

Chapter 563 Alexis, Are You Leaving Me Again

Alexis visited her law firm.

Nearly the entire day was devoted to her reading the account book. Around noon, Evelyn called Alexis, inviting her to lunch.

Alexis speculated that Leonel prompted Evelyn to make the call.

Alexis pondered for a moment and reassured Evelyn that there wasn't sufficient time for her to travel back and forth at noon.

Soon after, Evelyn ended the call, as Leonel's secretary had arrived with delicious food.

Setting her phone aside, Alexis settled back into her leather chair, reminiscing about both Evelyn and Leonel.

Indeed, Alexis sensed that Leonel harbored lingering emotions for her. However, with the passage of time and various experiences, everything had changed significantly.

Alexis had pondered why she had been so affected by it in the past.

She still remembered those eight years he had left behind.

She was also bothered by his involvement with Serenity after he had made a commitment to her. To Alexis, this was disrespectful and unforgivable.

Alexis had contemplated her significance in Leonel's heart.

A faint smile graced her lips.

In the meantime, Laura called, mentioning her proximity to Alexis' law office. She expressed a desire to have lunch with Alexis and possibly had some legal matters to discuss.

Glancing at her watch, Alexis acknowledged that it was lunchtime and agreed to meet with Laura.

The secretary knocked on the door, inquiring about Alexis' lunch

◀ Chapter 563 Alexis, Are You Leaving Me Again? +120 Points at most preferences. Alexis, donning her coat, exited, stating, "I have a lunch appointment with Laura."

The secretary smiled and remarked, "It's been a while since I last saw her."

Alexis momentarily halted her steps and replied, "She's doing well."

After a few minutes, Alexis reached a well-decorated and popular restaurant across the street.

By the time Laura called Alexis, she had already reached the restaurant.

Spotting Alexis, Laura waved and called out, "Over here."

Alexis approached her and took her seat. Before she could place an order, Laura fixed her gaze on Alexis and whispered, "You and Leonel have gotten married, haven't you?"

Blushing, Alexis responded, "Did Edwin inform you about it?"

Lowering her voice, Laura added, "In reality, everyone in Duefron is aware. Leonel is distributing wedding favors everywhere."

Alexis remained silent.

She lowered her head to peruse the menu and casually inquired about the legal matters Laura mentioned on the phone.

Yet Laura was more intrigued by Alexis' romantic life.

Laura's demeanor was cautious yet somewhat gossip-driven.

Alexis couldn't help but think that Laura was truly enjoying herself.

Laura used to be timid, but Edwin's pampering had transformed her into a lively chatterbox. Furthermore, she now enjoyed getting close to people. Alexis, in a way, envied Laura.

Alexis sighed and suggested, "Let's discuss me and Leonel later."

Laura smiled bashfully.

Alexis signaled the waiter and placed her order in hushed tones. As she was about to avert her gaze, she paused.

Several booths away, Alexis noticed Marcus.

Marcus wasn't by himself; there was a petite girl seated across from him.

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dressed in a manner suggesting she was his secretary.

The secretary was currently attending to Marcus.

Marcus was impeccably dressed, donning a white cravat even on such an ordinary day.

He sat still, as the secretary cut his steak for him.

If they weren't in public, he'd probably ask her to feed him!

Judged from his impatient look, others might have assumed Marcus disliked the girl across from him. But Alexis knew better. She knew Marcus had never dined with someone of the opposite sex, let alone in a booth suggestive of a couple.

Marcus, a stickler for neatness who disliked others handling his belongings, was now instructing his secretary to cut his steak.

Marcus even regarded his secretary with subtle, affectionate eyes.

Alexis smiled subtly.

Laura also observed and whispered, "Why is Marcus having a meal with Melissa?

Pondering for a moment, Alexis responded seriously, "Perhaps Melissa is easily teased."

Similar to Laura.

However, Melissa and Laura differed in their experiences. Laura had faced numerous challenges since her childhood days, making her more mature.

On the other hand, Melissa had a soft and lively demeanor.

Alexis believed it was this particular charm that captivated Marcus.

Alexis observed the two for a moment and was confident that Marcus hadn't formally asked Melissa to be his girlfriend.

He now seemed to be only taking advantage of the poor girl in the guise of her boss.

Alexis was not inclined to pry. Even though Marcus was her brother, she refrained from meddling in his personal affairs.

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Intervening could potentially drive the timid secretary away, and Alexis wanted to avoid that.

Although Alexis had no intention of greeting Marcus, he spotted her. Rising from his seat, he approached her, taking a couple of steps. However, he seemed to overlook his secretary. He then turned around, assuming a superior demeanor. "Come with me over there."

Melissa had been attending to Marcus for a while before finally taking a small bite of steak.

The same serving with which Marcus expressed his displeasure and instructed her to eat.

Melissa was hungry and started eating.

She wouldn't dare offend her boss due to the generous paycheck and favorable treatment from the Fowler Group.

In truth, Melissa was uncertain why Marcus had invited her to join him. She was aware of Alexis, Marcus's elder sister, and beside her was Edwin's wife.

"Alexis!"

Seated calmly beside Alexis, Marcus acknowledged Laura with a nod before turning to his secretary.

Melissa experienced a sense of unease.

Following a moment of contemplation, she softly uttered, "Hello, Miss Fowler, Mrs. Evans."

Marcus expressed dissatisfaction, stating, "Calling them that sounds too formal. Think of something else."

Melissa found herself at a loss for words.

With a smirk, Marcus lifted his chin slightly and instructed, "Address them by their names."

Melissa hesitated to address them in that manner.

She felt she wasn't on the same level as Alexis and Laura.

Melissa came from an ordinary family. After graduating, she felt she was already lucky to secure a good job. She genuinely believed that Marcus didn't need to introduce her to his family even when they ran into each

◀ Chapter 563 Alexis, Are You Leaving Me Again? +120 Points at most other in a restaurant by chance.

Following a period of silence from Melissa, Marcus grew impatient.

"Your salary is going to be deducted."

Hastily, Melissa addressed, "Alexis, Laura."

Laura offered a shy smile.

Alexis let out a slight sigh. "Marcus, don't treat girls this way."

Despite being 27 years old, he remained assertive in pursuing a girl.

Evidently, he had an interest in Melissa.

Alexis reassured Melissa gently, "This isn't his usual behavior. He's typically a gentleman."

Melissa discreetly glanced at Marcus.

His expression appeared to be even colder than before.

Marcus had no intention of having lunch with Alexis. He merely approached and conveyed, "Dad heard about you and Leonel getting married. He mentioned that you should return for dinner when you have the time. Don't be so secretive, as if your marriage is something to be ashamed of."

Alexis snorted.

Lifting his chin slightly, Marcus gestured for Melissa to return to her seat and resume eating. He exerted dominance and displayed pickiness in various matters.

Laura had long forgotten the initial purpose of the meal and couldn't resist commenting, "It appears that Marcus has a strong liking for Melissa."

Alexis smiled. "This is the first time I've seen him act this way."

Generally, Marcus showed little interest in girls. However, he was raised right to be an gentleman, refraining from picking on girls as he was currently doing to Melissa.

Alexis refrained from probing further. After all, the situation was still unclear. She intended to address it when Marcus decided to take Melissa home to meet his family.

Following lunch with Laura, Alexis returned to the law firm.

Upon entering the office, Alexis' secretary arrived with a document in hand. "Miss Fowler, there's a complex case in Heron. It poses significant challenges, and Milo may struggle to manage it."

Alexis accepted the document and perused its contents.

A slight frown formed on her face. The situation appeared to be genuinely troublesome.

Additionally, this case entailed a substantial sum of money, and if lost, it could significantly impact the law firm's reputation, especially under favorable circumstances.

Alexis made the decision to travel to Heron in person.

Naturally, she anticipated that informing Leonel about it in the evening would likely lead to his displeasure.

Leaving Evelyn with Leonel might put him in a better mood.

Alexis departed from the law firm at four o'clock in the afternoon.

While driving back, Alexis received a call from her father, Waylen. Possibly concerned about her mood, he inquired with a cautious tone, "I heard you're living with Leonel. Why haven't you brought him to visit your mother and me?"

Gripping the steering wheel, Alexis responded with a smile, "You've been observing us for over 20 years. Haven't you seen enough?"

"How can it be the same?"

After a brief pause, Alexis stated, "I have to embark on a business trip for a few days. We'll discuss it when I return."

Before Waylen could voice any objections, she ended the call.

Following the call, she felt a bit overwhelmed.

The public was aware that she and Leonel had reconciled, yet they were unaware that it was solely for Evelyn's sake. Alexis herself was uncertain about the longevity of this marriage.

Currently, understanding Leonel was a challenge for Alexis.

Even if she was open to living in harmony with him, she remained

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uncertain about where their future would lead.

Progressing gradually was her only approach.

Upon Alexis' return to the mansion, the household staff had already commenced the dinner preparations. On sighting Alexis, the servant remarked, "Mrs. Douglas, please take a break. Dinner will be served once Mr. Douglas returns."

Alexis had made a reservation for a flight departing at 9 p.m.

She nodded, contemplating that if Leonel returned promptly, they might share a meal together.

Entering the walk-in closet, Alexis retrieved a compact suitcase.

She retrieved two sets of clothes and daily necessities, neatly packing them into her suitcase. As she stood up, her gaze fell on a familiar-looking small box in a drawer. Unable to resist, she picked it up and gently opened it.

Inside was the diamond ring she used to wear.

Leonel had given it to her during their happier times.

She still remembered the joy she felt when adorning herself with it.

She reminisced about her profound love for Leonel and the messy way it all concluded. She departed silently. In reality, she did provide him with an opportunity, but he opted to conceal the truth.

More than once, she had conveyed her perfectionist nature to him.

The scene she witnessed that morning outside the hospital was not only etched into her memory forever but also intolerable.

Alexis' countenance brightened slightly as she delicately returned the box to its original position. Subsequently, she heard faint footsteps approaching—Leonel was behind her.

He noticed the suitcase and her attire suitable for departure.

Abruptly, his tone turned chilly.

"Where are you heading again?

Will you depart once more without a word? How many more years will you leave me this time? Alexis, you have a husband and child now. Where

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are you off to?"

The moment Alexis turned around, he seized her waist, pressing her firmly against the wall.

Leonel's warm breath brushed against the nape of her neck as he questioned in a deep voice, "Where are you headed? Are you seeking out Calvin? Do you intend to abandon me and Evelyn?"

Experiencing a slight dizziness, Alexis instinctively countered, "No, I am..."

However, Leonel paid no heed to her explanation. He forcefully kissed her lips with fervor and impoliteness, simultaneously lifting the hem of her dress and unabashedly asserting himself.

No woman would appreciate being forced.

Alexis was no exception. Moreover, last night, he made her very uncomfortable. She resisted by pushing against his shoulder, but it only seemed to irritate him further. He raised his eyes, appearing sullen. "You won't let me touch you? Alexis, you're Mrs. Douglas now. If I can't touch you, who else can?"

A second kiss accompanied a crude remark. "It's just a week of recovery. You can't endure it anymore, huh? Does Calvin usually satisfy you the way I do? Under him, you..."

In response, Alexis resorted to a swift slap across Leonel's face.

The cloakroom, sprawling over 40 square meters, fell into an abrupt silence, as if the entire space had muted, leaving only the echoing resonance of that impactful slap.

Undeterred by the reddening of his face, Leonel's gaze remained fixed on Alexis.

Her eyes, now tinged with red, conveyed a reluctance to engage further with him.

After a prolonged silence, Alexis pushed him away and headed outside.

"Alexis!"

Leonel grasped her hand, adopting a softer tone. "Let's talk."

Keen on avoiding any eavesdropping from Evelyn downstairs, Alexis lowered her voice. "I'm heading to Heron for business. Let's discuss other matters when I return from the business trip.

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A sense of relief washed over Leonel.

Despite his desire to speak further, Alexis remained unresponsive, the harshness of his words from earlier lingering in the air.

Calmly, she stated, "Leonel, now that we're married, I prefer to avoid quarrels during our time together."

Rubbing between her eyebrows, she added, "I must depart at seven the latest for a nine o'clock flight."

Leonel maintained his position, leaning against the closet.

Retrieving a cigarette from his pocket, he leisurely lit it, taking two deliberate puffs before extinguishing it.

The cigarette was stubbed out.

He retrieved a small box from his pocket, approached her with deliberate steps, turned her around, and wordlessly placed it on her slender ring finger.

Between his fingers, he held a ring identical to hers.

Without resistance, Alexis observed him silently. His Adam's apple moved subtly. "Let's head downstairs for dinner. I'll drive you to the airport later."

"It's okay. I'll drive there on my own."

A furrow formed on Leonel's brow, but words eluded him. He sensed that the recent incident had once again distanced Alexis.

Rather than insisting on driving her himself, he summoned the driver.

Evelyn hesitated to bid farewell to Alexis. Nestling in her arms, she softly uttered, "Mom."

Alexis desired to bring Evelyn along, but considering Evelyn's health, Alexis believed it was wiser for her to remain in Duefron.

Alexis committed to minimizing her stay in Heron.

Her return was anticipated in no more than three days.

Ultimately, Evelyn insisted on tagging along when Alexis set off for the airport, and Leonel joined them in the car.

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The vehicle was under Ross' control.

Seated in the back were Evelyn and a couple with divergent contemplations.

The unpleasant encounter between Alexis and Leonel in the cloakroom remained unspoken, deemed inappropriate to broach in the presence of Ross and Evelyn. Alexis chose silence, while Leonel found no opportune moment to address it either.

Upon reaching the airport, Alexis kissed her daughter a few more times.

Subsequently, Alexis briefed Leonel on Evelyn's habits. He observed that Alexis exhibited greater composure now, likely attributed to her role as a mother.

Alexis intended to return in three days.

However, the challenges in Heron proved formidable to resolve. In the end, Alexis not only offered guidance to the legal team but also reached out to some old acquaintances to facilitate case resolution.

A week had elapsed.

Exactly seven days later, Alexis returned accompanied by colleagues from Sterling Law Firm. Upon landing, Alexis initially considered a taxi, but to her surprise, Leonel was there to pick her up.

"Alexis," he called out.

Alexis was momentarily taken aback.

In recent days, their communication had primarily revolved around Evelyn, lacking the intimate conversations typical of couples. Despite being the closest of individuals in the past, they now felt like strangers.

Before Alexis could grasp the situation, her colleagues playfully teased her.

"Mr. Douglas is here to pick you up."

"The newlyweds are completely enamored with each other. Absence only strengthens their love."

Only then did Alexis recall that Leonel had surpassed the recovery period.

