

Bumpkin 1011

Chapter 1011 Reckless Zac

After taking a puff of his cigar, Zac subtly pouted his lips, blowing out a waft of fragrant smoke onto Dominik's dashing face. "I live solely for the benefits." He then smiled, lowering his gaze upon his chest. "I agreed to help not only for what you offered me, but most importantly, I have a thing for you." As Zac spoke, he leaned an inch closer toward Dominik. "Ever since the bonfire ceremony outside the palace, I've been watching you. I even see you in my dreams."

Indeed, Zac fell for Dominik the first time he saw him. Nonetheless, he never had a chance to make a move on him the entire time. But of course, as a certified hunter, he must not be hasty, and all this time waiting was solely for today.

Twisting his brows, Dominik sprung up from his seat. "I'm a man!"

"Am I blind? Do you think I can't see that?" Zac shrugged with his arms open wide. With the cigar in his hand, he brushed his puffy, short blonde hair, revealing a naughty grin on his pale, freckled face that was blessed with perfect features. "But that doesn't stop me from adoring you."

"What are you saying?"

"I want to f*ck you. I, Zac Francis, never get myself involved with business only to lose. Satisfy me, and I'll do everything to return the favor." After a moment of thought, he added, "Man-man or man-woman—it's all the same. Trust me. Even if you have ten wives, you'll eventually want to try to be pegged."

Dominik's face froze in frustration and anger. "You wish!" Finished, he raised his foot, about to walk away.

Seeing that, Zac was completely unaffected, calmly remaining seated on the couch as he slowly said, "Leave all you want, but I assure you that in five minutes, your mother and the entire hidden clan will know of your plan to seize the head's position. With that, I'll reveal your plan to Eleanor, and I'll switch to her side and ensure that she successfully ascends as the head. By then, will acquiring mining rights be a problem for me, hmm?" Zac asked Dominik the rhetorical question before answering it himself, "Of course not."

After taking a few steps away, Dominik stood still on the ground, his entire body frozen. He clenched his fists tightly, wanting to skin Zac alive, but dared not to do that. Indeed, he didn't have the courage to.

"So what do you want?!" Dominik burst in rage. All of a sudden, he felt absolutely regretful for not listening to Matthew's warning to keep his guard against the sly Zac, as Matthew had noted that Zac was not to be trusted. However, Zac was the only help he had to succeed as the head of the clan. Thus, he took the risk to work with Zac, only to now realize that Zac was the real hunter.

"Uhh..." Veronica hesitated, after which she awkwardly nodded. "Yes." For some reason, she felt guilty. She wondered whether Matthew would be angered if he were to know about her past with Mateo. As expected, her fear came true.

Leaning against the headboard of the bed with Veronica in his arms, Matthew said with fascination, "Tell me about your history with him."

"T-There's nothing to tell about him."

"Entertain me."

"Nothing much. Just a guy I know." Veronica sounded perfunctory and even impatient.

The man then leaned in on her and bit her lip. "Tell me."

"Ouch, that hurts!" Veronica raised her hand and gave his collarbone a forceful smack. "Ouch! Are you going to bite me dead?"

"If you refuse to tell me about him, I won't bite you dead, but I'll please you to death on the bed."

"I dare you!"

"Challenge gladly accepted." Naturally, Matthew did as Veronica asked. And so, he skillfully flaunted his shocking strength and speed.

Only a little over ten minutes later, Veronica reached her limit and surrendered in pain. "Okay, I give up! I'll confess, I'll confess..." Thereupon, with a tearless grimace, she withstood her awkwardness and recounted her past with Mateo to Matthew.

Upon listening to her story, the initially calm man immediately grew immensely jealous and began to 'torment' her out of spite.

Veronica moaned painfully, with tears flowing down her cheek as she stuttered, "M-Matt. You promised you won't dwell on it! You're such a bully!"

The man then leaned in and gently pecked her cherry lips. With a hoarse voice, he replied, "How is a wedded couple having fun bullying, hmm?" Mischievously, he snuggled against her neck and deliberately puffed as he fondled her hair. "It was you who so boldly challenged me. Why are you blaming me for trying to satisfy my wife now?"

Veronica was rendered speechless. This b*stard has the answer to everything! How hateful!

During the two hours of shenanigans, Matthew was also controlling himself from overwhelming the lady. After all, the ascension ceremony was to happen in two days, so there were many preparations he

needed to handle.

Later, Matthew held Veronica in his arms as they had a long chat.

Veronica asked, "Why wasn't Crayson able to seal my memories? Instead, I've regained memories of everything from the past. This has confused me for a long time."

After a moment of hesitation, Matthew answered, "Do you still remember the underground chamber of Kings Residence, where something entered your body, leading to your intense headache?"

"Of course."

"I've looked into it. Apparently, a venomous insect entered your body back then, and the secret skill Crayson used to seal your memories was cast by improvising to the venomous insect's presence. Thus, the sealing of memory most likely failed due to the venomous insect inside your body."

"Really? Will there be a side effect then?" Veronica couldn't help but be concerned.

Chapter 1012 Want to Kill Him

Despite seeing his hostile expression, Zac merely feigned a faint smile. "You want to kill me? I highly advise against having such a thought. See that phone on the table?" As he spoke, he reached out to flip over the phone that was facing down, revealing its bright screen. Apparently, the screen displayed that the phone had been on a call for more than ten minutes—the same duration since Dominik came in.

"Should I die, your plans will be exposed to the world. By then, you'll be a betrayer, an abhorred usurper to the hidden clan that will be resented forever." Zac chortled as he spoke. "Oh, Dominik! You claim to be superior to everyone else, but all you value is your pride. I suppose you don't even dare to lay a finger on me, isn't that right?"

Undeniably, Zac was the slickest of all men, having secretly observed Dominik all this time and refraining from making a move on him, only to threaten him on the night before the ascension ceremony.

That was a fatal impact to Dominik as his decades of commitment and hard work, in addition to his long-built reputation, might be destroyed in one night, and there was no way he could face such a humiliating end.

Seeing him stand still, Zac raised his eyebrows as he snubbed out his cigar in the ashtray. He then got up and walked toward Dominik before pinching his cheek with his fingers, his eyes ogling across his face. "Dominik, I have adored you for a very long time." He leaned in toward Dominik and gently pecked his lips before holding his hand and dragging him to the bedroom.

That night, Zac was deeply satisfied as his wish came true. As a master in bed, it didn't take him long to completely "conquer" Dominik. Though, perhaps it was thanks to true love that he turned from dominant to submissive, willingly "serving" Dominik.

Dominik, who initially felt humiliated, had his first taste of such bliss and eventually gave in to lust. As they fooled around in pleasure, satisfying each other, he would "give and take," drowned in total euphoria.

At the break of dawn, Dominik snuggled in Zac's arms. "I could never have imagined such elation in the world."

"Humans often associate relationships as a means to propagate their legacy, but I'd say what we possess is true love." Zac chuckled and added, "It's getting late. You should go and get ready. My sniper is right outside. Bring him into the palace with you, or he won't be able to get in with the tight security surrounding the palace."

"Okay." Dominik nodded. He then tidied himself before exiting the bedroom.

As soon as the door was shut, extreme hostility and murderous intent surged in his eyes. Reaching the living room, he glanced at Troy, who was standing by the door. "You're the sniper Zac mentioned?"

Troy subtly nodded. "Yes."

"Come with me." And so, Dominik left with him.

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Chapter 1013 Ascension Ceremony Began

"The ascension ceremony is tomorrow. There's something I wish to discuss with you, Mother." Liam walked to the couch and sat down without crossing his legs as he always did. Instead, he looked at Tanya with a stern gaze. "The ceremony will not go well. Have you thought about how you are going to deal with that, Mother?"

"I am fully prepared for that." Tanya sat opposite him, revealing a tender smile. "You normally don't pay attention to such things. Why the sudden concern?"

"Nothing much. I'm just worried about Eleanor." Liam sighed. "I have four older sisters, but two of them unfortunately passed away. The youngest among them is mentally disabled, and you never dared to announce her identity to the world. I'm worried that if something happens to Eleanor, the hidden clan will have no successor..."

"Utter nonsense!" Tanya shot him a reprimanding stare.

"It's purely hypothetical!" Liam looked at his mother. "If—and I mean if—something were to happen to Eleanor, who would be the next head of the clan?"

"That..." His question left Tanya stunned. Her face grew taut as complication and weightiness arose in her deep eyes.

"It's Dominik, isn't it?" Upon her hesitation, he straightforwardly continued, "Although the position of the head of the clan is not typically passed down to a male heir, you'll allow only Dominik to succeed in the position if Eleanor gets in trouble. After all, you understood that the position can be seized, and it wouldn't be bad for a man to be your successor."

As if Liam's statement hit the bullseye, Tanya grew silent.

"I'm here today to give you something." Liam pulled out a thumb drive from his pocket and put it on the table. "You've been having a hard time looking for the cause of my sisters' deaths, right? It's all in here."

After placing it on the table, Liam remained quiet, getting up and ready to walk out of the room. Right as the door was shut, he added a piece of advice to Tanya. "Tomorrow, not only will we need to stay cautious against the Elrods, but the 'snake' among us as well."

With Liam gone, Tanya stared at the thumb drive on the table. She then picked it up and toyed with it with her fingers before eventually turning on her computer. Afterward, she inserted the thumb drive and opened the documents and video footage saved within. After she looked through the files, her face dramatically changed.

Hours later, under the clear, sunny day at the hidden clan's territory, the ascension ceremony commenced, and it was held in an arena not far away from the palace. The elders got to their respective seats, with guards all over the arena, while Dominik was in charge of the arena's security and ensuring that Eleanor successfully became the head of the clan.

Donning a traditional gown of the hidden clan, Tanya got to her seat, which was the primary seat near the podium.

Meanwhile, as Eleanor was getting ready to enter the arena, Liam suddenly came over and grabbed her hand. "Eleanor, spare me a minute." He then dragged her to the dressing room and handed her an item from his bag. "Put this on. It might save your life."

Chapter 1014 New Head of the Clan

Eleanor smiled and had a short chat with Liam. "Then, I'll head off to the arena first. Don't want to keep Mother waiting."

Then, she left.

Subsequently, everyone entered and took their seats one by one as the host began his speech, after which Tanya took over.

She announced that the ascension ceremony had officially started and that Eleanor would be succeeding

her.

However, at this moment, a few elders among the attendees about two rows below the platform suddenly stood up.

"The successor should be Veronica, not Eleanor."

"Yeah, it should be Veronica."

"Veronica is the rightful head of the clan."

"Kill Eleanor."

The murmurs of protest started to grow among the attendees.

At this time, there was a loud noise followed by rounds of gunshots outside the arena, causing a commotion.

Just as everyone stood up to check out the source of the noise, the eight entrances of the arena were forcibly breached by people under Crayson's leadership.

The guards rushed forward to defend the place, resulting in a chaotic scene.

Someone on the rostrum suddenly yelled, "Ahh! Princess Eleanor has been shot! Somebody help!"

"Hurry up and protect the princess!"

"Protect the queen!"

"Capture the insurgents!"

"Doctor! Quickly, call a doctor!"

The place was already in chaos when more and more people suddenly arrived at the scene, making it a complete mess.

When Liam heard that Eleanor was shot, he became tense and immediately rushed to the changing room to open the door to where Eleanor was.

This was the reason why he gave her the vest in the first place.

The vest was still in the changing room, meaning that Eleanor never wore it.

To be precise, she intentionally chose not to wear it.

Outside, Eleanor's men confronted those whom Crayson led.

The two sides exchanged fire, which gave rise to a chaotic confrontation.

Dominik's people tried to block the so-called outsiders to buy time until he heard a voice on the earpiece that he wore. "Your Highness, Princess Eleanor is no longer breathing."

"Are you sure?" Dominik found it hard to believe.

"C*cksure. The head of the clan has always been guarding Princess Eleanor. The doctor checked her pulse and found that she has lost her pulse. The two bullets went through her heart, killing her instantly!"

The other party said with absolute certainty.

Dominik sneered. "Awesome. That's excellent news."

Chapter 1015 He Did Not Betray Us

"Since you intend to make Randy the head of the clan, why aren't you letting me go?" A puzzled Veronica questioned.

Hayley merely smiled before she answered, "Of course, it's to use you as a 'bait.'"

At that, there was another round of fierce fighting outside the villa. It was a dense sound, so it wasn't difficult for one to imagine how chaotic it was outside.

Veronica and Matthew exchanged a glance and simultaneously turned to look at the area outside the villa.

"Whether it is Zac or Tanya that you offended, they wouldn't want to see you guys live. The reason why you are here is only to ensure Randy's safety. Only you can assure Randy's life and his successful inheritance as the head of the clan."

Now that she was faced with a situation, Hayley remained calm.

On the other hand, Veronica fumed. "If they manage to break in, you won't live to see another day either!"

"My life is not worth anything and I've never cared about it." Even though Hayley was kidnapped, she was as calm and noble as ever. It was as if she was not in danger.

Matthew yanked Veronica's hand. "Let's go."

damn about Hayley's life, but

of death. Do you think she'll tell

was ewere that she was overly worried,

realized something and glanced at Heyley

was at

eliminated Zec's men were

ensued and with a

...

caused everyone in the clan to be frightened. It was originally supposed to be a

in the middle

At One Piece Restaurant.

by his bedside. Skyler, who sustained light injuries, on the other hand, was

fine. He'll be

seated next to Veronica and comforted her too. "Since Sky has said

it's alright. We should be happy that we can head home

Veronica nodded.

Chapter 1016 I'm Here for the Rescue

"Dominik has successfully inherited the position of the head of the clan and bribed me to eliminate Zac. So, I followed Boss' order, got rid of Zac, and did Dominik a favor."

Matthew was originally worried about letting Zac remain in the clan, but he never expected that Zac would have a change of heart when it came to Dominik.

Dominik valued his dignity so much that he would not allow it to be tainted by anything or anyone.

From the moment Zac laid a hand on Dominik, that was the beginning of Zac's end.

"So, you are a spy."

Skyler was taken aback and glared at Matthew. "Matt, you are not being fair," he said before giving Troy another kick. "You're not any better either. Heck, you never treated me like your bro."

"Blaming me, huh?" Troy blankly looked at Skyler. "It's all thanks to Boss. You should deal with him."

Everyone laughed because they saw how Troy washed his hands off the matter.

Veronica, who was sitting alone in a corner, looked lonely as she said nothing. Then, she rose to her feet and left the room.

expectations, she still couldn't accept the fact

Shirley thought about following Veronica, Matthew stopped her with a look.

for more than twenty years, but after all that had happened in

what happened at

for a long time before they returned to

he went to Matthew. "That's right. Dominik should be

Matthew nodded. "Okay."

One Piece Restaurant and was now with Matthew in the living

had asked everyone to leave the room,

Matthew had substituted the alcohol with tea and

he saw

You don't have to worry since Troy is my man. If Roni had wanted the position of the head of

caught Dominik by surprise, then he nodded after he realized something. "Hehe,

initiative to toast Matthew. "I owe you a huge 'thanks' for today. However, I'm curious about something. Why

Chapter 1017 Being Together for Warmth

Such an ending was embarrassing.

"I know that you are interested in the mines of the hidden clan. We can cooperate, but I have a condition." Dominik looked at Matthew and solemnly expressed.

The man sitting opposite him gave a small smile as he sipped on his tea. Then, he confidently replied, "I know what you want to say, but I'm sorry I can't agree to it."

Matthew took the teapot and poured another cup of tea for Dominik and himself. After that, he slowly explained, "Ten lifetimes won't be enough for me to spend the wealth in Bloomstead. So, our cooperation is optional, but there can only be one buddy."

He raised his eyes to say loudly, "Troy will always be my buddy until death. He has sacrificed so much for me that I can't gamble with his life for the sake of business."

Then, Matthew played with the teacup before he continued, "Actually, you shouldn't have said those words today. It's still the same thing. If I cared about the mines and Roni cared about the head of the clan, then the big winner would have been Roni, not you. You care too much about people's opinions and your so-called dignity."

"As for the matter between you and Zac, it has already ended with Zac's death. The entire hidden clan will never know about this matter, except for me and Troy. This also includes Roni."

soon as Dominik came over, Matthew had already known what

event for Dominik. The more

for him, the person who was aware of Dominik and Zac's matter was Troy and Troy was the one who ended

he could eliminate Troy, there would be one less 'witness' in this world. At the same time, he could tell the public that Troy

contemplating

people were aware of Zac's death. I do

idea?" Dominik's eyes brightened,

let him drown on his journey. This matter would not involve your hidden

benefits both of us. The reason why I'm willing to help out is because I don't want you to hurt Troy anymore. He's

but for some reason, he

Chapter 1018 The End Is Near

If Zac didn't meet his death, he would definitely make a huge fuss about that night or threaten Dominik in the future, judging from Zac's personality.

As the head of the clan, if it was exposed that he had done something as disgraceful as that, his position would definitely be challenged.

Even if he could secure his position now, there would come a day when Zac would threaten and exploit him.

So, the best way to prevent any further problems from occurring was to nip it in the bud.

"When are you leaving?" Dominik asked again.

After thinking for a while, Matthew answered, "The hidden clan seems to have taken Roni's adoptive parents away, so once we have found them, we'll head back to Bloomstead."

"Okay, I'll help to search for them." Dominik gave it a thought, but he couldn't help asking, "Would it be easy for Veronica to look for someone to disguise himself as Zac?"

"When I met you for the first time, you didn't even recognize me. Are you saying that you don't believe me and Roni?" Matthew retorted with a question.

Dominik was taken aback for a moment and thought, When I first met Matthew, he was using Iron Man's identity. At that, he couldn't help but laugh.

So, the two of them talked for a long time that night.

Dominik wanted to celebrate with alcohol, but he was once again rejected by Matthew.

As soon as Dominik left One Piece Restaurant, he immediately ordered the arrest and imprisonment of Antheena, Xavier, and Hendrey.

The next day, Matthew and the others were resting in One Piece Restaurant.

Veronica went to the hospital to visit Mateo, but there was no sign of him at the hospital.

After asking around, the doctor handed her a letter. "Mateo asked me to pass this to you."

When she received the letter, she returned to her car and opened the letter, which read:

'Dear Roni,

By the time you read this letter, I would have already left. I never approved of Grandpa and the others regaining the position of the head of the clan because I was worried that it could cause more deaths. However, I can't persuade everyone to have a change of thought alone. Grandpa eventually persuaded me to become part of the plan.

What happened yesterday left me in deep, excruciating pain. I'm also deeply blaming myself for it.

I feel sorry for Grandpa because he's my relative. I feel sorry for Madam Hayley because she treats me like family.

As for you, Roni, I feel sorry for you because I love you.

Chapter 1019 I'm Leaving

After reading Mateo's letter, Veronica felt that her nose was sour while the sharp pain in her heart was threatening to suffocate her.

As she looked at the neat handwriting, she could envision the Mateo Elrod that was full of vigor in her mind.

He was originally a cheerful child and could have lived a relaxed life, but Crayson had burdened him so much that his shoulders could not sustain the weight.

It caused Mateo to remember that kind of 'pain' for the rest of his life, which resulted in his sunny disposition being overtaken by darkness.

It was also on this day that 'Zac' led his people to the harbor and boarded the ship that was prepared by Dominik to leave the hidden clan.

Once they left, Veronica personally buried Crayson, Randy, and Hayley in the same cemetery as Tiffany.

Matthew was still injured, so he was recuperating at One Piece Restaurant.

She was the only one who went to settle their funeral rites.

pictures on their tombstones, she sighed deeply before she said, "May

at the picture of
her vision was blurred as
the moments of happiness, childish play, or the
was, it all left Veronica
while
though they were not blood relatives, he
was not

goals. If it hadn't been for this, we would have been like how we were back then. I'd grab your beard and call you names like old geezer and such, while you'd chase me and threaten to give me a good spanking. I'd have served you until your old age and in return, you'll be able to witness me having a career and

continue further as she collapsed onto her
have any chance to visit you anymore. If
to her feet and went to Hayley's
you for your

at the tombstones that belonged to Randy and Tiffany. Her heart grew
Matthew, Veronica, and the others

day before they left, they accompanied a mysterious woman in red to the research center located in the west

Chapter 1020 Heading Home

Such a method would lead to the little venomous insects' death. So, it was only natural for Dominik to have realized it.

With a heavy expression, he flicked the cigarette and said, "Keeping the venomous insects would only harm more people."

That was the reason why he disposed of all the venomous insects when he left the secret room.

"The only ones who can control the venomous insects would be those from the Elrods. People from Crayson's family are either arrested or dead, so I suppose there aren't many people left who could help you?"

Dominik narrowed his eyes slightly with a tad bit of inquiry.

"Smart."

Matthew raised his head to look at Dominik before they broke into smiles.

After that, Dominik produced a card and handed it to Matthew.

“There is a total of 150 million inside. The account was opened in my name, so you should give it to her. Tell her that her big brother repents for his sins.”

“No problem.”

Matthew took the card.

“I’m sorry about the venomous insects.”

used to harm

Dominik shook his head.

hidden clan are all dead, so there’s

grunted as he

he patted Dominik’s

clan to greater heights. If we are meant to meet again,

few more words before Matthew returned

the ship,

your help with

you have something to

grinned at Veronica

as Xavier, Antheena, Hendrey, and especially, Mateo. Please don’t find fault

and is different from those

two have a tacit understanding,

Matthew before he

now. As for Xavier and the others, I’ll let them

he couldn’t allow them to

Matthew with affection before turning back to

suppose it’s farewell. Until we meet—no, let’s

sure,” came

behind him who immediately stepped forward to hand a