

Bumpkin 1041

Chapter 1041 Sometimes, Plans Go Astray

Shirley tentatively followed Skyler's dance steps and looked up at the handsome man in front of her. She gradually shook her head and then insecurely lowered her head a little.

Although she was silent, her expression said it all.

Of course, Skyler understood how Shirley felt. Therefore, he leaned closer to her ear and uttered under his breath, "You can wear a mask if we are outside, but these people at home are all our family and friends. Unlike outsiders, they are genuinely willing to accept you and like you for who you are. So, you don't have to feel stressed."

"I know." Sure enough, Shirley understood everything Skyler said was true. However, that didn't mean she could convince herself to let her hair down, as it were. "Ky, can you give me a little time?"

Ever since she became disfigured, she had been trying to adjust her mentality, hoping she could step out of her trauma.

Alas, every time others merely took another glance at her, it would trigger her low esteem, and she would feel as though they were mocking her.

that most of the time, those were just casual stares, and they weren't mocking at all.

I won't force you." Skyler tilted his head and planted a kiss on her cheek.

was immersed in a sea of happiness and that everything was simply so wonderful to her. I would

put on a faint smile as she watched the two being lovey-dovey. "Matt, I feel like I'm living in peace right now. I have nothing else

pressure on Veronica, and that suffocating

she found herself teetering on the edge of despair, Matthew would

witnessed everything Veronica had gone through in these past years. I know her desire for happiness. Hence, I naturally hope to satisfy her as much as I can. But sometimes, plans go astray. I never consider myself God, so I can't map out plans for all

asked them to pick up Grandma today, but she suddenly had another episode of Alzheimer's and couldn't remember anyone. That was why

of Elizabeth. "Grandma is such a loving and kind woman. Now that she has lost her memory, she definitely feels awful when

look on the bright side—she would also forget about plenty of

Chapter 1042 Recovers From Disfigurement?

Various news articles with such headlines swiftly appeared on the trending search and became the most discussed topic among the citizens.

'What the f*ck? Don't tell me Matthew faked his death.'

'What the hell is going on? Matthew's not dead?'

'Wasn't he disfigured? But how did he become so handsome again? He probably underwent cosmetic surgery, right?'

'Is this some sort of family conspiracy among the wealthy?'

'My dear Adonis is still alive, and he even restored his good looks. Also, his arm seems to have been fitted with a prosthetic limb. How wonderful! I just knew my husband won't die so easily.'

'Excuse me. To the person who drops the above comment, who are you calling your husband? I am the rightful Mrs. Kings. Keep your hands off my man.'

'A conspiracy theory?'

'This is simply way too mindblowing.'

...

Everyone was talking about this matter. As for Ruka, Sasha, and others, the first thing they did after they saw the news was to call Matthew.

However, Matthew turned off his phone, leaving them with no choice but to call Thomas.

"Young Master Matthew is busy and won't be seeing anyone recently," Thomas dismissed every one of them without delay.

Early morning the next day, Veronica and Matthew packed their things and headed to the Kings Residence with their two children in their arms after breakfast.

The car arrived at the Kings Residence. As soon as it stopped, Yura rushed out of the house.

Tears involuntarily welled up in her eyes when she saw Matthew. So, she immediately walked up to him as her eyes never left his person. "Young Master Matthew, is it really you?"

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Tha car arrivad at tha Kings Rasidanca. As soon as it stoppad, Yura rushad out of tha housa.

Taars involuntarily wallad up in har ayas whan sha saw Matthaw. So, sha immadiataly walkad up to him as har ayas navar laft his parson. "Young Mastar Matthaw, is it raally you?"

One could clearly tell how deeply she cared and was terribly concerned she was about Matthew through her choked voice.

Matthew smiled at her as he answered, "Mrs. Coleman, it's me, Matthew."

Yura immediately hugged Matthew and exclaimed, "This is wonderful! Truly wonderful! I can't believe you are still alive. Old Madam will certainly be over the moon after she finds out."

As she spoke, she let go of Matthew. Then, she took his hand and said earnestly, "You have no idea what has happened, but Old Madam had been depressed after your supposed passing. As a result, her

Alzheimer's disease was getting worse and worse. Initially, her condition wasn't this serious and was easily controlled by her medication. But since Mrs. King's absence, Old Madam has lost all hope for life and refuses to take her medicine."

Chapter 1043 Grandma Lost Her Memory

"Isn't that Young Master Matthew? So, he's still alive after all?"

"Yeah, the news about him being alive started trending on Twitter yesterday, but I didn't just believe it."

"We should believe it now that we've seen it with our own eyes."

"Yeah, yeah. We haven't seen the Young Master in a while, and he looks even more handsome."

"But it was rumored that he lost an arm and his eyesight. How did he return unscathed after a few months?"

"Well, perhaps he cured the blindness and broken leg and got a prosthetic arm."

"Could be."

...

There was a lot of buzz online about how Matthew was still alive. Due to the fact that there was only one photo and video of him, the netizens could only confirm that he was indeed alive but could not determine the extent of his arm injury. However, they did not have a lot to say about it.

However, the servants at the King's Residence had seen how severely injured Matthew was. So naturally, they were all surprised when they saw him up and about again.

"Grandma." Veronica walked up to Old Mrs. King and slowly crouched down in front of her. She then asked softly, "Do you still remember me?"

Matthew slowly approached his grandmother and greeted her softly, "Grandma." At that moment, he felt a twinge of remorse and a dryness in his throat that he could not get rid of.

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Old Mrs. Kings donned a blue and white cheongsam, and her short silver curls added to her elegant demeanor as she sat upright. Yet, her vacant gaze and lack of makeup gave away her listlessness and haggard appearance.

"W-Who are you?" Old Mrs. Kings gazed up at the couple and shook her head instantly. "I don't recognize you." Her words pierced through Veronica's heart, causing a sudden pang in her heart as her eyes reddened.

"Grandma, how... how have you been doing?"

Although Matthew was a grown man, he could not help but feel a sense of heaviness and complexity as he laid eyes on his grandma, who was obviously not doing great. She raised him when he was a child, and there could be no one in the world who loved him more than she did.

Chapter 1044 Matthew's Fury

Matthew glared at Conrad with a cold look in his eyes the moment Conrad entered the room.

Be that as it may, Conrad showed no fear or trepidation. Instead, he pointed at Matthew and casually asked Elizabeth, "Who are they?"

"I don't know. I don't know them." Elizabeth shook her head, looking at Veronica and Matthew as though they were strangers.

Conrad raised an eyebrow at those words and smiled wickedly. "I don't know them either. In fact, I think they're a bit of an eyesore."

He was deliberately being provocative.

"If my beloved grandson doesn't like them, then I'll chase them out." Then, she made good on her promise and immediately pointed at Veronica and Matthew. "Leave now. Get lost! I don't want to see you again."

She waved her hand to shoo them away, evicting them from her home.

Matthew clenched his fists that were hanging by his sides and stalked toward Conrad angrily. Just as he was about to raise his fist and punch Conrad, Veronica grabbed him by the arm. "Matt, you can't."

Her heart went out to Elizabeth as she shook her head. "Grandma is having some memory problems right now, so she is very fixated on Conrad. Hurting Conrad will only make her sad."

"Hahaha! Veronica is smart, after all."

It was the same old endearing manner that Conrad used to address Veronica.

Veronica used to hate being addressed in such an endearing manner by Conrad. It was even worse now as she couldn't help thinking that he sounded even more disgusting than before.

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Yura stood by the side, shaking her head in anger. "Old Mrs. Kings... That's Conrad! He's not your grandson! Open your eyes and take a good look at him! He is not Matthew!"

"Hmph! He's obviously my grandson." Elizabeth held Conrad's hand tightly and limped away. "Come. Let's go to the living room. I'll ask the kitchen staff to prepare a delicious meal for you later."

"Okay, sure!" Conrad took the old lady's hand. Then, they walked into the living room together.

Chapter 1045 A Punch in the Face

Conrad pitied Elizabeth as well as Matthew and Veronica.

The young master who came back from the dead visited Old Mrs. Kings, but she didn't remember him at all.

It was sad to watch the two of them face this.

After Matthew and Veronica left the Kings Residence, Conrad got ready to go.

As he walked out of the main entrance, a punch landed on his face hard. He stumbled backward and fell in a heap on the ground.

He rubbed the corner of his lips that was punched and looked up to see a fuming Matthew and snickered, "Matthew, why so angry? Aren't you scared that I'll post this online?"

"You can try." Matthew glared coldly at Conrad as he desperately wanted to kill Conrad right there and then.

"Hahaha... I'm your uncle, after all. It won't do you good to post this online," Conrad laughed as he got up and raised a brow haughtily. "Old Mrs. Kings loves me dearly. What do you think she would do if I sent her the video?"

Conrad knew Matthew cared about Elizabeth and intentionally used her to provoke him.

"Conrad Kings!"

Matthew's blood was boiling as he clenched his fist, looking as though he was about to hit Conrad again.

However, Veronica stepped in and pulled his hand. "Matt, he's right. Grandma's sick and only recognizes him. If you hit him, she'll be sad."

"Hahaha!"

Conrad laughed unrestrainedly with his head facing the sky. There was no hiding the hint of goading in his laughter

He laughed as he jeered at Matthew, "Even though I don't know how you came back from the dead, the Spinfluence Group is mine now. What do you have now? Admit your defeat."

Then, he stopped laughing and stared at him coldly before turning around to walk to the car.

Matthew wanted to step forward, but Veronica had a death grip on him.

"Don't. It's not worth it," she consoled him, attempting to defuse his anger.

Once she saw that Matthew had his emotions in check, Veronica released his hand and called out, "Uncle Conrad?"

Chapter 1046 Returning Home

Matthew enjoyed that feeling a great deal.

Conrad felt his resentment boil after being violently treated by the couple. So, he gave in to his impulses and wanted to hit Veronica.

His leg came flying, but Veronica was faster and slammed her heel on his thigh before he could even touch her.

Even though Conrad knew some martial arts, it wasn't comparable to Veronica's skill.

"Ugh!"

Faced with Veronica's swift counterattack, Conrad lost his balance as his thigh slid forward. In the end, he fell and landed in a split.

Crack!

The sounds of bone cracking could be heard, and Conrad's pants tore apart. Then, he grunted in pain as his hands flew to his crotch. His eyes widened, and the veins on his forehead popped.

"Veronica, you... f*cking..."

Conrad was in utter agony.

He recalled when Veronica broke his manhood. He almost lost the chance to ever call himself a man and had to go through surgery to fix it.

Now, the split position he was in caused him excruciating pain, which pierced through him, making it hard to breathe.

"I don't care how powerful you are now. You shouldn't be so conceited in front of Matt. With your skills, you can't even beat me, let alone Matt!"

Veronica stated before turning around to Matthew and grabbing his hand, "Let's go."

"Okay." Matthew looked at her before smiling gently and followed her to the car.

Then, the car's engine roared to life and left the residence. They didn't even spare Conrad a glance as they departed.

Two cars were going down the mountain, with Matthew driving in the first car and Veronica in the passenger seat while the nanny was in the second car with Ada and Alan.

"You looked very cool just now."

Matthew glanced sideways at Veronica with a handsome smirk filled with love as he drove.

Veronica leaned in the passenger seat with her gaze forward and sighed, "You've helped me out all this time while we were in the Hidden Clan. If it weren't for your involvement there, Conrad wouldn't have the upper hand now. I can't bear to see him acting so snobby before you. He needs to be taught a lesson."

She didn't hit Conrad just for Matthew. A part of it was because of Yvonne too.

Matthew chuckled lightly but didn't reply.

However, Veronica continued, "I hate Conrad too. Yvonne was tricked by him and lost everything. I'm sure she will take her revenge on him one day!"

Chapter 1047 Movie Premiere

Veronico set up her phone so that she would receive a missed call message for all the calls she didn't pick up.

Her phone buzzed for a whole minute before stopping.

She rubbed her temple as she looked at the hundreds of messages. "Why are there so many texts?"

"That's a given since your friends couldn't get to you for three months." Matthew said, "These are all people that genuinely care about you."

"I don't even know how I'm going to explain this to them."

Even though she had returned safely, her friends and family would surely demand answers from her regarding the three months that she disappeared.

Just as Veronico was about to call Tony and Doniello, Lorry's call came in.

She didn't save his number, so she didn't know who the call was from.

So, she answered the phone, "Hello? Who—"

But before she asked, a bellow came through the phone, "Where the hell have you been? Have you gone mad?!"

Veronico recognized that familiar voice to be Lorry's.

She couldn't help but laugh, "Crazy? Hoho. It's been a long time. How have you been?"

"What do you mean how I've been? I'm asking you where you went. I tried to contact you for so long. If your friends hadn't told me that you had gone off for training in a secluded location, I would have thought you were dead!"

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regarding the three months that she disappeared.

Just as Veronica was about to call Tony and Daniella, Larry's call came in.

She didn't save his number, so she didn't know who the call was from.

So, she answered the phone, "Hello? Who—"

But before she asked, a bellow came through the phone, "Where the hell have you been? Have you gone mad?!"

Veronica recognized that familiar voice to be Larry's.

She couldn't help but laugh, "Crazy? Haha. It's been a long time. How have you been?"

"What do you mean how I've been? I'm asking you where you went. I tried to contact you for so long. If your friends hadn't told me that you had gone off for training in a secluded location, I would have thought you were dead!"

Larry shouted into the phone, unlike the calm and poised image he held on the screen and in the hearts of his fans.

However, Veronica laughed at his frustrated yelling, "Don't be angry. If your fans know that you're like this, they would probably lose all interest in you."

"Who cares?!"

Larry snorted as he gradually calmed down. Then, he changed the topic. "Do you remember the movie you filmed with me a year ago?"

Veronica was visiting Larry at the set, but the director noticed that she had good martial arts skills. So, he asked her to act as a minor character to fight with one of the big stars in a fighting scene.

Then, Veronica nodded. "Yeah. I remember. Why?"

"The date of the movie release is confirmed. It's the day after tomorrow." Larry spoke with pride, "The director praised you several times and even told me he wanted you to join in his other movies. But I couldn't get a hold of you, so I didn't give him a straight answer."

"Really?"

Chapter 1048 Good News

"Give me a moment. I have to check..."

Thomas wasn't sure if the movie was in its presale, so he searched it up on the computer as he stayed on the call. "Yes. It's on presale. What should I do?"

"Book tickets for the premiere."

"For you and Mrs. Kings?" Thomas was a little confused.

He didn't understand why he wanted to watch a movie in the cinema when the Pinewoods Villa had a private cinema hall.

"Block booking. For everyone in the office."

"Which company?"

"All of them!"

"All?"

Yes."

Matthew's confirmation stunned Thomas. Then, he nodded before acknowledging the instruction, "Okay, Young Master. I'm on it."

Matthew had a few companies under his name and many factories too. So, they had at least a few hundred thousand employees.

If the company invited everyone to the movie, they wouldn't just be footing the expense of movie tickets, but they would also experience massive losses as the company would stop operations for half a day.

On the other hand, Conrad returned to the Spinfluence Group after the beating at the Kings Residence with a vengeful heart toward Matthew and Veronica. Later on, he returned to his villa but still couldn't calm the anger in his heart.

He was restless and decided to return to the office as he wanted to numb himself by working. Alas, it didn't work since he couldn't focus at all.

Ring. Ring. Ring.

His phone suddenly rang.

up and answered without looking at the

"Hello. I'm Buckner."

Chinese

"Buckner?"

he was and frowned as he

recounted Zac mentioning that person to him some time

full name was

dark controlling

"You are... Buckner Dawson?"

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Chapter 1049 Special Means

Meanwhile, at the Brennan Manor, Sofia sat on the couch scrolling through the trending topics on Twitter and couldn't help but frown and glance at Garrick, who was reading the news. "Gary..."

"Yes?"

Garrick looked up and glanced at her. "What's wrong?"

"Do you think Skyler is back since Matthew has returned?"

Three months ago, Skyler and Shirley suddenly disappeared, and no matter what Sofia did, she couldn't find them.

It was as if they had disappeared off the face of the Earth.

However, Sofia knew Skyler was still alive.

Because of that, she knew Shirley was safe and sound too. Nonetheless, she was alarmed when they both disappeared together.

She feared the worst and assumed they had eloped to be together, but she didn't want to admit defeat to such an ending.

Garrick lowered his eyes and pondered for a moment before nodding lightly. "That's possible."

Then, he went into his analysis, "Skyler, Caleb, Miguel, and Matthew are best buddies. Since Matthew has returned, Skyler will definitely hear about it and return as well. Also, Skyler could be the one behind Matthew's fake death. So, he should be with Matthew."

and jerked to her

him. It was a miracle she

possible and find out if he

"Wait."

"Have you ever thought about what you're going to do if Skyler is in a relationship with Shirley? Are

"You should know that Skyler hates vexatious

Sofia as he was her brother, especially since he

"I..."

recalled how Skyler despised her and ignored her for a long time after she

to the floor for a few seconds before turning back toward Garrick in frustration as she couldn't think of a flawless way to handle the situation. So, she

Skyler liked Shirley more regardless of her background, education, appearance, and competence, which were

gone three months without any news of him. It was a miracle she

Skyler as soon as possible and find out if he was

"Wait."

her as she picked up her purse and left the living room. "Have you ever thought about what you're going to do if Skyler

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Chapter 1050 Finally Seeing Skyler

It was as though Sofia had forgotten what had happened between her and Skyler, how she dumped him and married another man abroad. Although that marriage was only titular, it was because of that that she and Skyler had 'missed out on each other'.

"I'm going to look for him." After she made up her mind, she rose to her feet and wanted to leave.

Garrick noticed her decisive stance and reminded her, "Sometimes, you may get surprising results using unorthodox means." He was accustomed to achieving goals by any means in the business world, so he figured that unorthodox means could be applied to relationships, too.

"I got it." She picked up her purse, walked out of the living room, and waved without looking back.

Then, she drove her flashy, red Ferrari that she had parked in the courtyard and left the villa, speeding down the road. While she was in the car, she connected the Bluetooth devices and made a call, "Find out Matthew Kings' current address for me."

"Yes, miss," the other party replied.

Three minutes later, the number called back, and she answered, "Tell me."

sent the exact address to your phone," the guy from earlier said and

villa that was luxurious and brimming with grandeur, but she was in no mood to appreciate its

little hopeful. She hoped to

Honk. Honk.

and a servant came out to ask,

standing outside her car window and smiled

a distinguished status, which matched the status of her master very well, and was probably included in his circle of friends. As she didn't dare to offend Sofia,

car in the parking lot, hopped out, and took out some supplements from the boot. She had bought

was a little hopeful. She hoped to see Skyler, but she was a

Honk. Honk.

a servant came out to ask,