Unrepairable Love / I Married a Man

Unrepairable Love

Chapter 571

Elizabeth drove like a total maniac; after all, she was a race car driver. Alexander, on the other hand, was super cautious, always worried about outside influences, never straying too far from her.

When they got to the research institute, Elizabeth hopped out of her car, gave Alexander a thumbs-up, then flipped it down with a smirk. She was in a terrifically good mood, waved at Alexander, and strolled into the institute. Alexander sat in his car, looking annoyed. He'd eaten so much of her exhaust on the way there. He let her win, but she really thought she had him beat.

But this little race told him something new about Elizabeth: she could really drive. All these years, he thought she was just a goody-two-shoes. He should have known better when he saw her flashy purple sports car. No regular girl would trick out her ride like that unless she knew her stuff.

Just then, Nolan texted Alexander: [Mr. Tudor, are you done? Kyle's at the office and wants to see you.] Alexander raised an eyebrow and glanced at Elizabeth one more time. Yeah, he was done.

Elizabeth clocked in at the research institute, still in high spirits. As she greeted everyone, someone mentioned, "Elizabeth, we've got a new person."

"Why so excited about a newbie? Is it a handsome boy? Or a beauty?" Elizabeth joked as she put on her badge and changed into her work clothes, ready to check out the newcomer.

A boy warned her, "Elizabeth, this one's tough. Better watch out. We've been getting chewed out all morning." Then he scurried off. Elizabeth paused, confused.

In the research institute, besides Elizabeth, only the group leaders and department heads had the authority to lecture people like that. Who was this person, and why were they acting like this?

Elizabeth hurried over and saw a girl throwing a fit in the lab. The girl looked about twenty-six or twenty-seven, pretty, with a pleasant voice. "Listen up, from now on, I'm in charge of all the rules and regulations here!"

Elizabeth frowned. The girl continued, "When is your director coming? Does she think this place is her playground?" Someone in the lab tried to sneak out to call Elizabeth. But as soon as they looked up, they saw her standing there.

"Call her and tell her if she doesn't show up in ten minutes, I'll dock all her year-end bonuses!" the woman snapped.

Elizabeth burst out laughing. "Wow, you're a big deal, huh?" The woman turned to see Elizabeth. Elizabeth raised an eyebrow. "Dock my year-end bonus?" She had insisted in the institute. She didn't care about the year-end bonus. This woman thought she could control Elizabeth with money.

"Who are you? And who sent you?" Elizabeth asked.

The woman lifted her chin. "Sheldon sent me."

Elizabeth blinked. She should've guessed. If it wasn't Sheldon, how could she be so arrogant?

"What's your relationship with Sheldon?" Elizabeth asked.

Chapter 572

The woman lifted her chin, crossed her arms, and shot Elizabeth a look. "Why should I tell you?"

"I'm Elizabeth, the director of this research institute. I'm in charge of the S12N project. You barged in here, causing a ruckus and lecturing everyone. Don't I have the right to know who you are?"

She gave Elizabeth a once-over. "So, you're Elizabeth."

Elizabeth squinted and tilted her head. Was this woman surprised or disappointed?

The woman pouted. "You're nothing special."

Elizabeth was at a loss for words. Everyone else in the room turned to stare at the woman. Who was this person? How could she be so full of herself? Even if she were Sheldon's daughter, she wouldn't dare to act this high and mighty!

"Come on, let's talk in my office." Elizabeth decided this wasn't the place for a conversation. She needed to get to the bottom of this.

"Alright." The woman smirked and strutted ahead like she owned the place.

Elizabeth was baffled. The woman acted like she was walking into her own home, and Elizabeth was just the help.

People behind them grumbled, "Who does she think she is? She's way too full of herself!"

"Seriously. I can't stand her attitude. If we had someone like her in our institute, I'd quit. I just can't deal with her!"

Elizabeth glanced back and signaled everyone to stay calm. After all, she was the one running this place. Anyone who wanted to throw their weight around here had to get her approval first.

When the woman reached Elizabeth's office door, she tried to waltz right in, but the fingerprint lock stopped her cold.

Elizabeth raised an eyebrow, watching the woman's back. If she wanted in, she'd have to let Elizabeth go first.

The woman was silent for a few seconds, then turned to Elizabeth and said, "Open the door."

"Sure." Elizabeth smiled, still keeping her cool.

Elizabeth stepped forward and scanned her fingerprint. But that wasn't all; after the fingerprint scan, a high-tech blue light popped up for iris recognition. Only after confirming it was Elizabeth would the door open. Plus, anyone entering her office had to register.

"You, scan your fingerprint." Elizabeth pointed to the scanner.

"What if I don't?" the woman challenged.

Elizabeth raised an eyebrow. "Nothing much. You just won't have a chair to sit on. If you enter my office without registering, the entire institute's alarm will go off when you leave."

The woman's expression shifted.

Elizabeth added, "Or do you want the alarms and everyone to give you a grand send-off?"

The woman huffed and reluctantly scanned her fingerprint. After all, this was the director's office, full of confidential documents.

Once inside, Elizabeth went straight to her desk. The woman followed, and Elizabeth asked, "What's your name?"

"Blair Ember," she replied.

Elizabeth looked up and gave her a quick glance. "How old are you?"

"22 years old." The woman sat down, arms crossed, looking defiant.

Elizabeth smirked. Just 22, no wonder she was so cocky.

Unrepairable Love

Chapter 573

When Elizabeth was 22, she was probably even more full of herself—an air of self-importance surrounded her. She was about to ask something else when she noticed an unread email on her computer. She quickly opened it.

It was from Sheldon:

Hey Elizabeth,

Today, a girl will be reporting to you. She's your new subordinate, so she's all yours to manage. This girl's a relative of mine. She's smart but has a bit of a temper. She studied pharmaceutical research abroad and is pretty talented. I trust you'll handle things well and make her a valuable asset.

By the way, don't hesitate to lose your temper if needed. If she leaves, let her go. But knowing her, she probably won't. She'll likely challenge you. It's up to you.

Cheers, Sheldon

Elizabeth was speechless. She glanced at Blair with a deep look. Blair was more than just a bit temperamental; she was downright insufferable! Elizabeth sighed and looked at Blair again. Blair still stood there with her arms crossed, looking at her with disdain. She really looked down on Elizabeth.

Elizabeth was furious. She was the director; what did Blair have to be so disdainful about?

"I'm the director," she told Blair.

"I know," Blair replied.

"You should adjust your attitude," Elizabeth reminded her coldly.

Blair was indifferent. "What did I do?"

Elizabeth laughed. "Don't you think you've been overbearing since you arrived at this institute?"

"That's just how I am," Blair said. "I'm like this at home too."

"But this is an institute, not your home!" Elizabeth slammed the table, her face turning serious, her whole demeanor radiating anger.

If Elizabeth didn't get angry, she couldn't control Blair. Blair believed that with Sheldon's support, no one could control her—that was a naive assumption. Elizabeth would not tolerate Blair's bad behavior!

Chapter 573

Blair was stunned; she hadn't expected Elizabeth to lose her temper so suddenly. She glared at Elizabeth for a while.

Elizabeth said coldly, "I don't care whose relative you are. Listen up, you run this institute! You're here because of Mr. Perry, and if I want you gone, it's just a word from me."

Blair was displeased. She was about to bring up Sheldon.

Elizabeth interrupted without hesitation, "No need to bring up Mr. Perry to pressure me. Although Mr. Perry is the biggest investor in the institute, he's

not the only one!" When she decided to come to this institute, she added her own shares as well. If she didn't bring in her investment, who would respect her just because she took over Celine's position? If Blair simply thought Elizabeth was just a director focused on research, she was wrong!

The second-largest shareholder after Sheldon was Elizabeth's grandfather and Elizabeth's father. The third-largest shareholder? Elizabeth! If you combined Elizabeth's shares with her family's, Sheldon would be kicked out. And Blair thought she could strut around here? She was overestimating herself!

"Go to the HR department now, change into your work clothes, and meet me in the lobby," Elizabeth ordered coldly.

Blair moved her mouth, wanting to argue.

Elizabeth said again, "Either go to HR or leave. Your choice!"

Chapter 574

"Elizabeth, are you threatening me?" Elizabeth shot up from her seat. Leaning in, hands on the table, her eyes locked on Blair. "Took you long enough to catch on." She was done dealing with this headache of a person!

Blair's face turned red with anger. She glared at Elizabeth, fists clenched at her sides, and finally forced out a cold laugh. "Fine."

She had to check in with HR anyway to give them her bank details for her paycheck. As she walked out, Blair tossed a parting shot over her shoulder. "Looks like we'll be working together. Hope you treat me well."

Elizabeth felt a surge of anger. She really wanted to punch something but had to keep it together. Taking a deep breath, she clutched her chest. She quickly sat down and texted Sheldon.

Elizabeth: I don't know what kind of relative Blair is to you, but she's a real piece of work. First day at the institute and she's already picking fights with me! She was the director, for crying out loud! The SH2N project couldn't run without her!

Sheldon replied almost instantly: [I've been waiting for your message.]

Elizabeth frowned at his response.

Sheldon: [I figured you two would clash. Folks at the institute said she was strutting around like she owned the place.]

So Sheldon knew everything. Elizabeth sighed, staring at her phone.

Elizabeth: [You knew and still sent her to mess with me. That's low.]

Sheldon quickly replied: [Got it. I'll make it up to you with dinner tonight.]

Elizabeth: [No need. I just needed to vent.]

Sheldon: No, we have to. See you tonight.

Elizabeth couldn't help but smile. Just as she put her phone down, another message popped up. It was from her assistant, Jessa Greer.

Jessa: Blair's arguing with Brynn Elise from HR.

Elizabeth rolled her eyes. Blair really loved to argue, and she didn't want to deal with it. But after thinking it over, Elizabeth knew she had to step in. If she let Blair run wild, the institute would be chaos.

Chapter 574

Besides, Blair might be picking this fight to get back at Elizabeth.

Elizabeth headed to HR. Brynn was clutching her chest, fuming. "I've never met someone as unreasonable as you! You're not fit for this..." This clause is clearly problematic, and I'm not allowed to say anything? What's wrong with asking for a revision?

Elizabeth sighed deeply. Brynn appeared on the verge of tears. "Our contract is standard procedure; all new hires undergo this. We can assign an investigation team to look into it, alright?"

Chapter 575

Elizabeth pinched the bridge of her nose. "Alright, let me handle this." She walked over. Brynn and Blair both turned to look at her. It was Brynn's first time meeting Elizabeth. Elizabeth gave Brynn a reassuring pat on the shoulder, then turned to Blair. "Blair, you really need to stop ticking people off. If you keep causing trouble, Sheklon's gonna have to clean up after you."

Blair was about to argue. Elizabeth cut her off, her tone icy. "If you keep this up, Sheldon will have to apologize to me. If you don't care about how lowly Sheldon's standing is with me, then by all means, keep causing trouble!" She tossed the contract in front of Blair. "Sign it, or leave," she said flatly.

Even though Sheldon had just promised to treat Elizabeth to dinner, it was pointless. Elizabeth had to be firm when needed, or she'd get walked all over. She was here to do research and lead this team, not to be pushed around. Brynn was taken aback by Elizabeth's toughness. She had just heard that Blair was placed here by Mr. Sheldon. She didn't want to cross Sheldon either.

Blair was irritated. "Elizabeth, you sure throw your weight around as the director, huh?" She snatched up the contract. Elizabeth just smiled, watching Blair's every move. As long as Blair picked it up, it meant she was going to sign it. The rest was none of Elizabeth's concern.

Blair barked, "Give me a pen!" Elizabeth raised an eyebrow and handed over the pen but didn't let go right away. Blair reached for it, but Elizabeth pulled it back. "What are you doing?" Blair snapped. "Since you're signing the contract, do your job well and don't cause trouble. Otherwise, I'll fire you on the spot." Elizabeth wasn't about to show any mercy.

Blair was fuming. To be honest, this research institute was super prestigious, and tons of recent grads were dying to work here. But because it was so famous, it was really tough to get in. Blair got in partly because of her skills and partly because of Sheldon. Since she got here, she had been a bit full of herself, but that didn't mean she didn't want the job!

Blair didn't say anything; she just grabbed the pen and signed her name right away. If SH2N succeeded, it would be a huge boost to her resume! Various research institutes would be fighting to hire her, and she might even get a direct promotion. She had high hopes for this project, especially since Elizabeth donated Serenity Leaf to this research institute!

"You'll start as an assistant." Elizabeth planned to knock her down a peg. Blair was immediately unhappy. "Why? I want to dive right into research!" "I'm giving you time to understand the institute and SH2N, which is for your own good. Blair, not even I jumped straight into research when I first got here." Elizabeth's face was unreadable. Even now, she was holed up in her office every day, going through old data and organizing all the projects Celine had worked on. Blair had just arrived and knew nothing about the place, yet she wanted to dive right into research.

Blair was speechless for a moment. Elizabeth glanced at Blair, paused for a couple of seconds, and then said, "If you impress me, I'll let you start your research in three months."

Blair was taken aback. "Elizabeth, I might not even be here for three months."

"That would be ideal," Elizabeth replied with a smile, turning back to her work.

Blair was floored by that comment. She thought, *What does Elizabeth mean* by that? Does she think I can't last three months?

"Elizabeth, we'll see about that!" Blair shouted at her retreating figure.

Elizabeth smirked, thinking Blair was being childish.

Luckily, there was too much work for Blair to cause any trouble. Elizabeth noticed Blair was pretty serious when she worked. The archive room was a mess, but Blair managed to organize it in just one afternoon.

Elizabeth was shocked when she went to look for something. Blair looked up at her and snorted, as if to say: *You've hit the jackpot with my skills!*

It was the first time Elizabeth really looked at Blair that day. She had assumed Blair would hide in the archive room and slack off on her phone, but Blair actually worked.

Elizabeth raised an eyebrow, said nothing, and left with the files. Blair snorted and kept working.

At 6:30 PM, Elizabeth clocked out. Blair walked by on the phone, saying, "I'm so tired. This job sucks, especially that Elizabeth." It was like she said it on purpose for Elizabeth to hear.

"But it's okay, Sheldon is taking me out for dinner later!" she suddenly laughed, waving at a black business car outside.

The car door opened, and Sheldon stepped out. Blair called out, "Sheldon." Sheldon smiled at her.

Blair said, "I could've gone by myself; you didn't need to pick me up."

"No problem, it was on the way," he said.

Blair paused and thought, "What did that mean?"

Before she could ask, she saw Sheldon waving very attentively. "Elizabeth." Blair's face soured. She saw Elizabeth coming out too.

So, Sheldon was here to pick up Elizabeth. Picking up Blair was just a side task. Blair's face turned grim, and she gave Sheldon a resentful look. "You like me less and less."

"Not at all. I like you a lot!" Sheldon ruffled Blair's hair, doting on her.

Elizabeth said to Sheldon, "Sheldon, I can go by myself. How could I trouble you?"

"No way, it's already enough trouble for you to have Blair here. Picking you up for dinner is nothing," Sheldon said, glancing at Blair.

Blair pouted.

"Oh, she did quite well," Elizabeth praised truthfully. After all, Blair had organized the archive room neatly all day.

Blair glared at Elizabeth. Elizabeth hadn't praised Blair once today, but now she was praising her in front of Sheldon.

Blair got into the car directly. Sheldon gestured for Elizabeth to get in. Elizabeth nodded. Before getting in, she looked around.

After a while, Elizabeth smiled bitterly, thinking, *Alexander was just talking*. *How could he really come to pick me up from work*.

Unrepairable Love Chapter 577

The car sped toward the restaurant. Elizabeth was busy texting on the way. A bunch of media outlets were super interested in SI2N and had been hitting her up on Facebook for details. She was pretty stoked about the attention.

Blair, though, was different. She and Sheldon couldn't stop chatting. Sheldon had this friendly vibe, always smiling with his eyes.

When they arrived at the restaurant entrance, Elizabeth took a call. Sheldon and Blair went in first.

Just as Elizabeth wrapped up her call and was about to head in, a black Maybach pulled up, and out stepped Alexander. He looked a bit surprised to see her. Their eyes met, and both got a bit more guarded. Alexander, especially, was on edge. Every time he found himself in these situations, he thought of the old Elizabeth, who would have run up to him for a hug, even if he pushed her away.

Alexander swallowed, a hint of sadness in his eyes, but he still nodded and said, "Elizabeth, here for dinner?"

"Yeah," she replied.

Just then, a woman dressed to impress came out of the restaurant. She quickly walked over and said, "Mr. Tudor, you're late!"

"Something came up," Alexander replied.

The woman linked her arm with his and asked, "Shall we go in?"

"Sure." Alexander nodded, gently removing her hand, and glanced at Elizabeth. Elizabeth didn't say anything.

No wonder Alexander didn't come to pick her up; he had a date with another woman. Even though Elizabeth didn't care if Alexander picked her up or not, she really hated when actions didn't match words. She ignored them and went straight into the restaurant.

As she reached the revolving door, she accidentally bumped into Alexander's shoulder. Alexander paused for a moment while Elizabeth quickly walked away.

Alexander frowned and pushed the woman away. "Arabella, stop being so clingy. We're adults."

"You're right!" Arabella Tudor then looked him up and down. "So accomplished at such a young age!"

Chapter 577

Alexander didn't say anything as he followed her into the elevator. He immediately spotted Elizabeth sitting by the window, with Sheldon across from her. Alexander frowned. He had gone to pick up Elizabeth earlier, but he saw her get into Sheldon's car! Sheldon was pouring water for Elizabeth, being super attentive.

When Alexander and Arabella walked over, Elizabeth noticed them too. They sat not far from Elizabeth. The tables in this restaurant were pretty spaced out. The main attraction was the amazing view. The night view of Lisbon was stunning and lively. Eating here was a treat for both the taste buds and the soul. It was a hotspot for socialites.

Elizabeth looked away as the waiter served the dishes. Each dish looked delicious, and the prices were tucked away in the corner of the menu. They were pretty steep.

Sheldon said, "Elizabeth, I pre-ordered the dishes. Hope you like them."

Unrepairable Love

Chapter 578

Elizabeth was still super polite to Sheldon. Sheldon was smart, resourceful, and brave. Definitely someone worth learning from.

"The restaurant you picked must be awesome," Elizabeth said with a gentle smile.

Blair thought, "Wasn't Elizabeth all tough at the research institute? Why's she acting all sweet in front of Sheldon now? Does she like him or something?" Thinking about it made her even more annoyed.

Sheldon said, "Thanks for your patience, Elizabeth. Blair can be a handful."

Blair couldn't stay quiet anymore. "Sheldon, I'm great too. How am I causing trouble?"

"Do you think I don't know you? Blair, you should be grateful you're still at the research institute!" Sheldon tapped Blair's head, like he was scolding her but in a loving way.

Blair closed her eyes, then opened them, feeling a bit dizzy.

"Elizabeth, have some more," Sheldon said, pushing some food her way.

Alexander looked up just in time to hear Elizabeth say, "Thank you," with that gentle smile. How long had it been since Elizabeth talked to him like that? It made Alexander jealous.

"What are you looking at?" Arabella asked, turning her head. She hadn't noticed Elizabeth.

"Nothing," Alexander said, trying to stay calm.

Just then, Elizabeth looked over too. Alexander instinctively served Arabella some food. "Eat more."

Arabella smiled. "You're taking care of me now? I'm flattered!"

Alexander frowned, looking a bit uneasy. Elizabeth felt a bit annoyed but kept chatting with Sheldon.

Sheldon asked, "Do you like the food?"

"It's pretty good," Elizabeth nodded.

Sheldon asked again, "What do you usually like to eat? Since Blair works with you, we can have meals together more often."

Alexander heard this loud and clear. No way he could tolerate that. His knife and fork suddenly clattered to the ground.

Everyone looked over at Alexander, including Elizabeth and Sheldon. A waiter rushed over and asked, "Mr. Tudor, do you need any help?"

Chapter 578 (continued)

Arabella found it odd. What was up with Alexander?

"Please bring me a new set, thanks," Alexander told the waiter.

Arabella raised an eyebrow, watching Alexander closely, then looked in the direction he had been staring. She saw Elizabeth, who was stunning, and noticed the elegant Sheldon sitting across from her. No wonder Alexander was acting weird; he saw Elizabeth with another guy. Arabella hadn't noticed

Elizabeth at the entrance. Elizabeth was indeed stunning, with delicate skin and a small, exquisite face.

"Do you want to go say hi?" Arabella asked Alexander.

Alexander quickly shook his head. "We already greeted each other outside earlier."

"Who's that guy?" Arabella couldn't see Sheldon's face clearly.

"He's Sheldon, an investor in the research institute," Alexander said calmly, cutting a small piece of steak.

Arabella's hand holding the cutlery suddenly paused. She looked up, a bit lost. Sheldon?

Alexander noticed Arabella's distraction and asked, "Arabella, is something wrong?"

Why did Arabella's eyes lose focus when she heard Sheldon's name?

Arabella cleared her throat and smiled. "Nothing."

"Sheldon is a businessman from Stellaport. Very capable," Alexander mentioned Stellaport on purpose.

C 579

Arabella nodded. Alexander thought it was odd but didn't say anything. Arabella hardly ever talked about her family. Her relationship with the Tudors was pretty rocky, except for Alexander. They got along. Usually, she worked in Stellaport, but this time she was back for a break.

"Hurry up and eat, then take me back to the hotel," Arabella told Alexander.

Alexander nodded and glanced at Elizabeth. Elizabeth was saying something, her face suddenly serious. Blair, sitting next to Sheldon, started arguing. Blair grabbed Sheldon's arm, looking upset. "Sheldon, I just want to dive into the research! Is that so wrong? You need to stand up for me!"

Before Sheldon could respond, Elizabeth cut in, "No way."

"Blair, just listen to Elizabeth," Sheldon said.

Blair couldn't understand why Sheldon always listened to Elizabeth. Wasn't he the main investor in this research institute? What was going on?

"Sheldon, is this different from putting a talented person in a janitorial position?" Blair muttered, looking down.

Before coming here, Blair thought she'd be made a manager or the top person in charge. But now she was just an assistant, stuck ordering food, making coffee, and tidying up the archives. She couldn't stand it.

Sheldon poured Blair a glass of water, signaling her to calm down. It was already a big deal that Blair got to work at the institute. He only got her in because she had some skills and was a relative.

Seeing Sheldon's silence, Blair knew there was no way to change things. She stopped talking.

With the matter settled, Elizabeth didn't say anything more. The meal went on pleasantly. Alexander and Arabella finished first; Alexander got up to see Arabella off. He picked up her coat and carried her bag. Elizabeth noticed these small gestures, her eyes showing a bit of disdain. When had she ever seen Alexander carry a bag for her?

Outside the restaurant, Arabella got into the car, rolled down the window, and looked at Alexander, saying calmly, "If you like Elizabeth, then go after her."

"Got it." Alexander nodded, his hands in his pockets, his tone very calm.

Arabella smiled. She thought of Sheldon earlier. Her expression grew heavier, and she said to Alexander, "I'll come find you again tomorrow."

"Okay." Alexander smiled.

Arabella left. November was really cold. Alexander checked the time and found a place to sit for a while.

It was around ten at night when Elizabeth finally finished the meal, then saw Sheldon and Blair off at the door. Sheldon was very polite. "Next time, I'll find a good place to treat you to dinner." It seemed Sheldon also knew how troublesome Blair was. Blair sat in the car, not even looking at Elizabeth. Elizabeth wondered why Sheldon was treating Blair this way. Elizabeth hadn't driven, so she had to call a cab to go back. It was warm inside, but stepping out, it was really cold.

Just as Elizabeth was about to call a cab, someone suddenly stood beside her. Elizabeth turned around and saw Alexander looking at her. Elizabeth's lips moved, trembling a bit.

"You're still here," Elizabeth said, lowering her head and shaking her hands as she called a cab.

Unrepairable Love

Chapter 580

A coat was draped over her shoulders, and Elizabeth suddenly felt a bit warmer. She looked up and saw it was Alexander's trench coat. She glanced at Alexander again. He was wearing a suit, not particularly thick, but taking off his coat on such a chilly night would surely make him cold. That Elizabeth didn't feel sorry for him, there she could suffer. She would return the coat when the car arrived.

Alexander felt relieved that Elizabeth hadn't rejected him. This was a good start. "Let me take you home," he said in a deep voice.

Elizabeth replied, "No need, I've already called one."

"How long do you plan to keep rejecting me?" Alexander felt frustrated.

Elizabeth finally looked at Alexander, a smile in her eyes. "After all, we're not that close. If you think my constant rejection is trampling on your dignity, then I suggest you stop doing this. It's laughable."

Alexander squinted, looking at how sharp-tongued Elizabeth was. She was so hard to approach, just to keep him away from her, wasn't she? But Alexander knew Elizabeth well. She was especially soft-hearted.

"What's so laughable about pursuing a woman? If I can't win you back, then I'll be laughed at," Alexander said, not forgetting to send a message on his phone. He wasn't afraid of being laughed at. He was just afraid that one day Elizabeth would leave him and become someone else's wife. He wanted Elizabeth back. And he was sure he liked Elizabeth.

"Yeah, that's what I thought back then too," Elizabeth said with a faint smile.

What was so laughable about her pursuing Alexander? If she couldn't win him over, then she'd be laughed at. And indeed, after all these years of pursuing him, she had become a laughingstock.

Alexander felt displeased. Elizabeth sighed and rubbed her hands together. Her hands always get cold in the winter. The car was taking forever to arrive, and she was getting impatient. Next time, she would definitely drive herself.

Chapter 580

Nolan drove over. He got out and approached them. "Ms. Percy, Mr. Todor."

Alexander nodded. Elizabeth's phone suddenly rang. She picked up and heard the driver on the other end say, "I'm sorry. My car suddenly broke down, and I can't make it."

Elizabeth was speechless. Really? She had waited all this time for nothing? She was a bit annoyed. Just as she was about to call for another ride, Nolan asked, "Ms. Percy, is your car not here yet?"

Elizabeth didn't respond. Nolan smiled and said, "Why don't you come with us? Mr. Tudor happens to be going shopping and will pass by your home."

Elizabeth finally looked up at Nolan. Nolan smiled. "Ms. Percy, don't worry. Come on." With that, Nolan opened the car door.

Alexander stood with one hand in his pocket, looking at Elizabeth calmly, waiting for her to make a choice. Would she get in the car or wait for a second one? If she dared to wait for a second car, he could guarantee that the second car would break down too.

Elizabeth stared at Alexander, as she had thought of sometChapter 581

"Seriously, you think I'm just going to hop in your car because of this?" Elizabeth shot Alexander a look full of sarcasm. Alexander's antics were beyond gross.

"Alexander, quit wasting your time. I'm not getting back with you. Save your sweet talk for someone else." With that, Elizabeth yanked off her coat and tossed it at him. She turned and headed straight for the bus stop.

But Alexander seized her wrist. In the blink of an eye, she found herself lifted off the ground and cradled in his arms. He frowned, his voice soft. "Elizabeth, I'm sorry." He started carrying her towards...

Elizabeth was fuming. "Alexander, can you show me some respect?" She'd told him many times she didn't need this! Why was he always so overbearing?

"No," he said. "All I know is I can't let you go home alone this late."

"It's just past ten. It's not like I haven't walked home alone at night before! During the three years you were gone, didn't I live just fine?" Elizabeth was exasperated.

He looked at her, his expression heavy. "You still blame me."

"Of course I blame you! I also hate your..." Elizabeth snapped. "I go back by myself, I don't need you to take me!" She kept hitting him. "Let me go! I'll..."

Alexander ignored her. Elizabeth was furious but couldn't break free no matter how hard she struggled. Just as he was about to put her in the car, she leaned in and bit his neck.

Alexander's body stiffened, and the next second, his eyelashes trembled, and he instinctively took a sharp breath. Pain. Elizabeth bit down hard, pushing against him. Surely, now he'd let her go. But he didn't. He carried her into the car.

"If you want to bite, go ahead." His voice was deep, full of regret.

Elizabeth was livid. She bit so hard she could taste blood, yet he remained silent, letting her bite him. Alexander would rather be bitten until he bled than let her go. Was this guy crazy? Did he think this would make her forgive him?

Chapter 581.

Elizabeth glared at him, her eyes red with anger. She could only look out the window, his shoulders shaking. Alexander noticed her anger and simply said, "I'm sorry."

"I don't want your apology! What you're doing to me now is completely hurting me!" Elizabeth was on the verge of breaking down. The taste of blood in her mouth also reminded her that she had hurt him...

"But I don't know what else I can do," he answered honestly.

Elizabeth immediately looked at him, her eyes full of rage. "Can you just not appear in front of me?"

Alexander paused. The car fell silent. They looked at each other.

Elizabeth sincerely hoped that Alexander would stop bothering her. She wanted to return to a normal life. When she loved Alexander, he was indifferent. When she had completely given up on him, he clung to her. She wondered, 'Isn't my life miserable enough? What would it take for Alexander to let me go? Is he trying to drive her crazy?'

Chapter 582

Alexander felt a gut-wrenching pain when he heard Elizabeth's words, leaving him totally lost and helpless. He stared at Elizabeth, his face full of sorrow. Over the past three years, he had seen the love in her eyes turn into pure hatred.

"Elizabeth, I messed up," Alexander said, his voice heavy with guilt. "What do I need to do to make things right and get you back?"

"There's no chance for us anymore, no matter how hard you try," Elizabeth shot back, her voice firm.

"But can you see where I'm coming from? Esme told me she saved me, and that's why I..." Alexander started.

Elizabeth cut him off. "You've said that a million times. Have you ever thought about how *I* feel?" She looked into his eyes, feeling no love left.

What he was saying now was just because he felt it was a shame to lose her. Did he really love her?

"You keep saying you thought Esme saved you. Isn't that like twisting the knife in my heart? You knew how much I loved you back then. When I saw you get kidnapped, how could I just do nothing and disappear? Alexander, the reason you believed it was Esme is because I never truly mattered to you. To you, I was just someone to marry, not the person you'd pour your heart into." Elizabeth looked at him, her eyelashes trembling slightly. Talking about these old wounds now, her heart didn't hurt anymore. She wondered if being able to talk so calmly meant she had finally let go.

Alexander was at a loss for words. The confusion and guilt on his face told Elizabeth: She was right.

Elizabeth's gaze grew intense, her voice a bit hoarse. "Alexander, you don't get what it means to truly like someone. Liking someone means being willing to give everything without expecting anything in return. It's not about saying it every day but showing it through your actions. You've been praised your whole life; you don't even know what you're chasing. Except for work, you settle for anything. You don't know what you truly want. That's why you think you can settle for a marriage partner. And I was that person you settled for." Elizabeth looked into his eyes, feeling a huge sense of relief.

Alexander's lips moved like he wanted to argue.

Elizabeth shook her head, signaling he didn't need to say anything more. "Alexander, you should know what love is before you talk about liking me."

Alexander's body trembled. He looked at Elizabeth, his focus slipping away.

Elizabeth patted the back of Nolan's seat and called out, "Nolan, stop the car. I want to get out."

The tension in the car was suffocating. She glanced back, but Alexander said nothing.

Elizabeth repeated, "Nolan, stop the car!"

Alexander still said nothing.

Nolan, however, pulled the car over to the side of the road. The car lock clicked open, and Elizabeth immediately got out. As she closed the door, Alexander looked up at her.

The cold wind blew her hair, and she gave him one last look, then lowered her head and gave a bitter smile. The sound of the door closing felt like the final nail in the coffin. Alexander couldn't reach her anymore.

Elizabeth waved for a cab by the roadside, but none stopped. They were either occupied or just passing by. She took out her phone to call a ride, but no one accepted the request. The cold wind was biting, and Alexander watched her walk further and further away. He laughed at himself. He turned his head, resting it on his hand, with Elizabeth's words echoing in his ears.

hing, and smiled. How could it be such a coincidence that the car broke down?

Chapter 583

His current heartache and helplessness—weren't these signs that he was starting to grasp what Elizabeth meant? He used to think he had everything under control, but now he realized emotions were a whole different beast. Alexander hung his head, a tear slipping down his cheek. The sting made him feel like he was burning up inside. But Elizabeth had cried countless tears for him, over and over again, and he had never wiped away her tears, never tried to comfort her. He had once yelled at her in anger, "Stop with the fake tears. Quit crying in front of me, you hypocrite." Now, those words felt like knives stabbing him right back.

"Mr. Tudor," Nolan called softly.

Alexander looked up, his eyes red and puffy, and asked, "Has she gotten a cab yet?"

"Not yet. It's late and cold, so there aren't many cabs around," Nolan replied.

Alexander stayed quiet and glanced at Nolan. Nolan got the hint and called the nearest cab to take Elizabeth home.

"Mr. Tudor, are you okay?" Nolan asked.

In all these years, he had rarely seen Alexander like this. Alexander was always so decisive and successful at work. When had he ever shed a tear or had red eyes over any woman? Even when he was head over heels for Esme, he had never been this vulnerable.

"I'm fine," Alexander's voice was shaky, but he tried to act like he was okay. He looked out the window, thought for a moment, and said, "Once Elizabeth gets in the cab, take me to my parents' place."

Nolan was a bit surprised. "You want to visit Lily?"

"Yeah," Alexander replied.

He leaned back in his seat, watching the trees sway in the wind outside the window. He didn't even dare to close his eyes, afraid Elizabeth's disappointed face would haunt him.

A black car pulled up in front of Elizabeth, and she got in. The ride was quiet. Elizabeth stared out the window, feeling oddly calm inside. Maybe this was just adult life and emotions—chaotic, but not enough to break her.

Chapter 583

She hated a life that was predictable before. Now, she was actually satisfied with her life. Her phone buzzed with a message.

Unrepairable Love Chapter 584

Elizabeth tapped on the message and saw a cute emoji.

Ivan: (Got any plans tomorrow? Wanna catch a movie?)

Elizabeth knew Ivan had a thing for her. But she wasn't ready for anything romantic, so she turned him down.

Elizabeth: [I'm swamped.]

Ivan: [Are you really busy, or just dodging me?]

Elizabeth squinted, impressed by how sharp he was. It's just a movie, no big deal. I just got back to the country, and you're my only female friend. I can't exactly ask Kieran and Alexander to go, can I?

Elizabeth smirked: [You could ask Kieran. He'd probably be up for it.]

Kieran had a lot of free time lately!

That afternoon, Lila sent Elizabeth a screenshot of a chat with Kieran. Kieran had asked Lila where she was filming and then said: [Can I visit you on set?]

It showed just how bored Kieran was. But because of his status, Lila brushed him off. A company president visiting a star on set would start rumors in no time. Plus, Lila and Kieran had already been rumored to be involved before. Lila wanted to avoid that mess; she just wanted to focus on acting and winning awards!

Ivan: I'm a guy. Is it cool to watch a movie with another guy?

Elizabeth: [Sure.]

Ivan: Elizabeth, you're too much.

Elizabeth chuckled but didn't reply.

Ivan sent another message: [Whatever, we're going tomorrow night. I'll wait for you at the research institute entrance.]

Elizabeth sighed. Was this really okay? Every day, a different guy was waiting for her at the research institute entrance. Was...

Elizabeth: Aren't you busy with work? Isn't your exhibition going to take days? Ivan, maybe we should just drop it.

Ivan: (I'm going to bed!!)

Elizabeth, feeling helpless: I really don't want to watch a movie. Working all day is exhausting. I need a movie to unwind!

Chapter 584

Elizabeth couldn't out-stubborn him. Being young meant loving to have fun, though.

When Alexander got to the place, it was already past eleven at night. The house was super quiet, and when Alexander pushed the door open, Lily was on the couch watching TV, waiting for him. Natalia Ruth had a blanket over her shoulders and a cup of tea in her hands. Hearing footsteps, she looked up.

Alexander glanced at Lily, feeling helpless. "Grandma, why aren't you asleep?"

"You came over so late. Something must be up. How could I sleep?" Lily pointed to the seat next to her, signaling Alexander to sit. He walked over to Lily. Alexander's eyes were filled with sadness as... Just from those few steps, Lily could tell Alexander was troubled.

"What's going on?" Lily asked, not forgetting to take a sip of tea.

Alexander poured himself a cup of tea, but before he could drink it, Lily asked, "Is it because of Elizabeth?"

Alexander's grip on the cup tightened, and he lost the desire to drink. He put the cup down and sighed.

Lily clicked her tongue. "See, I told you, you'd regret divorcing Elizabeth. But Alexander, isn't it a bit too soon to regret? How long have you been divorced?" Lily's tone was clearly reproachful, teasing...

Chapter 585

Alexander knew Lily was blaming him. After his split with Elizabeth, the family was the most upset. Lily hadn't talked to him in a long time.

"Grandma, please stop mocking me," Alexander turned away, unable to face Lily. In that moment, Lily let out a cold laugh. "Oh, so you know I'm mocking you? Good, at least you're not completely fooled."

Alexander was already feeling lousy, and her words only made it worse. "Grandma!" he called out again. He came looking for comfort, to talk about his feelings, not to get scolded! He got up to leave.

Lily snorted. "Go ahead, but if you leave, don't bother coming back!" Alexander stopped in his tracks. The room was dim, the flickering light from the TV casting shadows in the living room. Alexander sat back down. Lily gave him a light slap on the head. "You've really messed up your good life!"

"Grandma, I know I was wrong," Alexander lowered his head. "I just want to win Elizabeth back. Do you think I still have a chance?"

"Of course not. Women don't go back to someone who hurt them! Besides, you hurt Elizabeth so deeply! You'd better give up," Lily scoffed. Even though she really liked Elizabeth, she was a woman. "If I were part of the Percy Family, I wouldn't let Elizabeth get back with you either!" Lily added.

"Grandma, please help me," Alexander looked at Lily, feeling utterly helpless.

Lily laughed. "Now you want my help? When I told you not to get a divorce, what did you say? You told me to stay out of your business!"

"Grandma, I know I was wrong," he repeated.

Lily said, "If you want to win Elizabeth back, you don't need to do anything."

Alexander was confused. Lily raised her hand and poked his heart. Alexander lowered his head, still not getting it.

"Alexander, when you genuinely start to care for Elizabeth and fall in love with her, you'll naturally win her back," Lily said.

Alexander shook his head. "I don't understand."

Lily sighed. "What I mean is, you need to be sincere."

Chapter 585

Alexander's eyes flickered; he looked at Lily. Lily nodded. Only with sincerity could he win Elizabeth back. It wasn't because he was Alexander that everything he did was justified!

Alexander frowned, but something seemed to be slowly taking root in his heart.

The next day, after work, Elizabeth tried to sneak away. But she heard Blair saying, "What guilty thing have you done to be so cautious?"

Elizabeth gave Blair a meaningful look. "Do I need to report everything I do to vou?"

"No, but it annoys me," Blair said.

Elizabeth really wanted to give Blair a good beating. Annoyed, Elizabeth straightened her back and walked out. From a distance, she saw Alexander sitting by the car, smoking. Why was Alexander here again?

Chapter 586

Alexander, decked out in a black skullcap and matching trench coat, puffed on a cigarette as the smoke drifted away. A little girl walking by kept sneaking glances at him, quickly sizing him up before scurrying off.

Elizabeth frowned. Just then, Alexander looked up, and their eyes locked. She turned to head back to the research institute. Might as well dive back into her reading!

"Elizabeth," Alexander called out from behind her.

She pretended not to hear and kept walking.

"I'll wait for you," he said.

Elizabeth stopped in her tracks and turned to look at him. She knew he meant it.

Annoyed, she snapped, "You're just messing up my life."

"Sorry," Alexander replied, a simple apology.

Elizabeth couldn't help but laugh. Alexander had really become shameless now. The Alexander who never used to apologize now thought he could fix everything with a simple "sorry"?

Just as she was about to give him a piece of her mind, someone else walked over to Alexander.

"Alexander, you're here," Ivan said, raising an eyebrow, clearly surprised to see him.

Elizabeth put a hand to her forehead. Blair looked at Elizabeth with a smirk. "You, being a divorced woman, are quite popular."

Elizabeth's eyes turned icy. "Do you want to work overtime? I'd be happy to arrange it."

Blair laughed coldly. "Getting worked up? You're a divorced woman. What's the rush?"

"You. Mind your own business," Elizabeth shot back.

"So what if I'm divorced? I'm still better than..."

Blair squinted, and Elizabeth continued, "Watch out, there's a ghost behind you, and it'll haunt you forever!"

Blair froze; she was terrified of ghosts. "Elizabeth, you're shameless!" she muttered under her breath.

Elizabeth couldn't be bothered with her anymore. Feeling slighted, Blair patted her shoulder as if to brush off an imaginary ghost and quickly walked away. As she passed by Alexander and Ivan, she felt their intense stares. It was clear that if she did anything to Elizabeth, they'd tear her apart, which made her nervous.

Chapter 586

"Elizabeth, I came to take you to the movies," Ivan said, raising an eyebrow. "You promised me last night, remember?"

Alexander glared at Ivan, clearly annoyed. "Ivan, you're being very... nice."

Even though Alexander and Elizabeth were divorced, they hadn't completely cut ties. Couldn't Ivan wait a few months before making a move?

"Alexander, you let go of Elizabeth. Now, you don't want me to pursue her? That's unreasonable," Ivan said, winking.

Alexander's annoyance hit its peak. He hated hearing that he let go of Elizabeth. Because it was true. The more true a statement, the more a guilty person hates hearing it.

"Ivan, don't cross the line," Alexander warned, barely holding back his temper.

But Ivan didn't care and kept asking Elizabeth, "What movie should we watch? I checked, and several are starting soon."

Elizabeth sighed. If she didn't go with Ivan today, he wouldn't give up. But what about Alexander? She felt frustrated.

They were both waiting for her at the entrance of her research institute. What would people think if word got out? Elizabeth looked around and saw that many employees were already watching the scene unfold.

Not wanting to be the center of attention, she said to Ivan, "I'll go to the movies with you. Let's go." With that, she quickly walked towards him.

This made Alexander anxious. "Isn't there supposed to be an order? I was here first!" he said, sounding a bit urgent.

Chapter 587

Ivan shot Alexander a puzzled look. "What do you mean? Are you talking about who got here first? But I made plans with Elizabeth last night."

"You made plans last night?" Alexander's eyebrows shot up in surprise. Elizabeth was with him last night, having dinner and then riding in his car. He paused, thinking, "Was Ivan texting Elizabeth on her way back? It was so late." He turned to Ivan, gritting his teeth and clenching his fist. *Is he serious?* he thought.

Elizabeth could feel the tension between the two. She grabbed Ivan's arm and gave Alexander a small smile. "Mr. Tudor, don't be mad. You don't even have the right to be jealous of Ivan."

Her words only made Alexander angrier. Alexander looked down and saw Elizabeth holding onto Ivan's arm. He sneered, "Are you doing this just to get under my..."

Elizabeth shrugged. "You're overthinking it. We're just going to watch a movie." She turned to Ivan and asked, "Shall we go?"

Ivan nodded and pointed to his car. Alexander wanted to say something but couldn't find the words. *Watching a movie, huh? Fine, fine. I'll go too!* With that thought, he jumped into his car.

Elizabeth and Ivan were discussing which movie to watch. When they got to the cinema's underground parking lot, they saw Alexander had followed them. Elizabeth glanced back and saw Alexander, hands in his pockets, strutting without a care. She was puzzled.

What was Alexander up to? Ivan noticed him too. They got into the elevator, and Alexander squeezed in without hesitation. Not only did he come in, but he also stood right between Elizabeth and Ivan. Elizabeth gritted her teeth.

Ivan sneered, "Mr. Tudor, are you here to watch a movie too?"

"Can't I watch a movie?" Alexander snorted, hands still in his pockets. Elizabeth looked annoyed.

When the elevator doors opened, Elizabeth walked out immediately; Alexander followed closely. Seeing this, Ivan caught up and walked shoulder to shoulder with her.

At the ticket counter, Ivan was about to get the tickets but noticed Alexander watching from behind. Alexander definitely didn't know what movie they were going to watch and hadn't bought a ticket yet. Ivan made sure Alexander couldn't see which tickets he was getting. Alexander was annoyed. Elizabeth held her forehead.

Could Alexander and Ivan be any more childish? She shook her head and turned to buy drinks. Seeing this, Alexander immediately followed and paid for her.

Elizabeth stood there, phone in mid-air. She looked at Alexander, her lips moving. She didn't need him to pay! It was just a drink; she could afford it! For her, this was annoying. But for bystanders, this was sweet happiness!

What does it feel like to have two handsome guys following one woman?

Unrepairable Love Chapter 588

"Thanks," Elizabeth said with a faint smile. "Til send you the money."

"No need," Alexander replied.

Elizabeth shot back, "It's just a drink. I can handle it. No need for..."

"Elizabeth, come on. It's just a drink," Alexander said, clearly frustrated. "Even if we're not getting back together, we can still be friends. No need to be enemies, right?"

"I wish we were enemies," Elizabeth said with a smile.

Alexander was at a loss for words.

Just then, Ivan walked over. "Got the tickets. We can go in now."

Elizabeth nodded and decided to order another drink for Alexander. "Hey, one more of the same drink for him," Elizabeth told the server, pointing at Alexander. Then she walked away with Ivan, leaving Alexander standing there, fuming.

Alexander thought about just leaving; Elizabeth was being so unreasonable. But then he remembered what Lily had said and took a deep breath to calm down. He walked over to the cinema service desk.

The staff smiled, "Mr. Tudor,"

"One ticket for the movie that just started, in the back row," Alexander said.

The staff nodded. "Sure, Mr. Tudor."

Inside the cinema, Elizabeth and Ivan took their seats. Elizabeth sipped her milk tea while texting Lila.

Lila: What! You went to the movies with Ivan? And Alexander is there too? I wish I could fly back and join the fun!

Elizabeth rolled her eyes. Lila loved this kind of drama! She glanced over and saw Ivan deeply engrossed in a complex work-related text conversation. Elizabeth looked at Ivan's face. He was so busy but still made time to watch a movie with her.

Feeling a bit sorry for him, Elizabeth continued messaging Lila: You don't care about my situation at all.

Lila: [So, did you leave Alexander outside the cinema?]

Elizabeth: [Yep]

Lila: I can just picture it. Alexander, left outside the cinema trying to win you back! How pathetic!

Elizabeth laughed. Even though Lila wasn't there, she could totally picture the scene she was describing. Lila really hated Alexander and loved seeing him miserable.

Elizabeth: [It is pretty pathetic.]

Lila: [Don't you dare go soft on him.]

Elizabeth sneered, [Only fools go soft.]

Lila: [Good, hearing you say that, I'm relieved!]

The movie started, and Elizabeth put her phone away. Ivan sent one last message and then turned off his phone.

Elizabeth noticed and asked, "Did you sort out your work issue?"

Chapter 589

"Just a bit more," Ivan said honestly.

Do you want to go handle your work and come back? It's a comedy; you can jump in anytime, Elizabeth suggested.

Ivan chuckled. "It's my first time watching a movie with you. Leaving halfway would be pretty rude, right?"

Elizabeth paused.

Ivan continued, "Besides, I worked hard for this chance." Work could wait, but moments like this with Elizabeth were rare. He looked at her, his eyes full of sincerity.

Elizabeth felt touched and smiled. "Thanks, Ivan." She felt appreciated.

"Thank me for what?" Ivan asked.

"For watching a movie with me," Elizabeth replied.

It was about two friends enjoying each other's company.

Ivan grinned. "Can I ask you something?"

Elizabeth nodded.

"Has Alexander ever watched a movie with you?" Ivan raised an eyebrow.

Just then, the screen lit up, casting light on their faces.

Elizabeth thought for a moment. "In college, we watched a few together."

"Who made the first move?" Ivan asked.

"Me, of course. Alexander would never ask someone out. He's too proud," Elizabeth laughed and took another sip of her drink. "Actually, maybe he just didn't like me."

If a guy really likes a girl, how could he not ask her out?

Ivan looked at Elizabeth, feeling a pang of pity. He didn't think her feelings for Alexander were a joke; he thought she was brave. That was Alexander, after all. How many people would dare to pursue him? Most would just admire him from afar. But Elizabeth, because she liked him, actually succeeded in getting close to him.

"I want to be like you," Ivan said.

Elizabeth looked up. "What?"

"Being relentless and then win you over," Ivan whispered in her ear.

Elizabeth smiled. "And then get hurt like me?"

"I'm not afraid of getting hurt. Only by trying will you have no regrets," Ivan said, crossing his arms.

Chapter 589

For some reason, Elizabeth saw a youthful energy in Ivan. He really seemed like a kid just stepping into the world.

"Ivan, you're so childish," Elizabeth said softly.

"I'm only childish in front of the person I like," Ivan replied.

Elizabeth was puzzled. "What exactly do you like about me? Why did you fall for me?"

"Do you need a reason to like someone? Sometimes it's just a look or a gesture," Ivan said, tilting his head. "So, about Alexander?"

Elizabeth was stunned. What did she like about Alexander? Wasn't it just a look or a gesture? She liked the way Alexander looked at her, the way he pulled her out of a crowd, the way he held her hand tightly. Did she need a reason to like Alexander? But to stop loving him, she needed countless reasons to convince herself. Feelings were so inexplicable.

"And also because of your courage," Ivan added.

Elizabeth was puzzled. Courage?

Ivan's lips curled up. From her angle, his eyelashes looked long. His voice was warm and pleasant. "A woman like you found me covered in blood on the road, and instead of being scared, you helped me. Elizabeth, weren't you afraid I might be a bad guy?"

Chapter 590

Elizabeth glanced at Ivan, mulling over the question seriously. "I'm not scared," she finally said. Before she married Alexander, she had fought her way out of Base M. What was there to fear about a blood-soaked Ivan?

Elizabeth thought to herself, *What am I really afraid of?* I used to be terrified that Alexander didn't love me and wouldn't marry me. Now, what I fear most is something happening to my family and he not being happy.

"Yeah, you gotta get hurt a few times to grow," she mused.

"That's why I like you even more," Ivan whispered in her ear.

Elizabeth grinned. "But Ivan, I'm Alexander's ex-wife."

"So what?" he shot back.

"Don't you care about your friendship?" she asked, curious.

"Of course I do, but I can balance them," Ivan said.

But Elizabeth didn't buy it. If Ivan wanted to chase her, he had to be ready to go head-to-head with Alexander. Alexander wasn't exactly known for his forgiving nature.

"Let's just watch the movie," Elizabeth said with a smile, wanting to drop the subject.

Ivan nodded, and they turned their attention to the screen. The comedy was light-hearted, and Elizabeth found herself laughing at the funny scenes. She realized she hadn't felt this relaxed in ages. These past years, she had really messed up her life. If you asked her now if she wanted to go back to those days, her answer would be a hard no.

As they laughed at the funny scenes, they exchanged smiles and chatted about the plot. But Elizabeth noticed someone seemed to be kicking her chair from behind. Every time she leaned closer to Ivan, her chair got kicked.

At first, she thought it was just a kid behind her and didn't pay much attention. But when she and Ivan started talking about the plot again, and Ivan's chair got kicked too, they both turned around. Just as she was about to tell the person to stop, the screen lit up, revealing the annoyed face of the person behind them.

Elizabeth was speechless. Ivan frowned. "Alexander?" Wasn't Alexander supposed to be here? They hadn't even noticed him come in.

Alexander's face was blank. He had not only come in but had also been watching them for a while. The comedy was hilarious; the whole audience was laughing, except for him.

"Is this film interesting?" he suddenly asked.

Elizabeth and Ivan exchanged a look. Ivan smiled. "Yeah, it's pretty good."

"I see you two are having a great time," Alexander said.

Elizabeth quickly added, "You also kick the chair quite a lot."

Alexander didn't just kick the chair frequently; every time Elizabeth smiled at Ivan, he got super pissed! He really wanted to drag them to the back.

"Alexander, let's just watch the movie peacefully, don't make a scene," Ivan said.

Alexander's face grew even more annoyed. Elizabeth ignored him and kept watching the movie.

"Ivan, let's switch seats," Alexander said in a low voice.

Ivan was puzzled. "Why would I do that?"

"Don't argue. This is a movie theater," Elizabeth reminded them. "If you want to chat, go outside."

Alexander was fuming. Who was chatting with Ivan?