

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge 81-90

Alden glanced at Aurora's figure from a distance. Leaning against the wall with both hands folded in front of his chest, he observed how busy Aurora was handling patients.

Honestly, Alden's heart warmed. He enjoyed the sight this afternoon. But when he remembered his mother's request instructing him to keep his distance from the woman he loved most, his heart instantly ached.

Alden patiently waited, praying day and night for a chance to be reunited with Aurora. And when he felt that his prayers had been answered, suddenly a trial came.

"I won't do it! No matter what, I will never distance myself from Aurora."

In front of his mother, Alden made his stance clear. Despite being warned, he insisted he would not distance himself even an inch from the woman he had loved for so long.

"Does that mean you don't love Mama?"

Alden laughed bitterly. He responded to his mother's words casually.

"There are many ways to show my love and devotion to you, Mama. If you want, I would even give the world to prove how much I love and care for you. But not by distancing myself from someone who is clearly not at fault."

"Are you okay seeing Mama become the subject of ridicule and the target of others' insults fueled by slander?"

Alden shook his head.

"Of course, I'm not okay with it. But both of us know that Aunt Savana is the one at fault and spreading rumors. So why should Aurora be the one to be avoided?"

“Mama is taking this stance because she doesn’t want you to be seen as using Aurora for personal gain. Mama doesn’t want our family to be accused of things because it’s assumed we’re seeking benefits.”

“Exactly. Give me time to clear Mama’s name. Let me prove and resolve this issue from its roots. Don’t push me to run away from the problem and shift the blame onto Aurora, who is clearly a victim of irresponsible slander.”

For God’s sake, Alden wouldn’t stay silent. He would do whatever it takes to convince his mother that Aurora is the only one worthy of being his companion. Whatever it takes, Alden would do to gain his mother’s blessing and permission to freely engage with Aurora again. If necessary, he would propose and marry Aurora as soon as possible.

“Alden.”

From behind, someone gently tapped his shoulder. Turning around, he found Asher standing there, smiling at him.

“Asher... what is it? Is there a patient needing surgery?”

Asher shook his head. That wasn’t his reason for approaching Alden.

“I want to talk to you about something important. Can you come to the room for a moment?”

Alden agreed with a nod. He followed Asher to the men’s room. Once there, he was immediately invited to sit on the sofa on the right side of the room.

“What important matter do you want to discuss with me? Is it about a patient?”

Asher shook his head. Leaning back in his chair, Asher took a more relaxed and comfortable position.

“It’s about Aurora.”

“Aurora? What about her?”

Asher sighed softly. It wasn't usual for him to act strangely like this. His gestures were exactly like someone who felt uncomfortable.

"I apologize in advance if my words offend you. I want to confirm about the incident that happened at your mother's birthday party."

Alden remained silent for a moment. Then he responded to Asher's question.

"Did Aurora tell you about the unpleasant incident caused by Aunt Savana?"

Asher nodded. Because of this, he was also furious.

"Yes. Aurora has told me. She asked for my help to clean up all the mess that has happened. And this time, I'll make sure everything is resolved to the core."

As if getting a breath of fresh air, Alden became enthusiastic. He also wanted the problem to be resolved quickly so he could clear Aurora's name and his mother's from the accusations and vile slander spread by Savana. Imagine, because of that woman's malicious words, many people were incited and ended up accusing them of various things.

"Before that, there's something I want to tell you too, Ash. Honestly, because of this issue, my mother has become a subject of ridicule. Because of this, she even asked me to keep my distance and if possible, to distance myself from Aurora immediately."

Asher was surprised. Alden's story caught his attention. If his colleague's mother forbade Alden from associating with Aurora, it meant something serious had happened, and he couldn't just stay silent.

"What actually happened?"

Alden recounted the chronology of events that had befallen him and Aurora. He explained in detail about Savana's sudden slandering and mercilessly cornering Aurora. Then he continued with the chaos in the WhatsApp group. Until the baseless accusations Savana had massively directed at Alden's mother.

“Oh God...” Asher exclaimed, incredulous. He shook his head at the crazy behavior Savana had displayed. “Aunt Savana really needs to be taught a lesson.”

Alden agreed with a nod. He was frustrated himself with the unpleasant chaos that old woman had caused.

“Because of her words, many of Mama’s friends were incited. It’s strange how those educated people could easily believe. Yet, if they were to examine carefully, the accusations Aunt Savana often made were completely baseless.”

“So, because of this, your mother asked you to distance yourself from Aurora?”

With regret, Alden nodded. Content © NôvelDrama.Org 2024.

“Yes.”

“And do you agree with that request?”

“No way. It’s ridiculous. Why should Aurora and I bear the burden when Aunt Savana is the one acting crazy? That’s why I have to find a way to solve all these problems so they don’t drag on.”

Asher appeared pleased with a smile. Seeing Alden’s determination, he felt confident that this time Aurora hadn’t made a mistake in choosing her partner. Observing Alden’s efforts, Asher became more enthusiastic about helping his brother and colleague resolve the ongoing issues.

“Let’s go back to our initial discussion.” Asher’s expression turned serious. Changing his sitting position, he leaned forward to speak closer. “After hearing your story just now, I want to ask for your help with something.”

Alden nodded. Though unsure of what kind of help was needed, he seemed willing to assist.

“Okay... what do you need help with?”

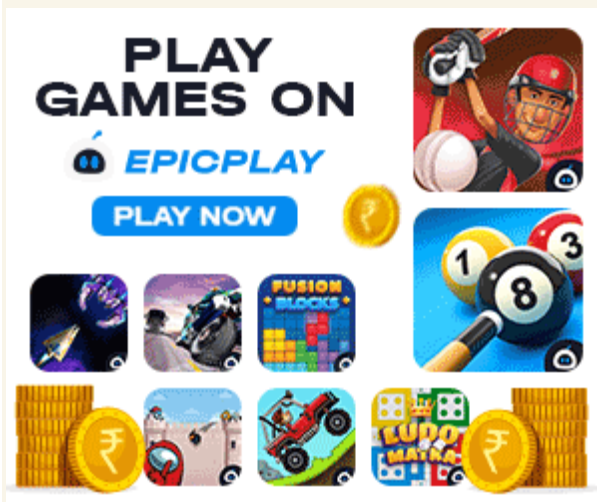
“As we know, Savana caused a scene and spread slander coincidentally at your mother’s birthday party, right?”

Alden nodded again.

“Yes, that’s right.”

“May I ask, are there CCTV cameras installed in your parents’ house?”

“Of course,” Alden confirmed. “Almost every corner of Mama’s house is equipped with CCTV.”



“Does the CCTV have audio?”

Alden nodded once again.

“Yes, Ash.”

Asher immediately snapped his fingers, his face beaming with a wide smile.

“In that case, I need you to provide a copy of the CCTV footage from the time of the recent incident. I want the footage that shows Aunt Savana badmouthing Aurora to everyone.”

Alden finally understood. Why hadn’t he thought of this before?

“Okay! I’ll copy it as soon as I get home from work, and I’ll make sure you receive the footage tomorrow morning.”

“And one more thing...” Asher continued. Before ending the conversation, he asked Alden for another favor. “You mentioned Savana also made derogatory remarks in Aunt Zendaya’s WhatsApp group, right?”

“Yes.”

“In that case, could you also take photos of some of Savana’s messages in that group that deliberately spread slander and accused Aurora of various things? Please provide all the chat photos to me tomorrow.”

Alden agreed. Understanding Asher’s instructions, he promised to complete the task as soon as he got home from work.

“We’ve arrived, Darling.”

Aurora reflexively turned. For the first time in a long while, Alden called her “Darling.”

As usual, he escorted her home. Somehow, for some reason, he called her by an unusual term of endearment.

Truly, Aurora’s ears felt like they were expanding. Don’t ask about the condition of her cheeks right now. She was 100% sure they were as red as boiled crabs.

“Aurora...” Alden called when he noticed Aurora wasn’t getting out immediately but instead was lost in thought. “Why are you silent? Are you okay?”

Aurora blinked. She quickly nodded. It wouldn’t be funny if she were mistaken for fainting.

“Y-yes. I-I’m fine. Thank you for escorting me home.”

Alden smiled happily. Seeing Aurora this happy, how could he tell his mother's request asking him to keep his distance?

"With pleasure. Hurry down, take a shower, have dinner, and then rest."

"Yes, got it. You also take care on the road."

"Okay. I'll text you once I get home as usual. See you tomorrow, Darling."

After Aurora got out, Alden hurried off. In the middle of the road, he suddenly received a call and was asked to stay overnight at his mother's house.

Because of the task from Asher, Alden immediately agreed to the request.

However, upon arriving at his mother's house, Alden heard his name being called. Entering the house, he was immediately asked to join in the dining room.

"Alden."

Alden naturally felt puzzled. Once in the dining room, he found Regina sitting neatly with her mother right beside her.

Then, a question arose in Alden's mind: for what purpose was he summoned to gather in the dining room like this?

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"Darling, I've safely arrived at Mama's house."

After parking his car right in front of his mother's house, Alden didn't forget to immediately contact Aurora. Giving her the news that he had arrived safely at his destination.

For him, giving updates was important. Even though not asked, Alden tried to be attentive. He realized that women feel appreciated and valued just by being given such acts of service.

“After this, I’m going to shower and then like usual, I’ll get ready for dinner with Mama. If you’re not busy tonight, I’ll call again before bed.”

“Yeah,” Aurora responded from the other end. Unlike before, she didn’t refuse or show any objection. “Okay then, just go on with your activities. I also need to get ready to cook and finish up the end-of-month report. If I’m not asleep tonight, I’ll definitely pick up the phone.”

“Alright, I’m going in now. We’ll continue later.”

“Yeah, Honey.”

At that moment, Alden burst into laughter. Delighted to find Aurora reciprocating the sweet treatment he had given. Alden knew Aurora was naturally shy and had high self-esteem. It wasn’t easy to make her melt and feel comfortable like she did now.

“Can you say ‘Honey’ one more time? Just once more,” Alden attempted to coax Aurora into repeating her words, disbelievingly. This was a rare occurrence.

“Gosh. It’s not fun if it’s repeated.”

“Oh come on, just this once.”

“No reruns. If it happens too often, you’ll get bored.”

Alden chuckled. Whether he liked it or not, he had to end the call. A moment later, he hurriedly entered his mother’s house. As if sensing his arrival, he heard his name being called and was asked to join them in the dining room.

Taking big steps, Alden walked towards the dining room. Just as he reached the threshold, he found Regina sitting neatly with his mother right beside her.

“Alden.”

Regina called out, flashing a wide smile, visibly pleased to see Alden had arrived and joined them at the dining table.

“Good evening, Aunt.”

Alden greeted Regina’s mother politely. Then he sat down, glancing at his own mother.

“Is Mama doing alright?” NôvelDrama.Org: text © owner.

Alden just wanted to make sure. Earlier, while on the road, Zendaya suddenly called and asked him to come home immediately as if there were urgent matters, which made him a little worried.

“Mama’s doing fine,” Zendaya replied casually.

“So, why did Mama tell you to come home in a hurry?”

Zendaya smiled. Then she shifted her gaze to the two women sitting in front of her.

“Mama wants you to hurry because this evening we have guests. Mama wants you to join us for dinner with Regina and Aunt Riana.”

Alden sighed softly. Good Lord, among the many requests of his mother that he often complied with, this time Alden felt reluctant and lazy to join dinner. Honestly, he was starting to feel uncomfortable and awkward.

However, out of respect for the guests and to uphold his mother’s reputation, Alden relented. He followed the order by sitting at the same table with Regina and her mother. With half a heart, he entertained his mother’s guests.

“Must have just finished surgery, right?”

Regina initiated the conversation. As usual, in a friendly and affectionate manner, she engaged Alden in conversation while enjoying the dinner that had been served.

“Yes.”

Regina still maintained her smile.

“I actually wanted to invite and treat you to lunch today. But when I checked the schedule, you were on a major surgery. Well, it failed.”

Alden responded to Regina’s statement with just a nod. Instead of apologizing or engaging in small talk, he focused on continuing his dinner.

“Oh dear, that’s unfortunate. So who did you have lunch with?”

Zendaya finally chimed in. While offering the neatly arranged fried chicken on the porcelain plate, she reacted to Regina’s story.

“Alone, Aunt. Because when I tried to invite other doctors, they were all busy. Coincidentally, Gina didn’t have a cesarean surgery schedule today. So, she could have a long lunch break. I wanted to invite Alden, but he was busy too.”

Zendaya then smiled. There was a sense of pity after learning that Regina failed to invite her son to have lunch together. Moreover, after telling the story, her son only responded casually.

“So it’s perfect for Aunt to invite you and Mama to dinner tonight, right?”

Regina nodded enthusiastically with a wide smile. From her face alone, it was clear that she was genuinely happy.

“Absolutely. Could it be fate?”

Zendaya smiled happily too.

“It could be. In that case, next time you should visit us often for lunch or dinner together. Mama and Alden are just the two of us. Besides, didn’t you used to eat here often when you were a child?”

“Is it okay?” Regina asked to make sure. There was a hopeful tone in her sentence.

“Astaga, Regina... Of course, you can. You’re welcome to drop by here anytime. Auntie and Alden never forbid it.” Then Zendaya glanced at Alden, seeking support. “Right, Honey?”

Alden just glanced and nodded. He didn't bother much with his mother's question. Instead of a lot of talk, he chose to remain silent, waiting for this dinner ceremony to be over as soon as possible.

"Thank you so much, Zendaya, for the dinner invitation. I'm really happy to have dinner like this together."

After finishing various dinner menus, Riana expressed her gratitude to Zendaya. After moving for so long and only recently returning, this was the first time she spent private time having dinner with her old friend.

"You're welcome. I'm also happy to spend time chatting and having dinner together with you. Anyway, we should make a routine agenda for cooking and eating together like we used to."

"Agreed," Riana happily replied. "Especially now that Regina is here. To add to the fun."

"Yeah, that's right. Oh, by the way, Regina hasn't gotten married yet, has she?"

Zendaya suddenly asked. She seemed curious about the status of the woman she once cared for during her teenage years.

"Not yet, Aunt," Regina replied quickly. "Let alone getting married. I don't even have a boyfriend."

"Just like Alden, right?" Riana added. "Both single and without partners yet. Besides, why don't we just matchmake our kids?"

"If Regina agrees to it." Regina seemed enthusiastic in response. She was thrilled at the prospect of that idea becoming a reality.

"Just so you know, Aunt Zendaya, Regina has had a crush on Alden for a long time. In fact, Regina's dream has always been to be his future wife. That's why Regina chose to study medicine, so they could be together. She's always imagined going to work and coming home together from the hospital, you know," the beautiful woman explained openly.

“Yes, Zendaya,” Riana added. “Let’s make our friendship last for generations. Besides, whether it’s Regina or Alden, we already know their backgrounds, potentials, and characters. So, we won’t make a wrong choice. Everything is guaranteed. Plus, they’re both doctors.”

At that moment, Alden raised his head. Listening to the lengthy speech delivered by Regina’s mother, he immediately wanted to respond. Unfortunately, Zendaya spoke first, causing the words that were on Alden’s tongue to be swallowed back.

“I never stopped Alden from being with anyone. If he wants and agrees, I’ll support him 100%.”

As if given the green light, Riana smiled. Shifting her gaze from Zendaya, she looked at Alden intently.

“How about it, Al? Do you want to be matched with Regina? You two have known each other for a long time. You already know each other’s personalities.”

Alden shook his head firmly. After much silence, he finally spoke up.

“Thank you for the suggestion, Aunt, but I’m sorry, I already have a partner.”

Alden then got up from his seat. Even though the guests in front of him hadn’t even moved, let alone left yet, without needing his mother’s permission, he chose to end the meeting and leave the dining room.

Alden’s action certainly disappointed Zendaya. Never once in her life had she seen Alden behave so rudely.

That’s why when Riana and Regina left, Zendaya immediately approached Alden in his room. She wanted her son to realize that his behavior had gone too far and could no longer be tolerated.

“You’ve gone too far, Alden.”

Shortly after sitting on the sofa in Alden's room, Zendaya immediately expressed her disappointment. She wanted her son to realize that his behavior had gone too far and could no longer be tolerated.

"How could you be so rude and even leave the guests just like that when they haven't even said goodbye to the host yet?"

Alden, who was sitting at his desk at the time, immediately stood up. He approached Zendaya and stood right in front of his mother.

"It's actually you who's gone too far here."

"What's wrong, mom?"

Alden took a deep breath. Trying as much as possible to keep his voice from rising when facing his mother.

"Why did you respond to Aunt Riana's request to casually matchmake me with Regina?"

"I didn't say yes," Zendaya defended herself.

"But, you didn't explicitly reject it either, did you? If you didn't agree, you could just say so. Don't give statements that seem to give hope."

Zendaya could see how angry her son was. She was sure that Alden was disappointed right now.

"Are you still hoping for Aurora?"

Alden immediately nodded.

"No matter what, Alden's choice will not change."

"Does that mean you don't want to comply with Mom's request?"

"Whatever it is, Alden will give and comply. But not by avoiding or even being asked to leave Aurora. Besides, didn't Mom already know that the woman I want is only Aurora? So, please, Mom. Alden begs you, don't

ruin my dream with baseless requests that you've been suggesting since yesterday."

Zendaya fell silent. She felt there was no hope of forcing Alden to obey her orders.

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

"Alden... Mom wants you to apologize personally to Aunt Riana and also Regina."

That morning, while enjoying his breakfast, Alden immediately looked up. Pausing his chewing, the man stared intently at his mother. Without needing explanation, his expression was that of someone full of questions.

"Apologize? For what?"

"Of course, for your rude attitude and response."

Alden sighed and then chuckled bitterly. It was the first time giving a refusal was considered rude. After all, what was more impolite, refusing to be set up without prior consent?

"No... I won't apologize. I'm sure I haven't done anything wrong. Besides, what's wrong with refusing something that doesn't align with our heart and mind?"

Zendaya knew that her son was the type of man who was firm and steadfast in his convictions. Once he said A, his choice wouldn't change to B, let alone C.

"But at least you could respond to Aunt Riana's words with pleasantries. Didn't you see her expression change immediately after your response?"

“Pleasantries? So, I should let Aunt Riana and Regina speculate, as if I’m giving them hope? No way, Mom,” Alden shook his head firmly. “I won’t give false hope that might hurt others in the future.”

“Why don’t you at least try to truly pursue a relationship with Regina? I think she’s a good girl. Her background is also clear.”

Alden immediately sighed. Why was his mother also trying to matchmake him? Didn’t she understand the affirmation he gave last night at all?

“Mom... do I need to repeat what I said last night?”

Zendaya, this time, let out a long sigh. It was indeed difficult to persuade her son.

“What you think is good may not necessarily be the best for you.”

“That’s exactly it. What you think is bad may not be the worst for Alden or all of us. God is the best Knower. And for now, tomorrow, and maybe forever, my choice remains the same. There’s no other woman I want besides Aurora.”

Zendaya was ready to argue. But before she could express her opinion, Alden got up first. He briefly kissed his mother’s hand, then excused himself to go to work.

Upon arriving at the hospital, Alden hurried to Asher’s room. Fortunately, the man was already there. Remembering the task given earlier, he immediately handed over what Asher asked for.

“Here’s the copy of the CCTV footage you requested.”

Alden handed over a small object, a flash drive, to Asher. Then, he took out his phone from the pocket of his doctor’s jacket.

Quickly, he opened the gallery feature, then sent some photos to the contact of the hospital’s director.

“I’ve also sent all the screenshots from the WhatsApp group you asked for.”

Asher smiled widely. He was truly grateful that Alden could help, making it easier for him to resolve the issue he desperately wanted to address.

“Thank you very much for your help. I’ll check and process it soon.”

Alden nodded. He also had high hopes for the actions Asher would take.

“I believe the CCTV footage can compel Aunt Savana to be accountable for her words. It clearly shows how she spread slander. She even accused Aurora of things she didn’t do.”This belongs to NôvelDrama.Org - ©.

“That’s why this time I’ll make her pay. Don’t expect her to get away with just shedding a few crocodile tears.”

Seeing Asher’s track record, Alden believed his colleague could swiftly resolve all the issues. He also hoped that after this, no one would be swayed by the rumors and slander spread by Savana.

“I pray everything goes smoothly so that Aunt Savana can be dealt with promptly. Whatever it is, if you need help, just let me know. I’ll gladly assist. The important thing is Aurora’s reputation can be restored soon.”

After leaving Asher’s room, Alden went to Aurora’s room. Upon arrival, he found Aurora who had just arrived at the hospital.

“Good morning.”

Aurora immediately turned. Meeting his gaze, she found Alden standing perfectly at the door of her workspace.

“Good morning.”

Alden stepped closer, offering a brown paper bag he had been carrying since earlier.

“Breakfast for you. Don’t forget to eat it all. Made with feelings and love.”

Aurora blushed. Almost every day, Alden acted sweet like this. Who wouldn't be touched and melted by such extraordinary attention every day?

“Oh my God, why do you have to go through so much trouble? I could just buy breakfast at the cafeteria.”

Alden smiled and shook his head.

“No! Who's going through trouble? I'm doing it willingly. Besides, I have to make sure you have a nutritious breakfast every morning.”

“Okay... okay... thank you. I appreciate the attention you give. Don't worry, I'll make sure to finish the food.”

“In that case, I'll get back to work. Also, I need to inform you that I might not be able to have lunch with you today. I'm planning to accompany Asher out. You're not mad, right?”

Aurora smiled and shook her head.

“It's okay. Why do you have to ask for permission?”

“This is like a trial before becoming a husband. And also, I'm just getting used to always asking for your opinion and permission first.”

Aurora's cheeks turned even redder. She could go crazy if Alden continued treating her like this.

“Isn't it supposed to be the other way around? Isn't it the wife who should ask permission from the husband once officially married?”

“But, the husband should also act the same, right? So that the wife feels respected and valued in the household.”

Aurora was speechless. She admitted that Alden was indeed a rare man she had ever encountered on this earth.

“Alright then, just be careful when you're out with Asher.”

“Okay. Don’t worry. I’ll always update you on my whereabouts.”

Alden: Have you eaten? I’m currently at the restaurant with Asher. Should I bring you food?

Alden: Or do you want snacks like cookies, ice cream, or something else? I can bring it when I return to the hospital.

Aurora: No need. I had lunch with Velia. You just have lunch with Asher.

Alden: Okay. If you need anything later, just let me know. I’ll buy it for you later.

Aurora: Okay. But I wanted to let you know that I’ll be going home with Velia this afternoon. She asked me to accompany her to the mall to buy something.

Alden: Alright. Just be careful. In that case, I’ll have my lunch now. Don’t miss me for not having lunch with me. Let Dilan be the one who misses me.

Aurora chuckled to herself as she read Alden’s messages. It always lifted her mood to receive his short messages, even if they couldn’t meet.

“Why are you laughing like a crazy person?”

Velia looked puzzled. Fifteen minutes had passed, and she noticed Aurora laughing to herself while focusing on her phone. Whatever she was doing, Velia felt like Aurora was ignoring her presence.

“It’s nothing.”

“Then why have you been laughing randomly?”

Aurora lifted her face.

“I just find it amusing reading the short messages Alden sent.”

Velia rolled her eyes lazily. Apparently, Aurora had been laughing because she was busy with her boyfriend.

“Oh my, I thought it was something else.”

“What did you think?”

“I thought you were enjoying reading gossip news or watching something. You’ve been laughing so much, like you’re extremely happy.”

“I am happy.”

Aurora replied casually. And her answer made Velia annoyed.

“Annoying. Anyway, I’m going to the cafeteria first.”

Aurora quickly got up. She stopped Velia who had walked not far from the door.

“Wait a moment.”

Velia reflexively stopped in her tracks. Turning around, she asked, “What now?”

“Why are you going to the cafeteria?”

“To buy some snacks.”

“Can I ask you to get something for me?”

Velia nodded.

“What do you want me to get?”

“Get me two peanut butter-filled sandwiches, one with egg and meat, and two with coconut jam.”

“Huh? What? Can you repeat that? Your order is too much.”

Aurora sighed. Approaching Velia, she spoke again.

“Okay, let me go to the cafeteria instead. What snacks do you want?”

“I don’t mind, whatever.”

“Well... in that case, let’s just get the same thing.”

“Okay, no problem.”

As a result, Aurora decided to go to the cafeteria. She bought so many snacks to share with Velia while working on the annual report that needed to be completed soon.

While waiting in line, Aurora faintly heard Alden’s name being mentioned. She turned and saw Regina sitting with some nurses and another female doctor, enjoying a meal.

“So, Doctor Regina, have you known Doctor Alden for a long time?”

Regina nodded.

“Yes. Our parents were friends. I even used to stay and be cared for by Alden’s mother.”

“Lucky you,” one of the nurses commented. “It must be great to know and be close to a handsome doctor like Doctor Alden.”

Regina just smiled in response to the comments from those around her.

“If you’ve been close for a long time, why don’t you two just date?” asked the doctor sitting in front of Regina.

“Yeah, you two are so compatible. Handsome and beautiful. Maybe Doctor Alden and Doctor Regina are already in a relationship?”

Regina smiled again. After finishing her drink, she responded.

“Just so you know, Doctor Alden and I were actually arranged to be married. Yesterday, we even had dinner together with our extended families.”

Aurora was taken aback when she heard this. Honestly, she felt disturbed by what Regina was saying. In her heart, Aurora wondered if what the woman said was true or just empty talk.

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After a long time, this morning Aurora intentionally went to work together with Asher. Moreover, last night her younger brother contacted her, saying that there was an important matter they both needed to discuss in person.

Aurora guessed that Asher must want to talk about Savana. She became certain because in the past few days, her younger brother had been dealing with issues she had been burdened with and wanted to end them promptly. Content held by

“What do you want to discuss?”

In the car, on the way to the hospital, Aurora asked directly. She wanted to make sure what would be discussed or perhaps needed by her brother.

“Have Aunt Savana contacted or harassed you through text messages lately?”

Aurora shook her head. As far as she remembered, she had never received any harassment or attacks directed through text messages or phone calls. Even if there were any, Aurora wouldn't stay silent.

“Fortunately, there's none. Besides, I admit Aunt Savana is too bold to carry out attacks directly.”

Asher laughed. Upon reflection, that middle-aged woman, besides being annoying and unable to filter her words when speaking, indeed had a very bold spirit.

“In that case, later I’ll ask for the results of the examination for the attack Aunt Savana did to you when she visited the hospital. I’ve kept the CCTV footage in the room where the incident took place as evidence.”

“I’ve kept the examination results in your room. Later, when we arrive at the hospital, I’ll show you where they are.”

“Don’t miss any,” the man cautioned. “I also asked Alden to hand over the CCTV footage of the incident at the recent birthday party. So, at the moment, there are several pieces of evidence that I hold to be handed over to the investigative team.”

Aurora remained silent for a moment. Glancing at Asher who was focused on driving his black Rubicon, she asked to confirm. “Are you sure this time Aunt Savana can be dealt with?”

Asher turned to her. With full confidence, he smiled with an extremely relaxed expression on his handsome face. There wasn’t a hint of burden visible on his face.

“100% sure. This time, she’ll face the consequences of the crimes she’s committed. I promise you, after this, Aunt Savana won’t bother your life again.”

If Asher had said this, Aurora didn’t need to doubt anymore. After all, almost all the problems she faced could be solved well and thoroughly by her brother. Far back, there were many problems that had occurred and affected the company. Even their father asked Asher to solve them, and her brother was able to carry out the tasks given.

Moreover, Aurora didn’t care anymore. Savana, who started it all and even seemed to be getting more out of hand, intentionally attacked personally, even mocking the patience and kindness she showed.

Therefore, this time Aurora felt that her former mother-in-law should be given a deterrent effect so that in the future she would no longer underestimate her.

“I hope this problem can be resolved soon. Do whatever you want to her. The important thing is not to have any dealings with our family again.”

Asher chuckled. He believed his sister had reached a level of exhaustion dealing with the crazy behavior Savana often displayed.

“Don’t worry. If yesterday she lost her place to live, who knows this time she’ll lose even more money and also her freedom to breathe fresh air.”

Upon arriving at the hospital, Aurora intended to immediately hand over what Asher requested. As they were about to enter the elevator together, inadvertently they overheard the nurses who were waiting, gossiping.

“In my opinion, Dr. Regina and Dr. Alden are really compatible. The guy is handsome, and the girl is pretty too.”

“Yeah,” another nurse replied. “The important thing is they’re both single. If us single folks can’t get Dr. Alden, at least we should get a wife who’s equivalent. The calculation should be both single, right?”

“But, Dr. Aurora is also beautiful. And she’s wealthy too.”

“Yeah. It’s just a shame she’s a widow. Can you believe Dr. Alden, who’s handsome, established, and basically an idol in this hospital, ends up with a widow? He could have gotten someone better.”

“Even if Dr. Aurora is a widow, she’s more classy than you guys. And most importantly, she’s your boss.”

Asher, hearing this and feeling annoyed, decided to jump in. His words certainly caught the attention and made the nurses shocked and immediately silenced.

“Why are you so bold gossiping about someone who’s clearly your boss in your workplace? Aren’t you afraid of getting fired after this? If it were me being gossiped about like that, don’t expect me to let you stay here for long.”

The nurses panicked immediately. Unsurprisingly, they all scrambled to apologize.

“Dr. Aurora, Dr. Asher, we’re all sorry for being so audacious. Truly, we didn’t mean to speak ill.”

Aurora couldn’t be bothered to deal with it. Once the elevator door opened, she chose to walk away. Meanwhile, before entering the elevator again, Asher gave a stern warning.

“If I ever hear you gossiping or speaking recklessly about any member of my family again, don’t expect to work at this hospital for long.”

Aurora pulled her brother to enter quickly. After that, she invited him to immediately fetch the examination results.

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Upon returning to the room, she found Alden sitting quietly waiting for her.

“Aurora...”

Alden called out as Aurora entered the room. Worry lines were clearly etched on his handsome face.

“Are you okay?”

Aurora didn’t respond immediately. She chose to sit herself down first at her desk chair, then gave the answer Alden had been waiting for since earlier.

“Not really.”

Sensing something amiss, Alden then rose from his seat. Stepping closer, he pulled the chair right in front of Aurora’s desk.

“What’s wrong with you? Are you sick? Or something else? Or could it be that I did something wrong?”

Aurora sighed lazily, seeming reluctant to speak much with the man in front of her.

“What do you think yourself?”

“I feel like your attitude is indeed strange and I’m sure something is going on. Since last night, you haven’t answered my calls or messages. This morning, there was no news, and suddenly you’re going to work with Asher. If I did something wrong, I truly apologize. But, please don’t ignore me like this.”

From his eyes, Aurora could see how sincerely Alden spoke. From his tone, it was clear he was pleading for Aurora’s attitude to return to its usual warmth.

“You did make a mistake,” Aurora finally said. “Do you realize what mistake you’ve made?”

Alden immediately fell silent. He pondered Aurora’s words carefully. Trying to find out what mistake he had made that made Aurora act so indifferent now.

“Once again, I apologize. But, can you tell me where I went wrong?”

Aurora sighed with annoyance. It felt so tiresome to explain the matter that had been bothering her since yesterday.

“Are you seriously engaged to Regina?”

Alden was suddenly shocked. Somehow, he didn’t expect Aurora to ask such a question.

“If you two are indeed engaged, I don’t mind. But, please, don’t play with my feelings. Especially not boasting about proposing and wanting to marry me. You know yourself, I’ve just failed in my marriage. It’s not easy to convince my heart to open up again. So, please. Please, don’t deepen the trauma I’ve experienced.”

Aurora's voice trembled. Alden believed that she was holding back a surge of emotions within her. Moreover, hearing the question Aurora presented, Alden felt that there was something he needed to clarify.

“Regina and I are not engaged.”

“Lies!”Content © NôvelDrama.Org 2024.

“Aurora exclaimed loudly, refuting Alden's earlier statement. “If you're not engaged, then why would Regina dare to tell people that you two are? Moreover, yesterday you even had dinner together with the extended family.”

Alden's brow furrowed in surprise. Just like Aurora, he was taken aback by this revelation.

“Seriously, Regina said that to people?”

Aurora brushed it off lazily. Besides, she hated it when she asked a question and got another question in response.

Realizing that Aurora was only staying silent without giving an answer, Alden knew what he had to do.

“Aurora... once again, I apologize for Regina's words that I have absolutely no control over. You need to know, Regina and her mother did indeed visit the house yesterday, and I truly don't know if they came at Umi's invitation or if they had made plans beforehand.”

Alden took a slow breath. He locked eyes with Aurora, ensuring she didn't look away from him at all.

“I admit, yesterday Mama Regina did mention the topic of arranged marriage. But, for God's sake, for whatever reason, I assure you that I'm not even slightly interested, let alone agreeing. I clearly expressed to both of them yesterday that I already have a partner and I'm even going to marry the woman I choose.”

“You said that?”

Alden nodded.

“Have I ever lied to you all this time?”

Aurora fell silent. Pulled back from their first meeting until their parting, she admitted that Alden was a responsible, firm, and steadfast man. Not once did he lie or break his promises. Moreover, their separation had occurred due to Aurora’s own foolishness, misunderstanding, and impatience.

“I’ve never lied to you.” Alden reiterated once more. He tried to draw Aurora’s attention to trust his explanation.

“Then why would Regina dare to say that to people?”

Alden shrugged. How would he know why Regina would lie and act excessively like that?

“I don’t know either. But, I can assure you that what she said is not true at all.”

Aurora tried to believe in what Alden explained. Pushing away negative thoughts, she finally believed that Regina seemed to deliberately want to be her rival.

“Well, if that’s not true.”

“But…” Alden interrupted then. This time, his facial expression turned more serious than before. “There’s another important thing you need to know.”

“About?”

“Mom,” Alden replied shortly. From the beginning, it took him more consideration to tell Aurora what had actually happened between him and his mother lately.

“What about your mom? Has something bad happened?”

Alden took a deep breath. He carefully considered what words would be appropriate to tell her about this issue.

“Actually, the slander that Aunt Savana spread managed to have a negative impact on Mom’s daily life.”

“I’m not surprised. That’s why from the beginning I always asked if your mom was okay.”

“Just listen first,” Alden requested Aurora to focus on listening. After all, there was something more important he wanted to convey. However, Alden was still hesitant whether Aurora would accept it without any problems.

“Okay... go on.”

“The slander that Aunt Savana spread continued in the WhatsApp group and even managed to influence Mom’s other business associates. To some extent, they believed in what Aunt Savana said.”

“So, my name has really been tarnished in the eyes of your mom’s friends?”

“Actually, it’s the opposite,” Alden interjected, providing further explanation. “They accused Mom of deliberately asking me to be in a relationship and even to marry you for some ulterior motive. They accused Mom of deliberately approving our relationship with the aim of facilitating all forms of business she is currently conducting. They think that because you’re the daughter of a Joshua Harperwood, it’s a golden opportunity if they can be a part of your family.”

“Oh my God,” Aurora exclaimed incredulously.

“That’s the reality. Many accusations have been directed at Mom. And this, makes Mom feel guilty about everything and ultimately uncomfortable.”

“In that case, I have to apologize to your mom.”

Alden shook his head.

“You also need to know, Aurora. Mom even asked me to keep my distance, or even end the relationship we’ve been having.”

Aurora was startled. She was surprised by what Alden had said.

“Your mom asked us to-”

“Yes,” Alden nodded to confirm. “But don’t worry. I will never agree to that request. Whatever happens, I will try to maintain our relationship. That’s why I will help Asher to drag Aunt Savana to be accountable for the slander she spread.”

Aurora was speechless. She was unsure how to respond to the truth that Alden had just revealed.

“Aurora...” Alden called out when he noticed Aurora’s silence. “You don’t need to be afraid or worried. I will never leave you. In fact, I’m here asking for your help to be patient. Please hold on and give me a chance to solve this problem. After that, I will make sure that no one can disturb or hinder our relationship.”

Aurora just nodded. There wasn’t much she could say in response to the truth that Alden had just conveyed.

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Alden acknowledges that his relationship with Regina can indeed be considered close. Since their teenage years, they have often spent time together until they understood each other’s habits. However, it needs to be emphasized that Alden and Regina’s closeness is nothing more than a close relationship as friends or, let’s say, as siblings. This belongs to NôvelDrama.Org - ©.

From the beginning, Alden wasn’t interested, let alone falling in love. Even if Regina admitted liking him since forever, Alden truly didn’t care. Moreover, how could he forbid or limit someone else’s feelings towards him?

That's why, at the dinner event yesterday, he immediately gave a firm response. He firmly rejected Riana's small talk about matchmaking him with Regina. It didn't matter if he was considered rude. What mattered was that he wouldn't give any room, let alone false hope, to a woman he clearly didn't love.

Alden thought that clarification could be a matter of reflection. But, after hearing Aurora's story about Regina gossiping, Alden felt he needed to make a clarification so that this matter wouldn't drag on.

Meanwhile, in the hospital cafeteria, Regina seemed to be enjoying lunch with the nurses and some midwives. They were all engrossed in conversation and even unabashedly discussing Regina and Alden's relationship again.

"You're so lucky, Dr. Regina. Since he arrived, Dr. Alden has been an idol, you know."

One of the midwives was heard saying, congratulating Regina as if she were the winner of an ongoing competition at the hospital.

"I agree. Especially when everyone found out that he's still single. Still available."

"Yeah. Dr. Regina, don't be offended. I even had a crush on Dr. Alden myself. What can I say? He's really handsome. Plus, he's still single."

Regina just smiled. She looked proud hearing stories from her colleagues sitting next to her.

"I admit Dr. Alden has always been handsome and popular. Even in our neighborhood, he's an idol. That's why, my childhood dream was to become his wife."

"There must be a lot of competition for you, Dr. Regina," guessed one of them.

"Not really," Regina replied while laughing. "Even if many admire and try to get close to him, true love won't go anywhere, right?"

The nurses in front of Regina nodded in agreement.

“Yeah, that’s true. So lucky. But, Doc,” one of them interjected. Leaning in a bit closer, then asked.

“What about Dr. Aurora? Rumor has it she’s also close to Dr. Alden. In fact, I personally have been asked by Dr. Alden several times to help deliver cakes and some food for Dr. Aurora.”

“Oh, really?” Regina asked to confirm.

“Yeah. They seem to be close. They go to and from work together every day, don’t they?”

The others nodded.

“Exactly. I even thought they were going to get married. And if you pay attention, Dr. Alden seems to be head over heels for Dr. Aurora.”

One nurse confirmed it.

“Yeah! I thought it was amazing how Dr. Aurora managed to charm Dr. Alden. Or maybe, Dr. Aurora is using some sort of love spell. That’s why she can make Dr. Alden kneel like that.”

Everyone burst into laughter. It seemed like there was no guilt in gossiping about others.

“Then, isn’t Dr. Regina jealous?”

Regina smiled casually. The woman shook her head, responding.

“Not at all. Why should I be jealous? Besides, no matter what, Dr. Alden is already engaged to me. So, what is there to fear?”

Everyone nodded.

“You two are lucky to be engaged. Because it would be a shame if Dr. Alden, who is still single, had to be paired with Dr. Aurora. He’s more suitable for Dr. Regina. Both are single.”

Regina smiled broadly. In terms of status, she was indeed superior to Aurora.

“Then who is engaged to Dr. Regina?”

Searching all this while, Alden finally found Regina engrossed in conversation in the hospital cafeteria.

Whether by coincidence or divine intervention, from behind the cafeteria partition, Alden clearly heard the nurses gossiping about him.

“Dr. Alden?”

Everyone there immediately panicked. No one expected Alden’s sudden appearance.

Meanwhile, Alden seemed to advance closer. Closing the distance, he looked at each person in front of him.

“Just so you all know, Regina and I are not engaged, set up, or whatever you want to call it.” Then Alden’s gaze shifted to Regina. “And you, Gina. Please stop spreading false rumors.”

“But, Doc. I can—”

Alden raised his index finger, placing it in front of his lips as a signal for Regina to stop babbling.

“You need to remember! You and I have never been more than just friends. So, don’t ever expect more than that.”

Alden wasn’t finished clarifying yet. Before deciding to leave, he spoke again to the nurses and midwives who were still sitting dumbfounded in front of him.

“And about flirting, I admit that’s true. From the start, I’ve always tried to flirt with Dr. Aurora. Let’s just say I’ve used many methods to make Dr. Aurora accept my love. So, for all of you who like to gossip recklessly, be careful if I hear any more rumors about Dr. Aurora.”

Satisfied with his clarification, Alden then decided to leave. Regina seemed to chase after him. She followed Alden into his room.

“Dr. Alden, I can explain everything.”

Alden, who had arrived in the room first, didn't immediately sit down. Turning around, he faced Regina who was standing not far from the guest sofa.

“Everything is clear already. There's nothing you need to explain.”

“But, Doc—”

“Gina...” Alden called softly. “From the beginning, I've respected your presence. Even though it's uncomfortable, I've still tried to be polite. But, the longer this goes on, the more out of hand your behavior becomes. Honestly, I don't like it and I feel uncomfortable.”

Regina looked closely at Alden who was speaking. Feeling unacceptable, she immediately responded.

“I'm sure Dr. Alden must realize that I've liked him from the beginning. There are many things I've tried to do to get close again and if necessary, to become his partner in the future. Don't I have any chance at all? We've even been close since forever.”

Alden shook his head. He firmly responded to what Regina said.

“From the beginning until now, I've only considered you a normal friend. Even like a younger sister. Nothing more. And I'm not interested in being your partner, Gina. So, please don't waste your precious time trying to make me like you.”

“Doctor..” Regina whispered softly. “Isn't there even a slight chance for me to prove myself? Whatever it is you want, I'll definitely do it as long as you accept me.”

“No,” Alden shook his head repeatedly. “In the past, today, and in the future, my choice is only Aurora and it won't change at all. So, please understand that. Also, remember well, if you still want to be friends with

me, please respect my decision. But, if you still insist, I think from now on we don't need to know each other anymore."

Regina was speechless. Even without waiting for her response, Alden had already invited her to leave the room.

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

"Feels like I wanna eat someone!!!"

Regina grumbled. Her face scowled, holding back frustration from the events that had unfolded throughout the day.

With no one else to confide in, Regina contacted Nicole. She invited her friend to meet at a cafe for dinner.

"I've been sitting here for over 10 minutes. Seriously, what's got you grumbling like that? It's so unclear."

Nicole, already seated and waiting, looked puzzled. Since she arrived at the cafe, Regina hadn't explained what had actually happened. She'd only heard grumbling and occasional muttering. Text content ©

"I might as well leave if you're going to stay silent like this."

Nicole was getting ready to leave. She couldn't understand why she came all the way just to be told nothing but unclear complaints.

"Hey, wait!" Regina stopped her. She looked at Nicole as if signaling her friend to sit back down and not move anywhere.

"If I sit back down and you keep grumbling unclearly, I'm seriously leaving."

Regina sighed. She knew Nicole must be annoyed. What else could she do? Her mood had plummeted all day, and she felt like venting her frustrations on everyone.

“I’m just so annoyed right now.”

Nicole leaned back in her chair. She adjusted her seating position for comfort, considering she was pregnant.

“Why are you annoyed? Tell me properly. It’s been so unclear.”

“It’s because of Aurora!”

As soon as Aurora’s name was mentioned, Nicole reacted. It had been a while since she had any encounter with her cousin who had ruined her life.

“Aurora? What about her?”

“It’s a long story,” Regina explained. She took a sip of her cold lemon tea. “I’m embarrassed, Non. Seriously, I’m so embarrassed by everyone at the hospital today.”

“Why are you embarrassed? Can’t you just get to the point? I don’t understand what you’re saying.”

Regina recounted what had made her angry and embarrassed. She explained everything from start to finish so Nicole could understand what was happening to her.

“So, Dr. Alden contradicted what you said in front of the nurses and midwives who were having lunch with you?”

Regina nodded.

“The problem is, Alden said it in the cafeteria during lunchtime. So, almost everyone in the cafeteria heard his rant. Seriously, I’m embarrassed, Non. I feel so humiliated. What’s so special about Aurora that he defends her so much?”

Instead of feeling sympathy, Nicole laughed. She found something amusing in the story she had just heard, which only infuriated Regina even more.

“Help me, please. And you’re laughing.”

“It’s not that I’m not sympathetic. But from the start, I’ve been saying that Aurora is annoying and brings nothing but bad luck. You know yourself that I lost my job, got divorced, and ended up like this because of her. That’s why I really want to get back at her. I really want to see her in a low position, as low as possible. If necessary, no one should be able to help her.”

Regina nodded in agreement. As if receiving support from a sympathetic friend, she agreed with Nicole’s last statement.

“Just so you know, all the way home, I’ve been thinking about how to prevent Alden from even getting together, let alone marrying, Aurora. No way! I can’t accept it. Anyway, Alden is mine.”

“But...” Nicole interrupted for a moment. “Do you really have a crush on Dr. Alden?”

“Well, of course!” Regina emphasized. Making sure her feelings were genuine all this time and not just because she wanted to help Nicole. “Whether Aurora is his first love, first girlfriend, or the first woman he admired, I don’t care. After all, before Aurora came into Alden’s life, I was the one who knew him first and filled his days.”

Regina spoke passionately. Her emotions were evident as she poured out her heart. It seemed like a deep hurt to find the man she liked defending another woman.

“I,” Regina pointed to herself. “I’ve always been there for Alden in his teenage years. We’ve known each other for almost years. We know each other’s strengths and weaknesses. We even slept at each other’s houses back and forth. I should be the one who deserves to be his companion, not Aurora.”

Nicole nodded in agreement.

“Besides, I heard from Mas Alex that Aurora used to leave her old boyfriend and marry Mas Alex. I’m sure the old boyfriend he mentioned

must be Dr. Alden. And if that's true, why would Dr. Alden want to get back with a woman like Aurora who has no sense of decency? She's been left once. Now she's being picked up again."

"That's why I've decided no matter what, I'm going to take Alden back from Aurora. I don't care if Alden's love is now with Aurora. Feelings can change anytime as time goes by. It's not difficult for someone to fall in love with us."

Nicole nodded again. She fully supported all of Regina's arguments.

"I agree. Besides, you're more classy. You're prettier, younger, and more suitable for Dr. Alden, who is still single. It's so mismatched if Dr. Alden ends up with a widow like Aurora. Like there's only one woman in the world."

Provoked in such a way, Regina's anger flared up even more. Thinking hard, she tried to find a way to snatch Alden and make him turn away from Aurora.

"What do you think I should do? Should I just grab him like that?"

"What do you mean grab?" Nicole asked, a bit confused.

"Well, using insider connections. My mom and Alden's mom are close friends. Plus, during dinner last night, when talking about matchmaking, Alden's mom didn't seem to object at all. I could ask my mom to pressure Alden's mom to agree to our engagement. Besides, I heard from my mom that Alden's mom has recently been in 'trouble' with her business partners because it's believed she intentionally matched Alden with Aurora to make her business smoother."

"Oh, really?"

Regina nodded repeatedly.

"Yes. Normally, if the accusation isn't true, Alden's mom would take action to refute the rumors. That's why I want to use this opportunity to approach Alden's mom and offer myself as Alden's future wife. Because

by marrying me to Alden, Alden's mom can prove to everyone that the accusations are false."

Nicole agreed wholeheartedly. If this plan succeeded, she was sure Aurora would be heartbroken. Besides, this was exactly what she wanted to see.

"Then go ahead and try it. Actually, if you want to know, there are two ways you can do to get Alden."

"What is it?" Regina asked curiously. Usually, Nicole was the one with brilliant ideas. There had been many suggestions from her friend that Regina had tried and the results had met expectations.

"First, try to win back Alden's heart. Since you two are having issues, I suggest you apologize. After that, try to slowly give attention to Alden until he accepts and eventually feels comfortable."

"Oh, that's easy."

Regina dismissed it lightly. If it was just apologizing and then slowly giving attention, she didn't think it would be difficult to do. She could practice this anytime and anywhere.

"And what's the second way?"

Nicole smiled. Her facial expression was hard to read.

"According to me, the second way is instant and I'm sure it'll make you marry Alden right away."

Regina's eyes widened suddenly. She became even more curious, especially with the promise of marrying the man she liked.

"What is it?"

Nicole waved her finger. She motioned for Regina to come closer to her.

"You have to get pregnant with Alden's child, no matter how."

“Crazy!”

Regina reflexively exclaimed. Of all the ideas dancing in her mind, she never thought of the idea Nicole just suggested.

“Don’t be crazy,” she shook her head incredulously. “How am I supposed to get pregnant with Alden’s child?”

“Oh, easy,” Nicole replied casually. “There are many ways to Rome. Besides, almost all men are the same. They won’t refuse if they’re offered paradise. Believe me. If the first way doesn’t work, you can try the second way right away.”

“But, Non—”

“No need for buts. Are you willing for Alden to marry Aurora?”

“No way!”

“If not, then hurry up. Don’t let Aurora outmaneuver you. Just think about the ways I’ve suggested.”

Regina shook her head. She thought hard about which method she would eventually practice.

As an apology for the misunderstanding that had occurred, after work, Alden deliberately invited Aurora to dinner. He chose the best restaurant they used to visit in the early days of their relationship.

“Are you still angry?”

Alden asked cautiously. Seeing Aurora quiet throughout the journey, he knew she must be thinking about something.

“No.”

Aurora shook her head. Now, she focused her gaze on Alden who sat directly in front of her.

“But, I can’t deny it. I’m still thinking about Aunt Zendaya asking you to keep your distance from me.”

Alden took a deep breath. He actually felt conflicted. He wanted not to tell Aurora about this so she wouldn’t worry. However, Alden was afraid Aurora would find out about this problem from someone else, which would only make her more disappointed. And now, when he was honest, Aurora looked sad.

“It doesn’t need to be thought about, Aurora. Anyway, I’ve already made it clear that no matter what, I won’t leave you. I just ask you to be patient and give me a chance to solve this problem.”

Aurora looked into Alden’s eyes for a long time. She knew very well that he was now trying to convince her.

“If in the end Aunt Zendaya still doesn’t approve of our relationship, what will happen?”

Alden smiled. He responded casually.

“That won’t happen. Believe me. Now, just pray that this problem can be resolved quickly.”

Aurora nodded in agreement. Trying to dispel her anxiety, she hurriedly ate all the food that had been served.

While enjoying the night view, Aurora savored every moment together with Alden. There was a feeling of gratitude planted in her mind and heart for being connected with an extraordinary man like Alden.

“Finish all the food. Later, before we go home, I’ll treat you to ice cream too.”

Aurora smiled broadly again. Happy for all the attention Alden always gave her.

However, the happiness didn’t last long. Just after finishing dinner, unexpectedly, Aurora and Alden ran into Zendaya, who had just finished attending a meeting with some of her business associates.

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Lying if Aurora wasn't preoccupied with the events of last night. Honestly, she even had trouble sleeping because she accidentally ran into Alden's mother while enjoying dinner.

"Mama."

Alden was the first to address when Zendaya approached their table. The middle-aged woman observed closely. Gazing alternately at Alden and Aurora.

"Mama with whom? Want to join us for dinner together?"

At that moment, Aurora could see how Alden was so relaxed and carefree. Yet, she knew that her boyfriend's mother instructed to keep a distance from her. For heaven's sake, it was Aurora who felt nervous.

"No," Zendaya refused gently. "Mom already had dinner with other friends." Then she pointed to a group of people that Aurora believed to be Zendaya's business associates or friends who were gathering and getting ready to leave the restaurant.

"So, Mama wants to go home right away?"

Zendaya nodded slightly.

"Yes. I'll be heading home shortly."

"Wanna go home with Alden and me?"

Zendaya shook her head.

"No. Mama brought her own car. Besides, I have to drop off some friends too. You two be careful on the way home."

After that, there was no more conversation. Not a word about advising Alden and Aurora to keep their distance was mentioned at all. Even when

Aurora extended her hand for a handshake, Zendaya accepted it graciously. Before bidding farewell, she even took the time to briefly hug Alden and Aurora.

However, Aurora's heart and mind still felt uneasy. All night she had trouble sleeping, thinking about all the possible future scenarios.

Truly, Aurora was afraid. Like a ticking time bomb, she felt that this issue wasn't as easy as Alden thought. Aurora's intuition told her so. Something big would surely happen after this.

"Aurora!"

Velia's voice suddenly rang out, jolting her out of her reverie. Snapping back to reality, she immediately turned to the source of the sound and asked.

"Huh? What's wrong?"

Velia approached. She shook her head.

"Your patient has been waiting for treatment. The alcohol on his arm has been drying out waiting for you to administer the injection."

Aurora took a deep breath. Trying to gather her wandering thoughts, she refocused on her duty by administering treatment to the patient in front of her.

"Done," Aurora said to the patient. "Later, I'll prescribe anti-seizure medication. It can be taken according to the dosage I recommend. The rest, you can go directly to the pharmacy on the right side of the building."

As the patient left the room, Velia hurried over. She brought a bottle of mineral water and handed it to Aurora.

"Drink first. You seem to be lacking in hydration. I've noticed you've been unfocused since you arrived. What if you make a mistake in treatment? It's dangerous!"

Aurora accepted the offered bottle of mineral water from Velia. Choosing to sit down, she took a few sips and then sat quietly for a moment.

“Probably facing some problems, huh?” Velia guessed as if she could read Aurora’s mind. “About Dr. Alden?”

Aurora nodded. She didn’t deny Velia’s guess.

“I’m just worried.”

“Why?”

“I had a bad feeling since last night after suddenly meeting Alden’s mother.”

Velia pulled up a chair. She positioned herself directly in front of Aurora.

“Why a bad feeling?”

“Well, I feel like something related to my relationship with Alden is going to happen.”

“Did Dr. Alden’s mother say anything strange to both of you?”

“Nothing. She even hugged me before leaving.”

Velia sighed upon hearing the explanation from the woman in front of her. After all, she wasn’t surprised. It wasn’t Aurora’s style if she didn’t complicate things for herself.

“Come on, Aurora. Stop overthinking. You said Alden doesn’t want to comply with his mother’s request, right?”

“Yeah,” Aurora nodded softly.

“Then, what do you need to worry about? You should be grateful that Alden is firm in his decision. He tries to defend and keep you in front of his mother. As Dr. Alden said, you should be patient and accept the outcome. So, why worry?” This belongs to NôvelDrama.Org - ©.

“It’s not that easy.”

Aurora immediately objected. After Velia scrutinized her, this woman indeed liked to complicate things for herself.

“So what do you want now? Do you want Alden’s mother not to give her blessing? Or do you want Dr. Alden to give up and choose another woman? Is that it?”

Aurora shook her head. She wasn’t ready for such an ending.

“No, not like that, Velia. Do I really want my relationship with Alden to end like this?”

“Moreover, you often like to complicate things for yourself. Instead of thinking about this and that, it’s better to pray more so that everything can be resolved soon. It’s so stressful seeking trouble.”

Velia grumbled. She ranted extensively so that Aurora wouldn’t think too much, which would ultimately trouble herself.

“Remember, Aurora. Don’t think too much, especially negatively. God might grant what you expect from Him.”

Aurora fell silent. After finishing her morning duty, she intended to check on the patients in the PICU and NICU.

Yet, after receiving a lecture from Velia, she hoped her mind could be calmer.

Damn it, while waiting for the elevator, she ran into Nicole. Pretending not to see her, her nasty cousin actually called out to her.

“Oh my God, so lucky to meet a classy widow here.”

Without shame, Nicole both greeted and mocked. Closing the gap, even deliberately getting closer.

“What do you want here?”

Nicole just smiled when Aurora asked. Not feeling an ounce of guilt talking to her cousin whom she clearly stabbed in the back.

“You ask me what I’m doing here? Well, just routine prenatal check-up. Can you believe it, meeting you. So, get pregnant already. Then, you can experience the joy of being a mother-to-be. That is if anyone’s interested in making you a wife.”

Nicole sounded deliberately mocking. Seemingly trying to provoke Aurora into getting annoyed and angry. Nicole was determined, she had to hit back hard if she ever felt belittled again.

“Of course, many would be interested in making me a wife. Despite being a widow, I’m still better than you.”

Nicole laughed. This time, she wasn’t the least bit offended by what Aurora said.

“Oh, really? Most likely those interested in you are either guys or those whose families are only after the Harperwood family fortune.”

“That’s you, isn’t it? Materialistic types. Deliberately seeking a partner to take their wealth, right?” Aurora didn’t want to lose. She countered Nicole’s argument more pointedly.

“Oh, come on, Aurora. Don’t be hypocritical. Think about it carefully. No matter how good friends you are, if the guy is normal, who would be interested in a widow? Better to look for a virgin than a used woman. Plus, even if you’re currently close to a guy who has everything, don’t be proud. Who knows, maybe he’s just getting close because he’s after your money. So, don’t pretend to be innocent, let alone deny it.”

Aurora didn’t care. She let Nicole ramble as she pleased.

“It’s up to you what you want to blabber about. However, no matter how you see it, and from whichever angle you look, I’m luckier than you.”

Nicole just laughed. Getting ready to leave, she gave Aurora one last sentence.

“Wanna bet? I dare bet that you, the so-called lucky one, won’t even end up together, let alone get married to the guy you’re currently close to. Let’s just see how it ends. Happy? Or maybe the opposite. Who knows, maybe more tragic than mine.”

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

From afar, Regina observed keenly how Alden was busy explaining things to the Internship doctors in the ER room.

After making sure Alden was much more relaxed, Regina hurried over. In both hands, she carried a large bag containing several boxes of cakes she wanted to distribute to the medical team gathering there.

Regina deliberately did this. Besides wanting to attract attention, she also wanted to apologize to Alden for what happened earlier. Moreover, this was also part of Regina’s way of trying to get closer to and soften Alden’s heart so he would slowly accept her.

“Guys, I brought a lot of cakes. Please distribute them to the other colleagues.”

All the medical team in the ER immediately became excited, waiting for their turn to get a piece of cake. Meanwhile, Regina went straight to Alden, who seemed indifferent as he sorted through his belongings. As soon as she had the chance, she handed him the paper bag containing his favorite cakes.

“These are for Dr. Alden. I deliberately prepared cakes that you like.”

Alden raised his head. He didn’t immediately accept the paper bag handed to him.

“Doc, please accept it.”

Alden shook his head.

“No, thank you.”

Regina didn't give up. She tried to persuade Alden, even if she had to keep pushing until he accepted her offering.

“Please. This is my way of apologizing for the unpleasant incident yesterday. I didn't mean anything by it. Besides, I didn't put any poison in the cakes, okay?”

Regina continued to press. She put on a pleading face until Alden finally agreed to accept her gift.

Without saying much or even saying thank you, Alden simply walked away. Not wanting to miss the moment, Regina purposely followed him. She trailed behind him until they reached Alden's office door.

“What do you really want?”

Alden, realizing he was being followed from the ER, immediately asked. It was somewhat uncomfortable to be followed like this.

“Can we talk seriously? I promise it won't take more than 10 minutes.”

“Just five minutes,” Alden offered firmly.

“Okay, how about seven minutes? After that, I promise to leave right away.”

Alden nodded. He gave Regina a chance to speak in front of his office.

“So, what do you want to talk about?”

“I just want to apologize for what happened yesterday. I didn't mean to make you angry.”

“Okay. I forgive you.”

Regina smiled. She knew well that Alden was someone who easily forgave.

“Anything else?”

Regina nodded repeatedly.

“I just want to make sure, is there any chance for me to win your heart? I mean, we’ve known each other for a long time. Isn’t there any way I could become your partner? For God’s sake, I’ve been sure all along that I like you so much and love you, Alden.”



Alden remained silent for a moment. He took a slow breath. Then he answered Regina’s question.

“As I’ve already emphasized yesterday. From the beginning, I’ve only seen you as a friend or a little sister.”

“But, we can try to build a serious relationship. After all, feelings of love can grow anytime as time goes by. Especially if we have intense daily interactions. I believe I can make you fall in love.”

Alden shook his head. He clearly showed no interest at all.

“Unfortunately, my feelings for you won’t change whether it’s in the past, present, or future. I still see you as a little sister or a friend. Nothing more.”

“Well, what’s so special about Doctor Aurora, huh? Why are you so madly in love with her?”

“Because she’s special and she has everything that you don’t. So, let me emphasize once again. No matter how hard you try, I assure you it won’t work. So, don’t waste your precious time trying to force me to like you. And I think your seven minutes are up.”

Without waiting for a response from his conversation partner, Alden immediately entered his room. While Regina, instead of returning to her room and contemplating, went elsewhere.

Upon reaching her destination, she knocked on the door repeatedly until she was finally invited in.

“Doctor Regina? What’s up?”

“Doctor Aurora, we need to talk seriously.”

Indeed, it was Aurora’s room that Regina visited. Without bothering to sit down, she immediately stated her purpose and goal for approaching.

“I know that Doctor Aurora is currently close to Doctor Alden. And I’m sure Doctor Alden has already told you that, long before you two knew each other, we were already close.”

“So, what does Doctor Regina want?”

Regina smiled faintly. She raised an eyebrow, then spoke confidently.

“Because I don’t want to be seen as a relationship wrecker, that’s why I’m willing to compete openly with Doctor Aurora to win Doctor Alden. And when I succeed, I want Doctor Aurora to gracefully and generously let go of Doctor Alden.”

This time, Regina wasn’t playing around. She made sure to get what she wanted. Content held by

Unpredictable Betrayal : A Sweet of Revenge

Indeed, Aurora acknowledges Regina's courage is truly immense. Without any fear or hesitation whatsoever, the woman openly invites Aurora to compete.

At first, Aurora wanted to ignore the nonsense the woman was spouting. However, upon seeing Regina's determination and effort, Aurora reconsiders. Because of past mistakes that led to losing Alden, she won't allow it to happen again.

"What are you watching again?"

Asher asked. He was surprised to find his sister, who had just arrived at the hospital, not rushing to the room, but rather busy observing people coming and going in the ER.

"There," Aurora pointed boldly. "Watching my competitor."

Asher immediately turned to follow where Aurora's finger was pointing. Squinting, focusing his gaze on one person who was busy mingling and eating cake with the other medical team members.

"Doctor Regina?" Content © exclusive by Nô/vel(D)ra/ma.Org.

Aurora nodded.

"Yeah. I'm indeed observing her movements."

Asher's brow furrowed. He, who didn't understand much, immediately asked out of confusion. Moreover, he thought why his sister was bothering to observe the movements of someone who was busy chatting.

"What's wrong with Dr. Regina? Is something the matter?"

Aurora nodded again. But, there was no definite answer. With her mouth closed, she began to walk slowly, beckoning Asher to follow her to her room.

“What’s really going on, Aurora?”

Asher wasn’t surprised at all that Aurora kept many secrets or kept her problems to herself. But, hearing his sister suddenly acting strange towards someone, he was curious to know. He was afraid something important or even bad was happening to her.

“Do you know?”

“Don’t know.”

Asher shook his head. Aurora hadn’t finished telling her story.

“So, listen first.”

“Okay... okay.”

“This Regina has a crush on Alden. And yesterday, she openly asked me to compete for Alden.”

“What?!”

Asher was startled. Seriously shocked to hear his sister’s explanation. He thought only Savana’s issues colored his sister’s relationship. Turns out, there was another matter worth paying attention to.

“Did Dr. Regina say that? Seriously?”

“Seriously. Moreover, she said that if she succeeds in getting Alden, I have to be willing to let go and if necessary, move away.”

“Crazy!”

This time Asher cursed. Shocked himself to hear Aurora’s story.

“If you want, I can transfer Regina to our other branch hospital in another city. So, there won’t be anyone disturbing or attempting to approach Alden.”

Aurora shook her head. She didn’t accept Asher’s offer at all. However, as the hospital owner, if Aurora wanted it to be easy, she could use her power to get rid of Regina so she wouldn’t disturb them.

“No need.”

“Why not?”

Asher asked, puzzled. “If this were happening to Clara, she’d be begging me to change workplaces.”

Aurora laughed briefly. Actually, she realized that Asher must be worried about her.

“At first, I thought like you. If I didn’t want trouble, why not just fire Dr. Regina from our hospital. But, after thinking about it, it’s the same as being a coward. As if I can’t defeat her and keep Alden from turning away from me.”

Asher chuckled at Aurora’s response. “There’s some truth to that.”

“Yeah, it’s true. If I directly get rid of Regina, it means I don’t trust my ability to fight and win this battle. So, let it be. If it’s meant to be, even if it’s disturbed or separated, in the end, they’ll still be together.”

Seeing the great confidence emanating from Aurora’s face, Asher dismissed his worries. He felt that for this issue, his sister could handle it herself.

“So, how’s the progress on Mrs. Savana’s case? Is there any certainty yet, when it can be resolved soon?”

Asher nodded. As usual, he responded casually.

“Don’t worry. At the latest, by next week, this issue will be resolved. Then, you just have to choose whether Savana wants to be processed

civilly or criminally. I think it should be criminal. So she can experience what it's like to sleep in a 10-star hotel.”

For this choice, Aurora left it entirely to her younger brother. Moreover, she was tired and reluctant to deal with Savana, who kept causing trouble. Let that foolish woman who enjoys disturbing her life be directly managed by a Lion like Asher.

“You’re not lying to me, are you? Seriously, did your mom say anything after meeting us at the restaurant the other day?”

In front of Aurora’s room, Alden appeared to shake his head. For the umpteenth time, he reassured that the worries his girlfriend still felt weren’t true.

“Seriously. Why would I lie? Even when we got home, Mom didn’t mention anything.”

“Really?”

Alden nodded repeatedly.

“Yes, darling. I’m not lying. She didn’t mention anything. So, you don’t have to worry anymore. I’ve told you, our relationship will be just fine.”

Aurora breathed a little easier. At least, what she feared didn’t actually happen.

“Well, if that’s the case. But please, if there’s anything, let me know even if it hurts.”

“Sure. Don’t worry. Let’s go home now. We’ll get stuck in traffic if we’re late.”

Aurora turned around. Grabbing her neatly stored bag on the table, she walked alongside Alden towards the ground floor.

Initially, Aurora and Alden wanted to go straight to the car. But, as they crossed the lobby, they both saw a crowd gathering, forcing them to take a peek.

“What’s going on?” Alden asked one of the nurses outside the crowd.

“That, sir. Dr. Regina accidentally slipped and sprained her ankle.”

Alden nodded in understanding. He wondered what caused the commotion.

“But, it’s being taken care of, right?”

The nurse nodded.

“She was going to be taken to the ER. But, luckily, it’s already being handled. It seems to be getting better.”

Convinced that there was no serious problem, Alden intended to leave. But, just as he took a step to invite Aurora to leave, his name was called.

“Dr. Alden.”

Alden naturally stopped. Upon turning, he found Regina standing and trying to walk unsteadily.

“Do you have your car, doctor?”

Alden nodded.

“Yes.”

“Can I catch a ride with you? Today, I didn’t bring my car.”

Aurora, standing next to Alden, immediately pursed her lips. Wanting to think positively, but her heart rebelled. She believed that this was one of Regina’s tactics to get close to her boyfriend.

Aurora thought Alden would firmly refuse. Instead, the man nodded. Then he invited Regina to follow his steps outside the hospital.

At the same time, Aurora could see how Regina smiled as if satisfied. And when they arrived outside, Alden asked Regina and Aurora to wait for a moment.

Aurora thought Alden deliberately asked them to wait because he wanted to fetch the car. But, a few moments later, he returned with an online driver.

“Come on, Dr. Regina, I’ll help you get to the car. I just ordered an online taxi.”

Regina was momentarily stunned. Then not long after, she protested.

“Why take an online taxi?”

“I can’t drive you because I have something to attend to with Dr. Aurora.”

Regina immediately frowned.

“But I wanted to hitch a ride with Dr. Alden. How could you let me take a taxi alone? What if something happens on the way?”

Aurora responded to Regina’s statement this time calmly.

“If Dr. Regina is afraid or worried about taking an online taxi, how about going home by ambulance instead? I’ll ask for two nurses to accompany you.”

Regina immediately glared. Angrily, she got into the car that Alden had ordered.

Meanwhile, on the way home, Aurora and Alden laughed in unison. It was amusing, responding to Regina’s deliberate maneuvers, but in the end, they managed to handle it together.

“Thanks for safely escorting me home once again.”

Alden smiled.

“With pleasure, Your Highness. But, tomorrow morning, I won’t be able to pick you up. I have a dawn schedule. Are you okay with that?”

“Don’t worry. Tomorrow I’ll go with Velia instead.”

“Okay. Just be careful.”

After saying their goodbyes, Aurora let Alden go. Just as she was about to enter the house and hadn't closed the door yet, she heard her name called from afar.

“Aurora....”

Turning around, Aurora was slightly surprised. Rushing over, she immediately greeted.

“Aunt Zendaya? Why are you here?”

Indeed, Zendaya had taken the time to stop by that afternoon. But, Aurora wasn't exactly sure of her intentions.

“Are you busy?”

“No, Aurora isn't busy. I just got home from work.”

“Can Aunt come in? There's something Aunt wants to discuss with you.”

Aurora immediately invited Zendaya in. In her heart, she was nervous about what Alden's mother wanted to discuss with her.