

Bumpkin 1251

Chapter 1251 You're the One I Like

Upon hearing his words, Shirley, who had been resisting, was stunned for a moment.

She realized his eyes were burning with desire as he whispered, "Do you know why I brought you to the hidden clan?"

"W-Why?" she asked.

"That's because... I-I like you. I'm afraid Garrick, that old fox, might use you, and I'm even more afraid that you'll be deceived by Wade, that lover boy. You were the one who entered my heart and my bed. Y-You have to take responsibility for this, Shirley."

His actions never stopped, and his intoxication fueled his passionate confession.

Of course, it could also be the truth spoken after getting drunk.

Shirley forgot to struggle momentarily and took in his words, feeling her heart pounding. "I-It's impossible between us. You have Sofia. She is your fiancée."

"Sofia and I... never. We will never get married, for the person I like is... you..."

As soon as Skyler finished speaking, he leaned down and kissed her lips again, his hands intertwined with hers.

"Skyler, you're drunk," Shirley reminded him.

"I don't care. I want you," he answered, becoming even more reckless.

Shirley's mind went blank, wanting to resist, but her body's comfort made her surrender.

She told herself to stay sober, but her liking for Skyler overwhelmed her rationality, making her want to indulge completely.

Isn't life all about going with the flow? Well, it's just this once!

She would indulge herself this one time!

In her heart, she admonished herself, then raised her hand to hold Skyler's neck, taking the initiative instead of being passive.

Amidst the silence, they cooperated repeatedly until they were finally satisfied, after which they embraced each other and fell asleep.

Shirley's heart continued to race, and she was extremely clear-headed.

She told herself that Skyler was drunk, and when he woke up tomorrow, he would surely forget everything.

As such, she waited quietly for the man beside her to emit steady breaths before she carefully moved away from Skyler's hands and slowly got up, getting ready to flee the scene.

However, as soon as she got up, Skyler pulled her back with one hand and pressed her directly onto the bed. "Running away as soon as we're done, eh?"

Shirley's eyes widened instantly. "A-Aren't you drunk?"

The man's thin lips curled into a mischievous smile. "I am drunk, but not to the point of being completely wasted."

If he was completely drunk and unconscious, how could he have done the deed with her?

"You!"

Shirley was both embarrassed and angry, her face turning red, not knowing what to say for a moment.

Chapter 1252 Let's Get Along

"I'm scared here without Roni by my side. I can only rely on you. What should I do?" Shirley complained.

Hearing her words, Skyler felt both distressed and happy. He reached out and touched her cheek. "If I like you, I like you. Why worry so much? So what if I'm the young master of the Robins? I haven't spent a penny of my family's money since high school. My affairs are none of anyone's business. As for Sofia, I've told you many times that I won't marry her. She and I are in the past."

She shook her head. "You come from a prestigious family, and there are many things you don't understand. The concept of social status, whether in the past or now, is important." She bit her lip hesitantly. "Skyler, after tonight, we'll be even. I hope you can forget about today. Tomorrow, I'll find Roni and ask her to send me away from here."

When she first came to the hidden clan, she thought Veronica had something important to tell her. After tonight, however, she realized that she was unnecessary. Instead of causing trouble here, leaving early to save her some hassle would be better.

"Even?" Skyler grabbed Shirley's shoulders with big hands, anger flashing in his brown eyes. "What do you take me for, huh?"

His sudden fury scared her so much that her heart skipped a beat. She looked at him silently for a long

time, the fear in her eyes about to overflow. At that, his heart softened, and his voice became gentle. "Do you think I'm just playing around?"

"Isn't that the case?" she retorted.

"D*mn it! Am I really that despicable?"

Shirley did not say anything, but her eyes had already revealed everything. Suppressing the urge to strangle her, Skyler restrained his emotions and said, "We can still spend one or two months together in the hidden clan. Why not try to get along? Maybe it's not as bad as you think."

"Try to get along?" she repeated his words, her eyes flickering with hesitation. It had to be said that she was utterly moved.

After her relationship in high school, she had not been in love for many years. When she saw Skyler, she was deeply attracted to this handsome and slightly mischievous man. He was unrestrained and casual, flamboyant and decadent, but he seemed to have his principles in everything he did. He was also a well-known medical genius in Bloomstead.

A man with such shining qualities made it hard for Shirley not to be moved.

Chapter 1253 Ky

'I'm looking for someone I like, not a business partner. So, I accept your mediocrity, lack of intelligence, and timidity. Because I have everything.'

Shirley could not help recalling the words he had said. A sour feeling rose in her heart, and her eyes shimmered with tears.

Seeing her reddened eyes, Skyler froze his smile, inherently engulfed by nervousness. "What's wrong with you? Are you feeling unwell?"

"Nothing." She shook her head and blinked as tears glistened on her eyelashes. "Are you this sweet-talking to every woman?"

Even during her high school relationship, she had never received a confession like this. Skyler was a master of romance; his words touched her deeply, moistening her eyes. For a brief moment, she felt like she had indeed found the other half of her life, the Prince Charming who had come late.

At that, Skyler's expression darkened. He hugged her waist, made her lie on her side, and raised his hand to give her a punishing slap on her buttocks. "Do I look so cheap to you?"

"I don't know." She pouted and lowered her long, thick eyelashes, not knowing how to answer his question.

"Then, quit that thought. We agreed to try to get along for a while, so let's not overthink this. Understand?"

"Oh, okay." Shirley was still not used to the intimacy between them, blushing shyly. "S-Skyler, it's okay to try to get along, but can we keep it a secret from Roni and President Kings?"

"You're still calling me Skyler?"

"What should I call you, then?"

"As long as you don't call me by my name directly."

"Uhm..." She frowned and thought for a moment. "Ky? Sky?"

"Ky is fine." He thought this nickname was good.

"Ky, it is," they said simultaneously.

He frowned slightly in dissatisfaction. "Why, though?"

"I don't want Roni and President Kings to know about our relationship, so calling you 'Ky' is just right," she explained.

He smiled helplessly, "Alright, as you wish." He hugged the woman in his arms, feeling extremely happy.

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Chapter 1254 One of Us Has to Die

Xavier looked like he had just woken up, and Veronica realized that Matthew had not come to see him.

"Um... I..." she stuttered, racking her brain for a reason, and finally lied. "I couldn't sleep and wanted to thank you with a phone call. But I couldn't reach you and thought you were in danger, so I came to check on you."

She never mentioned Matthew.

Xavier's hand gripped the doorknob, his clear mind recalling everything that had happened a few hours ago. His gaze instantly turned dark, and he spoke coldly, "Would someone full of lies truly care about my life and death? I should thank you, huh?"

Suddenly, he became distant toward Veronica.

Since Matthew faked his death, she had to lie to him. "Xavier..." She called his name, looking up at him. When their eyes met, she felt the coldness emanating from his eyes.

With just one glance, she lowered her head guiltily. "I know, I lied to you. But you and Matt have always been at odds, and I had my thoughts, so I had to keep it from you."

"Is that your explanation?" He remained unmoved. "If you're done, leave."

He began to dismiss her, but she did not turn around and leave. Instead, she looked up, her eyes full of anticipation, and asked, "Can you and Matt let go of your hatred for each other?"

She did not want to see either of them getting hurt as enemies. It would be great if they could resolve the conflict between them.

"Let go?" Xavier could not control his emotions, and his voice raised.

After speaking, he glanced back toward the bedroom, took a step forward, and gently closed the door. Standing before her, he put his hands in the pockets of his bathrobe and looked at her. "Listen carefully, Veronica..." he said each word with emphasis. "In this lifetime, either I die, or he dies."

There were some things that he found difficult to say.

Although it was not verbalized, Veronica could still understand the unbearable things that had happened in the past and the death of his sister, Melissa.

"Are we still friends?" she asked calmly.

It was a sudden question that left him silent. After a few seconds, he lightly opened his thin lips. "A few hours ago, we were. But now, we're not anymore."

Chapter 1255 A Topsy Veronica

"Do you not want to see us hurt, or do you not want to see him hurt?" Xavier questioned coldly, his tone icy and harsh.

"He is my husband and the father of my children. You are my friend." Veronica shook her head. "If I had known it would come to this, I probably wouldn't have wanted to know you." If it were not for her, none of this would have happened. "You have your choices, and if you insist on seeking revenge for Melissa, I won't oppose it. But you should be clear that her death has nothing to do with Matt. If anything, she brought it upon herself."

She sighed deeply. "Take care." With those words, she turned around, lost in her thoughts, and did not look back.

Xavier stood in place, watching her figure as she walked away. His hands clenched tightly in his pockets, and a pained expression appeared on his handsome face. 'If I had known it would come to this, I probably wouldn't have wanted to know you.'

He knew Veronica was caught in the middle, but he would never forget to avenge his sister's death. "If he dies and you insist on taking all the blame yourself..." His voice trailed off sadly. "I will give you an 'explanation'."

A broken home, a lost family, and the love of his life married to his enemy—all the tragedies in this world seemed to revolve around him. The only belief that kept him going was to eliminate Matthew.

When Matthew "died" before, he thought he had let go of his worries and could not bear to leave Veronica, who was about to join the hidden clan, so he followed her. Little did he know that Matthew's death was merely part of their plan.

Xavier wheeled around and returned to his suite. He walked to the window and glanced at Veronica leaving the hotel, watching her enter a car and drive away. At that moment, it felt like something was being pulled out of his body, spreading pain throughout his limbs; even breathing was painful.

After she left in the car and could not contact Matthew, she could only return to Mountainside Gardens. Without feeling sleepy, she took two bottles of wine and glasses from the rack and went upstairs. Sitting in the bedroom, she turned on the TV, but since she was not wearing the mini translation earpiece, she could not understand what the people on TV were saying.

Of course, she was uninterested in the dramas and merely drank one glass of wine after another. The wine entered her throat—slightly spicy and sweet—but her heart was bitter.

She was confident that she could persuade Matthew to spare Xavier, but if Xavier kept trying to kill Matthew, would Matthew continue to spare his life?

That was impossible.

After three rounds of wine, Veronica was slightly tipsy. At that moment, she heard a faint sound from the window before Matthew leaped in. He had removed his disguise and was wearing casual gray pajamas with white bandages wrapped around his hands.

"Why haven't you slept yet?" He walked over, looking at the empty bottle of wine on the table, and furrowed his brows slightly. "Why are you drinking so much at this late hour?"

Chapter 1256 A Shocking News

"I know you went to see Zac." Veronica turned her back to Matthew, holding his injured hand with both hands, afraid to move and hurt him.

"Did you go to see Xavier?" He was on point.

Before leaving, she repeatedly pleaded for Xavier, but now, she was sure that he went to find Zac, which meant she either went to see Xavier or had called him.

"I'm sorry, I was narrow-minded and misunderstood you." Since there was a mistake, one should admit it. She knew she had misunderstood Matthew and apologized to him.

"It's okay." He lightly kissed her on the top of her head. "Xavier saved you, so I won't kill him. But..." The man paused. "If he keeps seeking death, I hope you won't blame me."

"Okay." She reluctantly agreed.

Their ill-fated relationship resembled a dead knot, which would be better to ignore.

Sensing Veronica's sour mood, Matthew guessed what was happening and said, "Go to sleep early. It's late."

The two embraced each other and fell asleep, but with worries in their hearts, they both slept late. Not long after, the sky began to lighten, and when Veronica opened her eyes, Matthew had already left. She flipped over and continued to bury her head and sleep.

Bang, bang, bang...

After a while, someone knocked heavily on the door, waking her up. She lazily sat up from the bed. "Stop knocking." Then, she got up, put on her slippers, and walked to the door. When she opened it, she frowned at Mateo standing at the door. "Are you crazy, knocking like that?"

She had slept late last night and had also been drinking, feeling dizzy and overwhelmed.

"Hehehe, I was afraid you would sleep to death." He chuckled, his eyes lit up as he said, "Something big happened. I just received news that Zac's left hand was chopped last night. Apparently, Xavier did it, and he's been apprehended by Zac."

"His hand was chopped?" Veronica was shocked.

"Yes, by Xavier. I heard he also hit Zac last night, probably because Zac coveted his wife." Mateo was unclear about what happened last night, for he only heard rumors. So, he passed on the inaccurate information to her.

"Xavier has been caught?"

Chapter 1257 Step Aside, Will You?

"It goes without saying I feel sorry for him."

Veronica put some scrambled eggs on Mateo's plate. "Eat more, or you'll get hungry later."

"Hehehe! Roni is the best." Eggs were all it took to make the man happy.

On the other hand, Crayson was eating with a serious expression, eating congee with pickles. After chewing his food, he asked, "Have you all heard about Zac's situation?"

He first looked at Veronica, then looked meaningfully at Matthew, implying something.

Destiny shook her head and sighed. "This is a serious matter. After all, Zac is the prince of Castron. I can't believe Xavier dared to make a move against him. I'm afraid it's over for him."

Veronica lowered her eyelids and absentmindedly ate her serving of food, casually saying, "I heard about it."

"Ron's husband's death is closely related to Xavier. He was arrested and got what he deserved."

Confused, Mateo expressed his thoughts as well. "Karma."

"Although it happened in the hidden clan's territory, Zac is Castron's prince. He has a noble status. I want all of you to stay away from him. It's best not to get involved, lest you get into trouble."

Crayson's words were clear in intention, warning the younger ones.

Matthew didn't respond, and Veronica hummed in return, but Mateo, who was in the dark, smiled happily and said, "Isn't it best to sit back and watch the tigers fight? That way, we won't be hurt."

"Speak less and eat!" Crayson glanced at him. "You're an adult now, so act like one."

Everyone fell silent and ate breakfast quietly.

After the meal, the servants came to clean up the dishes. Veronica turned to Matthew. "Hey, Iron Pillar, let's go to the foot of the mountain to do some shopping."

"Roni, I'll go with you." Mateo walked briskly to Veronica. "Iron Pillar is busy. It's better not to disturb him."

"I'm not busy." Matthew shattered Mateo's hope with one sentence and walked up to Veronica. "Miss, let's go."

"Then, take me with you," Mateo pleaded.

Since he couldn't get rid of Iron Pillar, he could only join them and try to spend more time with Veronica.

"Fine, let's go."

Helpless, Veronica had to bring Mateo along as they went down together.

As they walked down the mountain, Mateo felt a little unhappy watching Veronica and Matthew walking side by side. He thought that their relationship was too intimate and felt jealous.

"Iron Pillar?"

Chapter 1258 Let Me Introduce Myself

Veronica was at a loss, but she couldn't show it too obviously.

She said to Mateo, "Mateo, I understand your intentions." She paused momentarily, turned around, and faced Mateo seriously, saying, "I need to make it clear to you that I don't feel that way about you."

The sudden rejection caught Mateo off guard.

The smile on his face froze, and he looked at Veronica in a daze. He smiled bitterly and said, "It's okay; you don't like me now, but you will definitely like me in the future. I'm also aware of your husband's passing, and you won't accept anyone for a while.

"But I believe time is the best medicine to heal a broken heart. One day, you will let go of the past love and embrace a new dawn. After all, the future is unpredictable, and I am willing to grow old with you."

Mateo gathered his courage and once again expressed his feelings to Veronica.

However, before Veronica could speak, Matthew directly pulled her to his side, lifted her chin, and kissed her lips.

"Dang!"

Mateo was shocked to the core.

He stared at the two people kissing in front of him in disbelief.

In the next second, his face turned cold, and he cursed, "Iron Pillar, let go of Roni. She is mine!"

After speaking, he threw a left hook directly at Matthew's face.

Then Matthew grabbed his fist reflectively. With his other hand, he jabbed Mateo's right eye hard. "She is my wife! That's that!"

Since joining the hidden clan, people had always been coveting Veronica, and he had been enduring it.

But Mateo was too presumptuous, even claiming that Veronica was his!

He even claimed that her husband had passed!

This feeling was unbearable. Matthew wanted to reveal his identity, but he held it back. This time, he couldn't bear it anymore.

"Ouch! Oh, my!"

After being punched hard in the right eye, Mateo's head tilted back and fell to the ground, covering his eye in pain. He pointed at Matthew and snapped, "Iron Pillar, do you want to start a war? How dare you forcefully kiss Roni and hit me? Are you tired of living?"

At the sight of Mateo's miserable state, Veronica glared at Matthew and scolded, "What are you doing?"

Matthew raised his hand and tightly held Veronica's waist, pulling her close.

"Hey, let go of her. Don't touch my Roni!"

At that moment, Mateo ignored the pain in his eyes and backside, stood up directly, and started yanking Matthew.

Chapter 1259 We're Family

"He said that your husband's dead. I won't allow it."

Matthew looked stubborn. "I've endured it for so long. I can't take it anymore."

"What? Roni, is he really Matthew? He didn't die? So, you and him have been together behind my back?"

Mateo pointed at the two accusingly, his face filled with grievances and anger.

"Mateo, I'm sorry I didn't tell you the truth."

She sighed and pursed her red lips lightly. "The news of his death was fake. Your grandfather should know, but he didn't tell you. You can ask him."

If it weren't for Mateo accidentally saying the wrong thing last night, revealing some information, Veronica would have really thought that Matthew had acted so well that he successfully deceived Crayson.

But she didn't expect Crayson to be so cunning.

Even though he saw through Matthew's identity, he didn't say anything.

Veronica speculated in her heart that Crayson had probably told Hayley but hadn't told Destiny.

Otherwise, with Destiny's fiery temper, she would have already stood up and accused Matthew.

"My grandfather also knows?"

Mateo looked defeated and disappointed, "You... You guys are too much! Hmph!"

He was furious and turned around angrily, returning to Mountainside Gardens.

Watching his back, Veronica felt a headache. "Is it really a good idea to expose our identities now?"

"It is."

Matthew put his arm on Veronica's shoulder and watched Mateo leave, saying in a deep voice, "You asked me to come down the mountain to talk about Zac. How can I prove Xavier's innocence if I don't come forward?"

It was not convincing enough to confront Zac with just the identity of "Iron Pillar." Zac wouldn't believe it either.

However, if Matthew revealed his identity and said that he was the one who destroyed Zac's hand yesterday, then Zac would believe it.

Hearing his words, Veronica felt a warmth in her heart and some worries. "If Zac finds out it's you, have you thought about how to protect yourself?"

"We'll take it step by step." Matthew didn't overthink.

"You injured Zac like that, and he still hasn't discovered your identity?"

Veronica was curious.

"When I went there, Zac was sleeping. After I disabled his arm, his screams attracted a lot of people. There are many experts in Zac's courtyard, hidden somewhere. If I didn't go there last night, I'm afraid I still wouldn't know that he brought so many experts."

Chapter 1260 Imposters!

"Really? Then, we can come here when we're old."

Veronica joked. "This is like a paradise, away from the hustle and bustle of the outside world. It really allows people to let go of everything. It's honestly nice. But this place doesn't belong to us."

Returning to Mountainside Gardens, as soon as they entered the courtyard, the couple heard the argument between Mateo and Crayson.

The husband and wife looked at each other, holding each other's hands tighter, and walked openly into the hall.

"You knew that Iron Pillar is Matthew, so why didn't you tell me?"

Mateo pointed at Crayson, angry and resentful. "Her husband is right here! Did you ever consider my feelings when I acted like a clown in front of Roni?"

"I didn't have a chance to tell you."

Crayson didn't expect Matthew to reveal his identity in front of Mateo suddenly.

Matthew and Veronica had already walked in from the courtyard as they spoke.

Destiny stood aside in astonishment, and when she saw them come in, her sharp gaze directly focused on Matthew. "Are you Matthew?"

"Yes."

The man no longer played the role of "Iron Pillar." His back straightened, and he regained his former coldness.

"Aren't you Iron Pillar? If you're Matthew, then where is Iron Pillar? Did you kill him?"

Destiny wasn't very familiar with Iron Pillar, but that person was indeed one of her subordinates.

If Matthew really killed someone, this matter had to be investigated!

"Heh. Do you think I'm as ruthless as you guys?" Matthew squinted his eyes, his lips forming a straight line, and his inherent aura suddenly emerged.

"If you wanted to hide your identity, you shouldn't have exposed yourself now."

Crayson pointed at Matthew, glaring at him with hostility while bellowing, "You want to go to Zac, don't you?!"

Of course, he had already guessed Matthew's intentions.

"What do you mean?"

Mateo was a bit confused.

"Exactly," Matthew admitted directly.

This time, Mateo suddenly realized. "So, it was you who attacked Zac last night, not Xavier?"

He felt a bit dissatisfied. "Are you really Matthew?"

Angry, he walked up to Matthew and tilted his head to look at the makeup on his face, unable to resist the urge to pinch it.

Yet, Matthew didn't give him a chance, directly brushing off his hand, his face cold. "Stay away from me."

The contrast between his aura and the honest appearance of Iron Pillar was huge.