

Bumpkin 261

Chapter 261 Pretending to Be Unconscious

"That information is confidential," Matthew answered coldly before giving Thomas a side glance. Then, the former turned and entered back into the ward.

Acknowledging what Matthew's gaze meant, Thomas walked up to Hendrey and said in a polite manner, "Mr. Johnson, since Miss Murphy is still unconscious, please come back another day."

Knowing that Matthew was not keen on having him here, Hendrey was rendered helpless. Eventually, he nodded and replied, "I'll come back when she wakes up."

After saying that, Hendrey took another glance at the ward and left.

In the ward, Veronica continued to lay unconsciously on the bed. She only opened her eyes when it was completely quiet outside. Glancing at Matthew, who was sitting beside her, she immediately started acting. "Why are you here? Ouch... Why was I unconscious?"

She covered her head with her hands and gasped in pain.

The man sitting in the chair immediately stood up, reached out to touch her forehead, and asked out of concern, "Does your head hurt?"

"Well, yeah... It hurts a lot." Veronica nodded, closed her eyes again, breathed a sigh of relief, and murmured, "Why did I suddenly black out..."

She used up almost all the acting skills she learned throughout her whole life.

However, Veronica was not aware that there was something abnormal in her body, so she did not think much when she decided to lie.

Even though what she said was meaningless, Matthew paid attention to her every word.

His heart clenched tightly when he heard what she said.

It had not been long since she left the underground chamber, but she fainted again in such a short time. There was also no cause that could be found.

Would she be in a dangerous situation if this went on?

There seemed to be an alarm constantly ringing in Matthew's heart, making him even more worried.

He was usually a calm and collected man, but his stern face was currently painted with worry. His aloof expression had faded away and was slowly replaced by gentleness. At that moment, even his gaze was laced with concern.

As his burning gaze fell on Veronica, Veronica swallowed subconsciously when she opened her eyes to meet his.

Matthew's gaze just now... was too intense for her to bear!

jewelry exhibit," Veronica said while stretching out her hand to remove the necklace from

are valuable items and must be

be here soon," Matthew responded and inquired with great concern, "How do you feel now? Does your head still

It just hurts a little just now. Now, my knee hurts, but I should be fine after a few days

speaking, she

could finally breathe a sigh of relief, but that did not mean he was not worried about

them quite a lot the last time they went to Castron to inspect the residues in the porcelain bowls that were brought out from the underground chamber, but their efforts were to no avail in

was what made

"Oh, where is Hendrey?"

she had suddenly thought

enough, Matthew's face suddenly turned cloudy, and even his

with dark eyes that resembled ink as if pondering about something before questioning, "Are

an outsider, everything that happened at today's jewelry show must have looked like it was intricately

was thought of as a marketing tool, it was at least

However, Matthew was suspicious.

had always loved Hendrey deeply, then she would not have asked Elizabeth to introduce her to

It made no sense.

that the confession during the jewelry show was just a marketing tool, or that Hendrey suddenly returned, and met Veronica. After knowing she

tell whether Veronica and Hendrey had contacted each

convenient, so it was easy to connect

was more inclined toward

Atelier, so it was not necessary for her to sell a story to

out

"Hehe..." Veronica smiled awkwardly.

she let

if Matthew could stop pursuing her through his own

just an unexpected misunderstanding." She raised her hand and touched her nose before immediately changing the subject, "Erm,

“Does it hurt badly?”

Matthew immediately comforted her, “The doctor has already treated your wound. Your knee was seriously injured so you might need to rest for a few

the ceiling speechlessly. 7,000

However...

so she quickly inquired, “Where’s

“Here.”

Chapter 262 Being an Endorser

Counting the days since he left, it would be almost five years since they last saw each other.

Veronica was somewhat baffled at Hendrey’s sudden return.

At the same time, Matthew, too, was a little speechless.

Throughout his whole life, Veronica was the only woman who dared to be so unscrupulous and lie to him without thinking twice.

Knock knock!

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door outside the ward. Glancing at the ward door, Veronica saw Yvonne and Ivana walking in.

“Roni, are you alright?” Yvonne walked over and inquired in concern. “I was scared to death when you fainted earlier.”

Ivana placed the fruit basket and milk aside. Though seeing Matthew was expected, she still greeted him respectfully, “You’re here too, Young Master Matthew.”

Matthew nodded slightly in response with a cold look in his eyes. He then walked to the sofa to take a seat, making room for the two of them.

In the eyes of other people, Matthew had always been aloof and indifferent. He had always carried an arrogant aura that prevented anyone from getting close to him as if he was some kind of unattainable immortal being.

Ivana watched as Matthew took a seat on the sofa. Even if the latter was just sitting with his legs crossed, he invisibly exuded the aura of a king, and his stance was so strong that it was suffocating.

Nevertheless, it was undeniable that Matthew had extremely good facial features.

“Ivana.”

Seeing Ivana staring at Matthew in a daze, Yvonne gently nudged her with her elbow, reminding her.

Ivana was two to three years older than Veronica and Yvonne, but she also had a young heart. Hence, she could not help but steal a few more glances at handsome men.

She looked back at them but was not embarrassed because of the peek. Instead, she whispered, "Young Master Matthew is way more handsome in person than in photos."

"That's a given."

gave Veronica another look as if to tell her that she was the only one unappreciative of

Ivana's obsession with Matthew's appearance, so she

inquired, "If you guys came over in a hurry,

of tampering. I told Ivana

smart person. When she received the heels that Veronica had tossed out on the runway, she took a glimpse and realized that there was

Veronica was unconscious and was sent to the hospital, she did not follow up

expect something like

"Competition

and offered, "Here's a check with 15 thousand dollars. The boss of Julius Atelier wanted me to tell you that you've worked hard this time, so the remaining amount is

god-granddaughter of Elizabeth, and since she had been in the limelight recently, the Julius Atelier jewelry show was well received

broadcast, sales exceeded 20,000 within merely half

"I-It's fine, actually."

waved her

money, she knew her

dollars for the

"I..."

as if to say,

she did not accept this compensation, how could

Ivana's gaze, she immediately said to Veronica, "To be honest, Ivana came here not only to pay you the

hesitated before stopping and turning her head at Ivana. She wanted to let

"What's wrong?"

made

at Veronica, "Hehe. It's nothing. It's just... It's just that after Julius Atelier's jewelry show ended today, the new products were immediately launched on the official website, and the sales volume surpassed 20,000 pieces within

“What? Endorser?”

Atelier doesn't want A-list celebrities to endorse their products

her head and sighed, “I think your boss must have gone

any reasonable cause to explain what happened

An endorsement?

Chapter 263 Break Up

Veronica could make her own decisions.

On the contrary, Ivana saw Veronica's brows slightly raised thoughtfully as if not wanting to take the offer, so Ivana quickly suggested, “If you don't want to, I can...”

Increase the offer!

However, before she could finish her sentence, Veronica interrupted her immediately, “Of course, I'll take it! Why wouldn't I? Let's do it! Do you have the contract? Let's sign the contract now.”

Veronica was afraid that if she did not sign the contract now, 45 thousand dollars would be gone.

Ivana was taken aback for a moment.

As expected, no one could beat an experienced businesswoman.

Her boss was worthy of her title. How did she manage to predict Veronica's reaction so accurately?

She said that Veronica would accept the 45-thousand dollar deal, and she was actually right!

“You're agreeing to 45 thousand dollars only?! Are you dumb, Veronica? If their company wants you to endorse their products, that must mean they have taken a fancy to you. Raise the price, dummy!”

Yvonne, who was sitting on the edge of the bed, thought Veronica was too humble.

“Can you increase the offer?”

The reason why Veronica did not negotiate with Ivana was that she knew it was reasonable for someone who had never done a show in public to be offered a 7000-dollar appearance fee and a 45 thousand-dollar endorsement.

Listening to Yvonne's words at this moment made sense.

“It should be... alright.” Ivan replied reluctantly before inquiring, “How much would you like?”

The reason why she was so reluctant was that she was not sure how much of a raise would be appropriate for Veronica.

If she increased too much, Ivana was afraid that Veronica would continue increasing the price and make demands; if she increased a small amount, she was afraid that she would seem stingy.

a seven on one hand and a five on the other while glancing at Matthew, who was sitting

a part of the Kings Family now. Do you think they will
thousand is a deal. Let's just go
speaking, Veronica immediately
how Yvonne gave Ivana a hint with her eyes
Veronica wanted now was to be tied to Matthew all the time because that would
was
the source of customers was mainly from the Kings
countless days and nights planning with the team, handing over the most satisfactory responses to
must
I think I want to take a
want to hear Yvonne continue with that
helpless and
Veronica lay in bed and fell into deep
first, she was willing to be the god-granddaughter of Elizabeth because she needed the power of the
Kings Family to protect herself, but she never thought that this power would backfire and bring about a
could not help but wonder if her decision back then was
you thinking
the ceiling with her eyes open, he
"Nothing."
"You should
sounded like an order to kick
and time again. Matthew, too, could feel Veronica pushing
a
you really hate me so
in the book Flirting 101
indifferently to you, you may ask her directly if
experience in love, it was worth
question, Veronica was inexplicably startled. She raised her eyelids and looked at Matthew, who was
standing straight, with her beautiful and glossy eyes.

few seconds, each having their own thoughts

Veronica intended to protect herself in the name of the Kings Family, and her goal had been

she was Elizabeth's god-granddaughter, they would not act rashly toward her. Therefore, it was better to

merits do not offset

Chapter 264 You're Blind, Veronica!

Veronica talked a lot.

It took a few seconds after Veronica finished speaking for Matthew to suddenly come back to his senses.

Oblivious to the fact that his hands were balled into fists in the pocket of his trousers, Matthew was currently on the verge of rage and collapsing.

It turned out that the reason she kept rejecting him was that in her heart, he had already been sentenced as guilty!

To her, he was a rapist!

Great!

How wonderful!

The sullen look on Matthew's handsome face gradually disappeared which was then replaced by an unfathomable smile.

That smile was simply a curved arc at the corners of his lips, not even reaching his eyes.

After that, he turned on his heels and left without saying a word.

Bang!

The room fell silent as the door to the ward slammed shut.

Veronica swallowed nervously and involuntarily let go of her hand which was clutching the blankets tightly, only to feel her tense nerves relax.

Only the heavens knew that she felt the chilling breath emanating from Matthew's body. His powerful aura enveloped her, making her nervous to the point of almost suffocating.

However, it was better this way.

Matthew would probably ignore her from today onward.

This was what Veronica was hoping for, but she was not happy at all.

That night, she lay in bed until dawn before finally falling asleep.

At 8:30 the next morning, Veronica received a call from the bridal store, saying that many of the customers who had made wedding reservations before canceled their bookings.

Just this morning, seven bookings had been canceled.

end of the phone, Veronica knew that

this was his way

cancel the bookings later, just go along with it as long as

there a problem, President Murphy?" Shirley was keen to find

and replied, "Just make

she hung up the

her misery did not end

when she had just put down her

up the phone, she saw that it was

a reason why you're calling so

fact, she already had

"Well...Veronica, erm..."

other end of the phone, Ivana stammered as

at it, I worry that my popularity will grow once I take up this endorsement. I can't imagine how tiring it will be later on when

said that, Veronica was just trying to save Ivana's pride. She did not want to make

is that so? Hehehe, well then. I'll let my boss know later. We're friends too,

call was to tell Veronica about the cancellation of the endorsement, but it was difficult for Ivana

you don't want to, I'll let my boss know.

Sorry for the

I'll get

finished speaking, she hung up the

a pale smile

and considered them as a way of his

Great.

business based on her own strength, and

jealous of her and deliberately retaliate

was a

right, the incident must have something to
actions

Yvonne came to the hospital to visit Veronica
that Veronica temporarily decided not to accept the endorsement of Julius
all, everyone had
he here

Veronica in the ward for a
from Yvonne, she uttered in a

insane?! Matthew treats you so well! How could you not cherish him?" Yvonne thought that there must
be something

Chapter 265 Finally Starting Her Own Business

Something was definitely wrong with Veronica's taste in men.

"Hello, Hendrey."

Hendrey smiled elegantly and took the initiative to shake hands with Yvonne.

"Alright, have fun chatting. I have to head back to the office to settle some stuff." Yvonne withdrew her
hand and left the ward.

"Sure," answered Hendrey as he walked into the ward with a bouquet in his arms. He saw Veronica lying
on the hospital bed and halted in his steps.

The two looked at each other and smiled knowingly.

Veronica propped herself up with her hands on the bed and sat up against the head of the bed, covering
herself with the blanket.

At that moment, the quiet ward made them feel somewhat restrained and awkward.

"Yesterday, you..."

"You..."

The two of them spoke at the same time but stopped when they only uttered a few words. When their
gazes met, they laughed.

"Ladies first. You should go first."

Hendrey placed the flowers on the table and sat on the chair beside the bed.

Seeing him being so polite, Veronica felt a little awkward.

Perhaps, in front of her first love, she found it difficult to calm down.

"When did you come back?" she inquired.

"I just arrived in Bloomstead yesterday, and my friend invited me to watch the jewelry exhibition. I didn't expect to see you there." After saying that, Hendrey hesitated for a moment before continuing, "On the runway yesterday, you..."

"What a coincidence!"

for the catwalk yesterday, and in order to create a selling point, I discussed with Ivana of Julius Atelier Jewelry to make up a story for the

Hendrey was going to ask, so she quickly explained

that mean you pretended to faint on the spot?" Hendrey, like the sophisticated man he was,

Wouldn't it be way too embarrassing if I hadn't pretended to faint in that situation?" Veronica raised her eyebrows and smiled smugly, gloating, "I responded pretty

as if she did not take what

response instantly calmed

head and sighed, "You're still the same as

"You don't say."

chatted until they were comfortable with each other's presence and

suddenly return after living abroad for so many

our own country, so I'm planning to stay back and settle

lot of room for domestic development. Intellectuals like

chuckled. Suddenly, he thought of something and asked, "I heard that you were being recommended to study at Collins University. How are you doing now? You've studied marketing management, so you should

did study marketing management at Collins University, but after going to university, she preferred a major in computer science, so she

for medical treatment, she could only quit her job in Collins and come to

that, she met Matthew, and her journey had been bumpy until

do yet." She did not

Kings Family to survive, so it was not

you take care of yourself,"

still have something to deal with. I'll come and visit you later. What's

Veronica grabbed her phone and gave Hendrey her

WhatsApp icon and sent a text message to Veronica while saying, "You don't even know how much effort it took for me to find you. I asked the organizer

then exchanged a few

morning, put on her IV drips, changed the bandage on

on the way home in a taxi, Shirley called again to inform

what you

all halted. Everyone is worried that Young Master Matthew isn't willing to

in a low voice and comforted Shirley,

"Okay. Sure."

understand something but

arduous, and there were

out who tampered with your shoes yesterday. It was

was not surprised to learn that it was Ruka as if

"Okay. I got it."

Chapter 266 She Was Learning to Grow

The ten of them met each other in a unique way.

The other nine members of the tour were all men, leaving Veronica to be the only woman. Everyone was surprised to find that out.

Afterward, Veronica traveled with the tour group while discussing with them her plan.

Fortunately, she could walk normally after two days as her injury was no longer serious.

She made efforts to meet them as she did not want to stir up too much attention in case Matthew finds out too much about her.

Water could carry a boat but also capsize it.

Matthew could make her rich, but he could also destroy her easily with his power.

Therefore, Veronica silently paved her way to start a business. By traveling on a tour together, she managed to get along with the rest and observe their personalities.

While traveling, she also visited a few well-known e-sports companies to carry out thorough research. She even participated in two large-scale e-sports competitions throughout her tour.

After discussing with the nine members of Black Dragons, she only managed to persuade two members to invest in her idea. The remaining seven members were unwilling to invest due to the high risk.

Veronica thought about it at first, and eventually, she managed to persuade them to sign a two-year contract with an annual salary of 30 thousand, while three of them were offered 5% of the shares. At the same time, she also managed to recruit e-sports operation managers, project managers, data analysts, referees, and club managers with high salaries.

The reason why the seven members of Black Dragons who did not invest were given such high shares and basic salaries was that Veronica saw their abilities and values!

After returning to Bloomstead, Veronica rented the 17th and 18th floors of her building as office space.

After that, the company was registered in the name of one of the members—Vincere Games. It was a homonym of Vincent Yale.

Once everyone signed the contract and the office was fully equipped, they officially started operating.

Once everything had been settled, two months had already passed.

all the time, but in reality, she often took the elevator to the 17th or 18th floor whenever her colleagues were not paying

was no connected area between the two. Therefore, it was not easily noticeable when Veronica

started its operation, Veronica spent a lot of money to promote Black Dragons and started the game commentary live broadcast. The fame of

the contract, five people formed a team called Black Dragons, while the remaining

days after the live broadcast, the Black Dragons, who had been attracting attention from netizens, gradually gained more

present, they only had to build momentum for Black Dragons, increase their popularity, and make them

she met such a group of like-minded

issue they faced was that there was no

it was only a

the marketing plans for Encounters Bridal Store as well as planning for Vincere Games that it completely drained out

Hendrey invited her out, she had only met him twice. The two of them would have a casual

for Matthew and Xavier, she had not seen

gradually getting on the right track, so Veronica was finally able to rest in Encounters Bridal Store's office for

slept for two to three days now, so

Ring—

her table

eyes to answer the phone and put it to

mean who am I? Didn't you save my phone number?" Yvonne's voice sounded on the

voice, Veronica slowly opened her eyes and

it's freezing outside. Let's

Blurgh—

the moment she

she craved some sushi too, so

See you later at Shiro's

phone, Veronica sat up and placed the blanket over her

picked it up and flipped through the document. Last month's turnover was

she managed to recruit a dozen people when the business of the bridal store

added up

earnings leveled off last month's expenses. Compared with the previous month when the total turnover was only 7000 dollars, this month's

put on a thick woolen jacket and

Chapter 267 4500-Dollar Part-Time Job

"Ivana just called and said that she's coming too. I think she has something to discuss with you," said Yvonne when she suddenly thought of something.

Just as Yvonne said that, someone said 'hi' and walked over. "Sorry to keep you guys waiting. I got off work late."

"Take a seat. I just arrived too," Veronica greeted her with a smile.

Ivana placed her bag on the seat and sat next to Veronica casually. "It's only been two months since I met you. How did you lose so much weight? Your jawline is so sharp that you probably can cut fruits with it!"

Her little joke elicited laughter among themselves.

After exchanging a few customary greetings, the trio chatted while waiting for the rest of the food to be served.

"Yvonne said you have something to tell me?" Veronica inquired straightforwardly.

Ivana, who was holding a piece of sushi and dipping it in the sauce, paused and put down her chopsticks. She then scooped near to Veronica and asked in a low voice, "I have a job in hand. Would you like to consider it?"

"What is it about?"

Veronica's eyes lit up when she heard that it was a money-making opportunity.

"What is it? Don't be so mysterious. Hurry up and tell us." Yvonne glared at Ivana while chewing on her tempura. She was getting impatient when Ivana intentionally built up suspense.

"Remember how Veronica helped me out at the jewelry show before? I met a business partner today who is going to organize an auto show and needs a famous model. I recommended Veronica to him, and he happily agreed."

After she finished speaking, she looked at Veronica again. "They're offering 4500 dollars for two hours. I wasn't sure if you would agree to it, so I came over to ask your opinion."

"So little? It's freezing cold in winter! How could they only offer 4500 dollars of appearance fee?! That's not enough." Yvonne shook her head, grabbed a piece of salmon, and mumbled, "She's the boss of Encounters. How could she only be earning 4500?!"

Veronica mixed the sauce on her plate, thinking about it thoroughly.

Although 4500 was not a big sum, it was not a bad deal for two hours.

did you guys know what happened to me?" She suddenly raised her head, looked at Yvonne, and then looked at

"I..."

was stunned for a moment before she threw Yvonne a look

"Bloomstead isn't a big place. Rumors spread easily through the walls. I don't know who started it, but in this circle, rumor

Veronica about this, but she did not expect her friend to be so

our company are also talking

not bother her

two months, she had been busy with Vincere Games and Encounters. Naturally, she had

the auto show company offering 4500 to work as

If she was only offered 4500 dollars for a one-time appearance, most people would worry that Veronica would be offended due to the cheap fee,

her to be a model and offered such a low price, Ivana must have

it in detail, she was able to

sense. You are the boss of Encounters, so it

not? I'm taking

took a sip from the cup before exclaiming, "4500 is enough for me to pay my house rent for more than a year. I can make a lot of money for rent

words came

feel pitiful that she had ended up in such a situation. Instead, she thought

Ivana and Yvonne heard it, they could not help but feel

you know how cold it will be?!” Yvonne admired Veronica’s resilience and determination as she regarded

take up a modeling show for 4500 dollars made

take up the job! Isn’t

She then took another piece of sushi, dipped it in the sauce, and raised her eyebrows, questioning, “I can eat at Shiro’s Sushi for a lot more times with 4500 dollars. Doesn’t it sound like a

at the plates of sushi and salmon while nodding with approval, “Yup. Sounds like a good deal, but... wasn’t your first love called Hendrey? Isn’t he in

dispatched by the company to take up a course in Castron, so he will likely be back in a month

did not meet Hendrey often recently, she kept

have known about

...

Chapter 268 Yvonne Was Stirring Up Trouble

“Why didn’t you call me when I hadn’t contacted you for the past two months?” Xavier teased Veronica.

In truth, he was learning to take over the Crawford Family’s business for the past two months.

Konig Company was previously established as a small business for him to play with. It could barely support him financially, but now, he had a heavy burden and responsibility.

Even though Xavier did not want to take over the Crawford Family’s business, he had to bear the pressure, bite the bullet, and accept it.

That was because... he wanted to become stronger.

In fact, there was an urgent need for him to become powerful in a short period of time.

“I heard that you’ve been busy hanging around with your eldest brother to take over the company. I’m worried that I’ll disturb you, so I didn’t contact you.”

A polite reply slipped out of her lips so naturally that even Veronica herself could not believe she said it.

The last time she injured Xavier, Veronica simply thought she had injured two people, but she never expected that she would hit Melissa’s knee meniscus with another shot, causing her to be lying on the hospital bed until today.

Even if she received the best treatment available, there would still be long-term side effects.

Veronica did not feel guilty toward Melissa, but she always found it difficult to face Xavier as calmly as she did before.

"Are you free tomorrow? Do you want to go skiing together?" he invited warmly.

"Skiing? Sounds like fun, but I don't know how to."

She indeed did not know how to ski.

"That's nothing to worry about when you have me."

After saying that, he immediately added, "I will call you at 9 am tomorrow on the dot. Can't wait to see you tomorrow. Have a good rest. Bye."

"Huh? I... Hello?"

Veronica wanted to reject him, but Xavier did not give Veronica any chance to before hanging up the phone.

Such a rushed plan made Veronica feel a little awkward.

Sounds like a good

a day off in

and she was assured that the future of both companies was bound

for her

when she thought about being alone with Xavier tomorrow, Veronica found it somewhat uncomfortable,

calling me so late

to go skiing tomorrow?" Veronica inquired

are we

question, Veronica was taken aback because she forgot to

Bloomstead's ski resort. Where

are you

"Xavier."

"That's all?"

"And you?"

want me to be a third wheeler?"

out for a long time, so I want to take you out for some

"Okay."

chatted for a while, and after

feeling exhausted while watching the live broadcast. As time passed, she suddenly realized it was already 3

and her eyelids were as heavy as lead, she could not fall

she took a sleeping pill to aid

woke up at

getting up and going for a morning jog, she had breakfast, went

the four of them

she first saw Xavier, followed

was...

morning, Roni and Young Master

gray knitted scarf around her

an army green trench coat and a black turtleneck sweater. He looked casual yet

his smile looked exceptionally

her eyebrows, looking

her, remarking, "Sir Conrad, aren't you usually busy with work? Most people don't manage to invite you out. Seems like Yvie is amazingly charming to be able to

words held another meaning behind

Yvonne's fair cheeks were stained with a blush as she bit her lips and smiled awkwardly. "I planned to ask Ivana to come, but she's got a last-minute business trip,