

Bumpkin 231

Chapter 231 Conrad's Appearance

Eavesdropping on the father-son conversation, Veronica felt how unjust Xavier was treated in his own family.

Even though she knew that he was never fully welcomed within the family, she had never thought that Hendric would say such cruel things to his own son.

Xavier did not rebuke his father and instead only fell into silence.

Yet, this only made Hendric angrier as he continued, "It's you who implicated your sister. If you had stated your relationship clearly with that b*tch, Veronica, would your sister have gotten hurt this way? Even though she might be the god-granddaughter of Old Mrs. Kings, she hurt my daughter, and for that, I will make her pay in full!"

Veronica had seen him scolding his own son on the day of Matthew and Tiffany's engagement. It was not until she spent half a month with Xavier in Mount Chillad that she found out how biased Hendric was toward Melissa.

That was why when she struck Melissa, she had already foreseen Hendric targeting her from then on.

Sighing helplessly, Veronica did not go downstairs. Instead, she sat on the stairs and looked outside through the window before falling into deep thought.

"Melissa was in the wrong about this."

After a long silence, Veronica heard Xavier's rebuke.

His words seemed so weak, though. It was as if he knew he was explaining it in vain.

She knew that even though logic was on his side, all this was still useless in front of Hendric.

This was just like how Tiffany and she were both Floch's daughters, but Rachel and Floch only doted on Tiffany alone and treated Veronica as nothing more than a nuisance.

Their treatment of the two girls really could be compared to heaven and earth.

Slap!

A crisp and loud slap could be heard in the stairwell as Veronica clenched up.

Then, she heard Hendric shout, "You shut up! What do you see in Veronica to make you speak up for her? She is just a shameless hussy that stole her sister's boyfriend and is now leeching off Matthew! You better get that slut out of your head."

penetrated Veronica's heart, but she felt more pity

she wanted to dash

she stopped after taking a few

problems in their 'marriage', their relationship was

to go down now, what identity
once more, Veronica finally stopped in the end and
the sounds of footsteps
thought that the father and son must have
the wall, Veronica took
unfortunately, she had become one of them without even noticing. Even though she still wanted out, it
was not
friend before, but on the day of the wedding, even though he knew the truth, he still
find out she was the mastermind behind the scandal of the wedding, people from everywhere would be
eager to kill
you sitting
spacing out. "Be careful that you don't catch a cold. It's quite
at him. "How did you know I
you come down, so I came here to
doctor said that you are still quite weak, so it's best that you lie down and rest
I won't
in the ward earlier and was now serious and solemn.
at this, as his instincts told him that Veronica must have been agitated
to the middle of the stairwell and looked up only
Veronica?
Why is she here?
a healthy person suddenly appear at the hospital?
was befuddled as he had no idea what Veronica had been through for two days, so he immediately had
the results revealed her body to be in a normal and
came back showing she was normal, it was this result that made Matthew
had clearly seen the unknown object entering her body, causing the splitting headache to happen twice.
Besides that, Her
that the report showed everything to
Chapter 232 Being Caught Red-Handed

Pouting, Veronica went to the first floor and leaned against the railing while looking down onto the ground floor. Although the luxurious villa did somewhat overwhelm her, it did not make her lose all sense of reason.

She frowned before glaring at Matthew. "Matthew, are you done yet? Don't think that just because you're Grandma's grandson that I will bear with you again and again! I do admit that you're very rich, but that doesn't mean I would accept anything you give me. Do you think that you could persuade me to stay with you by using this fantasy-like castle? Too bad, but I'm not some spoiled princess, nor am I Cinderella!"

A sudden burst of rage welled up within Veronica. "I still haven't held you accountable for the incident with the sleeping pills. But, I'm now giving you one last chance, so I hope you don't push your luck!" Stating that, she then snorted and left.

Whether Matthew liked her or not, it was not a valid excuse for them to do the deed by using sleeping pills.

Yet, although Veronica had been cursing Matthew as a scumbag all this time, she had not realized that with her temper, if any other man had dared to drug her, she would make them pay no matter the cost.

She had only treated Matthew as an exception.

Maybe it was because he had given his first time to her, and he had never done this with another woman after that. Or maybe it was because she had always treated him differently.

It was just that she had never discovered these feelings herself.

"Stop right there!"

Matthew was pissed to the point where veins were popping from his forehead.

D*mn it. I thought that we had been through this.

Calling her out, he then pulled on her arm. "What will it take for you to finally believe me?"

Matthew was by no means a patient man, but he had asked Veronica this same question several times now, which was slowly driving him mad.

"Let go!"

Shaking him off, Veronica said, "Just staying away from me is the best way to prove yourself innocent."

did not

was how the

around, Veronica went downstairs and

such a lavish homestead was nothing more than proof of how

went down and watched Veronica get in her car and drive off before he

in his life that getting a person's trust was so

the final verdict and that no amount of things he did later would change

...

the villa, she

afternoon, she had rented an apartment meant for one nearby her company thanks to a

the place was already fully-furnished, she moved in on the

she went out to buy some necessities and ingredients at the

parking in the car park opposite of Walmart, Veronica was

wearing sunglasses, was stunned as she took them off and found that the person

the wedding, it was Yvonne who hired mercenaries to come save her. It was also then that she knew that Yvonne had purposefully gotten close to her with an

now, she did not know how

her in secret, Veronica wanted to see what kind of people

enter a place called Autumn Cafe,

as she followed her from the ground floor to the

looked around before finding Yvonne seated on the right side

opposite to a married couple whom Veronica knew very well,

out of curiosity, but she had never guessed

cafe. They even sat in

that, Floch would always bring his secretary for business deals, but this time,

one truth, and that was... They were not here to talk

Excuse me, you're in the way." A man

gaze. After that, Rachel and Yvonne also looked over

Chapter 233 Yvonne's Secret

"Didn't you say you wanted to treat me to a meal? It just so happens that I'm hungry right now."

Veronica sat down unreservedly at the spot where the trio were just now.

Turning around, Yvonne waved toward a waiter.

After ordering two set lunches and coffee, they waited for their meals to be served quietly.

"Why did you approach me?"

Veronica leaned on the chair and stared at Yvonne with a cold gaze.

Her gaze pressured Yvonne as she pursed her lips and did not know how to answer Veronica.

At that moment, the waiter served their coffee.

“Hello, here’s your coffee.”

The appearance of the waiter gave Yvonne a bit of a breather as she kept thinking of how she should reply to Veronica.

“A-Actually...”

She said stutteringly, “I was at the wedding too, but I didn’t greet you because I saw just how busy you were. It was only after I saw the video that I...”

“Get to the point!”

Veronica slammed her desk and looked very menacing.

“The point? Oh, you mean those mercenaries?”

Tilting her head, Yvonne scratched her head before taking a sip of her coffee while looking at Veronica with eyes full of guilt.

She then continued hesitantly, “I grew up abroad. As my identity is a bit sensitive, I cannot tell you my origins. But, I can confirm that those people were about to kidnap me back to Castron, and the other mercenaries are my people. What I can tell you is that both teams were hired by my father, but one of them betrayed us.”

served to make Veronica

family is quite capable of arranging two teams of mercenaries for you. Now, I have two questions for you. First up, why did you save me? Secondly, you don’t seem to be short on money, but you still teamed

successful partnership, she immediately

amount that was previously agreed

was a kind person. Now, she only thought that she was

because you saved me once. This time it was me paying you back. Of course, I don’t lack money, but I was raised in such a way that I

this point, she sighed and covered her face

did not make her

Veronica asked, “And

Bang!

set, I would be forced to marry the person they’ve chosen!

question seemed to have hit a sore spot, as she suddenly lashed out like an angry

on her eyes as she wanted
was too good at acting or
come to a conclusion
anymore, she grew even more annoyed. "Do you still not
her phone out before opening WhatsApp and slammed
glanced at the conversation only to see
pointed at the screen as Yvonne understood her intentions. "Go
getting her permission, Veronica clicked on one of the voice
your father wants you to stop trying to create some cosmetics company. It's not like we're in need of
money. You can just come back, marry Anthony and become the princess of Castron. I really don't know
what you are thinking. With every passing day of your
only stare wide-eyed at the phone
she just
and become the
that this Zac character is the
rough idea about Castron through the
this, she uttered in shock, "Is this Zac referring to
is getting
"Of course..."
she felt strange gazes land on
Yvonne said, "Who do you think it is, besides
eyebrows, looked at her from

Chapter 234 A Parasite

"Do you not like the position of being the future princess?"

Veronica was a bit in awe of Yvonne.

After all, not a lot of people could resist both money and power.

"What's so good about being a princess? I prefer my current free and easy life. Besides, Zac isn't exactly a saint either." The mention of Zac worsened Yvonne's mood.

Waving her hands, she continued, "Let's not talk about him anymore. Either way, since you've caused my deal to be canceled, you're treating me today."

"Of course, of course."

Veronica nodded.

Even though she was smiling brightly, she looked at Yvonne with a hint of suspicion.

Can she really be trusted?

After going through so much, Veronica was not one to simply place her trust in another now.

In the past, Xavier, whom she trusted so much, also disappointed her in the end.

Soon enough, their food was served, and the two chatted while eating.

Cutting the steak, Yvonne asked Veronica, "How's business coming along? Do you need me to introduce you to some potential customers?"

"It's pretty bad. I'm taking it slow now."

"There are a few people planning on getting married. I can introduce them to you."

"Aren't you kind?"

One always had an ulterior motive when offering up something for nothing.

her own life to save

had ruined her and Floch's collaboration, a normal person would be outraged at this, as should

Yvonne not get angry,

steak, Veronica was slowly pondering

is there something

now as she did not

I have to take care of you. Otherwise, Young Master Matthew might cancel the collaboration between my company and his. If that happens, then I will be at the

"That makes sense."

then continued to chat while eating before bidding each other

...

business of

company was marching into an upward rise as they found themselves short on

was certainly rising now, as even though it had direct correlation to the operation of the company, it was not hard to see from the customers' reactions that most of

other words, she was only able to achieve

very good about this.

to be the god-granddaughter of Elizabeth because of the backing of the Kings Family, so she knew that nobody would dare to touch her or,
of the influence the Kingses wielded, and now she was even making money thanks
as if the years she spent studying were wasted, making her seem like a useless
receiving a statement from the financial department, Veronica found out that the company's profit was actually over four million
but Veronica knew
Miss Murphy, our
joy. "If we continue
nodded. "When I was in another bridal store, the best monthly result we achieved was the current
Miss Murphy, do you think we should treat
Shirley suggested.
a hotel. So after dinner tonight,
hard this month, so I should reward
best, Miss Murphy. I'm going to tell them now." Shirley then skipped out of
wearing maternity clothes and a thick jacket, looked up at Veronica and asked, "Shouldn't it be a joyful thing, seeing how good business
the financial statement aside before crossing her arms and sighing. "I knew you would see through me, given how
graduate,
company for many years, she could

Chapter 235 This Is My Token of Gratitude

Veronica remained unwavering as she smiled and started clapping her hands. "Miss Dame is right, but there's one thing I got to bring up here—I can live without the Kings Family, unlike you. If the Dame Family goes bankrupt, I'm afraid that you can't even lift your frail fingers to earn money and you will have to rot on the streets."

"You!" Ruka was left speechless by Veronica's blunt remarks, but she brushed it off with a smile. "You're so clever with words that everyone likes you so much. Oh, right! There will be a charity held in the city soon. I hope to see you there, Miss Murphy."

Then, she checked the time on her wristwatch. "It's late and my friends are waiting for me. Goodbye, Miss Murphy."

With a smile, she waved her hand and left. Staring at Ruka's back, Veronica felt something creeping up her heart. She could sense Ruka's hostility toward her, and a strong one at that.

Still, Veronica had to admit that Ruka's tolerance was on another level compared to Tiffany's. As expected from a lady born with a silver spoon in her mouth—not only did Ruka exude elegance and class, she was reticent.

Veronica wheeled around and left as well. Knowing that she would be drinking, she didn't drive her car here. She strolled along the streets while clutching tightly onto her sweater, trying to warm herself against the chilling breeze.

Suddenly, her phone rang. It was Matthew. Ever since she left the villa, it had been a month since they last met.

During that period of time, he messaged Veronica twice, but she left them unread and he never sent another text again. On the day she visited Elizabeth at Kings Residence, she didn't see him either.

Since it was the first call after a month, she deemed that it was an emergency, so she answered the call. "Hello."

Then, she waited for the man to speak. When she heard nothing but silence, her brow furrowed. "Can you hear me? If you're not going to say anything, I'll end the call now."

have you been?" Finally, Matthew responded, and his voice was pleasing to

do you mean? Of course I'm doing fine. Don't worry about

"What about the company?"

she was aware that it was an innocuous question, Veronica couldn't help the heavy feelings that overwhelmed her at the mention of her company, which had become her sore part. "Speaking about that, I should be grateful to you. Thanks to you, we're doing

How are you going to repay me then?"

call without a second thought, after which she returned home by cab. Lying down on the recliner on the balcony, she gazed at the

private room. After ordering a cup of coffee, she

for the long wait." Beneath the blue coat that fit his frame perfectly was a black

caught a glimpse of the man, who effortlessly pulled off

seated himself opposite her, a waiter entered and gave them the menu. They ordered

room, Matthew stared at her intensely. "You look thinner than you

company affairs, he specially contacted a few professionals to examine and analyze Veronica's blood along with the two bowls from the underground chamber. However, the results he received were the same—there was

search, but in vain. That anonymous person entered and left the place without leaving a trace behind, as if he could walk through the

person? Colossal doubts clouded Matthew's

the chair listlessly and took a

bad mood, Matthew fished out something from his pocket and proffered it to her. "I have something for an exquisite velvet

dubious gaze to look at the gentle

Chapter 236 Thomas Revealed the Truth

Matthew's refusal wasn't something unexpected. Veronica leaned against her chair and looked at the documents with a frown. "If I weren't Grandma's god-granddaughter, the company wouldn't have achieved such a success. As much as I am grateful to you, I am indebted to the Kings Family. Nonetheless, I can't deny that it's a burden too."

She laid out her genuine thoughts without hiding. "It's your call whether you want to accept the offer or not."

If Matthew didn't sign it, she would shut down the company due to the guilt of receiving the money.

Suddenly, a knock resounded on the door, and a waiter walked inside to serve the food. Veronica thrust the documents back into her bag before pointing at the dishes. "Let's eat. The filet steak is amazing. Try it."

Veronica poured Matthew a glass of wine before raising her wine glass and smiling sweetly. "Anyway, thank you so much."

While his eyes were fixated upon her, he wasn't feeling as happy as he was when he first stepped into the restaurant. Mixed feelings were churning in his stomach as he silently raised his glass in a toast to her.

After polishing off the drink in one-go, she exclaimed, "The wine's not bad. I guess I should dig in now."

Humming in response, he savored the sweetness in his mouth. As incisive as he had always been, he noticed the exhaustion behind that wry smile on her face. He then gazed out of the window, drifting into a pensive rumination.

When they first met, there was a dazzling smile on her face all the time, as though no pall of sorrow could ever rein her in. Yet, she rarely smiled nowadays, and it pained Matthew to realize that.

Throughout the meal, they conversed lightly about the trivias before separating ways to their own companies.

the unsigned contract, Veronica arrived at her store. Before she could even announce the sad news, Thomas

the store and made his way to Veronica, who happened to be in the

in confusion. "Mr. Ritter, what brings you

have something for you. Can

way." She nodded before giving her assistant an

to prepare them some coffee, they headed upstairs to the

smile. "So, here I

they sat opposite each other. With a business smile, Veronica

the business at your bridal store has been pretty good recently, so he would like to be a shareholder.

However, considering that the store is quite small, he asked someone

rental?" She was awestruck

for ten years in this kind of place? Is he trying to monopolize the industry

years." Thomas nodded with

find the equity division still blank under the written terms.

on going through the contract, Thomas added, "Young Master Matthew said it is

his head. I bet someone greedy like her will

place, I should sign the contract,

Judging from how he had rented a ten-storey

and flipped open the document again to fill in the blank space. However, just as she was going to sign

her name on it, Thomas piped up, "Miss Murphy, what do

"He's a nice guy."

so many years, it's my first time witnessing how he treats someone nicely." Thomas smiled sheepishly as he blurted out the

Chapter 237 The Beginning of Thomas' Journey in Hell

What? Matthew asked around just to find insomnia medicine for me? And he gave up a billion worth contract just to rescue me from the cruise? He even risked his life to save me from the flood and hired people to protect my parents? Veronica was shocked to the core and her mind was in a mess.

It was no wonder her parents mentioned that they had new neighbors a few days ago. According to them, the newcomers were hired to keep an eye on the reservoir for any intruders that intended to fish there. In actuality, it was to keep her parents safe!

But... Do I have insomnia?

Before this, she was completely aware that she could only sleep when it was four or five in the morning. However, it wasn't a big deal to her as she thought that she only needed a shorter sleep period compared to others.

Not only that, she assumed that Matthew was spouting nonsense when he told her about her problem. She did not believe in him one bit! Did she misunderstand him all this time?

After maintaining her composure, she continued to finish off both the contracts. By the time she raised her head, Thomas was standing by the window, smoking silently.

Even if his attitude was indecent, he was a loyal assistant who had always done his best for Matthew. Thus, never once had Veronica blamed Thomas.

In any case, she had encountered nastier comments since the day she managed the company as Elizabeth's god-granddaughter. Once was bearable, but not for long; eventually, she had built a towering barrier with the bricks thrown at her.

"I've signed the contracts. Please pass it to him." She placed the pen aside.

Right then, Shirley entered the office to serve the coffee. She smiled politely at Thomas. "Mr. Ritter, here's your coffee."

Veronica told her, "Shirley,

been long since he arrived here."

"No need for that." Then, he took

a note of discord had surfaced during the conversation.

sigh. "It's nothing.

she realized that it was 3 in the afternoon. "Stay here. I gotta put up

Didn't we have newcomers already? Why do we

to attend to. See ya." She waved her hand and

bet a rigorous man like Matthew will transfer over some experienced workers, right? Then, there's no need to

heading toward Spinfluence Group, which was quite near the place.

car, he made a dash for the president's office with the contract. Matthew was leafing through some documents when he heard someone enter. He assumed that it was one of

to see a

only gave you 5% of the share! I was wondering how much she would

mature and tactful man. However, he could no longer contain his temper, considering how much Matthew had changed and sacrificed for Veronica. He was quite touchy

as he flipped through the contract. "Did you say anything else to

that was on my mind! She's mercenary, cruel, heartless, and full of schemes! Not

began his harangue by speaking badly of Veronica in every possible way. As the list went on, he suddenly felt a sharp gaze glaring at him as it sent chills down his spine. He raised his

to his feet and tossed the contract right in

look

Chapter 238 So, I've Misunderstood Matthew

Cory Island was an obscure island where a hellish training took place. The people who went there would have a taste of what it felt like to be in hell, but they would return as whole new people after the arduous drill.

In fact, Thomas was one of the candidates who had successfully completed the inhumane training, and he would never want to go back there. Once was enough.

However, his mistake was beyond recall as Matthew insisted on sending him there. "Ask your brother, Troy, to take over your position."

Thomas swallowed back his pleading words and gave in in the end. "Understood."

"Leave." The man ordered icily.

The corner of Thomas' lips twitched as he left the office instantly. Once he exited the building, he gave Veronica a call at the entrance, but no one picked up the phone no matter how many times he called.

His heart sank, and he slapped himself a few times in despair. "F*ck! You dumb sh*t!"

The brisk sound of slapping attracted the bypassing workers, who knew him well.

"M-Mr. Ritter, are you alright?"

"Mr. Ritter, are you okay? Do you want us to call the hospital?"

"Mr. Ritter, is everything fine?"

"There are no mosquitoes, though. Why did you slap yourself?"

...

have work to do? Can't I slap

into his car with trudging footsteps, he rang his

"What's wrong?"

phone before getting into the main point. "Then, Young Master Matthew is going to send me to Cory Island! He even told me to enjoy myself there for months! Darn it! I'm not the same as I was during my

before bursting into laughter. "Thomas, I-I'm sorry. I don't usually laugh at this kind of situation, but I can't help it. How could you say that

guffawing nonstop, Thomas' face was

...

to the hospital to see a neurologist. When it was finally

she underwent tests like electrocardiography and electroencephalography. Once the doctor took a glimpse of the results, she nodded. "It is insomnia. I presume that it has been two months, but most of the patients have it because of massive stress. And

situations insomniacs might encounter as well as the things Veronica should take note of before scribbling a

missed calls from Thomas in the car. Since she was doing a check-up

why he called her, but she had

put her phone in the bag, it rang. It was Matthew. Holding the phone tightly, she glanced

at the milk he prepared at the Twilight Condominium contained medicine that

how she had thrown all those nasty words at him back then. Although he had tried to explain, she never trusted him in the

wildest dream had she imagined the arrogant man being so helpless in front of her. A pang of

in front of Matthew nonetheless, because the 'misunderstanding' would be

that they weren't of the same world had determined their fate from the start, not to mention she didn't the call with

gentle as ever. It sounded as

Thomas stopped by today with the contracts, and I heard everything from him. You're planning to expand

a balance between work and life. Some rest time after work is important for

"You're right."

you up from your office in 20 minutes. Let's have

Chapter 239 The New Boss

Standing before her workers, Veronica attempted to maintain her composure as their enthusing words reached her ears. She couldn't help but exclaim, Good looks aren't always a good thing.

"Silence. Allow me to introduce Matthew Kings, the president of Spinfluence Group, who will be our majority shareholder from today onward. Henceforth, he will be your—I mean he will be our boss," she introduced Matthew's new identity succinctly, and the employees soon surged into a ruckus.

"What? That's so sudden!"

"So, President Kings will be our boss from now on."

"What a surprise. The Spinfluence Group has been one of the Top 500 companies worldwide. Since Young Master Matthew is our boss, does that mean we're in the Top 500 as well?"

"I'm all fired up to work for my handsome boss right now!"

...

Veronica clapped her hands once again to silence the noise. "We've rented the abutting ten-storey building for a decade to expand the business, and the renovation will commence tomorrow. Therefore, I

would like to make it a point to everyone that our company prioritizes talent and dedication. Promotions will be offered based on your achievements and performances. Last but not least, we should believe we will be able to strive forward and hit big in the future under President Kings' guidance."

It was certainly good news to hear that, as the employees were all giddy with excitement and vehement joy upon hearing the announcement. Their merriment rubbed off on Veronica, and she was equally happy as they were.

She then turned toward the man standing beside her. "President Kings, would you like to give them a word or two?"

With a gentle smile, he nodded and looked at the team. "Do your best. I'll be looking forward to your accomplishments."

Veronica frowned when she heard his short statement, albeit heartening. "Nothing else?"

response before the thrilled employees

"That is so cool."

the coolest guy

"Gosh, I'm in love!"

have a picture

"President Kings, me too!"

have a signature

...

speechless by the sight of the meeting turning into a

deadly charms! It's not even his first day officially coming to work, yet he has everyone falling for approachable and amiable today. In hindsight, how did the workers react? They surrounded him

light steps as she swayed

sign next to the man in the picture, Veronica thought

You look nice." Veronica was never

she smiled sheepishly. "I think it came out

talking to Shirley, Veronica noticed a figure ascending the stairs. Realizing that it was Monica heading up to her. "Are you worried that

question, Monica hastily rose to her feet with her

nearing. You should be

my child. President Kings is capable of handling the company well with strict rules and management. When the

everything in order and handle the wedding planning well, you're allowed to stay. You have my words." Veronica buoyed Monica up as she was completely aware of how much passion Monica had for the industry. As a woman herself, she understood how exhausting it would be to juggle childcare and work so much!" Monica was genuinely grateful. "Don't you worry. I'll hire a nanny to look after my kid so got up and patted her shoulder to encourage her. "Take care and don't stay too late. I'll

Chapter 240 Bringing Veronica and Conrad Together

Holding a basket of fruits, Veronica ambled toward Elizabeth. "Grandma."

Elizabeth handed over the grain that she fed the poultry to the maid. "Roni, you're here."

"Yeah, I miss you, Grandma." Veronica smiled and clung onto the old lady's arm before looking at the poultry. "It's nice to rear some chickens and ducks as a pastime."

Elizabeth couldn't work because of her old age, so it was best for her to indulge in something to lift her mood.

"You're right. I gotta at least do something to kill time." Elizabeth pulled Veronica in the direction of the parlor. "Let's go inside. It's windy."

Matthew, who had been there the whole time, received no attention and trailed behind them with a helpless smile.

"Grandma, you previously said... said..." Veronica sat next to Elizabeth, hesitating to bring up the topic.

Only then did Veronica let out a sheepish smile. "Didn't you say that you were going to introduce me to someone? Is it still valid?"

When Matthew heard that, his footsteps came to a halt, and the gentleness of his countenance was replaced with seriousness.

been staying at the residence, came

Veronica's question, which elicited a smile on his face. "Finally? After it's still valid!"

to Veronica, who visited her often lately, she was able to live her days happily. Her affections for Veronica were

Veronica didn't mind the joke as

it," Elizabeth clasped Veronica's hands as she looked at Conrad. "Conrad, you're still single, aren't you? I've always wanted the two of you to be together. Since the two of you are here,

hesitation. "No, Grandma. Uncle Conrad is

a drunk Howard accidentally spent the night with Conrad's mother, hence the youngest kid was born. He was two years older than Matthew, but there was a nine-year age gap

water that was served by the maid. Unbeknownst to everyone present, his eyes were

and tapped her forehead. "Men are

girl to Matthew, who was sitting silently. Little did Matthew know

Interesting.

"Grandma, I—"

to say something, Conrad preempted her. "I think Roni's smart

did he not reject the suggestion, but he also blurted out his genuine thoughts. Regardless of his feelings, Veronica was someone useful

noticed the insidious smile on his visage when their eyes met. Beneath the facade was a terrifying bottomless pit that

her spine, she

She held Veronica's hands tightly as she said, "See? He's down for it. Don't