

# Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge 51-60

Savana seemed to waste no time in holding the wedding ceremony for her beloved only son. Just five days after officially becoming a widower, today she escorted Alex to marry Nicole, making her his lawful wife as a replacement for Aurora.

Held in a multipurpose hall, many guests were present. Most of them were from families, relatives, and a few close friends.

The international-themed wedding party lasted until the evening. When the event was over, Alex immediately took Nicole and Savana back home.

However, as they entered the mother's residence complex, the three of them were surprised. Along the way to the house, they found flower arrangements sent to them, the messages of which infuriated Savana.

Instead of receiving congratulatory flower arrangements for the wedding, Aurora sent condolence flowers for Alex and Nicole's wedding.

"Condolences for the wedding of a wicked couple."

"Congratulations on entering a new hell for the adulterous couple."

"Congratulations on starting a new life for the seductive man and woman."

Savana growled angrily as she read each message written on the flower arrangements. When they arrived, she found Aurora's car neatly parked in front of her house.

Savana hurried inside. As she suspected, Aurora was already sitting waiting in the living room with her cousin, who was also her lawyer.

"Aurora! What do you mean by sending such flower arrangements?" Savana couldn't contain herself. She approached Aurora, who seemed relaxed in her greeting.

“I didn’t mean anything. I just wanted to keep my promise about sending many flower arrangements to celebrate Alex and Nicole’s wedding.”

Savana growled again. Her eyes stared at Aurora with a glare of annoyance and extreme anger. She hated that Aurora still seemed to enjoy mocking her.

“Enough, Mom. Don’t indulge her.”

From behind, Nicole appeared. Still wearing her wedding dress, she approached Savana and tried to calm her down. “Aurora is like this because she’s jealous of Alex finally marrying Nicole.”

Aurora suddenly laughed. Her ears tingled hearing Nicole’s nonsense.

“Oh dear, Nicole, who’s jealous?”

“You. Who else? If you’re not jealous, why bother sending all these flower arrangements? Can’t move on? Can’t accept that Alex finally chose me over you?”

Aurora lifted her index finger. Smiling, she shook her head. “Who can’t move on? If you’ve forgotten, I’m the one who filed for divorce from Alex.”

“So, why are you still seeking attention like this? You intentionally want Alex’s attention, right? If not, why bother visiting? I’m sure deep down you can’t stand seeing Alex getting married again. Especially marrying a woman who’s better than you.”

Once again, Aurora laughed. She felt extremely annoyed seeing Nicole on her high horse. It’s okay. Aurora would let her cousin ramble on. When the time came, she swore she would silence Nicole and make her unable to argue anymore.

“I’m sorry, Nicole. No need to overreact. I’m not seeking attention, nor am I jealous or unable to move on from Alex. In fact, I came here because I wanted to give gifts to you, Alex, and Mama Savana.”

Hearing her name mentioned, Savana immediately reacted. But before she could retort, Aurora spoke again.

“Just so you know, I’ve had trouble sleeping waiting for today. If you want to know, I’ve been preparing all of this for a long time. I can’t wait to give you all these special gifts.”

Nicole grunted. She felt annoyed listening to Aurora rambling too much.

“What kind of gifts do you want to give? You’re talking too much.”

Aurora smiled thinly.

“Are you curious?”

“Well, if it’s not important, you should just go home quickly. Alex and I want to rest.”

“Just relax, Nicole. There’s no need to rush like that.”

From the door, suddenly Asher appeared. The man entered Savana’s house with a woman by his side. “Don’t you want to meet your mother? It’s such a pity her daughter got married, but she wasn’t invited.”Belonging © NôvelDram/a.Org.

Both Savana and Alex were surprised to see the woman Asher brought in. Especially Savana, who immediately reacted.

“Is she your mother?” Savana asked to confirm. “Didn’t you tell Mama that you’ve been an orphan all this time?”

“Careless!” Asher replied, then laughed. Who knows what lies Nicole had told Savana and Alex. But one thing was for sure, Asher wanted to reveal everything today. “Nicole’s birth mother and her siblings are still alive and kicking. She just casually said they were gone.”

Nicole’s face panicked. Before she could give a response or rebuttal, Asher looked outside the house, then quickly returned with another person.

“As for this man, I’m sure you all know him, right?”

This time Nicole’s eyes widened perfectly. Instantly her head began to ache upon seeing the man Asher brought in.

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Aurora scrutinized the white and gold invitation in her hand attentively. It clearly stated that today was the date when Alex and Nicole were getting married.

If Aurora wanted, she could attend the wedding party. However, since she had already made plans with Asher, she was now waiting for the right moment to visit and give a special gift to the newlyweds.

“Aurora, you okay?”

Asher had just arrived. Catching Aurora lost in thought, he quickly addressed her.

“What makes you think I’m not?”

Asher approached where Aurora was sitting. He even deliberately stared intently, locking onto Aurora’s shimmering eyes, then spoke with a feigned serious tone.

“Are you really okay?” Then his hand reached out, deliberately placed on Aurora’s forehead as if checking her body temperature. “No fever. Huh.” Asher raised his eyebrows. Then he looked back at Aurora. “Blood pressure okay, right? How’s your heart rate? If you feel any abnormal or problematic palpitations, luckily I have injection medicine in the car.”

“Gosh,” Aurora sighed, her face displaying annoyance. Why was her little brother acting so melodramatic? “Seriously, Ash. I’m fine. You’re checking me as if I’m having a heart attack or some serious illness.”

Asher burst into laughter. Even Rayyen, sitting next to Aurora, joined in, amused by Asher's antics.

"Besides, you were so serious in your daydreaming. I was worried you'd suddenly faint or have a heart attack." Asher teased deliberately. He knew Aurora must be feeling nervous right now.

"Ridiculous!"

"Then why so tense?"

Aurora gave him a sharp look. "Who's tense? I'm fine. I'm just impatiently waiting to visit Alex and Nicole."

Rayyen, sitting beside Aurora, set down the cup of tea she had been holding. There was something important she had been wanting to ask her two cousins for a while now.

"But, by the way, why don't we just go see them now?"

Asher laughed. He casually responded to Rayyen's question.

"It seems pretty obvious since the beginning of this case that you're more excited than both of us."

"Yeah," Aurora agreed with a nod. "Can't wait. Are you already missing Mama Savana?"

Rayyen gave her a sharp look. As if she'd ever miss Savana.

"Not really. If we go now, we could at least enjoy some good food at the event."

Aurora shook her head. Among the many possible reasons for Rayyen's insistence on leaving, her cousin was thinking about free food.

"Oh my goodness, Rayyen. If you're hungry and want to eat, we can go to a restaurant first."

Rayyen shook her head.

“It’s different, Aurora. Eating at a big event like a wedding is more enjoyable. Plus, it’s ‘all you can eat’, you can try everything until you’re full.”

“I purposely didn’t go to the event venue. Even though I’m already divorced, I don’t want this issue to become someone else’s gossip. So, let’s just calculate everything at their home.”

Their conversation continued flowing. Shortly after, someone Asher had been waiting for arrived and joined them.

“Aunt Senia.”

Asher and Aurora, surprised, quickly got up. They both approached, shook hands, then invited the guest to sit down.

“Sorry for being a little late. The traffic was terrible.”

Aurora nodded understandingly. Her face, which had been tense earlier, now showed joy and relief. As if a huge burden had been lifted.

“It’s okay, Aunt.”

Asher chimed in. “Aunt’s willingness to come here is more than enough. We both really appreciate Aunt Senia’s visit.”

Asher wasn’t exaggerating with his words just now. He remembered a few times before, how he struggled to convince and persuade Senia to provide assistance.

It all started with the confession of the man who impregnated Nicole that their cousin tried to attract Alex and his mother’s attention by claiming to everyone that she was an orphan.

Asher was curious as well. He also wondered if Nicole’s mother knew what her daughter was up to out there. Or perhaps, just like Savana, she supported their child’s affair.

That’s why Asher took the time to visit Senia at her rented house. He had to confirm things directly.

“It’s impossible, Ash. Nicole would never do such a thing.”

Asher had anticipated that Senia wouldn’t readily believe. What else could he do? Nicole indeed appeared to be a good, polite, and obedient child when in the presence of the extended family.

“But that’s the reality, Aunt.”

Then Asher took out his phone. He opened the gallery feature and played a video to show Senia.

“Take a look. This video is taken from CCTV footage in Aurora’s house.”

Then, Senia obeyed Asher’s command. She watched the video playing on her nephew’s phone, and shortly after, she was left gaping in shock.

“Oh my God.” Then Senia shook her head, visibly trying to deny what she saw on Asher’s phone.

“This is just part of the footage taken when Nicole and Alex were having sex at Aurora’s house. We never know what else they might have been doing out there. Especially since Nicole has been living freely.”

“Since working at your father’s office, Nicole has decided to live on her own. But Aunt didn’t expect her to do something so wrong. Every time I call her, she always says everything is fine. Her work is going smoothly. Even every month, Nicole never fails to send her monthly allowance.”

Asher smiled.

“Nicole has been fired from Lumire a long time ago. Even if she can still send monthly money, it’s definitely coming from Alex.”

“But how could this be? What I mean is, how could Nicole be so heartless as to hurt Aurora like this?”

Asher shook his head. He shrugged his shoulders. Not just heartless. But, according to Asher, Nicole had lost all sense of decency and gratitude.

“I don’t know. Aurora and Alex are officially divorced now. Aunt needs to know that Nicole is even pregnant and she claims Alex is the father.”

Senia was once again astonished. Bombarded with so much shocking news, she almost staggered and suddenly had a headache. “Nicole’s pregnant?”

“They’ll even get married soon. Didn’t Aunt know at all?”

Senia shook her head. Forget about marriage and pregnancy, just knowing about Nicole’s relationship with Alex, Senia had just heard from Asher.

“For God’s sake, Aunt didn’t know anything about this.”

“In that case, would Aunt be willing to help meet Alex’s extended family?”

Senia was startled. Perhaps thinking, what was the point of her meeting Alex and their extended family?

“Meet Alex’s extended family?”

Asher nodded.

“So far, Alex’s family has believed that Nicole is an orphan. This is also why they freely held the wedding party because they considered Nicole an orphan and didn’t need to seek approval from the extended family.”

“So, are you asking Aunt to meet them to cancel this wedding party?”

Asher shook his head suddenly. That wasn’t what he wanted.

“No, Aunt. Not that. We just want Aunt to help reveal the truth that Nicole is not an orphan.”

“And if this lie is exposed, it’s like Aunt humiliating Nicole?”

Asher took a deep breath. From this, he sensed that Senia was reluctant to grant his request.



“Asher and Aurora need Aunt Senia’s help. If Aunt is willing to help, we’ll wait for Aunt’s arrival next week.”

Asher thought there was no hope for Senia to help. For the past few days, he had been trying to contact her, but Senia seemed to be avoiding him.

However, that assumption was wrong. This morning, Senia suddenly called and agreed to Asher’s request to come. As expected, Senia’s presence was able to surprise Alex and Savana.

“So, you’re Nicole’s birth mother?”

Savana asked. Confirming what she had just seen and heard.

“Yes,” Senia replied. “I am Nicole’s birth mother. Still alive and well.”

Savana shook her head incredulously. She gave a questioning look to the woman who had become her daughter-in-law just a few hours ago. Belonging © NôvelDram/a.Org.

“So, you’re not an orphan?”

“Mo... Ni-Nicole can explain all this,” Nicole stammered. “This isn’t what Mama imagined.”

“That’s not the only lie Nicole told.” Aurora deliberately interrupted. She smiled as she looked at Savana, Alex, and Nicole alternately. “There are still many facts Mama needs to know.”

Savana immediately looked puzzled.

“What do you mean?”

“Mama needs to know that all this time, it’s not that Aurora couldn’t conceive. But, indeed, Alex had problems from the beginning.”

“That’s impossible.” Savana shook her head. She chuckled slightly while refuting the facts presented by Aurora. “Don’t look for justifications, Aurora. Are you so frustrated that you’re accusing Alex of all sorts of things?”

Instead of responding, Aurora appeared to smile. She took a white envelope from her bag and handed it to Savana. There were already plenty of supporting evidence she would present to her former mother-in-law.

“Please read it, Mama. Inside the envelope, there are results from Alex’s examination from two different hospitals.”

Savana then grabbed the envelope handed by Aurora. She opened it, then quickly read what was written there. Afterward, she was seen shaking her head again while grumbling.

“It’s impossible. This must be a mistake.”

Curious about what her mother was reading, Alex snatched the two papers given by Aurora. He read them carefully, and Alex was left speechless.

“This must be fabricated.”

Savana continued to argue, denying the facts that Aurora had presented. “It’s impossible for Alex to be sterile. This must be a lie!”

“That’s the reality, Mom.”

Aurora responded calmly, trying her best to provide explanations without letting emotions get in the way.

“From the beginning, Aurora knew about the health issues Alex was facing. Aurora deliberately stayed silent and turned a deaf ear whenever various things were mentioned because she didn’t want to embarrass Alex and the Wildblood family by revealing this truth. But what’s your response?”

“Alex can’t be sterile. Look, Nicole is pregnant.”

Asher laughed loudly. Honestly, why did the people in front of him seem so foolish?

“Why not just ask Nicole directly? Is it true that she’s carrying Alex’s child or is it actually another man’s?”

Nicole, who was now the center of attention, immediately approached Alex. She reached for his wrist and held it.

“This is your child, Alex. You know yourself, we meet almost every day, and I spend my time making you happy and serving you. When do I have time to fool around with other men?”

“Oh, really?” Asher interjected impatiently. “Are you sure you’ve never been involved with another man?”

Then he left the house for a few moments. Seconds later, he returned with another man in tow to show everyone.

“If it’s this guy, you all surely know him, right?”

“Bastian?”

All three exclaimed, uttering the name of the man Asher had just brought.

“Yes,” confirmed Asher. “I’m sure Nicole is quite familiar with this guy.”

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

Nicole is cornered. She doesn’t know what dream she had last night that led her to be bombarded and hit by a tsunami of facts by Aurora and Asher.

Earlier this morning, Nicole had performed the ritual of seven-colored flower baths. She hoped fervently that the sacred procession of her wedding with Alex would proceed smoothly and without any obstacles.

Initially, she felt happy and proud because she finally became the legitimate wife of Alex Wildblood. Basically, Nicole wanted to prove to

Aurora that she, who was considered a servant, could become the only queen in Alex's heart.

Throughout the day, Nicole had imagined that after this, she would embark on a honeymoon and hoped that in the following days, she would live happily with the man she had pursued since the beginning.

However, Nicole's painstakingly crafted dream was threatened to vanish. She cursed Asher and Aurora's interference, suddenly bringing her mother to visit her in-laws' residence.

Moreover, Alex and Aurora had officially divorced last week, so why was her cousin still bothering and causing trouble?

Not to mention the factual questions Aurora revealed about Alex, who turned out to be sterile. Now, her cousin was bringing up another figure that made it even harder for Nicole to evade, let alone dodge the tongue-lashing.

"Bastian."

Alex's voice rang out the loudest, questioning. Looking confused, he turned to Aurora as if asking for further explanation.

"What does all of this have to do with Bastian?"

Aurora smiled. "Goodness, Alex. Haven't you understood yet?"

Then Alex shifted his gaze towards Nicole. He approached to make sure of what was really happening.

"Nicole, what does all of this mean?"

Nicole looked up, shaking her head vigorously. She tried her best to avoid being accused, let alone blamed as the instigator of the problem.

"For God's sake, I don't understand either, honey. I don't know why Aurora and Asher brought Bastian here."

“Lies!” Asher exclaimed angrily. He felt like pinching Nicole’s kidney because of her excessive lying and pretending to be innocent. “You say you don’t understand and don’t know anything?” Then Asher stared sharply, squinting at Alex who was bewildered. “Are you stupid or what? Given all these facts and evidence, you still don’t understand!”

“Don’t call my son stupid!” Savana defended. She couldn’t accept her beloved son being insulted. “No one is allowed to belittle Alex here!”

“But, in reality, Auntie’s son is indeed too stupid. How can he not understand something as simple as this? Do I need to explain it in detail?” Asher was annoyed. He pulled Bastian to stand beside him. “It’s clear that Alex is mentioned to have difficulty having children. It’s not just one doctor, but two doctors from different hospitals. From there, you should all think about whose child is in Nicole’s womb right now. Whether it’s another man’s child, or maybe it’s from her lover that you don’t know.”

“Obviously, that baby is Alex’s!”

Savana stuck to her guns. Even after being given clearly valid facts, she still evaded, denying the reality that existed.

“Regardless, I’m confident that the child in Nicole’s womb is Alex’s. It’s already confirmed that it’s a Wildblood descendant.”

“Who says? Don’t be over confident, Aunt Savana.”

Asher laughed. It seemed difficult to present facts to someone as stubborn as Savana. That’s why, because he didn’t want to waste energy continuing to explain, he nudged Bastian to look at him.

“Now it’s your task. Explain to everyone here what your role is? I don’t want to have to call the police to clarify what really happened.”

It wasn’t without reason that Asher bothered to bring Bastian to Alex’s parents’ house. A long time ago, he had already calculated and threatened the man to explain what really happened.

“If you don’t show up on Alex and Nicole’s wedding day, I’ll make sure you don’t survive. I’ll hunt you down to the ends of the earth.”

After their previous meeting at the apartment, Asher had indeed gone back to see Alex’s friend again. He made sure once again that the man could be persuaded to cooperate.

“B-b-but, if I help explain and provide evidence, I won’t be prosecuted or reported to the authorities, right?”

Bastian, frightened, made sure again. This was the first time he felt helpless.

“Of course. I’ll make sure you won’t have any trouble with the authorities. I won’t even disclose your cheating at Lumire. Also, the evidence of your drug use won’t spread. As long as you can explain fully what has really been happening without holding back.” This belongs to NôvelDrama.Org: ©.

Bastian, who had been bowing his head slowly, lifted his face. He saw Alex standing right in front of him now. Their eyes even met for a few moments. Until Alex spoke again.

“You owe me an explanation, Tian.”

“I can explain all of this, Alex.”

Nicole interrupted. But Asher didn’t stay silent. He pulled Nicole slightly away from where Alex and Bastian were standing.

“You stay quiet here. Don’t speak unless spoken to, or I’ll sew your mouth shut!”

Back to Alex, he seemed to wait. He remained silent while observing what Bastian would say to him.

“Actually... I-I...”

“What is it?” Alex chided impatiently. “Quickly explain what really happened.”

“I-I and Nicole indeed had a close relationship behind your back.”

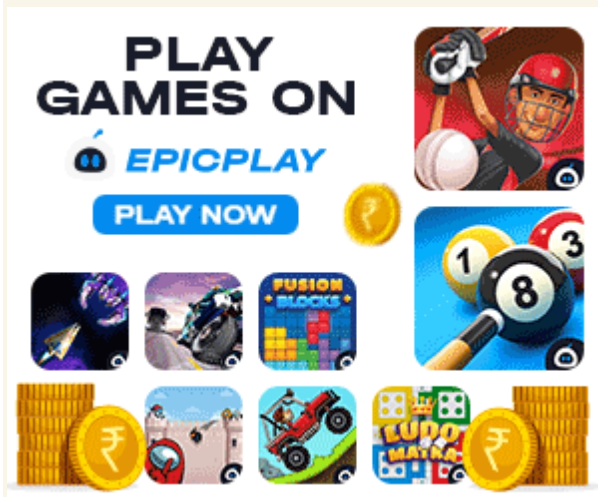
Alex was quite surprised. He had always known Bastian as the only person who supported and even helped smooth out the relationship between him and Nicole. So why was he suddenly involved with the same woman?

“You two were involved?”

Bastian nodded slowly. He didn’t deny it at all.

“Yes, Alex.”

“Go on! Don’t beat around the bush,” Aurora urged impatiently. Even though if Bastian wanted to, he could have shortened the time by getting straight to the point. Not like a scene from a soap opera like this. Where everything seemed to be moving slowly. “Just get straight to the point how close you and Nicole were and what you’ve done.”



Bastian clearly seemed to be repeatedly taking deep breaths. Perhaps nervous, feeling guilty, or maybe just scared. What’s certain is that after that, he seemed confident, then gave an explanation.

“From the beginning, we did have a relationship. In fact, it wasn’t just close. But, it had progressed to a further stage.”

“What do you mean?”

Savana, who was also listening, cut in directly. She even stepped closer to Bastian, who was standing right in front of her son. “What do you mean it had progressed to a very far stage?”

“We both have often had relations like husband and wife, Aunt. Already make out, having sex in every single night.”

“WHAT?”

Savana’s eyes bulged. She shook her head, refusing the answer Bastian gave.

“So, whenever Alex and Nicole finished their dates, I always made sure to stay overnight at Nicole’s apartment. If Alex was busy with Aurora, I was the one serving Nicole. Even recently, when Nicole was pregnant, we had a relationship because Nicole felt neglected by Alex.”

Alex’s eyes darkened. He approached and then grabbed Bastian’s collar to grip it tightly. “So, you and Nicole—”

“Yes,” Bastian nodded repeatedly. “Your hearing is not wrong at all. But, the relationship we’ve had so far has only been for fun.”

Alex shook his head incredulously. He felt deja vu with Bastian’s answer. He had once told Aurora that he and Nicole had been in a relationship for fun all this time. And now, he heard the same sentence from the person he trusted all along. Little did Alex know, his own friend was stabbing him in the back.

“That’s why I’m sure that the baby currently in Nicole’s womb is mine. Not yours, Alex.”

“That’s impossible!”

“That’s the truth, Aunt. I’m even ready to undergo DNA testing to prove who the real father is.”

At this point, Savana still denied it. Basically, she still believed that the child in Nicole’s womb was a Wildblood descendant.



“I’m sure all of this is just Aurora’s trickery. It could all be staged. I’m sure she paid you to admit to sleeping with Nicole. She just can’t accept separating from Alex like that.”

Aurora suddenly burst into laughter. For God’s sake, in a moment like this, her ex-mother-in-law was still joking and being annoying. Instead of introspection, she remained arrogant, insulting her in various ways.

“Oh, dear. Don’t exaggerate.”

“If it’s not an exaggeration, then what is it? As Nicole said, you really can’t accept divorcing Alex, can you? To the point of plotting and accusing Nicole of all sorts of things.”

Aurora pursed her lips tightly when insulted by her ex-mother-in-law. Taking a breath, she took out her phone and showed something to Savana.

“If Mama thinks everything is deliberately staged by Aurora, then what does it mean these photos?”

Savana looked again at the row of pictures stored on Aurora’s phone. From her eyes, she saw so many intimate photos. Even showing Nicole and Bastian in a state of nudity.

“Nicole...” Savana called out in disbelief. Bringing her hand to her chest, she seemed to clutch it with pain. Savana even suddenly felt dizzy and almost staggered upon seeing the latest evidence that Aurora showed. “Please answer honestly, this can’t possibly be you in the photo, right?”

Seeing her mother so shocked, it was Alex’s turn to look. He carefully examined all the photos on Aurora’s phone, then after confirming who the intimate figures were, with a face full of anger, he approached Bastian and delivered a strong punch.

“YOU BASTARD!!!”

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Bastian wiped the blood trickling from the corner of his lip. He didn't flinch when Alex delivered hard punches to his face and stomach.

Bastian realized he had made a fatal mistake. What else could he do? He couldn't resist Nicole's temptations.

"Outrageous!"

As if unsatisfied with his blows, Alex shouted loudly. His jaw clenched tightly, showing that he was truly consumed by anger.

"Despite everything, I considered you like a brother."

"I'm sorry," Bastian replied remorsefully.

"When did you two first get involved?" Alex asked, curious. But thinking about it, there seemed to be no way for Bastian to approach Nicole, let alone get close to her. Almost every day, Nicole met and spent a lot of time having fun with Alex.

"Since your first affair was discovered by Aurora."

Alex's brow furrowed reflexively.

"What do you mean?"

"Yes," Bastian nodded. "When your relationship with Nicole was sniffed out by Aurora. You and Nicole separated for a few months, right? There, Nicole initially asked for help to know about your daily activities. That's when we started to get close. We met often and eventually got involved further. Having fun until we ended up having sex."

"And... after Nicole and I got back together, did you still meet or spend time together often?"

Again, Bastian nodded.

“Of course. When you weren’t with Nicole, I was the one sleeping with her until morning. It’s a lie if both of us didn’t enjoy it. Especially since Nicole always complained when she was with you, she was rarely satisfied. And when she’s with me, Nicole feels pleasure she didn’t get from you, Alex.”

Alex’s hand clenched tightly. He was infuriated upon realizing he had been played.

“I didn’t mean to betray your trust,” Bastian tried to explain. “I did all this just for fun. There were no feelings involved here.”

Amidst Bastian’s confession, Aurora suddenly laughed. Somehow, she was very familiar with words like these.

“How could you men consider affairs, lies, and betrayal as unintentional? There’s no way something done consciously, even repeatedly, can be considered unintentional.”

“Isn’t it the nature of losers like you? After being caught, they usually look for excuses, even justifications.”

Asher interjected. He didn’t care if his words offended his interlocutors. Besides, the term loser was too good for Alex and Bastian.

Aurora then glanced briefly at Nicole. Then she shifted her gaze to Alex. She felt like something was missing and needed clarification.

“Alex shouldn’t blame Bastian alone. Don’t forget about Nicole. She also played a big role in this scandal.”

Nicole reacted immediately from her position. Her face clearly showed her displeasure.

“If you forget, besides having a tempting object, there’s also the tempter. You, who are married, openly seduced him until he turned. Especially Bastian, who is still single.”

At that moment, Nicole approached Alex.

“Alex, please forgive me. It’s not what you think.”

Sitting on the ground, still wearing the remnants of her wedding dress from the afternoon party, Nicole sounded pleading. Her hands were wrapped around Alex’s legs. She desperately hoped that the man who had become her lawful husband just a few hours ago would give her a chance to explain.

“What else do you want to explain to Alex, Nicole?”

“Stay out of this, Aurora!”

Nicole looked up, then turned while glaring sharply at Aurora. She was furious because her cousin had ruined her happy day.

“You don’t need to interfere in my affairs. This is all because of you!”

“What?” Aurora was surprised. “Because of me? You should realize that this is all the consequence of your own wicked deeds.”

Nicole didn’t care. She ignored Aurora and then turned back to seek Alex’s attention.

“Alex...” she called out once more. “I admit that I have been involved with Bastian. But, for God’s sake, he and I have only been having casual fun all this time. I still believe that the baby in my belly-”

“My child?” Alex laughed bitterly. His face betrayed deep disappointment upon hearing Nicole’s seemingly empty words. “I’m not a child, Nicole. It’s clear from the examination results brought by Aurora that I have difficulty conceiving. So, what else should I believe?”

“But, the baby in my belly is indeed yours, Alex. Besides, Bastian and I always used protection.”

“Nonsense!”

Alex then brushed away Nicole’s hands that were wrapped around his leg. He stepped away, deliberately avoiding Nicole from getting too close to him.

“Ma...”

This time, Nicole approached Savana. Again, kneeling down, she reached for her mother-in-law’s wrist while pleading. Somehow, Nonid was sure that there was a glimmer of hope that her mother-in-law could help her out of the pressing issue.

“Please, Nicole, Ma. Please explain to Alex that the child in Nicole’s womb is his flesh and blood.”

Savana, seated on the sofa, only glanced briefly while pulling her hand away. It was clear she was still struggling to accept the successive realities that Aurora had conveyed.

It hurt so much. After all, Savana had placed great hope in Nicole. She had hoped her daughter-in-law could defeat Aurora. Even provide many offspring as successors to the Wildblood family. But what did she get? Instead of grandchildren, she got betrayal.

“Don’t come close. Mama doesn’t want to see your face.”  
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“But, Ma-”

“Enough, Nicole! Initially, Mama tried to believe. But, seeing your intimate photos, even without clothes with other men, Mama doubts if the baby in your belly is Alex’s.”

Nicole shook her head. She objected to Savana’s increasingly doubtful words.

“This is indeed Alex’s child.”

Savana smiled bitterly at Nicole’s nonsense.

“How could it be? The evidence is clear.”

“If Mama doubts it, Mama can prove who the father of this baby is when it is born by doing a DNA test.”

“Does that mean Mama and Alex have to wait nine months?”

Nicole nodded.

“Besides, Aurora could manipulate the doctor’s examination results. Moreover, she owns a hospital and has many connections. It wouldn’t be difficult for Aurora to fabricate false statements to undermine my position in Mama and Alex’s eyes.”

“Don’t be ridiculous, Nicole!”

Aurora growled in frustration. How could Nicole still not give up and continue to slander Aurora, who had clearly presented a lot of evidence.

“I’m not being ridiculous. All possibilities could happen. Judging from your behavior, it’s clear you’re obsessed with Alex. Just admit that you can’t stand him marrying and living happily with me, right?”

“Stop talking nonsense, Nicole!”

Alex couldn’t take it anymore. He ended Nicole’s increasingly nonsensical rant. “I just don’t believe that the baby you’re carrying is mine.”

“You can’t do that. You still have to take responsibility, Alex.”

“Why should I?” Alex objected. Clearly, Bastian had a share in this and was undoubtedly the one who impregnated Nicole. So, why should he bother taking responsibility?

“You can ask Bastian to take responsibility. After all, he’s the one who impregnated you.”

“But, Alex-”

“That’s enough!”

This time, Aurora interrupted. She was tired of wasting time, so she took over the conversation to prevent it from dragging on further.

“Whoever wants to take responsibility for Nicole’s unborn baby is up to them. What’s certain is that it’s not me who’s the problem here.”

Then, Aurora prepared to leave. Before stepping out completely, she approached Alex for one last talk.

“Don’t worry. For financial matters, everything has been arranged as fairly as possible by my lawyer. You’ll get what’s due to you. But, after receiving your share, don’t forget to pay off your debts.”

Alex was startled. Feeling like he never had any debts, he wondered what Aurora meant.

“Debts?”

Aurora nodded. Taking out another envelope from her bag, she handed it to Alex and Savana.

“Yes. In that envelope, your debts are clearly written. Remember, during your tenure as a leader, if you spent a lot of company money on your affairs.” Then Aurora deliberately glanced at Nicole. “Because the apartment Nicole occupies was purchased with Lumire’s money, starting tomorrow, its ownership will be transferred.”

“No!” Nicole shook her head. She couldn’t accept Aurora’s unilateral decision. “You can’t just do as you please, Aurora. That apartment is mine!”

“Don’t dream,” Aurora replied casually. “Bitch like you don’t deserve to live in expensive apartments.”

Then Aurora walked away. Once again, when she reached the threshold, she turned. Then deliberately glanced at Savana. “Starting tomorrow, all supporting facilities such as cars and others will be withdrawn. Don’t forget to remind Mama’s beloved son to pay his debts. If he defaults or resists, get ready to deal with the authorities.”

After Aurora left, Savana immediately felt breathless. She almost fainted from being hit by a storm of problems she had never anticipated before.

# Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Aurora and Asher just arrived at their parents' house. When the black Jeep Rubicon was neatly parked, Asher was momentarily confused. Instead of quickly getting out, his sister remained silent for quite a while.

“Aurora, come on, let’s get out. We’ve arrived.”

This invitation was ignored. Turning to Aurora, Asher gazed intently, making sure his sister was okay.

“Aurora Harperwood, are you okay?”

Aurora looked up, smiling faintly, her eyes appearing reddened.

“No. Totally No, Ash.”

Then, without saying much, Aurora approached and threw herself into a hug. She held her younger brother tightly for a moment, shedding all the tears she had been holding back.

Despite the revelation of Alex and Nicole’s affair, not to mention the facts about Savana’s involvement in the destruction of her marriage, Aurora hadn’t shed a single tear until now. She had made sure she appeared strong. Besides, as Rayyen had said, her tears were too precious to waste on people like Alex, Nicole, and Savana.

But Aurora’s defenses crumbled today. It felt overwhelming – a mix of happiness, sadness, anger, all rolled into one when she finally taught those who had done wrong a lesson.

“It’s okay, Dear.”

Asher tried to reassure her. He reached out to gently pat Aurora’s shoulder. He let his sister find solace in letting out her sadness.

“I’m here. Whenever you need me, Sister, I’ll always be here for you.”



Aurora didn't respond. After crying her heart out, she pulled away from Asher's embrace slowly.

"Do I look too emotional?"

Asher smiled. He helped wipe away the traces of tears still lingering on Aurora's flushed cheeks with a tissue.

"No. Who says you're emotional? Besides, it's only human to cry. Even Chava sometimes cries over trivial matters."

Aurora was intrigued by Asher's statement.

"Like what?"

"Crying while watching Korean dramas."

"Oh, really?"

Asher nodded, his face lighting up with enthusiasm to share.

"Imagine this, when Ciara was pregnant, Chava cried for three days and three nights because she was sad to see Captain Ri Jeong Hyeok and Yoon Se-Ri part ways."

Aurora's eyebrows shot up in surprise. Her face showed she didn't understand what Asher had just said.

"Who? Captain Ri Jeong, who?"

"Ri Jeong Hyeok," Asher repeated. He even took out his phone, searching for a new Google page to type the name he had just spelled out, then showed it to his sister. "Here he is."Content rights by NôvelDr//ama.Org.

"Oh my, you mean Hyun Bin?"

Asher nodded. Apparently, Hyun Bin was quite famous among women too.

“Yes. In the drama ‘Crash Landing On You,’ he plays a North Korean soldier. And his girlfriend is a South Korean conglomerate. So, they’re separated like that.”

Aurora nodded and laughed. Who would have thought that her tough-as-nails little brother would know about the actors and storyline of Korean dramas that were popular among women?

“Why do you know this? Did you watch this drama too?”

Asher rolled his eyes lazily. Rotating his eyeballs, he replied, “How could I not know? During Ciara’s pregnancy, Chava watched this drama every day. Even though she knew the storyline was sad, she kept rewatching it. Not to mention ‘The Legend of the Blue Sea,’ and ‘Vincenzo.’ But the most dangerous was when she watched ‘The World of the Married.’”

This time, Aurora looked puzzled. Why did her brother say that drama was dangerous?

“Why dangerous?”

“Well, that drama is about infidelity. So, Chava starts overthinking and suspects all sorts of things about me. She even didn’t let me work for a while because she was afraid I’d fall in love with someone like Siena again.”

“Hahaha.”

Aurora laughed, holding her stomach. It wasn’t funny with the story Asher was telling. But she just felt amused seeing Asher’s expression, seemingly helpless because of his wife’s antics.

“By the way...” Aurora whispered after her laughter subsided. “Thanks for cheering me up. At least now my chest doesn’t feel tight anymore.”

“You’re welcome. If crying makes you feel more comfortable, just do it. Let it all out until there’s no leftover or lingering tightness.”

Supported in such a way, even helped to resolve all the problems weighing her down, Aurora was truly grateful to have a brother as good, as capable, and as smart as Asher.

Aurora admits that all the problems that happened to her could be quickly resolved because of Asher's significant role in them. Rayyen was right; she should have confided in and sought help from Asher from the beginning.

Feeling better already, Aurora quickly followed Asher, who had already exited the car and stepped into the house. Inside, Elena and Joshua were already waiting for both of them.

"Aurora..."

Aurora hurried over when her mother called her name. She hugged her tightly and kissed her feet.

"Forgive Aurora, Mom. Forgive Aurora for disappointing you and Dad."

Elena quickly lifted Aurora's body. She knew her daughter felt guilty about what had happened to her marriage.

"It's okay, Aurora. Mom and Dad aren't disappointed at all. Just consider this as your fate."

"Mama's right, Aurora." Joshua, sitting beside Elena, chimed in. He couldn't bear to see his daughter crying. "We're not disappointed at all. If it's meant to be, then so be it. What's important is that it's not you who caused the problem here. And Dad hopes that after today, you can turn over a new leaf and no longer have any contact with the Wildblood family for whatever reason."

Aurora nodded. She felt relieved that she could resolve everything peacefully. She was also satisfied because she managed to retaliate and settle the score with those who had hurt her.

"After this," Joshua continued, "Dad hopes you'll be more careful in choosing a partner, especially a future husband."

“Let Asher do the selection or find her a partner.”

Asher deliberately provoked. Instead of her sister making the wrong choice again, he'd rather help find and evaluate her potential partners.

“Don't start! We've just separated, and you're already busy looking for a new partner. I haven't even thought about it yet. Let me enjoy my time alone for now.”

“Are you sure? Being alone feels lonely.”

Asher teased. He enjoyed teasing Aurora until his sister got angry or annoyed.

“Yes, Ash.”

“Sure? Then what about Alden? Where will you take him?”

Aurora widened her eyes in surprise. How could Asher bring up Alden in front of their parents?

“Alden? Who's Alden?”

Elena immediately confirmed. As if familiar with the name mentioned by her son, she asked because she wanted to know.

“He's nobody, Mom.”

“Aurora's lying, Mom!” Asher deliberately interrupted Aurora's words.  
“Do you forget? Alden Maximus. Aurora's first love.”

Elena was silent for a moment. Then she nodded as if she remembered something.

“Oh, my goodness. Alden was Aurora's first boyfriend? The one who studied abroad?”

“Yes.”

“So what about Alden?”

Elena became curious. She was also curious why her son and daughter suddenly talked about someone from the past.

“Aurora still seems to have feelings for him, Mom. Especially now that Alden works at Santa Monica Hospital. They even—”

Before he could finish his sentence, Aurora hurriedly approached. Taking his hand, she deliberately covered her brother’s mouth, who was like a leaking bucket.

“Saying nonsense, I’ll give you cyanide mouthwash!”

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## Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

“Darling, are you really kicking me out?”

Nicole hung her head weakly. Let alone enjoying their first night as newlyweds, her status as a legitimate wife was about to disappear soon.

Today was supposed to be a happy day. Everything was ruined instantly because of Aurora and Asher’s actions.

“From now on, I’m divorcing you. Tomorrow, I’ll take care of our divorce. So, please take all your belongings and leave. I don’t want to see your face anymore!”

Alex looked furious. Consumed by anger, he ordered Nicole to leave his mother’s residence immediately.

Moreover, what was the point of Alex holding onto Nicole? It was clear that he had been betrayed. Besides, the baby in her belly wasn’t even his flesh and blood. So why should he persist, let alone take responsibility? It was a waste of time.

“But, Alex. I’m pregnant. Don’t you have any pity for me?”

Alex stared intently at Nicole, who was now sitting on the floor. She seemed to be trying to persuade Alex to reconsider his decision to kick her out.

Alex then grabbed Nicole's arm and pulled her towards Bastian, who was still there.

"Go ahead, demand accountability from Bastian. He's the one who impregnated you, he's also the one who will marry you and take care of all your needs."

"No!" Nicole shook her head. She pushed away Alex's hand that had previously gripped her tightly.

"I don't want to live with Bastian. I love you, not Bastian."

"But he's the one who impregnated you, right? Why should I be the one to take responsibility?"

Nicole shook her head vigorously, refusing with all her might to accept the reality that Alex presented.

"Why don't you give me a chance to prove it? We can do a DNA test when the baby is born. At least, give me time with you until the baby is born."

Alex laughed bitterly. What kind of offer was Nicole presenting?

"Give you a chance? You mean I should wait nine months to prove who the father of the baby you're carrying is?" All text © NôvelD(r)a'ma.Org.

"Yes."

"Don't be ridiculous! Why should I waste my time? If you insist on doing a DNA test, please stay with Bastian for now. Then, after the baby is born, we can test together."

"But, Alex—"

"Enough!" Alex interrupted hastily. His head felt like it was about to explode from Nicole's incessant nagging, which was actually completely

irrelevant. Really, he was tired of hearing his ex-girlfriend whining, asking to stay with him as if nothing had happened between them. Ridiculous!

“Nicole...” Bastian dared to speak up. He called out to Nicole, who was arguing with Alex. “I’ll take responsibility. You don’t have to worry about the baby in your stomach.”

“No!”

Nicole exclaimed in refusal. Even though she knew and was aware that Bastian had impregnated her, Nicole felt unwilling to marry the man.

“Don’t even dream that I will want to live with you.”

Nicole then walked away. Approaching Savana, who was sitting on the sofa, she then knelt down while holding the older woman’s leg.

“Ma... please help Nicole. Please tell Alex that Nicole doesn’t want a divorce, let alone to separate from him. Nicole loves Alex, Ma. Nicole doesn’t want to leave here.”

Savana remained unmoved. She ignored Nicole’s heart-wrenching pleas.

“Nicole loves Mama and Alex. Nicole doesn’t want to be separated from you. This is all just Aurora’s scheme to destroy our family.”

Savana then turned. She stared sharply at Nicole, who was still kneeling at her feet.

“It’s all because of you, Nicole. Look at this!” Savana then roughly grabbed Nicole’s chin, pulling her up while showing her one of the sheets of paper containing the bills that Aurora had given earlier. “This sheet is full of expensive purchases that Alex bought for you! Alex has a lot of debt because of you!”

Nicole shook her head. She tried to defend herself.

“Nicole is sorry, Ma. How could Nicole know that it would end like this?”

“Ah, women never know when they’re lucky!”

Savana then stood up, grabbing Nicole’s wrist firmly. She dragged her mercilessly to immediately leave her house.

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

Reluctantly, after being openly driven out, verbally abused, and treated like trash, tonight Nicole was forced to return to her apartment.

Ironically, after being arrogant, refusing even to act as though they were willing to acknowledge each other, Nicole ultimately left by accompanying Bastian.

Upon reaching the apartment, the man responsibly helped carry the suitcase and some other belongings. Despite his reluctance, he insisted on buying food so that Nicole could sleep on a full stomach tonight.

Bastian did this deliberately. Aware that Nicole was pregnant with his child, he didn’t want their unborn baby to become a victim of the ongoing issues.

“No need to seek attention!”

Nicole, sitting on the living room sofa, immediately sneered. She glanced at Bastian, who had just brought her a cold drink.

“I’m not seeking attention,” Bastian replied casually. He continued arranging the food he had bought on the dining table.

“Then what do you call this if not seeking attention?”

“No need for denial. I just want to make sure the baby in your stomach is fed and that you won’t go hungry tonight.”



Nicole sighed in frustration. Despite Bastian's current decent behavior, she still didn't like it. She wondered why he had to show up and make everything messy.

"Do you realize that your actions have ruined my future?"

Bastian laughed. Why was he being made the main suspect?

"You're blaming me?"

"Then whose fault is it? A ghost?"

Bastian couldn't believe it. Long before their relationship was exposed, he and Nicole both understood all the possible consequences or outcomes that could happen in the future. So, it was ridiculous that he was now being made the scapegoat.

"Nicole..." Bastian called softly. "We're not children. When we were in a relationship, both you and I enjoyed it, right? So why are you now blaming me for everything?"

Nicole stood up. Closing the distance, she approached Bastian to speak directly in front of his face.

"I don't mind the relationship we secretly had behind Alex's back. What I mind is why you showed up and stood on Aurora's side? Why did you tell Alex in detail about what we've done? Why did you even pretend to impregnate me?"

"Well, I'm the one who impregnated you, right?"

"You're such an idiot!" Nicole exclaimed in frustration. "Why did you have to admit it? WHY? You've ruined my plans."

Bastian sighed softly. Nicole didn't know that he was trapped from the beginning.

"Well, what else could I do? I couldn't avoid it. Asher has evidence of my cheating all this time at Lumire. He even has photos of my actions that nobody else should know about. If I refuse to cooperate with him, not

only me but you will also be dragged to the police station.”All text © NôvelD(r)a'ma.Org.

Nicole was stunned by Bastian’s explanation. She had no idea that Asher went to such lengths.

“It’s better for you to stay in a small rented house than to live in jail. Just accept it...,” Bastian said again. “It’s time for everything to be revealed. There’s no escaping it. Just accept your fate.”

Nicole grew even more annoyed. She pushed Bastian to leave her apartment immediately.

After he left, Nicole could only lament her fate. The shadows of tonight sleeping in Alex’s embrace instantly shattered. They were replaced by nightmares she never anticipated.

Nicole thought all this suffering was over. However, part of her sleep was disturbed when her apartment door was repeatedly knocked on.

Nicole dragged her feet lazily. Still wearing her pajamas, she opened the door.

“Are you Nicole?”

Nicole nodded as soon as her name was mentioned.

“Yes, that’s me.”

In front of her were now two well-dressed and formal-looking men. She made sure she had never met them before.

“Can I help you?”

One of the men nodded. “We’re from the apartment management. Today, we’re here to inform you that you’re required to pack up and move because this apartment will be taken over by its owner.”

Nicole immediately growled in anger. She knew this must be Aurora’s doing. Yesterday, Nicole did hear that her cousin wanted to take over the

apartment given by Alex. But who would have thought it would happen this quickly.

“B-but, Sir. Can’t it be postponed? I’m sick right now. I can’t pack or leave today. Besides, I haven’t found a new rental place to move to yet.”

Nicole intentionally stalled for time. It wasn’t fair that she was suddenly being evicted.

“Don’t worry, Mrs. Nicole. We’ve arranged a team to help you pack. You just sit tight. Let us do the work.”

Nicole sighed in resignation. Instead of granting her any leniency or acceding to her request, the officers in front of her were offering an unexpected alternative.

“Damn you, Aurora! Just wait. I’ll repay all your deeds.”

Meanwhile, in another place, Savana’s breakfast ritual was also interrupted. She was trying hard to improve her mood and chaotic thoughts.

Savana was annoyed that someone was visiting so early at 8 o’clock in the morning. It seemed like someone impatient to meet.

“What do you want?”

As she opened the door, Savana immediately asked the question. She saw several large-bodied men visiting.

“We’re looking for Alex Wildblood.”

Hearing his name, Alex, who was in the dining room, immediately stood up. He approached his mother, who was standing at the door.

“I’m Alex Wildblood. What’s this about?”

One of the men reached into his pocket and pulled out an envelope. Then he handed it to Alex to check and read immediately.

“We’re here because we’ve been tasked with collecting a debt and retrieving some important assets from Mr. Alex. The order states that Mr. Alex must pay a debt of 10 million dollars and surrender two SUVs as mentioned in the withdrawal letter.”

Alex looked defeated. Although he knew he had to pay compensation, he never expected to be demanded this early. He hadn’t even found a new job after resigning from Lumire. How was he supposed to pay off the debt?

“B-but, Sir, I can’t pay off the debt right now. Please give me some time.”

“Yes,” Savana intervened. “10 million dollars is a large amount. We can’t come up with that much money in a day. Besides, we don’t have that much money.”

“Mr. Alex can sell assets,” the officer replied, as if offering a solution. “If you want, we can help sell the house you and your mother currently occupy. Besides, I predict this house can be sold for over 3 billion.”

“No,” Savana shook her head firmly. “I don’t want to sell this house. No way!”

“In that case, please pay off the debt immediately. Because if you and your mother request an extension, we’ll give you a maximum of seven days to settle the debts that have been demanded. If you evade or intentionally avoid it, we’ll make sure this matter turns into a criminal case.”

As soon as the debt collectors left, Savana slumped down on the floor. It hurt so much to imagine that her late husband’s legacy, which was their only asset, would be sold to pay off debts.

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

Aurora's face looked cheerful all day long. Despite having many difficult tasks to complete, she seemed to handle everything with ease. Velia, who had been observing, even wondered what made her friend's mood so good since earlier.

"Why have you been smiling all this time?"

Just as she sat down at her desk, Velia questioned her. Being curious, she wanted to confirm what had actually happened.

"Why? Isn't smiling a part of worship?"

Velia immediately groaned.

"Oh my God, that's so cliché. Everywhere, if someone smiles without a reason, it means they have a mental disorder. It's better to quickly get checked by Dr. Donna."

Aurora immediately frowned. How dare she be accused of being crazy like that.

"Careless. I'm just happy enjoying my freedom. After all the problems are solved, it feels so relieved."

Knowing why Aurora was happier, Velia groaned immediately. She remembered how her friend had kept hiding what was happening.

"Ah, not a friend. You call yourself a friend. But, there's a big problem and you didn't even tell me."

Aurora laughed.

"Sorry, Velia. I just didn't want my family's shame to spread. Besides, I want all of this to be over without involving anyone else."

"Yeah," Velia responded understandingly. "The most important thing now is that you're finally free from that Alex who has no sense of boundaries. Now, just enjoy life and start looking for a new partner."

Aurora sighed. Why was Velia behaving just like Asher? She was already widowed, yet here her friend was, telling her to find a new partner.

“Excuse me.”

The sound of knocking on the door interrupted the conversation between Velia and Aurora. From the sound of it, it was easy to guess who it was.

“Well, here’s your new potential partner.”

Aurora immediately pinched Velia. Swear by anything, her friend was indeed suitable to be friends with Asher. Their behaviors were equally annoying.

“Excuse me? New potential partner? What do you mean?”

Alden, who had come to visit, seemed confused. Entering Aurora’s room, he asked.

“It’s okay, Alden. Velia just likes to be unclear like that.”

“Oh, I see.” Alden smiled and nodded. “I came here just to hand over some PICU patient files. I’ve examined and treated them. Tomorrow, it’s your turn to observe.”

“Okay,” Aurora nodded as she accepted the files from Alden. “I’ll check the documents right away.”

“Alright, I’ll take my leave now.”

“Dr. Alden.” Velia called out. This made Alden stop in his tracks. “Yes, Dr. Velia?”

“Are you done with your tasks for today?”

“Yes,” Alden confirmed.

“Have you had lunch?”

This time Alden shook his head.

“Not yet. I was just about to go find lunch.”

Velia snapped her fingers suddenly. Rising, she approached Alden. “It so happens that Aurora and I are going to have lunch at the mall. Why don’t you join us? Aurora will treat.”

“Velia!” Aurora half-gaped, reprimanding. She didn’t even know anything about it. Why was her name being volunteered?

“Sure,” Alden agreed without hesitation. “But let me treat instead. It’s not right for a girl to pay.”

“Okay, no problem. Let’s go now.”

Without asking first, Velia casually took Aurora’s hand towards the car. She forced the woman to join. She even deliberately told her to sit in the front seat, next to Alden.

Arriving at the mall, the three of them had lunch peacefully. It was just the same as before; Velia, with countless excuses, once again left Aurora and Alden so they could go home together.

“Alden...” Aurora called out as they were on their way back.

“Yes, what is it?” Content rights belong to [NôvelDrama.Org](http://NôvelDrama.Org).

“Tomorrow, if Velia tries to set us up like earlier, it’s better if you refuse.”

Alden smiled. He knew Aurora must feel awkward.

“No problem. Just relax. Besides, we just had lunch, right?”

“Yeah, but... I feel bad.”

Alden turned to her. The man smiled again.

“So, you mean having lunch with me feels bad.”

“Huh?” Aurora immediately felt embarrassed. That wasn’t what she meant. “No... not like that. I mean, later-”

“Yeah, yeah...” Alden nodded and chuckled. “I understand what you mean. But, I don’t think it’s a problem if we just have lunch together. Next time, we should try having dinner together too.”

Aurora fell silent. She carefully considered Alden’s recent statement. Did that man just ask her out?

A few moments later, Alden’s car arrived at the hospital parking lot. After parking neatly, he and Aurora prepared to get out.

“Aurora...” Alden called before the woman could get out of her car.

“Yes?” Aurora turned. She looked at Alden’s face, which had always been handsome and unchanged. “What is it? Is there something important you want to talk about?”

Alden shook his head.

“I don’t know if this is really important or not.”

“What is it? You’re just making me curious?”

Alden smiled. Clearly taking a breath, he spoke confidently.

“Because you’re officially single now, can I slowly approach you again?”

Aurora was stunned. Was Alden declaring his love again or something?

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

Alex massaged his throbbing temples. His head felt like it was about to explode thinking about how to pay off the debt Aurora had demanded from him.



For Alex, 10 million wasn't a small amount. Even after calculating the assets distribution, he could only back up half of it.

"Mom... let's just sell this house. For God's sake, Alex doesn't know where to find a large amount of money in just a few days."

In the living room, Alex tried to discuss with his mother. Persuading and pleading with Savana to consider the suggestion he was offering.

After all, selling their only house was Alex's only hope of quickly paying off the debt. Then they could move to a smaller house and start anew.

"No way!"

Savana shook her head firmly. She immediately rejected her beloved son's request.

"You can ask for anything from Mama. But not to sell the house. This is the only inheritance from your late father. If we sell it, what else will we have to remember him by?"

Alex sighed heavily. He was torn. In his heart, he couldn't bear to sell his childhood home. There were so many memories Alex had from the house he currently lived in.

But, on the other hand, he had no choice but to sell assets. Alex's savings were not much to speak of. It was his fault for being too extravagant when he was living with Aurora. And then, after meeting Nicole, Alex spent all his money on that cursed woman.

"So, how will Alex pay Lumire's debt?"

"Just forget about paying it," Savana replied casually. Whether Savana was considering the consequences of her words or not was unclear.

"And does that mean Alex is just giving up if this issue is taken to the legal route? 10 million is a lot. How can it just be let go like that?"

Savana still responded casually to her son's words.

“Oh, that’s probably just a bluff. There’s no way Aurora would sue you for such a trivial matter.”

Alex was at a loss for words. His situation was truly hanging by a thread. Why did his mother still consider the problem at hand as nothing more than an empty threat?

“If Aurora handles this matter, maybe we can ask for leniency. Alex knows well that Aurora is kind and forgiving. The problem is, it’s Asher who’s handling everything. If Alex doesn’t pay the debt, he’ll likely be sued for embezzlement. And if he gets imprisoned, the sentence will definitely be more than five years.”

Savana then sighed in frustration. Her head suddenly began to ache after hearing her son’s explanation. And upon reflection, it was indeed serious and couldn’t be ignored. Savana couldn’t bear the thought of her beloved son having to deal with the authorities, let alone being imprisoned.

“That’s why we should just sell this house,” Alex pleaded again. Still trying to persuade his mother to soften her heart and give her blessing. “Alex promises, once he gets a new job and starts saving, he’ll buy a new house.”

Savana remained unmoved. She didn’t give an inch in her response. She was adamant about keeping her late husband’s legacy.

“Mama doesn’t want to.”

“Come on, Ma. Is there any other way to pay off the debt besides selling this house? If there is, Alex will try to do it.”

This time Savana fell silent. She was also puzzled about what to do to help her son pay off his debts.

“This is all because of Aurora!”

“No,” Alex defended. “This is purely Alex’s fault. None of this would have happened if Alex hadn’t been involved with Nicole.”

“But it’s still Aurora’s fault.”

Savana didn't care. Instead of repenting and lamenting her fate for her evil deeds towards Aurora, she seemed to harbor intense resentment and anger towards her former daughter-in-law.

"Anyway, if anything happens to our family, Mama will settle the score with her."

Feeling helpless, Alex ended the conversation with his mother. Rising, he prepared to leave. There was something important he needed to attend to.

"Where are you going?" Savana asked when she noticed her son dressed neatly and ready to leave.

"Meeting a friend. Today, there's an appointment to discuss job matters."

Savana looked at him with a probing gaze. She didn't expect her son to start looking for a new job. Belonging to NôvelDrama.Org.

"Where are you planning to work, Alex?"

"I'm planning to work with Doddy. You know, Alex's old friend who now owns a medical equipment factory and is a major supplier. Luckily, there's an opening at his office."

"What position will you be in?"

"For now, it's in sales marketing."

Savana's eyes widened. Alex's answer just now made her unhappy.

"What? A sales job? No! You're a graduate, Alex. I worked hard to put you through college, even up to your Master's. Why would you become a salesperson at a drugstore?"

Alex knew this rejection was inevitable. And he was well aware that his mother had high pride. If given the choice, Alex also wanted to work directly in a high-ranking position like before.

"This is just temporary."

“Sure, but why do you have to work in sales marketing? Your education is good. You have a lot of experience. If you apply to reputable companies, Mom is sure you’ll be accepted.”

“Alex knows,” the man interjected. It’s tough to argue with his mother. “Like Alex said before, this is just temporary. While waiting for other job applications to be approved. Mom doesn’t need to worry. Alex doesn’t mind any job as long as he can still provide for Mom’s needs.”

Savana’s heart softened. It pained her deeply to see her son struggling like this. And she silently vowed to do something to help.

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Aurora had just finished her rounds and checked on several patients. As she entered her office and sat down, she was already greeted by a visitor. When she looked up, Aurora found Alden standing there, holding something.

“Are you done with your tasks for today?”

Aurora nodded, gesturing for Alden to sit.

“Yes. I just finished checking on the patient who underwent surgery with you yesterday.”

“The one whose father is from Malaysia?”

“Yes. Thankfully, the child’s condition is starting to improve.”

Then Alex placed a brown paper bag he brought onto Aurora’s desk. It immediately caught the room owner’s attention.

“What’s this? What did you bring me now?”

Alden just smiled. Did he even realize that sometimes his smile made Aurora’s heart flutter?

“It’s lunch for you.”

Aurora laughed. She peeked into the paper bag containing the lunchbox Alden handed her.

“Oh my, did you bring me beef black pepper?”

“Yes. You still like it, right?”

Aurora smiled again. Out of all the food, Alden still remembered what she liked.

“Of course I do.”

“Coincidentally, I had lunch with Asher earlier. So, I packed it for you.”

This time Aurora chuckled teasingly. Somehow she always got tickled by the word ‘coincidentally’ that Alden often used.

“Always ‘coincidentally’. Just admit that you intentionally wanted to buy and bring me lunch, right?”

Alden burst into laughter.

“How did you know?”

“I could read your mind.”

They both laughed. Luckily Velia wasn’t in the room. If that woman saw what was happening between Aurora and Alden right now, they would definitely be teased mercilessly.

“What time do you finish work today?”

After providing lunch, now Alden was asking about her work schedule. Aurora wondered what else this man was planning.

“As usual, at five. I drove myself. So, you don’t need to offer me a ride.”

“Hahaha why so confident? Besides, who would want to give you a ride?” Alden chattered with a smirk. “I’m just asking. Besides, I know you’re driving. I saw our cars parked side by side.”

Aurora immediately blushed and was met with Alden's laughter.

"I was just kidding, Aurora. Actually, I was going to ask if you wanted to go watch a movie. There's a good one playing in the theater."

"Not today." Aurora politely declined. Besides, there was something important she had to do. "I have dinner plans with Mom and Dad tonight. If you want, maybe next time. And you can invite Velia and others too."

"Okay," Alden agreed. After all, he understood that Aurora wasn't ready to go out with him alone yet. Maybe she needed time to adjust to her new status. "How about this weekend? I'll invite Dr. Andrew and Ferdy too."

"Sure," Aurora nodded. Besides, since she was alone, she could go anywhere freely. "I'll let Velia know to join us too."

Then Alden glanced at the watch on his wrist. Confirming that his break time was almost up, he decided to bid farewell. It wouldn't be nice to intrude on Aurora's activities for too long.

"Well then, I'll go back to my room. Don't forget to have your lunch. You can eat it right away while it's still hot."

"Yes, I will. Thanks again."

"You're welcome." Then Alden got up from his seat. Before leaving, he spoke again. "By the way, just let me know about the movie schedule. You still have my phone number, right?"

Aurora laughed. She knew Alden was just making small talk. Or perhaps he was giving a hint, asking Aurora to contact him via text or call. "Yes, I still have it. Didn't you ever message me to ask about a patient's diagnosis?"

"Oh, right. I forgot. In that case, I'm really looking forward to your next message."

Alden stepped out. Just at the door, he called out again.

"Aurora..."

Aurora immediately looked up.

“Yes?”

“Don’t forget to eat.”

“Yes, I’ll have it in a moment.”

Alden laughed. He knew Aurora must be annoyed by being reminded multiple times.

“In that case, see you later.”

Aurora just nodded. Only a few seconds later, as she was about to eat her food, she heard another knock on the door.

“Oh my, Alden, relax. I’ll eat the food you brought in a moment.”

But as she lifted her gaze, Aurora was left speechless to find someone else knocking on the door. It wasn’t Alden, but a very familiar figure in her eyes.

“Mom Savana?”

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

In the past, it wasn’t easy for Aurora to seek her parents’ blessing to marry Alex.

Apart from feeling that they weren’t from similar backgrounds, Alex at the time didn’t have a steady job either. “Even though both are educated, Alex still isn’t the right match for Aurora, Dad. What’s the use of having a high education if he doesn’t even have a stable job? Not to mention, he’s known for changing partners frequently. I’m worried that Aurora might be left behind when he gets bored.”

“Dad, I’m not entirely comfortable either. But Aurora seems determined to choose Alex.”

Truly, Joshua was uncertain. He was worried about letting go of his beloved daughter to a man he considered not yet established. Especially when Asher revealed a fact that Alex was someone who liked changing partners frequently.

It was difficult for Joshua and Elena to give their blessing. But because Aurora kept trying to convince them, and Alex also tried to win over his future in-laws, Joshua eventually agreed to their marriage.

“Aurora promises not to disappoint Dad and Mom with her choice. Just pray that Aurora’s marriage lasts until death do us part.”

At that time, when introduced to Alex’s parents for the first time, Aurora was so happy. Especially when she saw how friendly and caring Mrs. Savana was.

Indeed, when officially married and assuming the role of Alex’s lawful wife, Aurora was often treated like a queen. She was frequently pampered, attended to, and her every whim was catered to.

Because of this kindness, Aurora didn’t hesitate to provide many facilities. She even purposely asked her father to give Alex the best position in their company.

Savana grew to love her more. But Aurora thought this sweet behavior would last. After a full year of marriage, Savana noticeably changed. Especially when her desire to have grandchildren immediately remained unfulfilled.

Slowly but surely, Aurora began to be treated unfairly. She was even deliberately embarrassed at almost every Wildblood family gathering. Labeled as a useless barren woman who failed to become a daughter-in-law and also a prospective mother.

Aurora endured all the mistreatment with patience and tolerance. She never once tried to fight back or retaliate.

However, who would have thought that Aurora’s long-standing good behavior wouldn’t make Savana realize? Her mother-in-law became more



insane, even contributing to the destruction of the marriage Aurora and Alex had built.

Yet Aurora was happy because she could finally escape from the evil clutches of her ex-husband and mother-in-law. However, today Aurora feels disturbed again. While busy working, Savana suddenly visits. Whether for business or for what purpose until she bothers to come herself.

“Mother Savana?”

Although Aurora hadn’t invited her in yet, Savana barged in and approached without permission.

“Because of you, I had to come all the way here.”

Savana sounded grumpy. From her tone of voice, it was evident she was irritated and angry.

“What? Because of Aurora?” Aurora’s eyebrows furrowed immediately. Why did she come and immediately blame her? “What did Aurora do? Why is Mom coming here and getting mad right away?”

“What did Aurora do?” Savana snapped. “Don’t you have any sense of shame? Because of you, my life and Alex’s are a mess. Why did you force Alex to pay off such a huge debt?”

Aurora took a slow breath. Finally, she knew why her mother-in-law was upset and came to visit. It wasn’t far from the question of the debt she had demanded.

“It’s precisely because Aurora is good that she asked Alex to pay off his debts. Besides, no matter how small, debts always follow you to the grave. It’s better to settle them in this world than to wait for judgment in the afterlife.”

Savana looked even more irritated after hearing Aurora’s defense. Especially when she brought up the afterlife.

“Don’t talk too much.”

Aurora wanted to laugh. But she held back as much as she could.



“Furthermore...” Savana continued. “Aren’t you supposed to be wealthy? You have plenty of assets and other wealth. Why are you demanding repayment of just 10 million?” This belongs © NôvelDra/ma.Org.

Aurora didn’t know whether Savana was being reasonable or not. How could she have such a huge debt but ask for it to be forgiven?

“Even if it’s just \$1000, it’s still a debt, Ma. Especially when Alex spends \$10 million on pleasing other women. It’s not fair.”

“But because of your actions, I’m at risk of losing the house!”

Aurora didn’t care. Whose debt it was, why should she be the one bothered and worried about it?

“That’s not my concern. Back then, when everything was fine, I was forgotten. Even though I’ve been good and supportive in every way. Whatever Mama and Alex asked for, I gave. But what did I get in return? Betrayal. And now that there’s trouble, why am I being blamed? Besides, if Alex and Mama have savings, they don’t need to sell the house and all. Just pay it off. Problem solved.”

“It’s not that simple, Aurora. This is all your fault from the beginning!”

Aurora narrowed her eyes. She had been blamed all along. Why was her ex-mother-in-law so annoying? Always shifting the blame onto others.

“Why is it my fault? Because I can’t give Mama grandchildren? Just please, Ma. It’s Mama’s child who’s sterile. Why not blame them for being useless humans?”

Whether out of extreme frustration or perhaps displeasure with Aurora’s dismissive and impolite response, Savana acted recklessly. She pushed Aurora until she leaned against the table, then forcefully pulled Aurora’s hijab.

“Mama, it hurts!” Aurora tried to push her away. But Savana kept pulling at Aurora’s hijab as if trying to rip it off her head. She even slapped Aurora’s cheek a few times. “Help! Please!”

Aurora screamed for help. Luckily, Alden and Velia heard and immediately decided to enter the room. Soon after, Asher followed, along with two nurses who happened to be passing by.

Together with Asher, Alden tried to pull Savana away. While Velia went straight to Aurora, helping fix her hijab and then embracing her.

“You crazy woman!” Asher exclaimed angrily. He didn’t care that she was much older. “Should I report you to the police?”

“Go ahead!” Savana yelled angrily. Her body was held by the nurses who were there. “Aurora deserves it. Because of her, Alex and I are in trouble! Anyway, I have to retaliate against Aurora for what she did.”

Asher then called security, asking them to immediately escort Savana out of the hospital.

“Remember this woman’s face well. Whatever the reason, never let her enter or receive treatment at this hospital again.”

As she was dragged out, Savana screamed and struggled. Trying to free herself, but eventually being subdued.

Then, Asher went straight to Aurora. He hugged his sister who was trying hard to hold back her tears.

“Are you okay? Is anyone hurt?”

Aurora shook her head softly. Returning the hug, seeking refuge in Asher. Shocked and shaken by Savana’s sudden attack.

“I’m fine.”

“Are you sure? If anyone is hurt, tell me. Or should we do a check-up? So I can report it to the police.”

Asher was naturally worried and furious. He saw his sister being hurt and treated roughly with his own eyes. Even their parents never did anything like this. That’s why, if necessary, Asher would report today’s incident to the authorities.

“No need. I’m fine.”



“Aurora must be in shock, Ash,” Alden interjected. He couldn’t bear to see Aurora’s cheeks reddened from the slaps.

“But, Aurora. If something happens—”

“Let me handle and accompany her.”

Velia, who was beside Aurora, signaled. Asking the two doctors in front of her to leave and give Aurora space to recover.

Understanding what needed to be done, Asher and Alden chose to leave. While Velia helped calm Aurora.

“Aurora, seriously, no one is hurt? Let me check, okay?”

Aurora sighed softly. She shook her head, ensuring she was okay.

“I’m fine.”

“How can you be fine?”

Velia sighed. She was angry and frustrated seeing the crazy act Savana had done. “Your ex-mother-in-law should be put in a mental hospital. Seriously, she’s endangering others’ lives.”

Velia then handed Aurora a glass of water. Allowing her friend to take a sip first.

“Thanks for the drink. Yeah, I understand, Savana’s mom is angry because she can’t accept that Alex has to pay off such a huge debt.”

“Gosh!” Velia exclaimed. Her lips pouted in response to Aurora’s recent words. “It’s better to be asked to pay off debts than to be thrown directly into jail, right? Besides, couldn’t she have some shame? Instead of repenting, feeling guilty, or at least apologizing. And yet, she comes here to cause trouble. In a hospital, no less.”

Aurora understood why Velia was so angry. Especially since she never liked Alex and his family from the start.

“I was also surprised when she suddenly came. Then she started yelling for no reason. And suddenly she attacked.”

“You’re patient. It’s good that she’s not your mother-in-law anymore. If it were me, I would’ve given her poison to die quickly.”

Aurora just smiled. After a few seconds, her attention shifted when Alden came back.

“Sorry to interrupt for a moment,” Alden said softly as he stood at the door. “May I come in for a moment?”

“Sure, Doc, come in,” Velia replied, welcoming him.

Alden then walked over. Offering something to Aurora.

“This is for you. Please accept it.”

Aurora immediately reached for the white plastic bag given by Alden. She peeked inside to see what was in it.

“Ice cream?”

Alden nodded.

“Yes. For you. Hopefully, after eating ice cream, your mood will improve.”

Aurora just nodded. She accepted Alden’s gift happily.

“Thank you so much. I’ll definitely eat the ice cream along with the lunch you gave me earlier.”

“OMG... that’s so sweet.”

Velia immediately became excited. Delighted to see the act of service Alden openly showed to Aurora.