

Bumpkin 171

Chapter 171

The wedding ceremony was happening in a few days, so it would be a complete joke to the Larsons if the engagement was called off now.

Tiffany could not accept it, and neither could the Larsons.

"I've warned you earlier not to lay a finger on her again. Did you turn a deaf ear to my words?"

Matthew stood haughtily with his cold, hostile eyes filled with abhorrence as he glared at Tiffany

"Okay, I'll not lay a finger on her anymore. I swear... I swear I'll stay away from Veronica. Matthew, I was wrong. Can you please give me a chance..."

If Tiffany was not aware of Matthew's feelings toward Veronica before this, she would have deeply perceived how much he cared and loved Veronica as of this moment.

Despite Rachel's constant urge for Tiffany to remain calm and steady, Tiffany could not feign a calm look at all at this point of time.

The last time Matthew talked about canceling the marriage already scared her to wits. Therefore, no matter what, she could not allow that to happen again.

Tiffany was so determined to become the mistress of the Kings Family that she even swore to die as a Kings.

Beep... Beep...

Just then, Matthew's phone rang all of a sudden.

The coldness on Matthew's handsome face faded a little when he saw Elizabeth's caller ID lit on the screen when he took out his phone.

He darted a glance at the pathetic woman, who was kneeling on the floor, and answered the call. "Hey, Grandma."

"Hey, Matthew. Are you free tonight? Bring Tiffany over for dinner. I've not seen her for a few days. I'm starting to miss her already."

Elizabeth's gentle voice emerged from the other end of the line. After saying that, she sighed in distress, which imperceptibly gave a sorrowful impression.

Matthew knew Elizabeth was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, so she was stressed and desired to have a grandchild even more.

Tightening his grip on the phone, Matthew furrowed his brows with a slightly resigned look. "Alright." prepare dinner then. If it's not that Veronica had

Elizabeth was

response

bent down, and gently patted Tiffany's cheek. "If this happens again, you will never

that, Matthew shoved away Tiffany's hand and

standing at the door with a cup of tea in each

"M—Matthew?"

inside the bedroom and smiled awkwardly at Matthew, who cast a cold glance at the two before heading downstairs

Rachel stood at the spot as they watched Matthew leaving hotfoot. Then, they rushed into the bedroom to see Tiffany sitting at the

Rachel walked over to Tiffany and held her

of Veronica's matter?"

Tiffany glanced at her parents with dead eyes and said wearily, "I'm tired

lay with her back facing the couple without

and Yvonne met up with Monica Lewis, an

reached an agreement for Monica to assume the role of a part-time wedding planner.

Veronica was elated for having

birthday cake for

Yvonne, they found a wedding planner company, which was currently still running, in the shortest time and signed the transfer

everything was settled, it was already

Veronica was about to treat Yvonne to dinner to thank her,

a huge amount of money today to acquire a wedding planning company was exactly to earn money

of income now

said in a fawning manner, "Hey,

"Where are you now?"

"I—I'm outside."

to the Kings Residence for dinner. I'll come and pick you up now," Matthew said in a demanding tone as

"Sure. I'll send you my location so you can

the call and said to Yvonne apologetically, "I'm so

requires my

and said, "No worries. There's

"Sure. No problem."

I'll go off

"Thanks, Yvie!"

waved at Yvonne and smiled cheekily after seeing the latter get into her car

Chapter 172

Because Veronica was holding her phone in her left hand Matthew overheard Daniella's voice when the former moved her phone aside

"Xavier truly likes you and he treats you well too. But look at you-you're his girlfriend and yet, you never show more care toward him. If you continue being like this, others will gossip about you when you guys get married in the future. Roni, Xavier is a good man. Since both of you love each other, you should cherish the relationship you have with him. Your dad and I thought you're not that young anymore, so we plan to head to Bloomstead to meet Xavier soon to discuss your marriage situation and see if we can set a date for your wedding"

Hearing that, Veronica immediately pressed the phone beside her ear and said, "Mom, hold on. What nonsense are you talking about? I'm still young!"

She was almost driven crazy.

From the very beginning, Xavier and her were merely putting on an act, but when it came to Daniella, she actually started mentioning marriage.

While chatting with Daniella, Veronica did not realize the cold and frosty face of the man sitting next to her.

Both of them love each other? Time to discuss their wedding?

At that moment, Matthew's grip on the steering wheel tightened instinctively as he felt a tightness in his chest, which made him even more frustrated.

"Hey, Mom. Please stop talking about this and quickly go eat the cake with Dad. I still have some matters to attend to, so I'm hanging up first. Bye."

With that, Veronica hung up directly.

"Phew..."

Heaving a sigh of relief, Veronica suddenly felt that she can't keep bluffing her adoptive parents like that. So, she planned to think of a way to set them straight about the situation lest they would go and find Xavier sooner or later to discuss their marriage.

True enough, to hide a lie, a thousand lies were needed.

After keeping away her phone, Veronica looked at Matthew, who was driving and 'couldn't help mumbling, "Why do all of your birthdays have to be so near to each

other? You even have the same birthday as my dad.”

Wearing a gloomy look, Matthew remained silent and ignored Veronica.

sudden. Nevertheless, she was reminded of her identity as the owner of a wedding planning company now, and so she had to please her main source of income. After all, Matthew was the only customer

“Stop the car. Stop!”

shouted for Matthew

something for Elizabeth, so he pulled over

got back into the car with a bag in her hand. After closing the door and fastening her seatbelt, she took out a small cake with a pink pig design from the paper bag. It was still the mini cake which cost 39

co-I mean, Bro, I bought you a birthday cake since it’s

took out a candle from her pocket and stuck it beside the ear of the pink pig. After lighting up the candle, she held the cake and looked at Matthew with her head tilted.

ahead and make a

Veronica actually did not know when Matthew’s birthday was, she had long heard that he never

Matthew asked her to celebrate his birthday today, she was shocked despite feeling a little unhappy with

other hand, Matthew switched off the car engine and gazed at Veronica, who wore a fawning look, and he stared at Veronica. When he recalled how Daniella said the two of them were

the cake did not look tasty anymore at

coldly before starting the car engine and continuing the

asked me to prepare a cake for you, yet you

candle on the small

out a fork from the paper bag and started eating the cake

were capricious, but Veronica actually

she swore that she would never buy Matthew a cake

just as she had two bites of the cake, the car

out his hand to snatch the cake away from her. “It’s not your birthday.

mumbled, “I can’t eat the cake because it’s not

the fork from her, took a scoop of the cream cake, and started

anger, continued babbling, "Didn't you refuse to eat earlier? Why are you eating it now? Matthew Kings, are you insane? This is so frustrating! Why are there people like you on this

ignored Veronica's mutter and savored the cake slowly, which

him to have cakes as they claimed that cakes contained too much sugar and were bad for his health. As such, the cream cakes that he had had were specially

the cake was very delicious

because it was bought by Veronica; bite after bite, Matthew continued eating

cheap cake, he still ate it in a graceful manner. It was as if the gentle, refined personality was engraved in his bones, and

was deeply attracted by his extremely handsome face and couldn't

Chapter 173

"It's my pleasure to have the same birthday as your father so it would be much livelier if we celebrated our birthdays together."

"But it would be too late even if we go back now."

"It's not too late. It would take us about forty-five minutes to get there," Matthew voiced out and then he took out his phone to send a text message to Thomas.

"Forty-five minutes?"

It was fair to say that Veronica had taken Matthew's words seriously earlier on but right now, she felt that he must be pulling her leg. She leaned back against the front passenger seat and wordlessly finished off the leftover cake that Matthew couldn't finish, the whole time wondering what he was trying to do.

Five minutes later, the car arrived at a large, open space and there was already a helicopter waiting there. After Matthew got out of the car, Veronica followed suit and trailed after him. They then boarded the helicopter and just then, she had an incredulous look on her face.

She finally came to her senses after the door to the helicopter was slammed shut and she heard the whirring sound of the propellers. At that point, she realized that he was actually going to send her home, and it was by the means of a helicopter too!

"Are you actually sending me home?"

At that, Matthew pursed his lips but didn't answer her question. Despite that, Veronica was quite sure that he wasn't lying, so she instantly texted her adopted parents respectively. 'Wait for me. I'll be home in about half an hour.'

After she had sent off the text message, she received a phone call from her adopted parents in no time. Due to the loud noise in the helicopter, Veronica didn't answer the phone but instead, she communicated with them via text message throughout the entire journey.

As such, she was lost in her happy thoughts and she leaned by the window to look outside, a smile on her ruby-red lips. She was clearly in good spirits. Suddenly, she came to the conclusion that Matthew wasn't such a mean person after all.

Thirty minutes later, the helicopter arrived at Cabot Town and landed in South Court, which was the basketball court in town. Subsequently, Veronica and Matthew

got out of the helicopter. As soon as they walked out of the basketball court, the helicopter departed as well.

Meanwhile, Veronica kept her eyes on the helicopter that slowly disappeared into the distance and she couldn't help asking as she reached out to tidy up her hair, which was all messed up from the wind, "How did you know where I lived?"

Matthew, who was dressed in a suit, tucked a hand into the pocket of his trousers and straightened his necktie before revealing a

was located in a slightly rural area, there were still quite a few people who came out for their evening walk after dinner so coincidentally, they saw the duo get out of the helicopter. In no time, a crowd stood around, watching the duo while whispering amongst

man dressed in a suit instantly walked forward to greet them as soon as he saw them walking toward the car. The man then handed over a bunch of

you," Matthew responded

the front passenger seat. Shortly after that, they drove

within her and she found Matthew's behavior slightly perplexing too. Elizabeth had actually invited them over to the Kings Residence for dinner, but Matthew had stood her up and brought Veronica back to situation for a short while, Veronica rubbed her nose awkwardly and

the car came to a sudden halt on the road. Meanwhile, Matthew turned to her with a surprised look, and

out of nowhere to bring me home to celebrate my father's birthday? You businesspeople are always so cunning, so I'm sure that you must have an ulterior motive here." Veronica was

wheel as his heart pounded furiously. Usually, even in meetings that involved tens of billions, he was much more composed and not as anxious as he

"If I say-"

Beep! Beep! Beep!

that point, he furrowed his dark brows and turned back to look at the cake on the back passenger seat. He then reached out to push the cake box back into position

eyes at him and she was fully trusting of his words. Yeah, he must be really bored!

later, their car came to a stop in front of

arrival under the darkened dusk skies. As soon as she saw the car pull to a stop by their entrance, leaped into Daniella's as soon as she got out of the reckless girl! You just left in the morning and now you're paying then, Matthew took out the cake and a bouquet of flowers from the back passenger seat. Subsequently, he spoke up while still on and at that point, Daniella finally saw that it was look seemed to be expressing her thoughts of, Why is it Matthew? Shouldn't it be Murphy's birthday today so as her brother. I should pop over to celebrate with Mr. Murphy too." Matthew no longer maintained his usual cold, Veronica grumbled to herself, Roni?! That's such an intimate nickname and it sounds gross! Is he generally so hypocritical?! He's purposely giving me such an intimate nickname in front of Mom! and

Chapter 174

Daniella came forward and led them into the house.

Inside the house, there was already tons of food on the dining table. There was a mixture of vegetables and meat, so it was a well-balanced meal. Besides, there was also a bottle of wine on the table.

"Mr. Murphy, I need to go outside and get something." After Matthew had said that, he turned around and walked out.

After Matthew had gone out to the courtyard, Crayson rapped the cigarette pipe in his hand on the table and glared at Veronica. "Does he like you?"

"What?! Master, what are you on about?! He has a fiancée." Veronica brushed him off by waving her hands as she thought that he was being quite indecent.

"Alright, that's great to know." Crayson nodded his head solemnly just then.

"What's great to know?" Meanwhile, Veronica, who was quite confused by his words, couldn't help asking.

"It's nothing. I just think that this guy is dressed in expensive-looking clothes and he has a noble air to him, so he would be way out of your league."

"Yeah, that's right. Your master's quite right." Tony agreed with Crayson too.

Veronica was at a loss for words upon hearing that. "What's going on in your brains? Gosh!" She shook her head and responded, "Dad, today's your birthday and it's also his birthday coincidentally, so he came over to celebrate your birthdays together."

D

As soon as Veronica said that, she also realized how ridiculous the reason sounded and she quickly explained, "This was his grandmother's idea. Actually, my god grandmother instructed him to come here."

"Is that so? That does sound reasonable." At that point, Tony nodded his head and he could finally heave a sigh of relief.

Matthew came back from outside and he had in his hands a crate of whisky. He carried it into so much!" Although Daniella didn't drink much alcohol, she knew

else gave it to my family as a gift and we couldn't finish it, so I just brought it along the table with a warm smile. "Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Master Crayson, I'm sorry for keeping for so long, so she

feel any unnecessary burden, so she came up with a feeble excuse. "Mom, there's plenty of alcohol at theirs and it's not expensive. Let's start on our

started eating. It was just some simple home-cooked food and yet Matthew, who was used to delicacies, found that the food actually tasted exceptionally better. He savored them slowly, as it was filled with the taste of

drank some alcohol.

on Veronica's left while Crayson was on her right. She behaved like a daddy's girl in front of the two of them and

you're so unfair! You came over to visit my dad on his birthday but you didn't even turn up on my birthday! As punishment, you must down

I promise

You have to keep your

little brat, how can you behave so disrespectfully! He's your

on-it's your birthday today, so here's a toast to you. Happy birthday!" As Veronica spoke, she suddenly remembered Matthew,

truly very happy and

before standing up to propose a toast to Tony. "Happy birthday, Mr.

"Ha! Thank you."

moment created a warm and inviting vibe that surrounded them. Meanwhile, Matthew, who was engrossed in such

and happiness were something only in his wildest

it was either as he partied wildly with his bunch of buddies or during gatherings with his business partners, but he was usually forced to drink on those occasions. Perhaps, to be more accurate, he couldn't avoid drinking at all. However, right now, he truly felt very happy and he

for being so carefree and she could let loose of herself so easily. He also envied the simple and happy life that she had with an

together before bringing out the two cakes. They placed the cakes on

before turning to Matthew and Tony,

were auspicious birthday wishes on that cake. Just then, Matthew and Tony stood side by side with each other. Meanwhile, the cake ordered by Veronica was placed in front of Matthew, so she

cake I bought for my dad, so it has to be in front of him." She said that while reaching out

touched the sides of the cake, Matthew slapped the back of

cake suit him better."

Chapter 175

"Hmph! That's because you are an idiot. The years you have spent learning those skills from me have gone down the drain. Don't ever declare yourself as my disciple; I can't afford to be humiliated like this!" Crayson coldly snorted and responded with a look of disgust on his face while smoking a pipe.

Veronica darted a glare at him. "Master, you are so cold-hearted."

Her words caused the others to burst into laughter, and Matthew enjoyed the relaxing and joyful atmosphere a lot.

They chatted until late at night. In the end, Grayson wanted to go home, so Veronica and Matthew sent him back before they headed back to the house with a torchlight.

The soft hoots of the nightjars echoed in the old, dense and foggy forest. Veronica clung onto Matthew, holding his sleeve with one hand. Her heart was in her mouth.

"You,"

"Ah! You startled me!"

Veronica was given a fright when Matthew had barely said a word. She slapped his shoulder and muttered, "You nearly gave me a heart attack!"

"Why haven't I noticed that you are actually very timid?" As he rarely saw her trembling in fear, Matthew found her current reaction rather amusing.

"Hey, that's not my fault!" She pouted. "It's my damn Master's fault. He told me that this is the path that the grim reapers usually take. Ever since then, I have always been frightened when I pass by this area."

"Hoot!" As soon as she said that, a nightjar suddenly hooted and it startled her. In response, Veronica grabbed Matthew by his arm and buried her head against his chest, embracing him with all her strength.

At that moment, she could swear to God that this was the most pathetic day she had ever had in her life.

She wasn't afraid of enemies, height, violence-both verbally and physically-nor was she afraid of darkness when she was living in a vibrant city. Nevertheless, she was afraid of darkness when she was back in her hometown, and she was so terrified to the point of being unable to leave the house at night.

The sudden embrace of the woman warmed Matthew's chest, and the faint fragrance of her hair that lingered in the air felt familiar and nice.

Matthew froze on the spot. His arms that were hanging by his sides stiffened for a second before he raised them up to pat her on her back. "Nothing's going to happen. Don't worry."

the other gently pinched her earlobe. "Don't be scared, Roni.

so familiar

as a child, her grandmother used to touch her ear and shout loudly, "Veronica, don't be

inexplicable sense of reassurance swept over her and her

she was practically glued to Matthew; she

face flushed crimson as she pushed him away.

from behind and

asked, "I have a question. Could you help me

it?"

1

need

pregnant fiancée very soon, but he suddenly realized that he has fallen in love with another woman. Have you ever encountered

beating to this sort

the woman from Matthew's story strongly. She glared at him and barked, "As the saying goes, birds of a feather flock together. You are not half-decent yourself. If it wasn't for the fact that I didn't diligently

was talking about an acquaintance of mine. What

sort of man should be castrated He impregnated his fiancée and now he wants to leave all the mess behind him? Such an a*shole. Even if he were to marry his fiancée, they wouldn't be happy after marriage but if he didn't marry his fiancée, the child she's carrying would only become a victim. It would also be difficult

"So..."

should just die!

entanglement with Matthew, which enraged her. In a fit of rage, she stomped on Matthew's foot and twisted her foot for

even the dark wasn't scary to

left toe for a bit before chasing after

a jerk? Maybe I am. Otherwise, I wouldn't have slept with Tiffany when I was intoxicated and impregnated

went after Veronica and headed

they returned home, Veronica directly returned to her

and so she asked him, "Matthew,

down when she was walking

randomly found an excuse that even he

it, let's not mind her.

"Thank you, Mrs. Murphy."

Chapter 176

"Okay, sure. I'll go and look for her," Matthew nodded and replied. Then, he walked up to the road and surveyed the surrounding area before she spotted Veronica running in a distance.

He sauntered toward her. The girl in sports attire wore her hair in a ponytail, causing it to sway in the air as she ran non-stop. She seemed exuberant, exuding the vibe of a young lady, which made the man break into a smile that came from his heart.

She ran and ran, and soon arrived before him. "Why are you here?" Veronica impatiently muttered without even glancing at him.

"Mrs. Murphy had me ask you to go home for breakfast."

"Alright." she coldly uttered before she walked around him and left.

However, after barely taking a few steps, Veronica noticed that Matthew didn't catch up with her, so paused in her tracks. Turning her head, she looked at him and asked, "What are you waiting for? Let's go back to eat. We can head over to Bloomstead then."

Matthew tilted his body to gaze at the ripples on the water that were formed by gentle breeze. "The scenery is as pretty as a picture; there's no need for us to rush back."

"No need to rush back?"

There's no such need for you, but there is for me! Veronica grabbed the towel hanging around her neck and wiped the sweat on her fair face, panting as she said, "You are getting married in less than 10 days. You don't see the need to be in a hurry, but there are those who do."

The man raised his dark brows. "That has nothing to do with me."

Upon hearing that, Veronica grumbled to herself, *Damn you! If you don't have anything to do with it, who does?* "No, I'm now in charge of your wedding planning and I'm in the midst of a serious preparation, so we can't afford to delay things."

"I'll contact Thomas to have him take full respon—"

forward in a fluster and interrupted, "Since the task has been given to me, I have to make sure completed. How can I hand it over

against Matthew's marriage with Tiffany ever since the very beginning. Thus, her current unusual proactiveness caused Matthew to smell

appraised her, as though he was trying to penetrate her thoughts

help you plan your wedding, but you have to manage your fiancée. If your fiancée steps beyond the line, I'll take action on her. I wish

a sharp gaze, as though he was secretly

and she called out to

Matthew, "Let's go back to eat. My parents

them returned home to

dining table and

recalled something when he raised his head and asked Veronica, "Speaking of which, Veronica, I heard from your

the question at first, but she then let out

mentioned Xavier's condition previously and yet, they kept that in mind. Fortunately, I didn't tell them about my injury; they would be worried sick

past injury, a scar remained and she

went back home, and she paid extra attention

return to Bloomstead? I'll tag along as well. Xavier is dating Veronica now, so it's only appropriate that we go and pay him a visit after his surgery," Daniella said to Matthew as

up some food and fed it into his mouth. Chewing it slowly, he gazed at Veronica. Xavier had an appendectomy? Why wasn't I informed about

noon, when Matthew had gone to his partner's company, he saw Xavier alive and kicking; the latter looked nothing like a weak patient who just

Veronica cast him a fierce glare that contained resentment and anger. Then, she smiled at her parents. "Mom, there's no need to do that. Xavier has been busy lately, so you won't be able

kicked Matthew's leg under the table, demanding

she had lied-she probably had no choice but to make up a lie when he had urged her to return to Bloomstead the

the same incident that allowed him to learn that Veronica

it's inappropriate if you don't go at this time,"

Chapter 177

"You..." At this moment, Tony put his cutlery down on the table with a slam. "What are you talking about?!"

"But if you don't like Xavier, why did you rush back to Bloomstead yesterday?" Daniella was somewhat disbelieving of Veronica's words.

Hence, Veronica could only explain, "I rushed back to Bloomstead yesterday because Elizabeth is my god-grandmother. She wanted me to be in charge of Matthew's wedding plans with his fiancée and when we hit a snag, I had to rush back. I lied because I was afraid I would worry you both."

Even if this was also a lie, Veronica was secretly vexed with herself for not having thought of this excuse the previous day.

Sitting nearby, Matthew stared at her in stunned silence as her words echoed through his brain.

She said. She doesn't like Xavier. All of it is just an act!An act...

"You brat! Leave it to you to get up to such nonsense because your father and I spoiled you!" Furious, Daniella threw down her cutlery and stood up, stalking back to her room and slamming the door shut after her.

"Look how angry you made your mother!" Tony shook his head before continuing in a lower voice, "Let's drop it. Eat your breakfast and once you're done, you should leave. Your mom will stop being angry at you in a few days."

Upset and feeling utterly guilty, Veronica hung her head like a child who had done something wrong. "I'm sorry, Dad. I've let you both down."

"Let's not talk about this anymore. You should eat and leave. I'm going to see your mom." With a wave of his hand, he followed Daniella into the bedroom.

Just like that, Veronica lost her appetite. Glaring coldly and menacingly at Matthew, she kicked his leg viciously before snapping, "What are you looking at? I bet you're happy now, you jerk!"

Feeling like he had just been on a rollercoaster, Matthew bit back a yelp of pain before getting up and following her out of the house.

After they got into the car, they left.

On the way back, Veronica stayed silent.

Meanwhile, he was still thinking about what she said.

and keep me safe. Keep her safe?Was it from the Larsons or

question lingered in his brain, and even Matthew himself reached Bloomstead a few hours later, it was already

Matthew proposed somewhat timidly and with unprecedented gentleness, "Let's have eat, you can eat by yourself!" Veronica growled before flinging the car door open and slamming it shut through the rearview mirror, he could not help the smile that curled up at the corners of his

following days, the both of them did

the name of the newly established wedding director, they set up the venue of the wedding

she had no time to rent a new place and simply

during that period, she declined his call and simply told

went out to eat and drink with

wedding, she finished setting up the

wedding taking place on the next day was Matthew's wedding and thus would be attended by socialites from all walks of life, Veronica couldn't

not easy working

entire staff of the bridal

by socialites and business

the employees inside the meeting room, afraid that something would go

and too

dire straits, she could only be determined not

We'll put our all into

swim with you,

power generators are set up. Unless something unforeseeable happens tomorrow, nothing will go

and wardrobe team are

too nervous, President Murphy. Matthew Kings' fiancée is your sister, and she wouldn't blame you even if anything were to go awry," someone suddenly uttered in a strange tone

been with them for long, their investment in this meant they knew not just that Tiffany

assumed that Veronica had obtained her

Chapter 178

As his head was still buried in his work, Matthew stared at the document on his desk and carelessly asked, "How's the decoration of the venue coming along?"

"The company that Miss Murphy has taken over has given them all the while time. The result... has exceeded expectations."

Although Thomas was somewhat worried when the wedding ceremony was first handed over to Veronica and even secretly kept notes on her progress as well as a backup team, he later found out that she had taken over a wedding planning company and was about to submit her proposal to him.

After perusing the proposal, he found that it was perfect and was stunned a few hours ago when he saw the venue that had been erected.

At this moment, Matthew capped his pen after scrawling his signature on the document and raised an eyebrow at Thomas. "Oh? Is that so?"

"You can tell how much work Miss Murphy has thrown into it."

"When has she ever *not* put any work into earning my money?" Matthew asked with a faint smile. Then, suddenly thinking of something, he continued, "How much is she asking for?"

"Um..." Thomas paused before lifting a hand to rub his nose. "Three hundred million."

It had to be said that such a prosperous wedding would naturally be exorbitant.

Once again, Matthew raised an eyebrow with a silent smile at Thomas.

Seeing how quiet his boss was, Thomas continued, "A hundred and fifty million has been paid in advance. The rest will be paid after the wedding ceremony."

"I see." Matthew inclined his head.

Then, he rose to his feet, walked over to the bar, and poured them each a glass of wine.

After that, he strolled over to the floor-to-ceiling windows and looked at Bloomstead's nightscape, whereupon he fell into silence.

Frowning slightly, Thomas glanced at Matthew and summoned his courage after a

moment of hesitation. "Do you want to see Miss Murphy off after you marry Miss Larson, Young Master Matthew?"

Matthew that once he married Tiffany, he

that Matthew pondered

Once you marry Miss Larson, nothing will ever happen between you and Miss Murphy again." When it came to Veronica, Thomas rarely brought her up in front of Matthew and would analyze the stakes

expected, Matthew's face darkened and his

though he didn't like what Thomas said, he had to

glass down, he pulled his coat from the rack and strode out of

just like that, Thomas
downstairs, Matthew took a cab to
the out-of-the-way, ramshackle, and sparsely furnished three story wedding company, he shook his
head with a
earth had this damn woman managed to search for
much would she earn by
stepped out and buttoned up his coat before
closed-Oh my,
kick their visitor out, only to
a tailored suit that perfectly complimented
step he took showed off his aristocratic bearing, and his handsome face was so flawless and beautiful
that he resembled a
President Kings is so
mean by 'President Kings? Call him Young Master Matthew. You're right, though;
even more handsome than he is
you looking
the lobby flocked to
Matthew slightly
me then, Young Master Matthew. President Murphy is still working upstairs." One of the employees
gestured in
when she opened the office door and walked in with him, they discovered that Veronica had fallen
asleep at her
to wake Veronica up, Matthew held a finger to his lips in a shushing motion. His actions
for the employee to fall head over
the moment they left the office, he asked,
well for a few nights because

Chapter 179

*I knew it. Matthew is just another a*shole.*

"Oh, no, no, no. Even if we're biological siblings, I still wouldn't give the discount. I have tens of people
under my employment and the decor of your wedding venue is all using the state-of-the-art imported

materials. Do you know how expensive that is? You can slap me, but you cannot expect me to slap on a different price tag on all this!"

It's three hundred million we're talking about here. A ten percent discount already amounts to thirty million. My legs would be broken way before my stance on this matter ever breaks!

Matthew, who had a subtle smile on his handsome face, replied, "Slap you? Sure, but have you thought about whether it would be on the right or left cheek?"

"You choose. Whether it's the right or left cheek, I'm fine with either one."

A determined Veronica stuck her face out in front of him while she braced herself for the slap.

Looking at the petite woman with her short hair that framed her fair, flawless face with a pair of big, bright eyes and long, thick eyelashes at such a close distance, he felt that she looked just like a fluttering butterfly. Her clear innocent gaze made her look playful and adorable.

When she smiled, she looked like the pretty and innocent neighbor girl whom everybody liked. On the contrary, when she had the poker face, she would radiate a sense of femme fatale that fooled people into thinking she was aloof. All of these made him fall head over heels for her.

Although she had displayed a combination of being stand-offish and innocent, there was nothing out of the ordinary.

How could there be such a woman in this world? Matthew never thought that he would be charmed by a woman in that manner one fine day.

"Let's quickly get this over with! Once you have slapped me, I won't have to give you a discount," Veronica reminded as she looked at him.

Listening to her, he laughed out loud. Then, after seeing him raise his hand, she immediately shut her eyes when she saw his hand coming.

Yet, the slap that she waited for never came. Instead, she could feel the man's big and warm palm gently touching her cheek.

Veronica pushed him away with a frown. "Are you actually taking advantage of me right now, Matthew Kings?"

As he staggered backward, the man had a slightly cold look as he grabbed onto her elbow. Stepping back, he placed his thumb directly in front of her nose. "Have a whiff; what does it smell like?"

"Ew, it stinks. Did you poop in your hands or something?" Veronica covered her nostrils in disdain.

Matthew nodded seriously and wiped his hands with a tissue that he took out from under the desk. "I didn't go to the toilet earlier."

why does your hand stink so

to ask

"Ask... myself?"

was caught in a daze before she subconsciously
hand. Oh my, it... really stinks... Is this my saliva? This is so embarrassing that
asleep earlier. My apologies for that,
used a few tissue papers to wipe
she was in the midst of wiping her face, she noticed the undisguised smile on Matthew's face. With a
smile, he instead answered in a low voice, "Properly wipe your face. You wouldn't want any
had never thought that Matthew would use such a
"Get lost!"
what
arms and gestured, as if it
annoyed Veronica then
in a tactless manner, they were a straightforward and honest person,
her, Matthew only felt his heart racing. A thought crossed his mind in that instant and it made him want
to embrace her there and then,
had acted in an unscrupulous manner toward her,
being hurt was something that he wanted to avoid seeing ever again. So, this is what it feels
are you
you?"
but he merely stood
front of him, she then pushed him when there was no reaction from
the man regain his composure after being in deep thought. "So,
who made an 'OK' gesture, continued, "Don't think
go for
"Sure, I'm famished."
spendthrift even. Now that Matthew already knew that she had her own company as a wedding
planner, Veronica did not dare to
payment tomorrow once the wedding had ended, it would be unwise of her to offend Matthew at this
stage. When the two left the
do you want

VIP now, so I should be the one treating you. As you'll be married tomorrow, let's eat something simple since

opinion about me

driving, hesitated for a

snorted. "What does your marriage to her have to do with me? All you have to do is

that he failed to predict, yet he thought that it

Chapter 180

As the successor of the Kings Family, his wife had to be someone with both the looks and the background to compliment him.

This was an unwritten iron rule.

After being scolded by Veronica, Matthew did not say anything.

"Turn right in front, we're going to Sam's Food Stall," Veronica said angrily.

Once the car came to a stop, they alighted and walked to the stall.

The stall was already rather empty at 1:00AM.

Now that they were seated outside, they ordered some braised vegetables and barbeque skewers along with two dozen beers and started to drink.

Matthew, who had never been to such a shabby roadside stall, would usually feel disgusted by this place.

However, for some unknown reason, he did not have such thoughts.

It was as if the person sitting in front of him had made everything perfect for him.

After opening two beers, Veronica handed one to Matthew while she was holding another one in her hand. Then, she proceeded to chug it.

"It's boring to just drink beer. Hey, boss, I'll have two bottles of white wine," an unhappy Veronica said as she looked like she had been affected by Matthew's words.

After receiving the order, the stall owner proceeded to serve them with a few bottles of white wine.

As Matthew accompanied her to drink, he thought that the alcohol tasted terrible since it had a rough taste and singed his tongue.

However, he wasn't picky and continued to drink with Veronica in the silence.

"Matthew, do you know that you're every bit as loathing as your fiancée? Just because you both have a bit of money and power, you guys think that you can control others as you wish."

A drunken man's words were a sober man's thoughts.

After a few mouthfuls of white wine, Veronica was pointing at Matthew as she scolded him.

The man reached out to take some green beans and took a bite before discovering that it had a decent taste and paired quite well with alcohol.

He was at a loss for words when he listened to Veronica speaking.

The barbecue skewers that they ordered arrived after a short while. Looking at the skewers that were peppered with spices, Matthew frowned and merely stared at it for a long time without touching it.

Eat it. It's not like the food is poisoned. Is

handed a lamb skewer to him, she added, "Here, try it. I

high and mighty created a flame of

unwilling to have a bite. Then, he finally took the proffered skewer and

was the spice. Then, after having more

people loved barbeque skewers as it really tasted quite okay in his

she asked

Matthew nodded. "It's alright."

so. It's not poisonous,

the other hand, Veronica toasted,

"Sure."

toast again. Since you're my brother and a wealthy

tomorrow. Otherwise, our relationship

"Sure."

keep saying that? Don't you know how to

want to

about... nothing. This is

would often chat until the conversation suddenly

being exasperated by Matthew, Veronica drank like there was

of white wine, after which she

were caught in a rare moment where they were having a meal together as they sat in the slightly

gazed at Veronica and felt that his heart was weighed down by a rock, which

never felt

when he wanted to make the woman in front of him

not dare to act on his desire because he was like what Veronica said—just a scummy
want her to have an impression of him as
in the morning where both
home,” Matthew
we might cause your wedding to
feet, she went to pick up
the car, he wanted to send her back home
address, he thought that Veronica was only
company. Where else can
the passenger side, Veronica
ask Thomas to supervise the wedding venue, so you don’t have to
have a place to
a place to
decided in the end to bring her back to Twilight Condominium
he was about to exit the car when he saw that Veronica
man reached out to help her to
the parking lot, he looked at the woman in his embrace. Her cheeks were