

Unrepairable, Love / I married a man

Unrepairable, Love

Chapter 451

Alexander still remembers their worst fight. Elizabeth stood right in front of him, grilling him. “How am I worse than Esme? I told you I was scared, so why did you still go to Esme without hesitation? Alexander, I am your wife!”

Alexander took a deep breath, and everything replayed in his mind like a movie. He pulled out his phone, wanting to explain the butterfly necklace to Elizabeth. But when he called, it showed she was on another call. After several failed attempts, he realized Elizabeth had blocked him again. Frustrated, Alexander tossed his phone aside, giving up on explaining.

The cruise party was about to kick off. Media outlets were already swarming the place. The parking lot was packed with luxury cars. A seven-story cruise ship was docked at the shore, with a string of English letters engraved on it. The cruise was decked out in luxury, and the party was blowing up online. Everyone attending the cruise party would get a gift. Assistants and butlers were seen hauling away bags from high-end brands.

On a sofa in the waiting area, not far from the cruise, Elizabeth swirled the wine in her glass, lazily watching people enter. Everyone’s eyes were on Elizabeth, but no one dared to stare too long. Elizabeth looked stunning tonight, in a simple black short dress that showed off her shoulders and long legs. Her curly hair cascaded down her back, and her beautiful face was adorned with exquisite makeup, making her incredibly alluring. She swirled her wine glass with a relaxed grace.

She was beautiful and captivating, drawing everyone’s attention in a way no one else could. Photos of her, taken by reporters, were being wildly shared online. Lila even used her main account to share Elizabeth’s photos, showering her with praise. Netizens commented, saying that beautiful women indeed hang out with other beautiful women.

Soon, a commotion arose in the venue. Onlookers said, “Mr. Tudor is here! And he brought Esme today! Are they officially announcing their

relationship?” “They look so good together.” “Could it be that Mr. Tudor is so handsome that any woman standing next to him looks good?”

Chapter 451

What a joke. A woman has to be beautiful to match Alexander! If we're talking about a good match, I still think Elizabeth is better.

Elizabeth looked into the distance. She saw Alexander stepping out of a black business car and then reaching out to help Esme out. Alexander was in a black suit, and Esme wore a black floor-length gown. They did look good together. But what made her feel they didn't match today was the butterfly necklace around Esme's neck. It didn't match at all. Such a long gown shouldn't be paired with that kind of jewelry; the simpler, the better.

But thinking about how she couldn't even get that unnecessary butterfly necklace, Elizabeth felt she had no right to say anything. Elizabeth lowered her eyes and downed her glass of wine.

At that moment, someone else shouted, “Wow! Mr. Getty is here too!” “Hey, who's that handsome guy behind Mr. Getty?”

Chapter 452

In a bash, everyone was glued to the person behind Kieran, including Elizabeth. She set her wine glass down and immediately recognized the familiar figure. Who else could it be but Ivan?

Elizabeth squinted and gave a faint smile. Ivan was quite the busy bee; he'd just gotten back from abroad and was already hitting up the party scene. Alexander and Esme turned around at the same time, spotting Kiera and Ivan heading their way. The three of them started catching up. Elizabeth noticed Esme's eyes practically sparkling as she looked at Ivan.

Elizabeth took a moment to size up the three guys, each handsome in their own way. Alexander had that brooding, steady kind of handsomeness, a bit rogue and a bit aloof. Kieran was the golden boy. Ivan, on the other hand, had a gentler vibe. With the three of them standing together, it was no wonder people slowed down to take a second look. They were definitely eye-catching.

While Elizabeth was observing, she suddenly locked eyes with someone. She squinted and saw that person smile and nod slightly. Elizabeth raised an eyebrow; it was Ivan. He actually greeted her.

Alexander noticed Ivan's gesture and followed his gaze, seeing only Elizabeth sitting in the distance. Alexander thought, *Ivan knows Elizabeth? When did that happen? Or is he greeting someone else?*

Elizabeth sensed Alexander watching her and just looked away. Kieran suddenly said to Alexander, "I'm gonna go say hi to Elizabeth." Alexander shot him a disdainful look, but Kieran just grinned. "I've got something important to ask."

"I'll go with you," Ivan chimed in unexpectedly. Kieran looked a bit surprised. Alexander then realized Ivan was indeed greeting Elizabeth earlier. So when did these two meet? Didn't Ivan just get back yesterday?

Alexander watched as the two walked side by side towards Elizabeth, chatting and laughing. Ivan sat next to Elizabeth, grabbed a glass of champagne, and lightly clinked it with hers.

Ivan was being very courteous to Elizabeth. Alexander squinted and thought, 'If I remember right, Ivan hates sucking up to people and isn't into women. So why's he being so nice to Elizabeth?'

Esme tugged on Alexander's arm, signaling him not to get distracted. Alexander lowered his head and patted Esme's head. "Let's go upstairs." Esme nodded, but not before sneaking a glance at Elizabeth. Esme had set a big trap for Elizabeth. Esme thought, *Tonight's Elizabeth's last night in this world. Hope she makes the most of it!*

"So you two have met?" Kieran asked, surprised. Ivan nodded. Elizabeth said, "Just once. After all, Mr. Shawn is quite the standout."

At this point, Elizabeth took a closer look at Ivan. Ivan was indeed very handsome. Maybe she'd seen enough handsome guys back home, and now this new one showed up, making her want to take a few more glances.

"Ms. Percy, if you keep staring at me like that, I might get shy," Ivan said with a gentle smile. Elizabeth lightly coughed and looked away. Kieran squinted and seemed to catch on to something.

Chapter 453

Was Ivan trying to hit on Elizabeth?

Kieran jumped in and asked Elizabeth, "Is Ms. Parker coming tonight?"

“Oh, Lila’s got something going on, so she can’t make it,” Elizabeth replied.

Kieran looked a bit bummed out. “At that, Parker’s always so busy. It’s tough to catch her,” he thought.

“Did you guys sign the contract yet? I haven’t seen any official announcement,” Elizabeth asked.

Kieran nodded. “Yeah, it’s signed, but we haven’t done the promo photos yet. Ms. Parker’s been swamped.”

“She really is. It’s almost the end of the year, and she’s got a ton of parties. Please be patient,” Elizabeth smiled. “Lila will get her agent to set up a time soon.”

“No worries. I signed the contract last minute anyway. She said she’d coordinate with me as soon as she could.” Just then, someone called Kieran from across the room.

Kieran nodded. Before leaving, he made sure to drag Ivan along. He didn’t trust Ivan alone with Elizabeth. Elizabeth looked stunning tonight. Ivan had just gotten back to Lisbon. What if he got tempted?

As they walked away, Kieran whispered to Ivan, “She’s Alexander’s wife, so don’t even think about it.”

Ivan glanced back. Tonight’s Elizabeth seemed different from the one who had saved him. Last night’s Elizabeth was cool and calm. But tonight, she was both captivating and lonely. Ivan thought she needed someone by her side.

“You said it yourself, she’s his ex,” Ivan repeated.

Kieran was taken aback. “What do you mean by that? You can’t be serious about Elizabeth. Alexander would kill you if he found—”

“Didn’t he divorce her? Why would he care who she’s with?” Ivan asked innocently.

Kieran opened his mouth, thinking, ‘Well, that’s true. But we’ve all grown up together, and now one of us is falling for another friend’s ex. It’s just weird!’

“Don’t let this turn into a mess and put me in a tough spot,” Kieran nudged Ivan.

Ivan chuckled and couldn't help but glance at Elizabeth again. A friend's ex-wife seemed even more intriguing.

Chapter 453

A mischievous glint flashed in Ivan's eyes. Seeing that, Kieran knew all his words were pointless.

As seven o'clock rolled around, everyone started boarding the cruise. Elizabeth waited until the end because Felix kept texting her.

Felix: [This party's full of rich folks, and they can get pretty wild. Be careful.]

Felix: [Watch your drink. Don't let anyone slip something in it. And keep an eye on Esme. She's trouble; who knows what she might do on the cruise.]

Felix: I'm following in a small boat. If anything goes down, I'll be there!

Elizabeth laughed. How worried was Felix about her? But having someone care like that made her happy. Besides her family, Felix and Lila were rare people who truly cared. Elizabeth quietly snapped a picture of her sleeve and replied: [I brought some hidden weapons, so don't worry, I'll be safe.]

Chapter 454

Elizabeth was the last one to board the cruise ship. The inside was even more stunning than it looked from the outside. As soon as she stepped inside, she found herself in a super high-tech reception hall. It was as if all the pretty girls from Lishun had gathered there. Two rows of uniformed girls were so eye-catching, you couldn't help but stare.

Elizabeth handed her invitation to the person in charge, who gave a slight nod. "Welcome, Ms. Percy."

"This is your name badge." A girl came up and stuck a butterfly-emblazoned badge on Elizabeth's chest. It looked nice, not too flashy, not too dull. This was based on a form filled out beforehand, where guests could customize their badges and there was a built-in tracking system to check what kind of badge they wanted. The badges were to avoid any mishaps during the cruise party. After all, the guests were all socialites and big names. If someone went missing or something went wrong, the person in charge would be in deep trouble.

Elizabeth nodded, adjusted her badge, and followed a server into the elevator. The elevator went up and stopped on the sixth floor. When she stepped out, she found herself at the banquet venue. Desserts and other foods were neatly laid out, and light, pleasant music played in the background.

As soon as Elizabeth walked in, a server approached her. “Hello, Ms. Percy. Is there anything I can help you with? Would you like a tour of the cruise ship?”

Elizabeth quickly shook her head. “No, thanks. I’ll look around on my own.”

The server promptly replied, “Alright, Ms. Percy. I am Butler No. 03. If you need anything, just press your badge, and I’ll be right there.”

Elizabeth paused, surprised to learn that the badge had such a feature. She even got a personal butler. Clearly, the organizers of this cruise party had thought of everything.

Elizabeth thanked the butler, who then left. Elizabeth wandered around, getting a feel for the place and checking out the guests. Not far ahead, a guy chatting with three women was Mason Cox, a somewhat notorious playboy from Lisbun. Nearby was a chubby but rather cute young man. Elizabeth recognized him; they had been college classmates. He also studied medicine but was a vet.

Elizabeth sipped her drink, and her gaze eventually landed on Alexander, who was socializing not far away. Alexander usually hated these kinds of events and rarely showed up in previous years. Elizabeth was pretty surprised to see him. Soon, Esme approached and linked arms with Alexander. Elizabeth understood; he didn’t want to be here but couldn’t say no to Esme wanting to have some fun. Given the high-profile nature of the cruise party, Alexander must have felt easier about attending alone, so he naturally came along. If it were Elizabeth, he wouldn’t have come. See, love and indifference were that clear-cut.

Elizabeth took another sip of her drink when someone tapped her shoulder. “Ms. Percy, did you come to the party alone?”

Elizabeth turned to see Ivan. Tilting his head, he looked particularly innocent. Elizabeth squinted, thinking, *He looks quite different from when I saw him last night. Up close, this guy has great skin, long, thick eyelashes, and is very handsome.*

“Yes,” Elizabeth responded coolly and then started to walk away. Ivan was Alexander’s friend, so Elizabeth didn’t plan to get too close to him. To be precise, she wanted to stay away from all of Alexander’s friends.

Ivan pouted. “Are you avoiding me? Let’s chat.”

“What do we have to talk about?” Elizabeth glanced at him indifferently and then reached for her drink.

Ivan intercepted her and took the drink she was about to grab. As he was about to drink it, Elizabeth immediately raised her hand to block his wrist. “Mr. Shawn, you can’t drink alcohol.” His wound hadn’t healed yet.

“That’s no fun,” Ivan said, his face showing a hint of grievance. Coming to a place like this was all about drinking.

Elizabeth smiled, picking up a glass of water and some juice. “You can try this.”

“No,” Ivan immediately pushed it away, insisting on drinking alcohol.

Elizabeth frowned. “Your wound will fester, and you’ll even have to go to the hospital.”

“It’s okay. Isn’t that what you’re here for?” Ivan grinned.

Chapter 455

Elizabeth was feeling pretty annoyed. Don't let Ivan's smile fool you into thinking he's harmless. But Ivan kept inching closer. Elizabeth turned away, deciding to ignore him. Little did she know, Alexander was watching them, his grip on his cup tightening.

Alexander thought, *Since when did Elizabeth and Ivan get so chummy? Why are they laughing and chatting? And why did she stop him from drinking?* Alexander was not happy. “Alexander,” Esme called out. Alexander turned. “Yeah?” “Henry’s here too. Should we go say hi?” Esme asked with a slight smile.

Alexander looked up and, sure enough, there was Henry. He had just talked to Henry yesterday, and Henry had said he wouldn’t come. Alexander nodded and went with Esme to greet Henry.

Meanwhile, Ivan kept trailing Elizabeth. Wherever she went, he followed. Elizabeth felt exasperated. "Why are you following me?" She had come to the party wanting some alone time.

"You're the only one I know," Ivan said, spreading his hands in an innocent gesture. Elizabeth gave a wry smile. "Don't you know Alexander and Kieran?" "Them?" He glanced in their direction. One was chatting with the Russells, and the other was chasing after some young girl. How could they remember Ivan, who had just returned and didn't know anyone?

Ivan sighed, feeling pretty bummed out. Elizabeth stayed quiet. "Why did you and Alexander get divorced?" Ivan and Elizabeth found a quieter spot to sit. Elizabeth played with her glass, her tone calm, "We didn't get along, so we split."

"Wasn't it because he cheated on you?" he asked. Elizabeth couldn't bring herself to admit in front of Ivan that Alexander had betrayed her. "Do you still love him now?" Ivan leaned in closer, staring directly into Elizabeth's eyes.

Elizabeth was puzzled. She met Ivan's eyes, which were particularly clear, like he hadn't seen much of the world. *Life abroad and life at home are naturally different*, Elizabeth thought. She was about to answer when Ivan suddenly leaned in, looking into her eyes and blinking. Elizabeth suddenly couldn't figure him out.

Ivan swallowed hard. He had to admit, Elizabeth fascinated him. Elizabeth was truly beautiful. Ivan frowned slightly, licked his lips, and half-jokingly asked, "Elizabeth, can I kiss you?"

Chapter 456

"So blunt?" Elizabeth quickly pulled herself together. "Mr. Shawn, I'm Alanla's ex-wife."

Ivan shrugged. "And? You guys are divorced, right?"

Elizabeth was taken aback that he had the nerve to hit on his buddy's ex. And the kicker? He and Alexander were close, unlike Alexander and Hyde.

"I'm not into causing drama between friends over a woman," Elizabeth said, throwing up her hands.

Ivan was about to say something, but Elizabeth cut him off. "Mr. Shawn, can I get a moment of peace?" she pleaded, hands clasped.

"I need a drink," Ivan said, grabbing a glass of wine.

Elizabeth quickly reminded him, "Your wound is pretty bad. Maybe think twice about drinking."

"Then just keep an eye on me. No one else does, and I just can't help myself," Ivan said, crossing his arms and looking pouty.

Elizabeth's heart was racing. For so long, the men around her were either too serious or total jerks. She'd never met anyone like Ivan. This was kind of exciting.

"So, can I kiss you?" Ivan tilted his head, his voice dripping with charm.

Elizabeth smiled and was about to say no when a cold voice came from behind, "Ivan, quit messing around."

Both Elizabeth and Ivan looked up. It was Alexander. He loosened his suit collar and sat down across from them.

Ivan pouted, "It's natural for a guy to make a move on a beautiful woman."

Alexander shot Ivan a glare, but Ivan didn't seem to care. Elizabeth looked at the two of them, chuckled softly, then took a sip of her wine.

Alexander glanced at Elizabeth and thought, 'So she's not dodging Ivan's advances at all? Doesn't she know Ivan's my friend?' Alexander downed his glass of red wine.

Ivan said, "Be a little nicer to the lady!"

Elizabeth rolled her eyes, thinking men were so annoying.

Chapter 456

"You poor thing," Elizabeth called, throwing up her hands. She needed to chill out on her own, and it would be great if neither of them showed up again. Otherwise, she might start cursing.

Elizabeth headed straight to the seventh deck. There was a band playing up there, singing. Elizabeth looked at the slowly disappearing coastline and the bustling city, and felt an even stronger urge to go abroad. But when she thought of her parents and grandparents, she pushed that idea down.

Unrepairable Love

Chapter 457

Elizabeth had been pretty self-centered for years, so it was about time she thought about her parents. Now, whether she took over her dad's company or followed her mom's advice to get into design, both options were solid. She said she was going abroad to "find herself," but really, she was running away.

Leaning on the deck, Elizabeth stared at the calm sea. She was kind of surprised she wasn't scared at all. She always thought she'd be terrified of the ocean. But now? It was no big deal. But swimming? That was a different story. She glanced down at the seemingly bottomless sea and gulped. Yeah, she was still scared. If she fell in, she'd probably freak out and freeze, just like that day. Thinking about falling into the sea, she quickly turned away, not wanting to look at the water anymore.

Her phone buzzed. It was a Facebook message from Lila.

Lila: [Sorry I couldn't join you on the cruise party! Have a blast, Elizabeth!]

Elizabeth smiled. Another message popped up.

Lila: [I heard Alexander and Esme are there too. If those jerks mess with you, don't hold back! Especially that witch Esme. If you get a chance to slap her, go for it! She stole your marriage and still plays the victim.]

Lila: [Elizabeth, your happiness comes first. Whatever you do, I'm behind you.]

Elizabeth chuckled, crossing her arms and scrolling through the chat. Why did it feel like she was here to throw down at the cruise party? She paused and replied: (Got it. I'll enjoy.)

Lila: (Stay safe. See you when you get back.)

Elizabeth: When I get back, you owe me a bag.

Lila: Buy whatever you want.

Elizabeth grinned and replied: [Goodbye.]

Putting her phone away, her smile grew wider.

Chapter 457

What was a friend? What was the deal with Esme and Elizabeth anyway? She looked towards the band in the distance, listening to the music when she heard, “Come on, there are so many people here.” Oh, why are you in such a hurry? There are so many people. Then a man’s muffled voice, “The more people, the more exciting...”

Elizabeth glanced at her phone. Not even an hour on the ship, and people were already setting up hookups? The breeze blew her hair, and someone nearby snapped a photo of her and then walked over.

“Hey there.” The guy had a camera and looked pretty handsome. Elizabeth gave him a quick look. She wasn’t in the mood to make new friends. So, she smiled and said, “Hey, I’m not feeling well and need to go rest. See you.”

“Not feeling well? I know a bit about medicine. Maybe I can help?” He hung up his camera and stepped closer. Elizabeth immediately took a step back.

“Since you’re on the cruise, why not relax a bit?” His tone was smooth. Elizabeth had prepped herself for this, but his directness still made her uneasy. Just as she was about to step back again, someone suddenly placed a hand on her shoulder. Then, a cold male voice whispered in her ear, “Sorry, she’s with me.”

Elizabeth quickly turned her head, her brows slightly furrowed.

Chapter 458

The guy dropped his head, his eyes landing on Elizabeth’s face. Elizabeth turned away, watching as he hesitated before finally leaving. She shrugged his hand off her shoulder and said calmly, “Thanks, Mr. Tibor.”

“No big deal,” Alexander mumbled.

Elizabeth looked down, ready to go. Just then, Alexander called out, “Elizabeth.”

“Yeah?” She looked up, way too calm.

“Were you trying to say last night on the bench?” Alexander had been mulling it over since he got back but couldn’t figure it out.

Elizabeth pressed her lips together, her eyes getting serious. “Too many people here; it’s not the right place.” Plus, it wasn’t something she could explain quickly.

“Important?” Alexander asked.

Elizabeth let out a quiet laugh. “To me, yeah.” She’d almost lost her life over it. But to him...

“I don’t know if it matters to you.” She forced a smile. If Alexander thought it was important too, she’d be thrilled. But if he didn’t, she’d feel like she’d fallen for the wrong guy. All the crap she’d been through was her own fault.

“So?” Alexander was really curious now.

Elizabeth frowned. The ship’s breeze gently blew over them, the dim light hitting Elizabeth’s face, and she opened her mouth to speak. Alexander watched her, waiting. Elizabeth clenched her fist. She didn’t know how long they’d be here. Might as well spill it.

“Alright. Let me ask you, do you remember when you were kidnapped...” Elizabeth started but got cut off.

Esme butted in, “Elizabeth, Alexander, what are you two talking about?”

Elizabeth turned to see Esme walking over, and Alexander kept staring at Elizabeth, frowning.

Chapter 458

What about when he was kidnapped?

“Are you guys hiding out here?” Kieran showed up behind them. He was holding a glass of wine and handed it to Alexander. “Alexander, someone’s looking for you downstairs.”

“Elizabeth and I need to talk. You guys go ahead, I’ll be right there,” he said to them.

Ivan leaned against a nearby pillar and lazily called out, "The party downstairs can't start without you. Better hurry."

Esme eyed Elizabeth while Elizabeth looked down and took a sip of red wine. Alexander frowned. Elizabeth had mentioned his kidnapping, so it seemed pretty important.

Alexander nodded. "Alright."

"Alexander, you go ahead. I'll chat with Elizabeth for a bit," Este said.

Alexander gave Esme a long look. Esme smiled sweetly. "Don't worry. I'll get along just fine with Elizabeth."

"I'm here," Kieran gave Alexander a look. Kieran knew what Alexander was worried about. Esme used to always pull some tricks and then badmouth Elizabeth. He knew all about it. But back then, Alexander let Esme get away with it, and as a friend, Kieran didn't want to step in too much. Esme noticed the distrust in Alexander's eyes and felt upset. From Alexander's initial indulgence to now questioning her, wasn't that enough to make Esme sad?

More people gathered on the deck. Seeing Kieran and Ivan nearby, Esme pointed to a chair and asked Elizabeth, "Wanna sit?"

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Chapter 459

Elizabeth shot a cautious glance at Esme. Esme raised an eyebrow. "Relax, I'm not going to do anything. It's a pity; people are everywhere."

Elizabeth shrugged, not really scared. They both sat down. Kieran was off to the side, sipping his drink and occasionally glancing their way. Esme sat across from Elizabeth, arms crossed. Elizabeth leaned back in her chair, looking elegant and composed. Her dress today was far more sophisticated and beautiful than Esme's. Plus, with Elizabeth's pretty face, Esme was totally overshadowed. But Esme didn't care about that anymore.

Breaking the silence, Esme said, "Let's talk about Alexander's kidnapping." Elizabeth was momentarily stunned. She had never talked to Esme about it all these years. Esme smiled and asked, "In all these years, haven't you ever told Alexander how you saved him?"

Elizabeth squinted. Esme knew Elizabeth had saved Alexander. Back then, they were still good friends. After it happened, Elizabeth told Esme and Lila about it. Esme was shocked at the time, always saying Elizabeth was amazing for being willing to do anything for Alexander, but she didn't have that kind of courage. Compared to loving Alexander, Esme might love herself a bit more. In Esme's world, if Alexander were kidnapped and facing life and death, she wouldn't risk her own life to save him. Esme loved Alexander's face, his powerful status and wealth, and the Alexander that belonged to Elizabeth but not to herself.

"Never talked about it," Elizabeth said calmly, her gaze drifting towards the sea. Esme followed her gaze and asked, "Still afraid of the sea?"

"No," Elizabeth replied coldly. Esme laughed coldly. How could Elizabeth not be afraid?

Chapter 459

"No need to pretend to be tough in front of me," Essie said, as if she had seen through Elizabeth. Elizabeth's eyes gradually turned cold.

"Elizabeth, why don't you tell him?" Tame probed.

Elizabeth smiled. "Do you always have to talk about love when you like someone? Do you have to constantly remind someone you saved them?"

Esme shook her head. "But Elizabeth, Alexander doesn't even know it was you who saved him."

"Do I have to use that to keep him by my side?" Elizabeth retorted. Esme fell silent. But soon, she said, "As long as I keep him by my side, does it matter he doesn't love me?"

"Isn't that you now?" Elizabeth smiled. The exchange was like a war without smoke, very hostile. Esme clenched her right fist and thought, 'Yeah, that's me now. It doesn't matter if Alexander loves me, but he has to belong to me.'

"Esme, such feelings are meaningless. In the end, you'll end up like me, with nothing," Elizabeth put down her cup, looking like she was kindly reminding her. "Alexander is different from others. He only has himself in his heart."

"Do you think Alexander is a cold-blooded person?" Esme smiled. Elizabeth looked up. Wasn't he? Esme bit her lip, her voice heavy, "He can also have feelings for someone."

"Is it you? Is it me? Who do you think he will have feelings for?" Elizabeth's lips curled up, her tone full of sarcasm, extremely dismissive.

Chapter 460

Esme let out a heavy sigh and finished her drink. Elizabeth just didn't get Alexander at all. He had feelings too, you know?

"Elizabeth, let me tell you why Alexander sticks around and spoils endlessly," Esme said, looking right at her.

So why was he so set on divorcing Elizabeth and marrying Esme all these years? Elizabeth waited for Esme to spill the beans.

Esme grinned. "It's because of you."

Elizabeth frowned, thinking. "Because of me? What does that even mean?"

Esme leaned in a bit. She was about to say more when the band switched up the music, making the place buzz with energy.

Kieran walked over and yanked Esme up. "Enough drinking. Let's dance."

By the time Elizabeth looked up, Kieran had already whisked Esme away. Esme looked annoyed. "Kieran, didn't you see I was in the middle of something?"

"What could you possibly need to talk about? It's a miracle you're not causing trouble for Elizabeth," Kieran shot back, pushing Esme into the crowd.

As soon as people saw Esme, they swarmed around her. Kieran glanced at Elizabeth. "Go rest. Don't get tangled up with Esme."

Elizabeth smiled. "Worried she'll hurt me?"

"Exactly," Kieran nodded.

Elizabeth sighed. "I used to get screwed over by her a lot. Not anymore."

“Still, no accidents tonight,” Kieran said, spreading his hands.

Elizabeth squinted; this sounded so familiar, almost like something *la* would say. She looked at Esme in the crowd, who was staring right back at her. Esme definitely had something to say but got cut off.

Elizabeth swirled her wine, eyes locked on Esme. What does Alexander loving Esme have to do with me? Why did she say it’s because of me? Elizabeth wondered.

She bit her lip, hesitating, when someone approached her. “Hello, Ms. Percy...”

Chapter 460

Elizabeth turned to see a young guy. “Hello.”

“Can I buy you a drink?” he asked.

Elizabeth shook her head. “Sorry, I’ve had too much already and I’m not feeling great. See you.”

She planned to use that excuse all night. She hurried off the deck.

On the sixth floor, there were small gambling tables, card games, and karaoke. As soon as Elizabeth walked in, she saw a guy in black sunglasses carrying a suitcase into a private room.

As the door closed, she heard a cheerful voice inside, “Five million dollars. Drink up!”

Elizabeth looked over to the public area. She saw dancers performing, and a few well-dressed men throwing money at them, saying some pretty nasty stuff.

“Come on, shake it harder!”

“Take it all off!”

Elizabeth pursed her lips, feeling a mix of emotions and a wave of discomfort. As the cruise ship sailed further from the city lights, people seemed to be getting wilder, with no one to stop them!

“Take it off. How much to strip? Name your price!”

“Boss, we only dance. We don’t sell our bodies.”

“You’re in a place like this, and you’re still playing innocent? Just say if the money’s not enough.”

The people here had everything *but* limits.