

Bumpkin 1151

Chapter 1151 Being Scolded Mercilessly

Sam assumed that Mia's acting was good, but she wasn't aware that all the expressions she presented just now were her true feelings after Veronica was whipped. That was why her acting appeared so natural and smooth.

The arrogance and haughtiness mentioned by Sam just now were her true emotions.

"I see."

Only then did Sam shift her gaze to Veronica and asked her perfunctorily, "Are you alright?"

After being harshly slapped, Veronica realized how strong Mia could be, but after all, they were acting, so she could only smile and shake her head. "I can handle it."

Originally, she was supposed to have a fight scene, but after entering the crew, she found out that her character in the script had been changed, and she became a helpless servant.

Although she was doubtful, she couldn't go against the director's intentions.

Sam nodded in satisfaction and patted her shoulder. "You can endure hardships. Filming is a tough job. If you can handle the hardships, you'll be able to endure whatever comes your way in this industry."

"I understand," Veronica responded.

Her expression was calm, and there was even a faint smile on her lips. The director didn't notice any unusual emotions from her. "You should thank Mia Stuart. If she hadn't whipped you for real just now, you might not have been able to naturally express the pain on your face."

Mia felt proud in her heart but hypocritically shook her head. "Don't say that, Miss Symons. I was just too immersed in the role, so I couldn't control my actions."

"Hahaha. You did a good job anyway. Let's move on."

Turning on her heels, she went back to the camera. The actors took their positions, and the filming resumed.

After the dispute between Mia's character, Jade, and Veronica's character, Pristine, Jade sent her subordinates to teach Pristine a lesson. At this moment, Liora appeared and saved Pristine.

"I finally found you, Pristine!"

After Mia's scene ended, only Eviette and Veronica's scene remained. Eviette hugged Veronica tightly

and exclaimed in excitement.

"Miss Sterling, I also—"

After merely reciting a few words of her lines, the director suddenly shouted, "Stop, stop, stop! Veronica Murphy, what on earth are you doing?!"

Actors were supposed to encourage improvement among each other.

However, Eviette fully demonstrated her role by putting all of her efforts into it. Her astonishing acting skills completely overshadowed Veronica, making it seem like Veronica couldn't keep up with her, and she could only end up with lots of retakes.

"You were separated from Liora for months and finally reunited. You need to evoke your emotions! Be happy! Look happy! Can't you even act happy?!"

Sam was meticulous and had very strict requirements for her work, hence she was known for being harsh in the industry.

She scolded Veronica without any mercy in front of everyone.

Even though Veronica had already mentally prepared herself for the difficulties after joining the crew, the pressure at this moment doubled.

Chapter 1152 Rekindle Past Feelings

Listening to the discussions around her and the director's furious reprimand, Veronica remained surprisingly calm. "Let's do it again."

Having encountered so many retakes, it was a lie to say that Veronica didn't feel any pressure.

However, she believed that since she had already joined the crew and made up her mind to act well, she had to persevere to the end.

She never easily admitted defeat.

"Are you sure you can do it, Veronica?" Eviette walked up to her and expressed her concern.

Veronica shook her head and calmly replied, "I'm sorry for dragging you down."

"Don't worry about it. After all, you are a rookie, so it's understandable." Eviette smiled gently and shared a few acting techniques with Veronica.

Then, they re-shot the scene. This time, Veronica finally portrayed the crying scene well, achieving the

effect the director wanted.

After that, it was Eviette's scene with the male lead, Camden.

Veronica headed to a tree on the side and leaned against it while shutting her eyes to get some rest.

Just then, someone patted her shoulder. When Veronica opened her eyes, she saw Melvin handing her a bottle of mineral water. "Have some water."

After being cold-shouldered by the crew, she felt unexpectedly touched by Melvin's insignificant gesture.

"Thank you."

She took it without hesitation, unscrewed the lid, and took a sip.

She was already thirsty from reciting her lines after shooting for so long.

Melvin sat next to her and comforted her, "Don't take their words to heart. As a rookie, it's normal for you to take the time to learn."

"You're right." Veronica let out a sigh of relief and watched Eviette and Camden shooting their scene not far away.

Similar to Veronica, Camden couldn't keep up with Eviette and ended up with several retakes.

"Stay here. I'll go check on Camden." Melvin knew that if Camden encountered retakes, he would come to him, so he immediately got up and ran over.

Veronica rarely had free time, so she got up and walked to a nearby corridor, sitting on a bench and focusing on studying the script.

In the evening, Veronica shot scenes with Eviette and Camden. Somehow, she passed every scene except for the scene with Mia.

At first, she just thought her acting was bad, but she gradually realized that it wasn't the case. Mia was deliberately picking on her!

After consecutive retakes, Veronica was reprimanded by the director, but she gritted her teeth and persisted.

"Tsk tsk, how do you manage to endure the director's scolding, Veronica Murphy? I underestimated you." Mia walked up to Veronica and mocked her in a laid-back tone.

Veronica looked up at her without uttering a word.

Just then, there was a commotion among the quiet set.

"Wow, he's so handsome."

"Why is he here? Isn't he Veronica Murphy's ex-husband?"

Chapter 1153 Showing Affection in Public

Even worse, the director would overlook her poor acting skills because her husband was Matthew Kings.

This was not what Veronica wanted.

On the other side, Eviette was filming a scene together with Camden. When she saw Matthew, she immediately said to the director, "Miss Symons, my friend is here. Can I take a break, please?"

When Sam noticed the person who had arrived, she nodded, "Sure, you can take a break. Let's film the scenes between Mia and Camden first."

During filming, scenes that took place in the same location were usually filmed together.

Therefore, when Eviette took a break, other actors could come in and film their scenes.

After getting permission from Sam, Eviette approached Matthew. She saw him standing there in a suit, with the sunset casting an orange glow on him, making him look even more charming.

"Matthew, you actually came! When we were chatting earlier and you said you would come to visit the set, I thought you were joking."

Standing in front of Matthew, Eviette appeared particularly gentle as she presented an innocent smile on her face.

A hint of a smile appeared on Matthew's cold and stern face. He glanced at Thomas behind him, prompting the latter to step up. "Here you go, Evie. This is a gift from Young Master Matthew."

It was a large bouquet of bright red roses, adorned with baby's breath and wrapped in black packaging paper. It was even covered with a thin black veil, making the roses look even more beautiful and enchanting.

Eviette blushed like a young girl. "Thank you."

Everyone around quickly fished out their phones and started taking pictures of the two.

"Aw! They look so cute together."

"Eviette and President Kings seem close."

"What is their relationship?"

"He is Veronica Murphy's ex-husband, but now he is giving flowers to another woman. If I were Veronica, I would be so embarrassed."

As soon as someone in the crowd said that, Matthew shot them a sharp gaze.

Instantly, he frightened the girl who spoke, making her shiver with fear.

"You're welcome. Are you free tonight? Let's have dinner together." Matthew extended a warm invitation to Eviette.

Standing in the crowd, Matthew became the most eye-catching presence. His every move exuded the elegance and nobility of royalty, and his cold appearance was accompanied by the temperament of a supermodel. His outstanding presence made him seem as though he was not part of the mundane world.

Eviette held the bouquet and nodded with her red lips. "Let me ask the director first."

While the two chatted under the gaze of the crowd, Veronica was being mocked and ridiculed by many people.

Chapter 1154 Hand in Glove

"Don't force yourself if you can't act," Matthew said those words without much weight.

He believed that Veronica would become a great actress in the future.

After gaining so much experience over the years, Veronica had performed too many acts, hence being an actress was not a challenge for her at all.

Matthew had full confidence in her.

In the afternoon when he heard that she had failed many times in her scenes with Eviette and was scolded by the director, he still couldn't rest assured and came to the set.

"Don't worry about me," Veronica retorted impatiently.

"Anyhow, you are still known as my ex-wife. I hope you can handle your job professionally." His exquisitely handsome face was tinged with a touch of coldness as he left without any mercy after saying those words.

"He's so harsh!"

"President Kings must really dislike her."

"Of course. I feel sorry for Veronica. Her ex-husband came to the set to visit another woman and even brought flowers. How infuriating."

"It's all her own fault."

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Even though Veronica knew that everything was an act, she couldn't help but feel quite upset upon hearing his words.

Afterward, Matthew chatted with Eviette for a little longer before leaving.

While everyone was still discussing the matter, Melvin sat on the couch with his legs crossed in Eviette's dressing room. His gaze fixed on the bouquet that was freshly delivered. "Since when did you know Matthew?"

Eviette found a vase, washed it, filled it with water, and gently placed the flowers into the vase. "Since a long time ago."

"Seems like he's quite interested in you." Melvin, who had just been gentle in front of Veronica, changed his tone and pulled at the collar of his white shirt, exuding a rogue aura.

"Really?" Eviette paused for a moment, smiled contentedly, and said, "Maybe."

"In public, he treats you and Veronica completely differently. It's apparent that he doesn't favor Veronica much," Melvin sighed.

Eviette put away the wrapping paper and threw it into the trash can while inquiring, "Then you don't have to pretend in front of Camden and suffer anymore."

Chapter 1155 Friendly Invitation

"Maybe..." Eviette replied with a smile.

Melvin obviously knew that she was politely rejecting him.

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Currently, Veronica sat on a bench, reading the script. She had already memorized her lines by heart,

but in order to improve her acting skills, she should also remember the other person's lines.

While reading the script, Shannon approached her. "Veronica, Evie wants to talk to you."

Veronica held the script, which covered her face. She lazily glanced at Eviette's assistant and apologized, "Sorry. I still have to memorize the script."

Throughout the day, Veronica spent most of her time interacting with Eviette during their scenes together.

Although Eviette always had a gentle and understanding demeanor toward her, Veronica still felt slightly appalled by her for some reason.

Shannon believed in groundless rumors online and assumed that Veronica's marriage with Matthew was exactly like what the rumors said. She supposed that Veronica had married Matthew by any means necessary and even orchestrated a series of events, which eventually led to their divorce. Therefore, she had a strong dislike for Veronica.

Because of Eviette, she spoke politely to Veronica. However, she didn't expect Veronica to be so disrespectful. "Evie is just trying to be friendly with you. How could you not appreciate it?"

Upon hearing that, Veronica paused for a moment. Her beautiful brows slightly raised, and she slowly put down the script, revealing her beautiful face. "Are you implying that I should bow to her as a token of gratitude?"

"You..." Shannon was momentarily speechless. She snorted coldly and walked away.

She returned to Eviette's dressing room in anger and exaggeratedly exclaimed, "I told Veronica that you invited her over, but she rejected me because she said she doesn't know you well!"

Eviette was sitting on the couch, enjoying her coffee. Upon hearing her assistant's words, she pulled a long face. She slowly put down the delicate white porcelain coffee cup and walked out of the dressing room.

Shannon hesitated for a moment and immediately understood Eviette's intention. She caught up with her and muttered softly, "Evie, Veronica is just a country bumpkin who came out of the countryside. She has no manners or etiquette when she speaks. She doesn't deserve your kindness."

Eviette didn't utter a word. She walked through the crowd of crew members, glanced around, and finally fixed her gaze on Veronica. Then, she walked straight toward her.

"Working hard reading the script?"

She smiled lightly and threw the question out as she sat directly next to Veronica. "If there's anything

you don't understand, you can ask me. I'll do my best to help you."

Veronica felt slightly repulsed by Eviette's enthusiasm and initiative.

Chapter 1156 Melvin's Fake Misery

The actors resting nearby were talking in a normal pitch, but Veronica could clearly hear their conversation.

She glanced sideways and caught a fleeting look of satisfaction on Eviette's face, immediately discovering her hypocrisy.

"Alright."

Veronica nodded and agreed with Eviette.

As soon as she spoke, Eviette grabbed her hand. "You're such a kind person."

Veronica found her overly enthusiastic and even the act of holding her hand repulsive.

She forced a stiff smile and calmly withdrew her hand, continuing to read the script.

"I won't be disturbing you anymore. We'll leave together at half past six." With that, Eviette got up and left.

Veronica had been reading the script all along, but her mind was not focused on it. It was only after Eviette had walked away that she turned her head and stared meaningfully at the latter's back.

What exactly is she up to?

After Eviette left, Melvin arrived. He sat directly beside Veronica with a slightly displeased expression on his face, whispering, "You and Matthew are divorced, and now Eviette wants to have dinner with you and your ex-husband. It's obviously a trap. Why did you foolishly agree to go with her?"

Among the large crew, almost everyone disliked Veronica, except for Melvin, who treated her as a friend.

Veronica tilted her head and looked at him. "You're the weird one here. Everyone in the crew hates me, so why are you friendly to me?"

In that instant, he froze, and his eyes flickered slightly. He pondered in his heart, did she notice something off?

"People are easily deceived by appearances. If that car accident hadn't happened, I would probably

dislike you just like everyone else," Melvin answered with a slight smile on his lips.

He had fair skin, long brows, single eyelids with phoenix eyes, a straight and slightly upturned nose, and lips of moderate thickness. He was considered a handsome and charming young man that resembled a Hollywood actor. The more one looked at him, the more one would admire him.

"Is that so?" Veronica smiled and dismissed it, continuing to read the script.

Melvin clicked his tongue. "You're just a supporting role in the drama. You don't have to take it so seriously. In scenes with Eviette, not only Mia but even Camden would have to do multiple retakes, so you shouldn't put too much pressure on yourself."

"Do you dare to say that in Camden's face?" Veronica asked curiously.

Melvin shook his head fervently. "Judging by his explosive temper, I'm afraid he'll fire me. If I lose this job, I won't have money to pay for my girlfriend's medical—"

Chapter 1157 Someone Causes Trouble

At 6.30PM, a luxury car parked outside the set of 'The General's Lonely Daughter'. Eviette changed into her casual clothes and walked up to Veronica. "Veronica, let's go eat together."

Veronica didn't have any scenes left today, so she also changed into her own clothes.

When Eviette called her, she got up and grabbed her bag.

Probably since Matthew used to be one of the Top Ten Young Elites in Bloomstead, was handsome and wealthy, and recently came back to life, he garnered a lot of attention. Many actors gathered around him to take pictures when he appeared on the set.

The man in a suit and leather shoes had one hand in his trouser pocket and the other holding a cigarette. He walked over with a high and mighty stride, resembling a supermodel being captured on the streets as he exuded an elegant aura.

"Wow, Matthew is so handsome!"

"How did he come back to life? I still can't figure it out."

"I really like him. I think he and Eviette are a perfect match."

"Although he is my husband, I'm still willing to give up my position as the legal wife if he marries Eviette."

"Ew. Stop daydreaming."

"Look, Veronica shamelessly came over with Eviette. Why isn't she embarrassed?"

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The crowd whispered among each other.

"Thank you for coming to pick me up, Matt." Eviette walked up to Matthew and smiled gently. She turned around and glanced at Veronica, then continued, "Veronica hasn't had dinner yet. Do you mind if she comes with us?"

Matthew looked past Eviette, and his gaze landed on Veronica, who was behind her.

Although she appeared carefree, the hurtful words around her made Matthew inexplicably heartbroken.

At this moment, he doubted himself. Was the decision to fake the divorce really the right one?

Although he protected Veronica, the hurtful words from the outside world were still hurting her.

Matthew made up his mind and decided to talk to Veronica about the situation tonight. He couldn't keep her in the dark.

"As long as you don't mind." Matthew smiled in response.

"Then let's get in the car." Eviette didn't hold Matthew's hand but held Veronica's hand instead as they headed toward the car.

Matthew opened the passenger door for Eviette. There was a hint of surprise in her eyes, but she smiled sweetly and got in the car.

The moment she got in the car, Matthew and Veronica's eyes met. His obsidian-like eyes were filled with an indescribable heartache, and even his grip on the door tightened lightly.

Veronica was initially indifferent to his actions, but now, she could feel sadness enveloping her heart, and even doubt. Did she lose to Eviette after going through all the hardships with him?

Chapter 1158 Xavier's Interrogation

Upon hearing the sound, the trio turned their heads in unison and noticed a man stepping out of a white Land Rover.

He rushed toward Matthew in several steps, raising his fist and aiming it directly at his face.

Fortunately, Matthew was quick, and he blocked the punch even faster. "Xavier, what are you doing?"

Xavier cracked his neck and stretched his legs, preparing for a fight. "I told you before. If you betray Veronica, don't blame me for being impolite to you!"

Xavier used to think that Veronica and Matthew's divorce was fake. However, recently, he saw the news on Twitter and happened to see a video on Instagram Stories when he arrived at Bloomstead today. The video showed Matthew offering flowers to Eviette, which was enough to prove that he had feelings for the latter.

Xavier was upset about it and drove straight to Production City. As a result, he saw Matthew opening the car door for Eviette and having a conversation with her.

Seeing that, Eviette immediately stood in front of Matthew. "Although I don't know you, Matthew and Veronica had a peaceful divorce. None of them betrayed each other! Besides, this is Matthew and Veronica's private matter. Who are you to interfere?"

Matthew didn't expect Xavier to show up out of nowhere. He had intended to explain, but when he glanced around, he noticed a paparazzo hiding behind a sedan, secretly taking pictures. Without a choice, he responded, "My relationship with her has nothing to do with you."

Veronica, who was standing on the side, looked at the three of them back and forth as she found Matthew's attitude even more unfathomable. She was even more upset about the ambiguity between Matthew and Eviette.

"Xavier, let's go!"

She walked up and grabbed Xavier's arm, heading straight toward his Land Rover.

It had been over a month since Veronica last saw Xavier. His skin had become tanned, and he was wearing black jeans, a white vest, and a khaki jacket. He exuded a handsome and mature aura, giving people a sense of security.

When Matthew saw Veronica leading Xavier away, he couldn't help but take a step forward, feeling a sudden clench in his heart.

Eviette watched Veronica and Xavier get into the car before she could be sure that Matthew and Veronica were really divorced. Her suspended heart could finally rest assured.

"Matthew, Veronica might not be in a good mood when she sees me. Perhaps it'll make her better if she talks to a friend." Eviette comforted Matthew.

Matthew watched as the white Land Rover drove out of the parking lot. He withdrew his gaze and entered the elevator with Eviette.

On the other side, Xavier drove away with Veronica, leaving Production City and finally stopping on a secluded road.

Xavier turned off the engine and stared ahead, unable to hide the anger on his face.

After a while, he turned to Veronica and questioned her, "Is this what you call a fake divorce? Are you sure Matthew doesn't have feelings for Eviette?"

Chapter 1159 A Pleasant Meal

When it came to revenge, Veronica felt her heart skip a beat, and she felt uneasy.

"I'm still pretty confused at the moment, but I will tell you once I figure it out," Veronica replied passively.

She wanted to persuade Xavier to let go of the hatred but didn't know how to approach the subject.

On one hand, there was her husband, and on the other hand, there was Xavier, who carried deep resentment. She couldn't weigh right from wrong.

Xavier frowned and showed a look of disdain.

Before he could say anything, however, Veronica beat him to it. "I'm pretty hungry. Let's go eat."

She switched the topic and no longer wanted to talk about this matter.

Hearing how hungry she was, Xavier could sense his anger subside. "What do you want to eat?"

"Shiro's sushi."

The weather change definitely called for Shiro's sushi.

Since Veronica suggested it, Xavier couldn't bear to refuse. He started the car and took her to a nearby sushi restaurant.

Veronica wore a hat and a mask to be fully disguised in order to avoid anyone from recognizing her.

They sat in the corner of the sushi restaurant and sat face to face.

"I know about your situation on the set. To be honest, you're not suitable to be an actress right now." Xavier poured a cup of hot tea for Veronica and advised her, "Rather than struggling to make a name for yourself in the entertainment industry, it's better to start a production company."

Veronica rested her chin on her hand that was propped against the table and sighed, "I wanted to be an

actress a long time ago, but back then I needed money, so I just wanted to earn money quickly. Now that I don't urgently need money, I just want to fulfill my dream."

Dream?

What a familiar yet unfamiliar word.

Xavier felt a sharp pain in his chest as if a dagger was stabbing him harshly.

He used to have dreams too, but all his dreams were destroyed by Matthew.

"I remember how you wanted to be a model too," he commented.

Veronica's eyes lit up as she stared at Xavier in disbelief. Her lips involuntarily curled up. "Yes, I do."

"If you like it, then go for it." Xavier fully supported her.

Soon, the waiter served the dishes they ordered on the table one by one.

As they talked, more and more dishes were being served, prompting a pleasant aroma to waft in the air.

Chapter 1160 Confessing Everything

Veronica wasn't surprised by Matthew's appearance.

However, the man who used to be so high and mighty suddenly apologizing to her made her somewhat surprised.

Leaning against his chest, she let his familiar scent fill her senses. Instantly, the complicated emotions in her heart dissipated.

She trusted Matthew, but seeing him so intimate with Eviette today inevitably made her jealous. "Explain yourself?"

At first, Veronica didn't think much about it, but Matthew's sudden attitude made her feel that the situation wasn't that simple.

Although he was in the room, it was dark because the room card was not inserted, and Veronica still had the room card in her hand.

In the darkness, Matthew held Veronica tightly as if afraid she would turn around and leave if he let go.

Sensing his hesitation, Veronica was sure that there was more to the story, so she inserted the room card, and the room instantly lit up as bright as day.

She held his hand, and the two looked at each other. Even though it was just eye contact, it was enough to calm her restless mood.

The two sat down on the couch, and Veronica got up to the liquor cabinet and took out a bottle of red wine and two wine glasses. Then, she opened the bottle and poured the content into two glasses. She handed one of the glasses to Matthew. "Since you did this, there must be a reason. I still believe in you."

Matthew's face was filled with worry, and his slender fingers reached up to tug at the tie around his neck. He leaned forward, spread his legs, and rested his elbows on his knees. With one hand holding the wine glass, he lowered his head in contemplation. After a while, he apologized, "I'm sorry. There are certain things that I should have told you from the beginning. Do you remember a person called 'Flavian' who came to our house before?"

Flavian?

Veronica pondered for a moment and remembered the day at Pinewoods Villa when her parents came over, and they were having dinner. One of the maids suddenly came and told them that a man by the name 'Flavian' was here to see Matthew.

"Yes, I remember." Veronica nodded.

Matthew's expression became serious. He raised his glass and drank the wine in one gulp, leaned back on the couch, exhaled, and continued, "His name is Flavian Kings."

"Flavian Kings?"