. It seems like I'm not at the same level and not his type either."

"Who says so? You're beautiful, polite, kind, and a little bit playful. Your style is the type of woman that Alex likes. If you don't believe me, just try getting closer to him. I'm sure, Alex will slowly kneel down to you."

With the green light and encouragement from Savana, Nicole actively tried to approach Alex in any way she could. When the bait she threw was taken, Nicole didn't waste that opportunity.

Even when Alex and Nicole's affair was first discovered by Aurora, Savana already knew. At that time, Nicole came to confide in her. Crying, she recounted the problems she faced.

"Aurora forced Nicole to leave Alex's life. Nicole can't do it, Mom. Nicole doesn't want to break up with Mas Alex just like that. Nicole is already deeply in love. Nicole will do anything to be with Mas Alex forever."

At that time, Savana was also confused. She didn't want the relationship that her son and Nicole had worked on to just end like that.

"Do you want to have Alex forever?"

Asked like that, Nicole immediately nodded. How could she refuse such a golden offer?© 2024 Nôv/el/Dram/a.Org.

"Yes!"

"In that case, you have to bear Alex's child."

Nicole blinked. She processed Savana's request.

"W-what? Pregnant?"

Savana nodded.

"If you can give Mama grandchildren, I'll make sure you marry and become Alex's legitimate wife as soon as possible."

That's why Savana wasn't surprised when Nicole came to the house and brought news of her pregnancy. She was actually happy because in a few months, she could have the grandchild she had been longing for.

"Mama, that's outrageous!"

Listening to Savana's explanation at length, Aurora became even more heartbroken. Instead of being defended or supported, she was pushed to the bottom of the abyss. Made to feel hurt and powerless. Damn!

"That's called effort, Aurora. Mama is realistic. If you can't give Mama what she wants, what's the point of holding on. Just consider this natural selection."

"Ma!"

Aurora shook her head in disbelief once again. What sins had she committed in the past to be trapped in such a toxic family?

Meanwhile, Savana didn't care at all. She didn't care if Aurora considered her evil. Indifferently, she turned to Nicole and then threw a smile. She reached for the woman's wrist and held it gently afterward.

"You should be thankful to Nicole," Savana continued to Aurora. "She can give Alex what you can't. Now, if you still want to be considered a wife, support all of Nicole's needs and her future baby. Have a little selfawareness as a woman. If you can't fulfill the demand to give offspring, at least you're useful materially. Don't just enjoy the benefits!"

Aurora was stunned. How dare her mother-in-law repeatedly belittle her? Yet here, she was the victim of infidelity.

Just imagine, Alex, who was clearly at fault, was defended. While the homewrecker was praised and fully supported. Even Savana had the audacity to ask Aurora to support all of Nicole's needs and her future baby. Ridiculous! Was she the Department of Social Services now?

"Do you think Aurora is willing to be betrayed like this? There's no woman in the world who would be content with being a second choice. Don't expect Aurora to stay silent. As soon as possible, Aurora will file for divorce from Alex."

Savana suddenly laughed. This was what she had been waiting for since forever.

"Do you think Mama cares? Go ahead and file for divorce from Alex. But don't forget about the joint assets in your marriage. There are Nicole and her future baby's rights in there."

Aurora was left dumbfounded again. How could her mother-in-law bring up assets that clearly weren't hers?

"Nicole and her future baby's rights? Don't joke, Mom. There's no guarantee that Nicole is really pregnant. She could just be lying."

"Who says I'm lying?"

Not accepting Aurora's accusation, Nicole, who had been silent until now, opened her sling bag. She took out several pregnancy test sticks and showed them to Aurora.

"These are the results of tests I've done repeatedly. They're positive. And that means I'm indeed pregnant."

Aurora pursed her lips and then laughed. She didn't believe Nicole's claims or the evidence she showed.

"These test sticks could have been bought by you or belong to someone else. If you want accuracy, let's have your pregnancy checked together at the hospital with a specialist doctor. I don't care if after this you want to get married or live forever with Alex. I just want to make sure if there really is a baby in your womb like you're flaunting." Nicole immediately fell silent. Should she accept Aurora's challenge to have herself checked at the hospital?

# **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

Early in the morning, Aurora had already arrived at the hospital. Because she had stayed overnight with Alex, she deliberately avoided any unnecessary meetings, especially engaging in conversation with him.

Since earlier, Aurora had been sitting at her desk lost in thought. Staring straight out the window while observing the row of buildings in front of her, she continued to ponder, searching for the best way to respond to Alex, Nicole, and her in-laws' actions towards her.

For God's sake, Aurora felt openly manipulated. She seemed so foolish because her self-esteem had been undermined. Trampled upon. What's worse, she, the victim, was made out to be the most culpable figure in the marital problems she was facing.

"Aurora... can I come in?"

The sound of a knock on the door instantly interrupted all of Aurora's musings. Turning, she found Alden standing outside the room, throwing his characteristic smile. The man seemed overly eager for an answer to the permission he had just requested.

"Yes, please come in."

Alden walked in, carrying a brown paper bag in his hand, then placing it on Aurora's desk.

"I'm sure you haven't had breakfast yet, right?"

Aurora pulled a face. Here he comes, asking about breakfast.

"How did you know?"

Perhaps Alden had a sixth sense. How could he know that Aurora hadn't eaten anything yet? As mentioned, she didn't want to linger at home any longer. She was too lazy to face Alex.

"I saw you arrive at the hospital early this morning and head straight into the room. So, I bought special chicken porridge for you to eat."

Carefully observed, Aurora's heart immediately melted. While everyone else was busy with their own affairs, there was someone deliberately paying so much attention. He even took the time to buy her breakfast.Text © by Nove/lDrama.Org.

"Oh my, that's really kind of you."

Aurora smiled. She accepted the breakfast Alden offered graciously. After all, it would be rude to refuse such a blessing.

"It's no trouble, Aurora. I know you can't concentrate without having breakfast. So, I bought it before heading back."

Aurora's heart warmed even more. Alden had countless times reminded her of the happy moments they shared when they were still in a relationship. Could it be that he still hadn't moved on from her?

"You don't have to feel embarrassed..." Alden continued the conversation. "Don't overthink it. I bought this breakfast for our roommate as well."

Aurora nodded. She was genuinely touched by Alden's kindness.

"Yeah, I believe you. Thank you so much, Alden. I'll eat in a moment. By the way, have you just finished your night shift?"

"Yes," Alden nodded. "But I'll be heading home soon."

Aurora nodded again. She opened the lid of the porridge box in front of her, intending to eat it immediately. As usual, chicken porridge was most enjoyable while it was still warm, wasn't it?

"I noticed you were lost in thought before knocking on the door. For quite a while, too. What were you thinking about?" From his tone, Alden sounded curious. Especially when he observed Aurora's tense expression, he felt like there was something serious on her mind. Not meaning to pry, but if he could help, he'd gladly offer assistance.

"I'm not thinking about anything," Aurora chattered casually. She was extremely embarrassed to discuss her current issues with Alden. It was enough that he had exposed her husband's affair. She didn't want to embarrass herself further by admitting that her mother-in-law was the mastermind behind the turmoil in her marriage. Not to mention the scandalous gossip about Alex's alleged affair resulting in a pregnancy.

"Really?" Alden asked, making sure. Being close to her, he knew Aurora's words didn't quite match her demeanor. "Or do you have a problem and need someone to talk to? I'm here to listen to all your stories like before. Free of charge, of course. Or do you want to use the consulting fee?"

Aurora laughed at Alden's joke. But once again, she shook her head.

"No, really. I'm fine."

"Alright then. But before I go, I'm seriously offering my help. If you ever need assistance, don't hesitate to ask. I'm ready to help you anytime."

"Thank you. I appreciate your offer."

"Alright then. I'll head off. Don't forget to finish your breakfast."

#### **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

After Alden left, Aurora finished the breakfast he had provided. Just as she took the last spoonful, Rayyen knocked on the door and walked in.

The two of them had made plans. Last night, when Aurora arrived home, she immediately contacted her cousin. She outlined the main issues that were happening and asked Rayyen to visit her at the hospital before going to his Law Firm. "So, it's your mother-in-law who instructed Nicole to get close to Alex from the beginning? Outrageous!"

Aurora nodded, confirming Rayyen's recent question. Even her cousin couldn't believe how heartless Savana had been.

"Yeah. Because she didn't like me from the start, thinking I couldn't give Alex children, she dared to ask another woman to seduce Alex."

"Then just file for divorce, Aurora. Don't wait any longer. What is there to hold onto?"

Aurora nodded. Regardless of the reasons, she couldn't continue her relationship with Alex.

"I am filing for divorce today, Ray. That's why I appointed you to handle everything. But while waiting for the divorce process to finish, I want to teach each and every one who has belittled me and even deliberately harmed me a lesson."

"I agree with that. Just be careful not to forgive and take him back again."

"What? No way! I refuse!" Aurora exclaimed as if disgusted. The thought of resuming a relationship, let alone sleeping with a man who betrayed her twice, made Aurora feel nauseous.

"And do you want to know what makes this problem even more complex and funny?"

"What?" Rayyen was clearly curious. Due to time constraints, Aurora didn't tell him all of her problems last night.

"Nicole claims she's currently pregnant with Alex's child. And Alex's mother is behaving even worse. She thinks I've always been incapable of being a good wife."

"Seriously?"

Rayyen couldn't hide his astonishment. Shortly after, he shook his head while laughing. "But is Nicole really pregnant?" the man repeated. "With Alex's child? Didn't you tell me before, Aurora, that actually Alex had difficulty having children?"

Aurora shrugged. She found Nicole's joke amusing herself. Nevertheless, she couldn't believe her cousin was truly pregnant with Alex's child.

"I don't know. I thought maybe this was just Nicole's scheme to gain support and defense from Alex's mother. Last night, I challenged her to get a check-up at the hospital and see a specialist. I asked her to get examined here and I appointed the doctor. Let's see if she shows up or not."

Leaning against her shoulder, Rayyen nodded. He continued the conversation about the divorce Aurora was going to file.

"So, what about the company funds that Alex has obviously embezzled? When are you going to sue him?"

"After the divorce is finalized, Ray. I'll sue him civilly. Let him be poor and, if necessary, have nothing. For now, I intentionally give Alex a breather. If needed, let him marry Nicole first."

"What? Are you okay with Alex marrying Nicole?"

Aurora nodded confidently. She truly didn't care anymore.

"Why not? That's actually what I hope for now."

Rayyen looked at her curiously. Trying to figure out what plan Aurora was actually preparing.

"What plan do you have, Aurora?"

Aurora smiled.

"Never mind. You'll see what I'm going to do. Just make sure to expedite my divorce and prepare all the documents to sue Alex after we're officially divorced." Rayyen nodded obediently. He would fulfill all of Aurora's requests as soon as possible.

"And, are you still living with Alex?"

Aurora sighed deeply. She nodded with regret. There was a reason why she was unwilling to leave the house she had shared with Alex for so long.

"Still. Originally, Alex was the one who wanted to leave the house. But, Mama Savana didn't agree."

"Why's that?"

Rayyen wondered. If one had any self-respect or at least a sense of shame, Alex wouldn't have the right to stay with Aurora anymore. Especially since the house they had been living in was a gift from Aurora's parents, not a jointly bought property.

"Well, Mama Savana thinks that as long as the divorce isn't finalized, Alex still has the right to stay there. She even requested that if they divorce, the house should be sold and the proceeds split in half."

Rayyen laughed. He only just found out how annoying Aurora's motherin-law could be. As a lawyer, Rayyen was familiar with property disputes. However, it was clear that Alex and his mother were the ones causing trouble here. Why weren't they at least a bit ashamed or, at the very least, apologetic? Instead, they were making a fuss about splitting the assets.

"You're lucky to be soon free from that crazy family, Aurora."

In this matter, Aurora remained grateful. For her, there was always a silver lining in every adversity.

"Plus, I can't just leave like that either. You know yourself, in our family, no one knows about Alex's affair. If Dad and Mom find out I'm in the process of divorcing, they'll surely be sad and disappointed. I can't bear to see it." Rayyen nodded in understanding. He acknowledged the reasons Aurora provided. Not trying to hide, perhaps she was just looking for the right moment and the courage to tell her extended family everything.

"Just wait for the right moment. Serious issues like this can't be hidden for long. Instead of your parents hearing it from someone else, it's better for them to hear it from you about this divorce plan."

"Who's getting divorced?"

"A-Asher."

From behind the door, suddenly Asher appeared. It was unclear since when he had been standing there, listening to the conversation between Aurora and Rayyen.

Without needing an invitation, the tall, sturdy figure of Asher walked straight in. He threw a sharp look, waiting for Aurora to answer his question.

"Who's getting divorced? Aurora?"

Aurora couldn't speak. It was the end of her story if Asher found out what was really happening in her and Alex's marriage.

"Answer, Aurora!"

Asher's voice thundered. Aurora even jumped in surprise at his sudden outburst.

"Ash... be patient."

Rayyen tried to calm Asher down. Not for any other reason. He didn't want a debate between the siblings to happen while they were in the hospital environment.

"Alright..." Asher lowered his voice. Taking a step forward, without shifting his gaze from Aurora. "I'm asking again. Who's getting divorced? I don't want to be the one to find out the answer myself." Aurora sighed deeply. When threatened like this, she couldn't continue to hide it.

"I want to divorce Alex."

"Why?" Asher's eyes narrowed. Waiting eagerly for Aurora's response. "Did he get caught cheating?"

Aurora nodded. She didn't deny or refute what Asher accused.

"Bastard!!!" Asher cursed loudly. From the veins on his neck, it was clear that he was extremely angry.

"It's a long story, Ash. I hope you don't have to get involved. Let me handle all these problems."

Aurora pleaded earnestly. Hoping amidst his anger, her younger brother wouldn't act impulsively or rashly. Aurora realized Asher was a very decisive person. Whoever dared to disturb his family, he wouldn't let them go.

"I beg you," Aurora pleaded once again earnestly.

Asher took multiple deep breaths. Nodding, he spoke carefully.

"Okay. I won't do anything. But if that jerk acts up, don't expect him to get away with it."

As if many guests were searching, once again, the door to Aurora's room was heard being knocked. Turning towards the door, the three of them found a nurse apparently looking for Aurora.Text © by Nove/lDrama.Org.

"Yes, what's up?"

"Dr. Aurora is being awaited in the lobby. They said there's a guest waiting."

"A guest?"

The nurse nodded.

"Yes. Her name is Nicole. She came with Dr. Aurora's husband and Dr. Aurora's mother-in-law."

Aurora burst out laughing at that moment. Apparently, Nicole had the audacity to come see her at the hospital. Let's see the results of the tests that the woman would undergo shortly.

### **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

Nicole never forgets last night's events when she revealed her pregnancy to Alex and Aurora's family.

Of all people, only Savana seemed supportive and trusting. Alex even questioned, seeming to doubt the situation he was facing.

"Are you really pregnant?"

Shortly after Aurora was picked up by the driver, Alex approached Nicole. After a moment of silence, he finally asked the question.

"Do you think I'm joking? This isn't a joke, Alex!"

Alex's eyes briefly closed followed by a soft sigh. Instead of happiness, his head only felt more dizzy hearing about Nicole's pregnancy.

"Since when?"

It was Nicole's turn to sigh. Slowly, she gave an explanation.

"Do you remember our last date in Singapore? Since we got back from there, I haven't had my period."

"But, haven't you always been taking birth control?"

"Yeah, but that time I intentionally didn't take it."

Nicole responded casually, as if the pregnancy had been planned. "Besides, if you forgot, ever since Aurora didn't want to be touched, you never wanted to use protection, right? So, whose fault is it?"

Alex sighed. He felt conflicted.

"But, this isn't the right way to do it, Nicole."

"Are you blaming me? Wasn't it just the other day that you said you'd love me more if I were pregnant? Plus, you heard Savana's story earlier. She'll approve and even marry us both, as long as we can give the Wildblood family offspring."

"Oh my God!" Alex grumbled in frustration. He didn't know how to react now. "You're insane, Nicole!"

"Why am I insane?"

"From the beginning, we agreed that this relationship was just for fun."

Even though he was pressured to have children soon and his marriage to Aurora still hadn't produced any, Alex never once thought of having a child with another woman. That's why, when he found out Nicole was pregnant with his child, Alex was bewildered.

"But, I did all this because I truly love you, Alex," Nicole continued angrily. "I've been exhausted all this time just being a shadow." Nicole poured out all her emotions. She expressed her suppressed desire. "I want to be a legitimate wife recognized like Aurora. Besides, I've succeeded in giving you offspring. Aren't you happy? That means I'm superior to Aurora."

Nicole vowed this time she had to win Alex over Aurora. Whatever it takes, she'll do it to shift her cousin's position.

Nicole is sick of it. Since childhood, Aurora has always been lucky. Even her cousin who is constantly praised in the extended family. Born to wealthy parents. Intelligent, affluent, attending prestigious schools, having a handsome partner, and even getting whatever she wants easily. In contrast, Nicole's life is extremely simple. Her father's company went bankrupt. Moreover, he had to lose his life due to stress and a heart attack.

Nicole's life is aimless. Instead of going to college or enjoying a luxurious life, since high school, she has had to work hard to help her mother meet the needs of her younger siblings. Nicole is sick of it. Nicole is tired of living in poverty.

That's why because she didn't want to continue to be demeaned and wanted to have Alex entirely, Nicole accepted Aurora's challenge to have her pregnancy checked at the hospital. This morning, she purposely visited Savana Wildblood to join in. Even forcing Alex to accompany her.

"So, which doctor will examine my pregnancy?"

In the lobby of Santa Monica Hospital, Nicole, who has already arrived, now faces Aurora directly. She smiles arrogantly. There's no trace of worry like last night.

Meanwhile, Aurora, who was accompanied by Rayyen and Asher at that time, only laughed mockingly. Folding her hands in front of her chest, she turned around and asked Nicole, Savana, and Alex to follow her to one of the obstetrician's offices.

"Doctor Ezra, excuse me. Can I and the others come in?"

From the many obstetricians at Santa Monica Hospital, Aurora deliberately chose Ezra to examine Nicole's pregnancy. There were many considerations that led her to choose him. Moreover, Ezra was the one who had previously examined and checked Alex's fertility.

That's why, last night, after talking with Rayyen, Aurora also contacted Ezra. Asking for help and ensuring his presence at the hospital tomorrow.

"Ez, are you practicing tomorrow, right?"

"Yeah. If I don't practice, how can I get money? What's up?"

"Tomorrow, my cousin wants to check her pregnancy with you."

"Okay," Ezra replied on the other end. "So, is there any other problem?"

"There is," Aurora replied. "The problem is, my cousin claims to be pregnant with Alex's child."

"What?!"

Ezra sounded clearly surprised. He even immediately refuted Aurora's earlier statement. "Your cousin is pregnant with Alex's child?"Ccontent © exclusive by Nô/vel(D)ra/ma.Org.

"The story is long, Ez."

"Okay, if the story is long. The problem is, Alex can't have children. I myself checked and ensured that Alex's chances of having offspring are very low."

"There she is!" Aurora exclaimed hurriedly. "That's why I asked for your help to check tomorrow whether my cousin is really pregnant."

"If the ultrasound results show that she's indeed pregnant, then what?"

Aurora laughed. She responded to Ezra's question. "You know what that means, right?"

Seeing a guest, Ezra immediately rose from his seat. Politely, he invited all his guests to enter the examination room.

"Yes, please come in. So, who's going to be examined?"

Nicole stepped forward immediately. She glanced at Aurora, then threw a smile at Ezra.

"I'm the one to be examined, Doc."

"In that case, please lie down on the patient bed."

Nicole hurriedly climbed up and lay down on the patient bed. It was evident that everyone in the room was watching. They were waiting for the results of Ezra's examination.

Of all the people in the room, Asher appeared to be the most puzzled. He was certainly wondering why Nicole was there and for what purpose she was having her pregnancy checked. While Aurora hadn't given him any explanation yet.

"I'll excuse myself to examine her, then."

Ezra asked for permission. After applying a little gel to Nicole's stomach's surface, he directed the transducer to several points to determine the presence of a fetus in Nicole's abdomen.

Everyone seemed tense watching the plasma screen displaying Nicole's uterus condition. Seconds later, Ezra provided an explanation.

"Here, we can all see that there's a fetal sac inside the patient's abdomen." The man then enlarged the image on the plasma screen. Then he focused on the small, round-shaped sac with what appeared to be a bean inside. "Based on the ultrasound examination results, I can confirm that the fetus is currently seven weeks old."

Nicole smiled widely from her lying position. After the examination, she quickly sat up, then glanced immediately at Aurora while smiling.

"See, I'm really pregnant, right? You were the one who didn't believe that I'm carrying Alex's child."

It wasn't Aurora, but Asher who reacted. Without much talk, let alone permission, he stepped forward and immediately grabbed then gripped the collar of Alex's shirt. Pushing hard, until the man leaned against the room's wall.

"Did you impregnate Nicole?"

"I-I can explain all this, Ash."

Asher still stared sharply. Anger had taken over him.

"I'm asking again! Did you impregnate Nicole?"

Alex couldn't deny it. Whether he liked it or not, he bowed his head and nodded.

"Y-yes."

"You bastard!!!"

Knowing his younger brother would react even more, Aurora quickly pulled Asher back. Asking her brother to let go of his grip on Alex's shirt collar, then moved to accompany him. If not like this, Aurora was sure Alex could be beaten up badly.

"Ash... please don't act rashly."

Fortunately, Asher obeyed. He released Alex and pushed his body until it slammed against the room's wall. Then, before truly walking away, Asher didn't forget to give a warning to his brother-in-law. "Our business isn't finished yet."

Mediating the dispute, Savana stepped forward. She approached Nicole, who was sitting on the patient bed, then after that threw a disdainful look at Aurora.

"You've heard the doctor's explanation that Nicole is indeed pregnant. So, what else is there to doubt?"

Aurora shook her head. Her expression still showed disbelief. Knowing that Nicole accepted her challenge to come to the hospital, Aurora believed that something was wrong and maybe her cousin was planning something. That's why, carefully, Aurora tried to read the situation.

"No. I'm sure the baby in Nicole's stomach is not Alex's."

Nicole burst into loud laughter. She mocked Aurora with her gaze.

"Oh my God, Aurora, are you that frustrated when you found out I'm pregnant with Alex's child? Why do you seem so unwilling?" "But, it could be another man's child."

Rayyen, who clearly knew Alex's situation, spoke up. He tried to defend Aurora so she wouldn't be cornered.

"So, are you accusing me of sleeping with a man other than Alex?"

Rayyen shrugged. Seeing Nicole's behavior, which was so free, it wasn't impossible that her cousin slept with another man as well.

"Only you and God know, Nicole. Your cousin's husband dared to sleep with you. What about others?"

Nicole rolled her eyes impatiently. She tried not to be provoked by Rayyen's accusations.

"Just so you know, from the beginning until now, I've only slept with Alex. Maybe at the beginning, I wasn't pregnant because Alex used protection. But, for the past few months, he hasn't used protection anymore. Blame Aurora too, right? Who refuses to satisfy her husband."

"It's not about using protection or whether one wants to satisfy or not," Rayyen replied angrily. "The problem is, Alex is --"

"Ray!" Aurora interrupted. She stared at her cousin while shaking her head. "Let's not continue."

"But, Aurora —"

"Let me handle it." Aurora then turned to look at Nicole again and spoke. "However it is, I don't believe the baby in your stomach is Alex's."

"What do you want, Aurora?"

Savana, growing increasingly frustrated with Aurora's denial of the doctor's examination results, protested vehemently.

"Aurora wants Nicole to prove that the baby in her belly is indeed Alex's." "Well then, why not just do a DNA test after it's born? What's so hard about that?"

Savana offered a solution. She felt a DNA test was the only way to prove whether the baby Nicole was carrying was truly Alex's flesh and blood.

"And if it's proven that the baby in my belly is Alex's, what will you do?"

Aurora laughed, giving Nicole a disdainful look as she replied.

"If it's proven that you're carrying Alex's baby, I'll give half of my wealth to that child. But if it turns out that the baby in your belly isn't Alex's, you'll see the consequences yourself."

"Alright. Let's just see how it turns out."

Nicole wasn't intimidated at all. She accepted Aurora's challenge again to prove who the father of the baby she was carrying was.

Convinced that there was nothing else to be questioned, Alex decided to take his mother home. However, before they could leave, Savana stirred up trouble.

"Oh, I almost forgot, Mama. While waiting for the divorce process to finish, Mama wants Nicole to live with Alex. Besides, after you officially divorce, they're going to get married anyway."

"What do you mean, Mama?"

Aurora's brow furrowed reflexively. She had to confirm Savana's request again.

"You should know, a pregnant woman shouldn't be far from her partner. So, starting today, Mama wants Nicole to live with Alex in your house."

"What?"

"Yes," Savana nodded emphatically. "You heard me right, Aurora. If you don't like it or don't agree, then you can be the one to leave the house."

Aurora felt like cursing. What sin had she committed to deserve such a crazy mother-in-law like Savana?

# **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

After confirming Nicole's pregnancy with the obstetrician, Aurora returned to her workspace followed by Rayyen and Asher. Along the corridor, the lawyer couldn't stop protesting. He continuously grumbled in frustration and annoyance at Aurora's decision.

Rayyen felt Aurora was overly patient. She seemed naive for readily complying with Savana's unreasonable demands.

"For heaven's sake, I don't understand your thought process, Aurora."

Once in the room and after closing the door, Rayyen continued to protest. He tried to make Aurora realize not to surrender to the intimidation from her mother-in-law.

"Yet..." Rayyen continued. "You could just stand up to Nicole and Mrs. Savana. They've both really humiliated your sister. Plus, why not let me shut them up by telling them about Alex who can't actually have children. Besides, you have the medical evidence."

Aurora, who was already seated at her desk, nodded. Her face appeared calm. She even managed a smile.

"Patience, Ray. Do you think I'm not upset?"

"Well then? Why not fight back immediately?"

Aurora chuckled. She knew her cousin was also frustrated.

"Who said I'm not fighting back? I am fighting back. But, I'm using strategy to deal with cunning people like them." Rayyen nodded in understanding. Initially, he agreed with Aurora's plan. But after witnessing Nicole's behavior alongside Savana's, suddenly he felt his patience being tested.

"If that's the case, it's better to just get a divorce. Then sue them all. Case closed. After that, your life will be peaceful, safe, calm, and peaceful. It's mentally exhausting dealing with them."

If Aurora were the type to avoid trouble, she might have agreed with Rayyen's just-received advice. But considering many factors, Aurora chose to tackle each problem she faced one by one.

"Not like that, Ray. I've said it from the beginning, I have to retaliate against their actions. Actually, after knowing Nicole dared to accept my challenge to have a pregnancy check at the hospital, it can be concluded that even if she's pregnant, it's definitely not Alex's child."

"And you want to prove that?" Rayyen asked to confirm. "For what? Why not just give Alex's medical examination results to refute their argument?"

Aurora nodded.

"Yes. If you want it easy, that's how you do it. But, if Nicole is cunning, she might seek assumptions or justification from another doctor that Alex still has a chance of having offspring even if it's only a few percent. People like them need to be silenced to the core, Ray."

"So, are you going to wait until the baby is born to do a DNA test? Oh God, nine months is not a short time, Aurora."

It was Rayyen who suddenly became frustrated. Yet, even if it meant waiting nine months, it would be Aurora who would endure it. Out of love and unwillingness to see Aurora treated unfairly, Rayyen continued to try to convince Aurora not to linger.

"Who wants to wait nine months, Rayyen?" For some reason, Aurora had been responding to Rayyen's remarks with laughter. There wasn't a trace of burden on her beautiful face. "Well then? What do you suggest we do other than wait for the baby to be born?"

Aurora shook her head. She rose from her seat to approach Rayyen, who was sitting on the sofa.

"Let me handle it."

Quiet and listening all along, Asher finally spoke up. Shifting seats, he approached Aurora and Rayyen.

"If the medical results say Alex has difficulty having children, let me find out who the father of Nicole's baby is."

Aurora smiled broadly. For something like this, she didn't doubt her brother's ability at all. Asher had solved many difficult puzzles before.

"Okay, I trust you with everything, Ash."

"But, before taking any action, I want you to tell me everything first."

Aurora agreed with a nod.

"After work, I'll tell you everything without holding back."

"And what about the house?"

Rayyen asked again. Regardless, he was concerned about Aurora living under the same roof as Nicole.

Just living with Alex was already unbearable for Aurora. Now, with the presence of the woman who was clearly her husband's mistress, and Nicole's annoying behavior, it would surely be even more challenging.

"What about the house?" Aurora asked for clarification.

"Are you sure you want to just resign yourself to living under the same roof as Nicole? It might just stress you out." Aurora appreciated Rayyen's concern. Despite feeling irritated by Savana's demands earlier, Aurora realized it might not be so bad to live under the same roof as her troublesome cousin.

"Aurora isn't resigning, Ray."

Asher took over the conversation again. Seemingly understanding Aurora's mindset, he helped provide an explanation.

"If Aurora wants, she could leave the house. It's not difficult to buy a new one."

"That's what I meant," Rayyen agreed. "Why not just leave. It's better than having to endure seeing Alex and Nicole's behavior."

Asher nodded.

"Remember well, don't get used to being resigned. Don't take the easy way out or shortcuts as if they're the best solution. Since we were kids, Aurora and I were taught to defend what rightfully belongs to us. The house belongs to Aurora. It's hers, and she even got it before officially becoming Alex's wife. So why should she be the one to leave? If she goes, it's like admitting defeat and letting Nicole reign supreme."

Aurora snapped her fingers in the air. She was pleased because Asher truly understood her thought process.

"In fact, after thinking it over, it's better if Nicole stays there."

"Really?" Rayyen was surprised again. "Why?"

"So I can easily counter that imitation lady."

Rayyen shook his head in disbelief. After a lengthy explanation, he finally understood all the cunning plans Aurora was preparing.

"Oh my goodness, it's that serious."

"Cunning people like Nicole need to be countered with cleverness, Ray," Aurora replied. "You play drama, so you get Karma. Anyway, just wait and see what I'll do next."

Seeing Aurora so confident, and knowing that Asher supported and protected her from behind, Rayyen's worries that had once lingered in his mind vanished. Now, he was also curious about what retaliation Aurora would give to the trio who had played with her life.

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Returning from the hospital, accompanied and driven by Savana, Nicole confidently stepped out of the car. Carrying some of her belongings, she entered the house where Alex and Aurora had lived together.Property of Nô)(velDr(a)ma.Org.

Glancing around the house, Nicole smiled even wider. The image of herself becoming the lady of the house, replacing Aurora, danced in her mind.

"Nicole..."

Savana called out. She reached for Nicole's wrist, then led her into one of the luxurious rooms on the second floor.

"Starting from now, you can sleep in this guest room."

Nicole obediently followed. Looking around, she marveled at the complete facilities available in the room. From a large plasma TV, a comfortable bed, a sofa for relaxation, a mirror and a balcony overlooking the swimming pool. And a private bathroom equipped with a bathtub for soaking in warm water.

In Nicole's mind, if the guest room was this good, complete, and luxurious, the master bedroom of the homeowner must be even better. Nicole couldn't wait to switch her status to being the lady of the house.

"So, where will Alex sleep? Can't he just sleep with Nicole here? After all, Nicole is pregnant, Mom. If she sleeps alone, there might be issues later." Savana smiled. Knowing that Nicole was pregnant with her grandchild, she tried to comply with the woman's request.

"Don't worry, I'll ask Alex to move to this room to keep you company. Besides, I'm sure Aurora and Alex won't share a room. Since they are both in the process of divorcing."

Nicole's head swelled even more when her request was granted. If she knew she would be pampered like this, she would have gotten pregnant long ago.

"Thank you so much, Mom, for granting Nicole's request. If it weren't for you, I don't know what would happen to Nicole."

Savana smiled. She hugged Nicole tightly. She cared for her too because she could provide the grandchild they had been waiting for.

"Don't worry. Mama will always be behind you. Now, just rest. Mama is also preparing to go home. If you need anything, just ask Alex or the house assistant here."

As Savana left Aurora's residence, Nicole decided to rest. After all, there was nothing she needed to do or handle.

When she woke up, it was already seven in the evening. Feeling hungry, Nicole decided to leave her room. Just as she closed the door, her sense of smell reflexively caught the scent of delicious food coming from the kitchen.

Without a doubt, Nicole hurried down to the first floor. Judging from the aroma, she believed there would be plenty of food prepared for her to enjoy.

Upon entering the dining room, she found Aurora had just finished her dinner. Ignoring her presence, Aurora left without a word.

Feeling lazy to bother, Nicole chose to pull out a dining chair and sit down. However, when she opened the food cover on the table, she found no food there. Nicole was confused. She, who was already hungry, found nothing to eat.

"Servant..." Nicole called out to the house assistant who was putting away plates in the cabinet.

"Yes?"

"Where's the food? Why isn't there any?"

The house assistant approached. With a polite smile, she immediately responded to Nicole's question.

"The food has already been finished, Miss."

"Finished?"

"Yes," she nodded. "Mrs. Aurora only cooked dinner for herself."

In her heart, Nicole cursed. She knew Aurora must be deliberately behaving like this.

"Fine. Then make me dinner. I'm hungry."

The house assistant smiled again. Instead of quickly following Nicole's command, she remained silent and did nothing.

"Sorry, Miss. I can't."

Nicole furrowed her brow.

"Why can't you?"

"I can't prepare dinner for you."

Nicole became more puzzled.

"Why not? Isn't that your job?"

"Yes. I am indeed paid to serve the employer. But not an imitation employer like Miss Nicole."

### **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

Alex feels incredibly lazy to go home. It's only been a day since Nicole started living with him, and she's already exhibiting all sorts of behaviors that irritate him.

Despite Alex's memories of their secret relationship when Nicole seemed so delightful, every time they were together, his mistress often made him both fond and longing. But why does she appear so annoying now that they're under the same roof?

"Why are you in my room?"

That night, Alex arrived home exhausted and with a headache from thinking about divorce and tiredness from work. He was taken aback when he entered the guest room and found Nicole lying on the bed. After all, there were three guest rooms in the house. Why did Nicole choose the same one as him?

"I'm tired, Nicole. Please go back to your room."

Alex politely requested. For God's sake, he was seriously tired and not in the mood to deal with this. But instead of complying with Alex's request, Nicole sounded petulant.

"I want to sleep with you, Alex."

"Sleep with me? In this house? Don't be ridiculous!"

Nicole quickly pulled a face. The petulant expression returned.

"Why ridiculous? Isn't it normal? I'm pregnant, you know. What if the baby in my belly misses its daddy?"

Alex sighed wearily. What kind of argument was Nicole presenting to him?

"Don't overdo it. If you've forgotten, we're both staying at Aurora's house. We should be grateful she accepts both of us. Besides, Aurora and I aren't officially divorced yet. So, don't ask for strange things."

"Who's being strange?"

Nicole's earlier petulant demeanor slowly disappeared, replaced by a very annoyed expression.

"Is it wrong to ask for attention? I'm pregnant with your child."

"Just being pregnant is already wrong."

"What?"

Nicole shook her head in disbelief. She never expected Alex to say something like that. Alex's usually affectionate demeanor now seemed to be filled with hatred and deliberate avoidance. Yet, Nicole intentionally got pregnant to attract all of Alex's attention and have him completely.

"Weren't you the one who said you'd love me more if I could get pregnant with your child?"

"But not right now! You have no idea, because of this issue, my life is guaranteed to be ruined! You're too reckless in making decisions."

"Alex!" Nicole interrupted. She refused to be constantly blamed. "Even if I weren't pregnant, it's time for us to be found out anyway. So, learn to enjoy what has happened."

Ultimately, after a night of argument, Alex chose to move to another room. He was sure his head would explode if he had to sleep with Nicole.

Although he knew his marriage with Aurora was doomed and that Aurora would only get angrier with him, Alex didn't want to waste any more time making Aurora angrier. Truly, Alex needed compassion. He felt scared and worried, especially since Asher openly threatened him. "What are you thinking about?"

Bastian suddenly stood right in front of Alex's desk. Since knocking on the door several times yielded no response, he decided to just come in.

He thought Alex was busy, but when he checked, Bastian found Alex sitting silently, lost in thought.

"My head feels like it's going to explode."

Alex's voice sounded heavy. Countless times he sighed to alleviate the pressure weighing on his chest.

Previously, Alex had told Bastian about being caught cheating with Nicole again. He also shared Nicole's pregnancy and Aurora's decision to file for divorce.

Bastian knew Alex's problems were very complex. But there was nothing he could do except to comfort his friend.

"Why? Is this related to your divorce with Aurora? Or is it about work?"

"It's about Nicole."

Bastian smiled. Pulling a chair, he sat himself right in front of Alex. Since his work was also done, it seemed fine now to listen to Alex's complaints. Besides, that's usually how it went.

"What's up with Nicole? You guys are living together now, right?"

Alex nodded. He sounded like he sighed softly. According to Bastian, Alex should be happy. After all, he could easily meet Nicole without having to hide anymore.

"Yeah, the three of us live together now."

"Must be nice. Wife and mistress living under one roof. Now, if you want to have fun with Nicole, you don't need to ask for permission to go out of town or out of the country. You can just knock on the door, take off your clothes, and get down to business." Bastian then laughed. He couldn't forget about Alex, who often asked for his help to arrange all sorts of needs, from accommodations to tickets, hotels, and everything else if he wanted to have fun with Nicole.

"The reality is not as nice and easy as you think." Alex smiled bitterly. His face showed no sign of happiness at all.

"Why? What's wrong?"

As the person who held all the secrets, even helped facilitate the affair between Alex and Nicole, Bastian knew very well how his friend had been infatuated with Nicole from the start. Like someone under a spell, Alex did many things to please his former personal secretary.

From buying luxury items, dining in expensive restaurants, staying in star-rated hotels, not to mention vacations abroad, and finally? Alex went as far as to search for loopholes in the company's expenses to buy Nicole an apartment not far from the office.

All Alex did was to continue to be with Nicole. And when caught cheating, just a few months later, Alex dared to start the relationship again. It seemed like he didn't want to be separated.

And now, when their relationship was once again revealed, and they could live together more openly, why did Alex seem unhappy?

"Why do you look so stressed out? Aren't you happy to live with Nicole?"Text © owned by NôvelDrama.Org.

Alex shook his head immediately. He took a deep breath once again.

"Before, when we were secretly seeing each other, you know I always looked for opportunities to meet and spend time with Nicole. I felt like every moment spent with her was always enjoyable. But now that we live together, I don't enjoy it. It feels like something is missing."

"Cheating does stimulate adrenaline. That's where the excitement lies, right?"

Alex shook his head.

"You don't know yet that Nicole's behavior is getting out of hand."

Bastian laughed again.

"Oh, really? What's wrong with Nicole?"

"She's becoming too clingy, Tian. I'm tired of dealing with her excessive demands."

"But wasn't Nicole always clingy? Didn't you yourself say that you liked her because of her clingy attitude? Unlike Aurora who has always been independent and never wanted to bother you."

Alex nodded. He didn't deny that. It just felt different now.

Before, he liked it when Nicole was affectionate towards him. Alex felt like the most needed man.

"But now Nicole is going overboard. Just imagine, at Aurora's house, she asks to sleep in the same room with me. Not to mention other demands. I'm fed up."

"It's natural because she's pregnant. I heard that pregnant women's libido is much higher than usual. Maybe because of that, Nicole wants to be with you all the time. So, just be understanding. Besides, you should be grateful because she managed to conceive your child. I bet your mom must be happy, right?"

Alex didn't deny it. Among all the people who knew about Nicole's pregnancy, his mother seemed to be the happiest. But didn't his mom think, when he eventually divorced Aurora, that their comfortable life might turn into misery? Or perhaps his mother had forgotten that since his father's departure, their lives had been fully supported by Aurora.

"Ah, I don't know. I'm confused. I'm happy to have offspring. But not with Nicole. For God's sake, from the beginning, I just wanted to have fun. Not to get into a serious relationship or even become her husband. That's not what I wanted."

"But it's all happened now."

Alex nodded again. His face looked tired. Resigned to the bad fate that might happen after this.

"Yeah, that's why now I'm enjoying the remaining time at Lumire."

"Where do you want to go?"

Alex suddenly laughed dryly. Didn't his friend know that his career at Lumire was over now?

"Are you pretending not to know or are you mocking me? I got caught cheating, Bastian. Asher has warned me to resign immediately after the divorce is finalized. I don't know where I'll work and live after this."

"But don't you have savings? And besides, you're entitled to demand a fair share of the marital property, right?"

"Yeah. I do have personal savings," Alex nodded. "But when it comes to marital property, I feel ashamed to demand an equal share. Most of the assets I have come from Aurora."

"So, are you just going to accept your fate?"

Alex nodded again. His face looked bleak. Resigned to the possible bad fate that might follow.

Alex shrugged his shoulders. His head was spinning too much to answer any more of Bastian's questions. One thing was for sure, he was aware that he was slowly crumbling under the weight of his own actions.

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## **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

Asher had lost count of how many times he had tapped his fingers on the table. His brain seemed to be working hard, trying to figure out how to unravel the mystery of who the man was that had impregnated Nicole.

From the medical results provided by Ezra, it was clear that Alex was indeed diagnosed with infertility. The amount of sperm he produced was significantly lower than that of a normal man. That's why Alex had difficulty fertilizing. Even if he underwent treatment, it would take quite some time.

"Asher... sorry to disturb you. These are the examination results of the patient who just underwent surgery."

Alden arrived and immediately handed over the file containing the diagnosis results of the patient he had just handled. Seeing Asher nodding disinterestedly, Alden became curious.

"What's wrong? Is there a problem with the patient?"

Asher shook his head.

"No. It's about Aurora."

Hearing Aurora's name mentioned, Alden became instantly interested. It seemed like he knew what his colleague might be thinking.

"About her husband's affair?"

Asher turned to look at him. He quickly glanced at Alden.

"Sorry..." Alden corrected himself hastily. "I didn't mean to meddle in your family affairs."

"It's okay," Asher replied afterwards. "It seems like it's become common knowledge. Besides, according to Aurora, you were the one who showed her evidence of her husband's behavior."

Alden nodded. At that time, he just wanted Aurora to know what was really going on. He certainly didn't want the woman he still loved to claim she was happy with a faithful husband when he was fooling around with another woman outside. "I didn't mean to interfere. I was just afraid Aurora would think I deliberately broke up her marriage. But, I couldn't bear to see Aurora being played around like that."

"Yes," Asher nodded. "In fact, I'm grateful because you opened Aurora's eyes to see what kind of man her husband really is. Now, we just have to wait for Aurora and Alex to officially divorce."

Feeling a breath of fresh air, there was a sense of joy enveloping Alden when he heard the news that Aurora would be divorcing soon. It wasn't that he was happy about his ex-girlfriend's sadness. It's just that, this way, Alden had the chance to get closer and try to win Aurora's heart back so they could resume their serious relationship like before.

"But..." Asher continued after a brief pause. "Unfortunately, there's still an important matter I need to help resolve."

"Are you referring to Aurora and Alex's marriage?"

"Yes. It's about Nicole. My cousin and the woman who became Alex's mistress. She claims to be pregnant with his child. And now, she even insists on living together with Alex."

"Oh my God."

Alden inadvertently whispered softly. It must feel very painful to be Aurora, knowing that her husband not only cheated but also impregnated another woman.

"The problem is, Alex has medical records which show that he has difficulty having children."

"Infertile, you mean?"

"Yes," Asher nodded. "Because he's considered unable to produce offspring, Aurora once invited Alex to undergo medical examinations together. And the result showed that Alex had a problem. But, foolishly, Aurora never shared the results with Alex or his family."

"So, Aurora is still considered infertile until now?"

Asher sighed and nodded again.

"That's why I need to find out. Who is the man who impregnated Nicole? Because it's definitely not Alex's child."

Alden finally understood. He thought for a moment, then soon remembered something.

"Wait a minute. Some time ago, I saw this woman named Nicole leaving the apartment twice with another guy, and I'm sure it wasn't Alex."

Asher was startled. As if receiving a clue, he immediately shifted his attention to Alden.

"Seriously?"

Alden nodded.

"I remember one day after showing Alex's affair to Aurora, the next day, this Nicole entered the apartment lobby with another guy. And two days ago, when I returned from my late shift, I also met them coming out of the elevator. I'm sure it's the same guy."

"Do you remember what he looked like?"

"I do," Alden replied confidently. "But if you want a clearer picture, I can help you ask the apartment security to check the CCTV. From there, it can be investigated directly. Who knows, this guy might be the one who impregnated Nicole."Copyright Nôv/el/Dra/ma.Org.

Asher nodded happily at the information provided by Alden. Not wanting to waste time, after work, he immediately joined Alden to go to his colleague's apartment.

## **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

Asher really didn't want to waste much time solving the puzzle of who the man was that had impregnated Nicole. In the evening, after work hours, the Arab descendant decided to visit the apartment where Alden had been living.

Hearing from Alden that he had caught Nicole entering the apartment with another man twice made Asher curious. Even though the man Alden saw might not necessarily be the one who impregnated her, Asher still wanted to check and make sure. Who knows, after confirming it himself, he might get clues to stop the cunning game Nicole was playing.

At exactly six o'clock in the evening, Asher's sleek black Rubicon, which he often drove, was neatly parked in the BVLGARI apartment parking lot. Accompanied by Alden, he went straight to the security room to request access to the CCTV footage to check Nicole's movements recently.

Initially, the apartment security didn't grant permission. However, after giving a reasonable explanation and persistently trying to convince them, Asher and Alden were finally given access to view the footage.

"Please rewind the CCTV to Thursday, July 13th. At six o'clock in the evening, around the lobby area to the elevator," Alden instructed. Then, the apartment security immediately searched for the requested recording by setting the appropriate date and time. Afterward, Alden and Asher carefully observed the footage.

From the CCTV recording, the apartment residents were bustling around. After a while, Asher's eyes caught sight of someone he believed to be Nicole. At that moment, his cousin was seen casually walking into the apartment with a formally dressed man, and Asher knew for sure that it wasn't Alex.

"There she is!" exclaimed Asher, pointing at the screen, then turning back to the officer. "Sir, please open the corridor CCTV."

Then Asher turned to Alden. "You know Nicole's room number, right?"

"Yes," Alden nodded. "Luckily, she lives on the same floor as me. Just in a different position. Nicole lives to the right, and I've also confirmed with the building reception that she's in room 705."

Asher then turned back to the security officer, requesting them to show CCTV footage from different locations.

"Please look at the corridor CCTV on the seventh floor, Sir. Around room 705."

The officer complied with Asher's request, showing the recording from the same time, where Nicole was seen walking with the man and then entering her apartment unit.

"Now, I request to see the recording on July 31st around seven in the morning. Just the footage from the front of her room."

The officer searched for what Asher asked for, playing the recording according to the date and location. Asher and Alden found what they were looking for.

"The same man," muttered Asher as his brown eyes caught sight of a tall, well-built man leaving Nicole's room in neatly dressed attire. Nicole, in more casual but neat attire, followed him towards the elevator.

"Sir, one last request," Asher expressed afterward. "Please show the corridor and front of room 705 CCTV footage on July 14th around six to eight in the morning. There's something I need to confirm."

The officer nodded, searching for the footage Asher requested. After obtaining it, they immediately showed it to Asher and Alden.

"Here it is, Sir. The requested recording."

Asher then narrowed his eyes, carefully observing what he needed to confirm. Waiting second by second until finally, his pupils dilated as the figure he was looking for emerged from the room.

"BINGO!"

Asher snapped his fingers and chuckled. He patted the officer's shoulder lightly, then gave an order.

"I request copies of all the footage I just saw, Sir. I need them for future examination purposes."

The officer then copied the recordings and handed them to Asher. After that, the two specialist doctors went to the apartment lobby to relax for a moment.

"How did it go?" Alden asked, wanting to make sure if Asher got what he needed. But, judging by the relaxed expression on his face, Alden believed that Asher had obtained what he needed to smooth his action.

"Thank you so much for your help, Alden," Asher smiled broadly. His expression was like that of a lottery winner. Alden remembered earlier at the hospital this afternoon, his companion seemed troubled. And now? It's a complete 180-degree change.

"Did you get what you needed?"

Asher nodded. The man's smile widened.

"I'm sure this guy is the one who impregnated Nicole."

"Because he was proven to enter and exit Nicole's apartment twice?"

"That's one reason. And somehow, I'm sure this guy didn't just stop by once or twice. Judging by his activities, especially coming home in the morning, it's certain that this guy stayed over. Maybe several times. Besides, it's not possible for a man and woman, both adults, to share an apartment. Stay over. But do nothing."

Alden smiled faintly. It made sense with all the arguments Asher provided. Especially seeing Nicole's mischievous appearance, Alden believed that she was indeed free and daring.

"I agree, though. But, with just CCTV footage as evidence, you can't simply tell everyone that the man who impregnated Nicole is the one we saw earlier. There needs to be other evidence to support it." "I know," Asher said, pulling the corner of his lips into a smile. He understood perfectly what he needed to do. It wasn't the first time Asher had been involved in a complicated case. "I'll investigate this man's background first. I'll make sure that soon, I'll have the answers I need. Everything just waits for the right time."

"I also hope everything gets resolved quickly," Alden replied, looking concerned. Sincerely from the heart, he felt sorry for Aurora having to go through unpleasant experiences in her marriage.

It must feel painful to think that the person you love is faithful. But, out there, they're fooling around with another woman, especially when this woman is still her cousin.

"Aurora deserves to be happy, Ash."

"From the beginning, I've warned her. But, Aurora just doesn't believe and is too naive to be swayed by Alex's sweet words. Now, even if she regrets it, it's pointless. There's nothing Aurora can do except to quickly file for divorce."

Alden nodded in agreement.Copyright Nôv/el/Dra/ma.Org.

"I just hope for the best for this issue."

"If Aurora officially divorces, you can freely pursue her again. Compared to Alex, I'd rather see her marry you."

Alden just smiled. Did this mean Asher had given him the green light to approach Aurora again in the future?

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## **Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge**

"Darling... how are you? Are you feeling well?"

In the evening, Savana deliberately took the time to visit Alex's house. Not to see her son or Aurora, but to check on Nicole's condition, who was suspected to be pregnant with her grandchild.

Savana seemed very happy. She even brought many snacks and fruits to give to Nicole.

"My pregnancy is fine, Mom. Physically, I'm healthy. But mentally, I'm not."

Savana immediately frowned. Overall, Nicole seemed fine. So why did she say her mental health wasn't good? Was her new daughter-in-law feeling stressed during her stay with Alex and Aurora?

"Why are you not feeling well? What's wrong, dear? Do you have any problems?"

"I'm not happy living here."

"Why is that?" Savana pursued, becoming more curious. "Why aren't you happy?"

"It's all because of Aurora, Mom..."

Nicole's lips curled. Her spoiled behavior clearly showed she wanted attention. And knowing that Savana would defend her, Nicole became even more presumptuous.

"What's wrong with Aurora? What did she do?"

"Aurora is annoying. She told the household staff not to serve me here. Mom, you should know. If I want to eat, I even have to buy it myself. Can you believe it? A pregnant woman has to buy her food every day. That's not healthy."

"Outrageous!"

Savana was angry. She couldn't accept Aurora mistreating Nicole so unfairly. Especially since Savana knew Nicole was pregnant and needed more attention.

"Don't worry..." Savana continued. "I'll talk to Aurora. I'll ask her to show more respect and care for you. Besides, you're a guest here. She should behave politely."

Nicole nodded happily. Glad that Savana defended her. As long as her future mother-in-law was there, she could behave more outrageously.

"Also, why are you wearing such tight clothes while pregnant? Is your pregnancy okay?"

Savana approached. She pulled at the two-piece outfit Nicole was wearing. It looked tight and sexy. Far from the usual attire pregnant women usually wear.

"I mean, this is Nicole's first pregnancy. Plus, Nicole's clothes are always like this. Even if she wanted to buy, she hasn't had the chance. Alex is always busy at the office."

Savana sighed. She pulled Nicole up from her seat.

"Come, come with me. Let's go to Aurora's room."

"What for?"

"You'll see."

Savana then invited Nicole to go up to the second floor. Without any hesitation, she entered Aurora's room, which was never locked. Walking towards the wardrobe, she then searched for something to give to Nicole.

This wasn't the first time Savana had entered Aurora's room without permission. Long before the commotion that happened in her son's household, whenever Savana stayed at Aurora's house, she often entered and inspected her daughter-in-law's room. She didn't know what she was looking for and checking. Sometimes, she checked clothes, bag collections, or items Aurora had recently bought. If she liked something, she would then pester Alex to buy it for her.

"Here, try wearing this."

After opening the wardrobe and inspecting Aurora's collection of clothes one by one, Savana picked out a silk nightgown, which, upon closer inspection, must have been very expensive.

Savana thought that instead of Nicole wearing tight and expensive clothes that might make her unborn grandchild uncomfortable, it would be better to give her Aurora's clothes. After all, her daughter-in-law had plenty of them.Content is property of NôvelDrama.Org.

"Nicole? Can you wear Aurora's clothes?"

Savana nodded casually.

"Even her husband you can take. Let alone just clothes like this. Besides, Aurora is rich. If you take three at once, she won't suddenly become poor."

Nicole smiled. She liked how Savana paid attention to her and always supported her.

"In that case, just get me three. So, Nicole won't need to buy anything anymore."

Without much thought, Savana then looked through the wardrobe again. She found the best sleepwear and gave it to Nicole.

"Here. You take and keep them. If you need more, you can just take them yourself tomorrow. Don't worry. If Aurora gets mad, tell Mama."

Nicole cheered happily. She took the clothes given by Savana and immediately put them on. She thought, maybe tonight Alex could be tempted again after seeing her wearing expensive clothes.

"Alright, you go shower quickly. After that, we'll get ready for dinner."

While Nicole was showering, Savana conducted an inspection. She checked every room there. After finishing, she went to the dining room to wait for dinner.

Minutes later, Nicole followed. Sitting down, she engaged Savana in conversation. At seven in the evening, Aurora, who had just returned from work, passed through the dining room. Her steps halted when Savana addressed her.

"How dare you come home this late. No wonder Alex has moved on to another woman."

Aurora turned abruptly. Looking towards Savana and Nicole sitting there, she then approached. She looked at her cousin when she sensed something familiar.

"Doctor's schedule, Ma. I leave early and come home late to earn a halal living by helping patients."

"Excuses!" Savana interjected.

"Not excuses. That's how all doctors are. What else can I do? Aurora is too honorable to disturb someone else's husband. Especially to hope to earn a lot of money by disrupting someone else's household."

"Aurora, you-"

Aurora smiled broadly. Her direct sarcasm succeeded in getting a reaction from Nicole. But before Nicole could protest, Aurora chose to leave first.

"See, Mama, Aurora's behavior speaks for itself. Because of her behavior and words, Nicole doesn't feel comfortable staying here."

Savana nodded in understanding. She tried to calm Nicole down so she wouldn't get upset. It's pitiful for her unborn grandchild if the mother gets stressed like this.

"Alright, you just be patient for now. Mama will be the one to take revenge on Aurora for you." Thirty minutes later, Aurora was seen coming down from the second floor in clothes so neatly arranged as if she was about to leave. However, as she turned towards the door, Savana hurriedly stopped her. The middle-aged woman called out, as if there was something important she had to convey right away.

"Aurora, where are you going?"

Aurora turned around. With a relaxed look, she responded to her motherin-law's question.

"I'm going out to find something to eat."

"What did you say? Finding something to eat?"

Aurora nodded. She didn't lie at all. She wanted to leave immediately because she intended to have dinner outside with Vennia. Besides, she was too lazy to see annoying people gathering in her house.

"Yes. Coincidentally, Aurora wants to eat seafood or Chinese food tonight."

"So, you're going out without preparing dinner for Mama, Nicole, and Alex?"

Aurora laughed. She was amused by Savana's words.

"Why should Aurora cook and prepare dinner?"

"Why did you say that?"

Aurora nodded this time.

"Yes. Aurora isn't a maid. Besides, how much would Mama pay to have Aurora cook? Mama's daughter-in-law now is Nicole. So, let her serve. Cook for the future mother-in-law and future husband. Don't act like a queen whose only intelligence is in the bedroom."

"Aurora, you're out of line!"

Savana grumbled. She was irritated by Aurora's response.

"Who's out of line? If Mama feels bad asking her daughter-in-law to cook, then just buy food outside. That is, if you have money."

Aurora then turned to Nicole. She flashed a sweet smile before leaving for real.

"You want to be the mistress of the house, right? Feel free to use the kitchen however you want. Learn to cook to welcome your husband and in-laws. Don't be spoiled!"

Nicole wanted to retort. But before she could, Aurora pointed her finger and spoke again.

"Oh, and that dress you're wearing, it looks good. I've stopped wearing it because I got bored. Besides