

## UNREPAIRABLE LOVE / I MARRIED A MAN NOVEL ALTRERNATIVE

### Chapter 31

“You’re still my wife. Even if you don’t care about your reputation, I care about mine!” he snapped, teeth clenched, brows furrowed. If Lily found out, their divorce would be public knowledge. No way Alexander would let this mess happen on his watch! Until the divorce was final, Elizabeth had to play nice!

“When you’re flaunting your fiancée, it’s fine. But when I kiss someone, it’s shameful?” Elizabeth shot back.

Alexander’s throat tightened, his gaze darkening, his grip tightening. He lowered his voice. “Elizabeth, I’m giving you a way out. Don’t push it.” He didn’t believe she really wanted to kiss that guy.

Seeing his anger, Elizabeth smiled seductively. “Are you offering me an excuse, or just losing your cool?” Elizabeth’s lips curled as she scrutinized Alexander’s handsome face.

Alexander frowned, annoyed she could read him so well. He swallowed, his gaze turning icy. “Elizabeth, we’re getting divorced. You really think I still care?”

Elizabeth’s heart skipped a beat, memories flooding back of what he’d said that day. “Elizabeth, don’t fool yourself into thinking I could ever love you!” And now, here he was, same tone. “You still think I care?”

Alexander let go of her hand, his face blank. “Even if you’re not concerned about the media or Grandma Lily finding out, you should at least consider your date’s feelings.”

Elizabeth bit her lip, staring at him, sadness welling up. After a moment, she whispered, “You’re right.” Her words only made Alexander angrier. Elizabeth turned to Joseph, eyes full of apology. “Joseph, I’m sorry. Just now...”

“It’s okay,” Joseph cut her off.

“Elizabeth, ran into a friend? It’s pretty lively here,” came Declan’s cheerful voice from behind.

Everyone turned. Declan’s smile vanished the moment he saw Alexander. He hadn’t expected to see him here. Declan stormed over, putting himself between Elizabeth and Alexander. “Did he mess with you, Elizabeth?” he demanded.

Elizabeth’s eyes went dull. “No, Dad.”

Alexander, keeping his cool, nodded. “Dad.” They’d crossed paths in business so many times, calling him “Dad” had become second nature.

“Don’t call me that!” Declan snapped. “Elizabeth’s not good enough for you. You don’t need to call me Dad.”

Alexander was at a loss for words. “Elizabeth, let’s go! We’re not staying in this cursed place!” Declan grabbed her hand and pulled her away.

Alexander watched her leave, eyes dark and brooding. He slumped into a chair, troubled.

“Alexander.” Esme knelt beside him, taking his hand. “I know it’s tough. I’m here with you.”

He looked down, gently stroking her hair before hugging her. Out of the corner of his eye, he saw Elizabeth hesitate at the door. Elizabeth’s breath caught seeing them together. Even though she knew how much they loved each other, it still hurt. She walked over to grab her forgotten phone. Alexander let go of Esme and stood up, looking like he wanted to say something.

Outside, Joseph asked, “Elizabeth, did you find your phone?”

Alexander felt a tug on his fingers. He looked down to see Esme staring up at him, confused.

## Chapter 32

“What’s wrong with him? He dropped me the second Elizabeth walked in!” Esme wondered.

“I found it. Let’s go,” Elizabeth said, smiling as she followed Joseph.

Esme could tell Alexander was distracted. Golf was no longer on her mind.

“Let’s go,” Esme said, standing up and walking out, clearly annoyed.

Alexander noticed her mood and followed. “Esme.”

Esme shoved him away, her eyes blazing with resentment. She wanted some quality time with him, but it was all ruined. Since meeting Elizabeth, Alexander’s eyes had been glued to her. He dropped Esme the moment Elizabeth showed up.

Some actions, even if unintentional, come straight from the heart. Esme liked Alexander and was willing to compromise, but she had her limits!

Seeing Esme unwilling to talk, Alexander said coolly, “I’ll call the driver to take you back.”

Esme stopped in her tracks. She looked at Alexander, full of questions. “You send me back and then what? Go find your ex-wife?”

‘I’m furious! He won’t even try to make it right and wants the driver to take me back! How could he think that’s a solution?’ she thought.

Alexander frowned, lowering his voice. “Esme!”

“Alex, do you even like me?” Esme’s eyes welled up, tears streaming down.

People around them started whispering, recognizing the drama between Alexander and Esme.

Alexander sighed, feeling drained. “Stop it. Let’s go home.” He reached for Esme’s hand.

Esme yanked her hand away, disappointment all over her face. She pulled out her phone. “Henry, I’m at the golf course. Pick me up now!”

Alexander just stood there, the afternoon sun glaring, but he felt nothing but gloom.

As Esme walked away, she slowed down. She could never stay mad at Alexander for long. She was giving him a chance, hoping he’d come after her. If he just tried a little, she’d forgive him.

Esme bit her lip, counting down in her head. Suddenly, she felt a hand grab her arm and pull her into a warm hug.

Alexander's voice was soft in her ear. "Esme, I was wrong. If I had to choose between you and Elizabeth, it's you. Always you."

"Don't be mad. What do you want? I'll get it for you, okay?" His dark eyes were calm, sincere.

Esme started crying again. "I thought you didn't love me anymore."

Alexander's heart melted. "I'm just tired. How could I not love you?" He gently reassured her.

## Chapter 32

"Let's go home," he said, stroking her hair.

Esme trailed behind him, eyes red and feeling totally wronged. But weirdly, all Alexander could think about was Elizabeth.

After dropping Esme off, Alexander hit up Kieran for a drink.

The dim light in the private room made Alexander's face look even colder. Kieran had a girl in his lap; their PDA was nauseating.

"Get out," Alexander snapped.

Kieran chuckled, shooed the girl away, and plopped down next to Alexander. He took a swig of his drink, his black shirt half-open, showing off his chest. "You see the news?" he asked.

"What news?" Alexander grumbled, downing his liquor.

C33

Lex gave him a cold stare, feeling annoyed. Kieran shrugged, throwing an arm around Alex's shoulder. "Dude, Elizabeth's your ex now. Who she's with is none of your business." Alex shrugged off Kieran's arm, irritation bubbling up. He downed his drink, catching a glimpse of the photo on his phone. It was Elizabeth and Joseph. Elizabeth was looking up at Joseph, smiling and chatting away. Alex frowned, his throat tightening, the strong liquor burning his stomach.

She used to look at him like that. No matter how badly he treated her, she always smiled when he showed up. She'd scheme against Esme, and he'd defend Esme. They'd argue like crazy. But when they met again, she'd act like nothing happened, smiling and saying, "Alex." Thinking about it made his heart ache, like ants crawling inside, making him restless.

"If Percy and Joseph get engaged, I better get an invite," Kieran said, rubbing his chin. Alexander wanted to punch him.

## Chapter 34

"When you married Elizabeth, I didn't even show up! Poor Elizabeth. She married you, got no recognition, and didn't even get a wedding!"

Alexander's mind was already a mess. Kieran's nonstop chatter only made it worse. Alexander grabbed his jacket and stood up to leave. Kieran, catching on, quickly called out, "Alexander, where are you headed?" Alexander ignored him.

As he left the bar, Nolan was busy dealing with the online buzz about Elizabeth. "Mr. Tudor, how should we handle the news about Percy and Stewart?" Nolan asked Alexander. Alexander, tugging at his tic, looked up at Nolan. The car's dim lighting and the lingering scent of alcohol cast shadows under his eyes.

"What did you say?" Alexander asked again. Nolan, clueless, repeated, "Percy and..." "Percy?" Alexander cut him off, ice in his voice. Nolan was still confused. Alexander laughed coldly, "Nolan, I haven't even divorced Elizabeth yet, and you're already calling her Percy?" He used to call her "Mrs. Tudor" so sincerely, and now he called her "Percy."

Sensing Alexander's displeasure, Nolan quickly said, "Mr. Tudor, Ms. Russell told me to change it." Mentioning Esme made Alexander's heart sink. The car went dead silent. Nolan watched him cautiously, not daring to speak; even his breathing became more careful.

Alexander leaned back, his throat moving, staying quiet for a moment. Nolan broke the silence, "Mr. Tudor, where to?" Alexander looked up at Nolan and suddenly asked, "Did you tip off Lily to go to the villa that day?" Nolan was stunned. He opened his mouth but said nothing. "Did you?" Alexander frowned.

## Chapter 34

Alexander's breath hitched; he clenched his fist. "Nolan!" He had thought it was Elizabeth who had informed Lily that day! "Mr. Tudor, she asked about your schedule, 1..." Alexander's stomach churned. He suddenly remembered a time when he was drunk after a social event and Nolan had taken him to the villa. Elizabeth had been busy taking care of him, making oatmeal that had settled his stomach.

"Mr. Tudor, I was wrong. It won't happen again, I accept my punishment!" Nolan said, ashamed. Entertainment news had updated with new info. The Stewarts and the Percys had dinner together! Elizabeth and Joseph seemed super close. This news hit Alexander like a punch to the gut.

Staring at the skyscrapers outside, Alexander scowled. "Take me to the Percys." Nolan blinked, confused. "What?" "Are you deaf? I said, we're going to the Percys!" Alexander barked. Nolan nodded quickly, not daring to hesitate. Alexander gripped his phone tight, then tossed it aside.

## Chapter 35

Thanks a ton for today. Something unexpected came up; hope you and Elizabeth are doing well. Joseph leaned against his car, raising an eyebrow. "Xong happy, that's all that matters."

Elizabeth smiled, her eyes lighting up. "Thanks."

"No problem. Don't let irrelevant people meddle with your motivation."

Elizabeth nodded. "Alright. See you next time."

Joseph waved and got into his car, driving off. Elizabeth stood there until his car vanished. She shook her arms, ready to head back inside. Meeting such a gentlemanly and elegant guy was rare. Too bad she felt too flawed to deserve him.

Just as she was about to go in, a familiar voice called out from behind. "Elizabeth." The voice was raspy but had a warmth that hit Elizabeth right in the heart. She spun around and saw a black Maybach parked nearby. Alexander was leaning against it, staring at her with those intense eyes. Elizabeth had been so wrapped up in saying goodbye to Joseph, she hadn't noticed anyone else.

"What's he doing here?" she wondered. Her face immediately darkened, showing a flicker of annoyance. Alexander noticed, his eyes turning colder. *Is*

*she really that unhappy to see me?* She was all smiles with Joseph just now, he thought.

“What do you want?” Elizabeth’s tone was flat, like she was talking to a stranger. Alexander seemed to think so too. He kept staring at her, his eyes deep and unreadable. He didn’t say a word, just kept looking. It felt like even looking at her was a luxury now. Elizabeth felt a shiver run down her spine under his gaze, her whole body tense. *He always hated seeing me, didn’t he? What’s with the staring now?* she thought.

“Mr. Tudor, if you have nothing to say, I’m going inside.” Her voice got a bit sharper. As she turned to leave, Alexander finally spoke. “When did you and Joseph meet?”

Elizabeth stood beneath the streetlight, her smile gentle, casting a long shadow. She possessed a beauty that was difficult to...

Chapter 35 (continued)

“Do you care?” she asked.

Alexander’s brow furrowed. “Answer me,” he demanded. Elizabeth knew him well. He was relentless. If he didn’t get an answer, he’d keep pushing. And from the looks of it, he’d been drinking.

“We met through dating,” she said casually. Alexander’s frown deepened. *They met through dating? So, they didn’t know each other before? The reason she agreed to the divorce was not because of Joseph?* he thought.

He let out a low chuckle, reaching for a cigarette. But when he saw Elizabeth, he stopped.

“Do you like him?”

Elizabeth didn’t bite. “Mr. Tudor, it’s late. Go home and rest,” she said coolly. Alexander’s eyelashes fluttered. *Why won’t she answer? Did she fall for Joseph in just a few days? Is she planning to get engaged to him?* he wondered.

He moved closer. As Elizabeth turned to leave, he grabbed her wrist, pinning her against the wall. Elizabeth’s back hit the wall, and she looked up at him.

Chapter Comments (61)

Kieran, seeing Alexander was clueless, pulled out his phone. He had a screenshot ready. Joseph visited the Percy family with his dad. Rumor has it you and Elizabeth are to... be read out loud.

Alexander's brow furrowed, eyes locking on Kieran. Kieran cleared his throat and continued, "We found out Lake visited the Percussions. Joseph and Elizabeth's wedding date is coming up." Kieran felt a pang of guilt. The media was really pushing it with these stories? He glanced at Alexander. The room was dim, and Alexander's icy vibe made him seem even more...

After hearing the two news pieces, the vibe around him got even...

"The third one..." Kieran touched his nose, glancing at Alexander. *You want me to keep going?*

Alexander gritted his teeth. "Go on!" He was dying to see what other cap these shiny asia outlets had cooked up.

"The third one is..." Kieran mumbled, "Mr. Tudor had an affair with Exe during his marriage and they are a..."

Kieran stepped aside and pocketed his phone. Alexander glared at him, eyes darkening like...

"Alexander, the first two are kinda made up. But this third one..." Kieran stopped, not daring to say more that what was reported appeared to be true.

With a cold face, Alexander pulled out his phone and scrolled through various entertainment news websites. The news homepage wasn't showing him and Exe, but Elisabeth and... Comments from netizens were below.

[They look pretty good together J] [Did Elizabeth really divorce Alexander? I always thought he treated her badly, GAANAYATA] [I agree! A beauty shouldn't be wronged like that. Mr. Stewart is her tree match]

Alexander gripped his phone tightly and immediately called Nolan to pull all news articles with... now!

"Yeah, Mr. Tudor."

After hanging up, Alex shot a quick message to a buddy on Facebook. A few minutes later, his friend sent back two photos and a text: [Tonight, the Stewarts and the Percys had dinner, Joseph's about to take Ab Ascy bod...]



“Alex, Elizabeth and Joseph look pretty good together?” Kieran counted the content...

## Chapter 36

He blocked all the light from her eyes. Against the light, Alexander hung his head, his outline blurred. His eyes were exceptionally deep, and in a hoarse voice, he said, “Answer my question.”

Elizabeth smelled the alcohol on him. He had been drinking, and quite a lot. Is he drunk and came here to vent his frustrations?, she thought.

Elizabeth pressed her lips together lightly and raised her eyes, which were dim. “This is my private matter. I have the right not to answer,” she said.

Elizabeth was about to push him away, but he pinned her arm against the wall, preventing her from breaking free.

“Alexander, if you keep this up, I’ll call the police!” Elizabeth frowned, her tone very firm.

“Go ahead.” He glared at her, his eyes seemingly igniting with a slow-burning fury. He hadn’t done anything illegal; Elizabeth was still his lawful wife.

Elizabeth looked at his brows and eyes, feeling very sad inside. She knew he didn’t love her. His repeated questioning was only because he couldn’t accept that they hadn’t completely divorced, and she was already being intimate with another man. For Alexander, this struck at the core of his masculinity.

Elizabeth sniffed, glaring at Alexander with a smile in her eyes, pretending to be indifferent as she said, “Yes. I have fallen for Joseph.”

Alexander’s body stiffened.

“If nothing crazy happens, after our divorce, I’ll be with Joseph,” Elizabeth said with a soft smile. “I suck at judging people. My dad picked him for me, and I’m pretty happy with that.”

She was talking to herself, not noticing the anger building in Alexander’s eyes. Alexander got the hint—she thought he was no good.

“After our divorce, you’ll marry Esme soon, right? That’s good.” Elizabeth looked at him again.

Their eyes met, and hers were really red. Alexander would never know how hard it was for her to say those words. She had to admit she wasn't as heartless as she thought. She had loved Alexander for so many years; her feelings for him couldn't just vanish overnight. She needed time to slowly let them go.

"These three years, we were like a rubber band. You kept moving towards Esme, and I tried to pull you back, but it just snapped back and hurt me." Elizabeth smiled bitterly and murmured, "After I let go, I realized it was so much easier."

Elizabeth tilted her face up, and he moved slightly, letting the streetlight fall on her face, lighting her up.

## Chapter 36

He finally saw the tears glistening in her eyes. Elizabeth bit her lower lip, carefully observing the face she had loved for so many years. She raised her hand, really wanting to touch him again, to feel his warmth. But just as she was about to touch him, Elizabeth stopped. She knew he hated her touch.

Alexander's eyes narrowed. He gazed at Elizabeth's motionless hand, feeling as though an elephant was perched on his chest. Elizabeth forced a smile, a tear trickling down her cheek.

A voice in her head screamed, "Elizabeth, stop."

"Alexander, don't come after me anymore. We were doomed from the start; let's end it now." She wiped her tears away with grace. She promised herself this was the last time she'd cry over Alexander. Never again.

Elizabeth pulled her hand back, but he grabbed it tight. She swallowed her sobs, staring him down. "Alexander, think about Esme."

This time, he let go. Alexander watched her step back, his stomach in knots. Elizabeth shot him a bitter smile. Esme was always his weak spot.

Elizabeth had just turned and taken a few steps when she heard a noise behind her.

"Mr. Tudor!" someone shouted.

## Chapter 37

Elizabeth spun around to see Alexander on the ground. He clutched his stomach, his face going ghostly pale. Her heart pounded as she rushed over and knelt beside him, worry etched on her face. "Alexander!"

As soon as she realized she had no ties to Alexander anymore, she pulled back her hand. Nolan was there; he wouldn't let anything happen to Alexander. Elizabeth lowered her eyes, pushed down her worry, and got up to leave.

Nolan quickly called out, "Mrs. Tudor!"

Elizabeth replied calmly, "Nolan, he probably drank too much and his stomach's acting up. Take him to the hospital and let Esme know."

Nolan looked at Elizabeth, surprised she said that. In the past, whenever something happened to Alexander, Elizabeth was always the first to stay by his side.

Just as she was about to leave, Alexander's cold fingertips hooked onto hers. "Elizabeth."

She immediately looked at Alexander, his brows furrowed, face full of pain. In that instant, Elizabeth's heart raced. She opened her mouth but said nothing.

Nolan quickly said, "Mrs. Tudor, please go with Mr. Tudor to the hospital."

Alexander's hand clutched her shirt, and Elizabeth, unable to think of anything else, nodded. She helped Nolan get Alexander into the car. She held Alexander's shoulder, and he leaned against her, groggy and heavy-headed.

Nolan glanced back, but the car didn't speed up.

"Did he go to a social event?" Elizabeth asked.

Nolan was floored. "Yeah! That business partner can really put it away, and they kept pushing Mr. Tudor to drink."

Elizabeth immediately turned to Alexander, her fingers lightly brushing his cheek. This was the only time she dared to touch him openly. When he was sober, he wouldn't let her. His eyes would show disgust, and it broke her heart every time.

"Next time he has a social event, make sure he eats first. If he runs into a heavy drinker, help him out," Elizabeth said calmly.

Nolan glanced in the rearview mirror, seeing Elizabeth's composed face as she gave instructions. "It's summer now. Make sure he eats less cold food and takes care of his stomach."

Elizabeth was so focused on her instructions, she didn't notice Alexander's trembling shoulders as he leaned against her.

"Mrs. Tudor, I'm not as thoughtful as you. This still needs you," Nolan said with a bitter smile.

Elizabeth looked up and smiled. "I can't handle this either. Just pass it on to Esme."

"Mrs. Tudor..." Nolan called out helplessly.

Elizabeth smiled, her expression calm. "Drive faster. He's in pain."

Nolan turned his attention back to the road and floored the gas pedal. Elizabeth was always kind, both now and in the past. She was always gentle with them as Mr. Tudor's employees and often brought them gifts. For the past three years, she never lost her cool with them. Alexander was the impatient one, while Elizabeth was the calm, gentle type. They balanced each other out.

Around Elizabeth, everyone felt equal. But Esme? Totally different story. Esme's eyes screamed disdain, and her tone was always bossy. Take how he addressed Elizabeth, for instance. He always called her Mrs. Tudor.

Esme would snap, "They're divorced! Why do you still call her that? Nolan, you have no sense. I'm docking your pay!"

Nolan sighed. "Would Alexander leaving Elizabeth really be a good thing?" he wondered.

The car pulled up to the ER. Elizabeth helped Alexander onto a hospital bed, ready to leave, but he clung to her fingers, refusing to let go. She frowned, trying to pry his fingers off, but his grip was iron.

Elizabeth sighed, giving in. "Doctor, how is he?" she asked the on-duty doc.

"He's fine, just needs some meds and rest. Make sure he doesn't mess up his stomach again," the doctor said.

## Chapter 38

Nolan went to get the meds. Elizabeth looked at Alexander lying there, a flicker of disdain in her eyes. She gave Alexander's arm a light slap, muttering, "You couldn't take care of yourself in high school. Now you're in your twenties and still the same. Always making people worry about you!" Seeing his pale face, Elizabeth sighed, worry filling her eyes. She leaned against the bedside, arms crossed, staring at him. She wouldn't get another chance to be with him like this. The thought made her chuckle. "Alexander, I'm really a top-notch ex-wife." Dragging her ex-husband to the hospital in the middle of the night? That had to count for something, right?

Elizabeth stood at the foot of the bed, watching him. Suddenly, her phone rang. It was Nolan. "Mrs. Tudor, something urgent came up at the company. I have to go!" Elizabeth frowned. "Nolan..." The call cut off, leaving her speechless. She glanced back at Alexander, wanting to curse. 'Why am I always the one left here?' she thought. But Alexander needed someone now, so she had no choice but to pull up a chair and sit down. She propped her face with her hand, looking at him, eyes full of frustration. Elizabeth lay on the bed, feeling a bit dejected.

Alexander's hand moved, and Elizabeth looked up; he was awake. Their eyes locked, and things got awkward real quick. Elizabeth figured he was okay now, so she could bounce. She cleared her throat, pointed at his stomach, and said, "You had a stomach attack. Doc said it's no biggie, just need more rest." Alexander glanced at her, throat tight, couldn't get a word out. Elizabeth pursed her lips, looked at him, and added, "Lay off the booze next time." He stayed silent. "If you're good, I'm out." She grabbed her bag, ready to leave. He instinctively grabbed her hand.

## Chapter 38

Elizabeth turned, her eyelashes fluttering. He frowned, breathing heavy, voice hoarse. "I'm in pain." He didn't say it loud, but she heard him clear as day. She leaned in, pressing her hand near his stomach. "Where does it hurt?" She knew some medicine, could do basic checks. When he was brought back drunk before, she was the one who helped him out. Alexander felt weak, voice low as he looked at her face getting closer. "Everything hurts." "I'll call the doc," she said, trying to get up. He tightened his grip, not letting go. His eyes were a bit red, still smelled like booze, kinda tipsy. As Elizabeth tried to pull away, she was yanked into his arms. She tumbled into his embrace, his heartbeat thundering in her ears, and her heart sank. He whispered, "Don't go."

Elizabeth looked up, her heart aching. ‘Does he think I’m Esme?’ she wondered. She lowered her eyes and said softly, “Alexander, you’ve had too much to drink. I’m not Esme.”

Unrepairable Love

## Chapter 39

Alexander opened his eyes, swallowed hard, and breathed heavily. “I...”

“Alexander...” Esme’s voice suddenly cut through the room from the doorway. Elizabeth instinctively pushed Alexander away, standing up straight and looking towards the door. Esme bit her lower lip, holding a lunchbox in her right hand. She glared at Elizabeth, clear hostility in her eyes.

Elizabeth took a couple of steps back and said calmly, “Esme, don’t get the wrong idea. Alexander mistook me for you.”

“Really?” Esme eyed Elizabeth skeptically. She didn’t buy it. Esme looked at Alexander lying on the hospital bed and smirked. “Did I come at a bad time?”

“Don’t be silly. He had a stomach issue, and I happened to be there, so I brought him here,” Elizabeth lied to avoid drama.

Esme glanced at them, fuming inside. She always had people watching Alexander! When Alex got wasted, he didn’t go to her first. Nope, he went straight to the Percy family! What was that about? Esme fumed inside. But she had to keep her cool. She couldn’t let Alexander know that she had someone watching him.

Esme forced a smile. “Thanks, Liz. Alex is always like this. Knows his stomach’s a mess but doesn’t care! Lucky he bumped into you.”

Liz just shook her head, glanced at Alex, and walked off. Alex’s eyes darkened, feeling like crap.

As Liz and Esme passed each other, Esme said, “Liz, let me walk you out.” She put the lunchbox on the bedside table and followed her out. They walked side by side in silence until they were out of the ER and down the steps.

Then Esme asked, “Did Alex come looking for you?”

Liz just looked at her, waiting.

“Look, Liz, you two are divorced. Stop clinging to him. You’re just making yourself look desperate,” Esme said, her face cold and her words sharp.

Liz pressed her lips together, looking unfazed. “What are you scared of?”

‘Is she scared we didn’t really split? Or that Alex might still have feelings for me?’ Liz wondered.

Esme lifted her chin, eyes fierce. “I’m not scared of anything. Alexander promised to marry me! And for those women eyeing him, I have every right to remind them he’s mine!”

Elizabeth shot her a disdainful look and chuckled. Esme’s face turned red with anger. “Elizabeth, don’t push me to use...”

Elizabeth’s smile vanished, and she turned to leave, already anticipating Esme’s next move.

“I’ll tell you this, Lily’s birthday is soon! I got that rare ginseng everyone’s talking about. This time, the Tudor family will have to accept me!”

Elizabeth stopped in her tracks, turned, and narrowed her eyes. “You got the ginseng?”

“Yes!” Esme smirked, lifting her chin higher, clearly clueless. She was sure making Lily happy would win her the Tudor family’s approval. Elizabeth would be tossed aside like garbage.

Elizabeth smiled. Esme was arrogant and clueless. “I’ll be looking forward to it.” With that, she walked away without a glance back.

Esme bit her lip, puzzled by Elizabeth’s calm reaction. She frowned and stomped her foot in frustration. Elizabeth didn’t head home; she went straight to Hidden Camp.

## Chapter 40

No face. A robot rolled up, its mechanical voice chiming, “Glory M, welcome home.” De patted its AW. The bure down open, and Felix stumbled out, looking groggy. “Pose, what brings you here?”

“Coding on that rare given in the Mack market.” She needed to see how much the price had skyrocketed. Pelodd and allowed her to the info roo. The big

screen was a flurry of ginseng chatter – over two hundred thousand posts and two billion views. But the order? The price was going through the roof? The chart in the corner had stuck at a billion dollars!

No cars. All cit crossed her arms, frowning. “Bax, we sure you don’t have it?” Felix eyed her. She stayed quiet, making him second-guess. Elizabeth shot him a look, eyebrow raised. “Ran into Esme. She claims she has it.”

“Blutting. No one’s pinned it down yet. Or maybe she got a fake?” Felix scratched his chin. “Scrab my info about this ginseng from the black market,” Elizabeth said, turning to leave.

Felly’s eyes went wide. “What does that mean??” Elizabeth meant the ginseng had already shown up! She glanced at Felix, eyebrow raised. “Wanna see this ginseng?”

Felix’s eyes got even wider. “Boss, you really have it?!” Beth didn’t say a word and walked out. Felix was right on her heels! She led him to the underground warehouse. Elizabeth scanned her fingerprint, and small compartments storing precious items popped open, showing... Felix had been there many times, the sight still blew him away. People said Alexander was the richest young guy in Lisban. Felix thought, actually.

## Chapter 40

He looked at the compartments. He’d never noticed any ginseng here. The place was huge, and Elizabeth kept walking. Felix said, “Poss, any further and we’ll hit the A-level item of it at all.” The warehouse was divided into levels: 555, 53, S, and A, with A being the least valuable. Surprisingly, Elizabeth didn’t even stop at the A-level section. She stopped at a pile of sink storage.

Felix tugged at her sleeve. “Boss, you must’ve gone too far.” He figured Elizabeth hadn’t been to the warehouse in ages and probably forgot where the ginseng was stashed. “Let me check!” Felix was about to fire up the smart system, but Elizabeth stopped him. Elizabeth cleared her throat, looking a bit sheepish.

Felix’s jaw dropped as Elizabeth pulled the ginseng, which had sent market prices soaring, from the junk section? Felix’s eyes went wide with shock. Elizabeth calmly placed the ginseng on a flat surface. It was in a clear container, looking pristine like a white rose, but a bit dimmer. The kicker? Its



dark blue root! Felix's device scanned and categorized it instantly: [Waste Area – Ginseng – To Be Destroyed].

Felix clutched his chest, stunned. This rare ginseng had been tossed in the waste area and marked for destruction by Elizabeth. "I was about to destroy this stuff when I shut down Hidden Camp," Elizabeth said wistfully. "Never thought it would fetch such a price after all these years..."

Felix had never been more grateful for Elizabeth's decision to close Hidden Camp. Today, he really wanted to thank her for closing her base, which saved this ginseng from being trashed. This ginseng, now commanding exorbitant prices on the black market and coveted by many, had been in Elizabeth's possession all along!