

## Bumpkin 401

### Chapter 401 What Have You Done?

Veronica's mind went blank when she heard what he had said. "You mean... Uh..." By the time she regained her composure, she realized that Matthew had a sly expression. She could not help but be annoyed. "You are such a b\*stard, Matthew!"

She rushed to him in a fit of anger and pointed at his face. Before she could even curse at him again, he grabbed her finger and embraced her. "Are you mad, Roni?"

Veronica's back was facing Matthew and she struggled for a while, but was unable to escape from his grasp. "B\*stard, let me go!" "Wear the attire on the couch and I'll let you off the hook!"

"I..." Veronica was still mad at that instant and as a result of his words, she turned beet red. Such an expression made her look like a cute, ripe peach.

She closed her eyes in embarrassment and silently cursed Larry's ancestry. Suddenly, she remembered a scene in her mind. I remembered that in high school, on the day of Larry's birthday, I bought him a birthday cake in the shape of a bikini. I even made a wish that when Larry becomes an adult, I'll give him loads of products from the brand Q. That'll help him to woo and court girls. This idiot!

Although the wish from many years ago was finally realized, the recipient was now a different person. Veronica was helpless; she had to reap what she sowed.

She did not forget that the bikini-shaped birthday cake made Larry the butt of everyone's jokes for his birthday back then. "Can I... not wear it?" She made a last-ditch attempt to struggle because she was unwilling to wear those clothes.

"Since you are being naughty, why don't I ask the few young masters standing at the entrance to teach you how to wear 'em?"

was speechless. My God, have some boundaries! She resisted with all her

went close to her ear. Then, he gently blew on it before whispering, "You can refuse, but you have to

was being threatened and tilted her head to look at the two-piece suit in resignation. Then, she decided to cave into the pressure. "Alright,

that she was assigned to be Mia's assistant for tomorrow morning's show. If Matthew decided to take 'revenge' and cause Veronica to oversleep or unable to

an eyebrow with a smile while his slim fingers played with

my \*ss! Veronica silently scolded Matthew in her heart, but she took the said two-piece suit to the bathroom in the end. After hesitating for close to half an hour, she changed into the attire and emerged

room was the man who closed the curtains and sat on the couch with

corners of his lips lifted upward into a slight smile before he raised his hand and pointed to her bathrobe after which he asked her to throw

could bury a hole in

pointed at Matthew with a warning. "Matthew, I'm warning you to stay within your limits.

any chance to finish her words because he stepped forward to push her onto the bed and pounced on her

hands tearing the bathrobe was then heard, followed by the apparel being turned into strips of cloth and thrown onto the ground like it

uh... You... Be

...

the suite in a dim manner with remnants of their love being amplified in the air.

did not take long for voices to be heard with contents that would make one

was soon replaced by a plea for mercy before it

can't do

wasn't what you

"Ugh... Really, s-stop..."

you call me?" asked the man as he did not plan

"Honey..."

I can't

was what I

"Louder."

Honey. Can you let me off the hook,

face. Yet, he responded, "Women never mean what they say. So, if

was a series of back-to-back

to curse Matthew with

that the man was aroused by

...

Chapter 402 They Had a Divergence

Veronica was not sure how she should respond to the matter. Does an active sex life help me to sleep better? No way! This is embarrassing! Since she was not certain about her theory, she took a mental note to keep an eye on this matter in the future.

After she took a minute to catch her breath, she began to feel hungry. Sliding down from the bed, she cleaned herself in the bathroom, then changed into her clothes.

Fortunately, Matthew was being considerate of her current career as a model. He did not leave any hickeys on her yesterday; otherwise, she would not be able to go anywhere in that state.

Later, she dialed the room service to ask them to serve her dinner. As she was having her meal, she checked her messages on her phone. It was at that moment she found out that Mia had taken the last flight of the day to return to Bloomstead. Thus, she could only book the ticket for tomorrow's flight without any choice.

On the second day, she took the flight to return to the country. The local time was 7.00AM when she arrived at Bloomstead.

Feeling like she was freezing, Veronica hunched her shoulders while tightening the trenchcoat around her as the weather in Bloomstead was chilly.

car parked

him in silence while he did

she immediately carried her luggage and turned to the left side where the cab

she opened the door and got

him before she asked the driver, "Sir. I don't know this guy. Can you ask him

from the rearview mirror

the Starshine Media

in

of them answered

it's hard to make a living nowadays, don't you? Since the two of you are heading in the same direction, there's no point in chasing him away. I'll give both of you

Veronica stuttered, "I—"

she could reject, the driver already floored the gas and headed toward

is for you." Matthew

"I don't—"

Veronica tried to throw the flowers away, he quickly pressed her hand on the seat to stop her. "I got the roses from the garden shed in the Kings Residence. Don't let them go to

do with me?" She glared at him. "Stay away from me! Any closer and I'll call the police on you for him with a cold expression as the anger enveloped her mind. She looks like the Angry Bird, it both interesting and heartbreaking by looking at her irritated look, so he asked, "What can I do driver burst into laughter. "Hahaha! I thought so! I was thinking that you're related to each other because you two look like a couple, no doubt! Let me tell you something: it's her attention to the scenery warning. Stay away from me!" Anger was boiling inside her as she did not bother to wear off for you, so you don't have to worry about the deduction of your pay. Besides, he permitted you three days off. You he was furious. However, he regretted his choice for 'torturing' her and felt bad for before, didn't I? I didn't want you to realized

happened to the Encounters Bridal Store last time, which included not announcing her relationship with Matthew to the public at this point. Otherwise, the public would criticize their

accuse her of seducing Matthew to become one of the Kingses, or blame her for sabotaging the relationship between Matthew and Tiffany as his mistress

words from others, the words still hurt her like a knife to her heart and the feeling

snorted. "Just answer me." "Oh, about that." Skyler cleared his throat before saying,

of the line and Matthew could scarcely hear a laughter afterward. Little did he know that Skyler was guffawing while covering his face with

took him a while to calm down. "That's not a problem. I'll prescribe some supplements that are good for pregnancy. As long as you do your best, you can get yourself a football team.

Thomas to retrieve it in

wait any longer, huh? Good, good." Skyler started the teasing before letting out a hearty laughter and he terminated the

returned to her place by car and

asked in concern. "I heard you're feeling under the weather. Are you feeling

told him. "Yeah, I'm

get someone else to help Mimi at that time? That's

okay. Glad to

be so meticulous in taking care of the situation by sending a temporary assistant to Mia for assistance.  
No

off for over ten thousands of dollars. Although the clever Mia had raked in more than that by reselling the signed pictures, Veronica decided to just shrug

playing games in her bed. Noticing Veronica's

worried about

the mobile game while speaking, "Give me a moment. I'm

microphone. "What the hell? What are you guys doing? Attack the base, dude!

"What's with the sour mood? Look at me. I'm still doing fine

terrible for the past few days because she

"Where's Conrad?"

what happened, but he was caught and released by Zac.

promise." She agreed to

like that decisive attitude of yours. Too bad you're not mine," he exclaimed with

each other, he was the unwelcomed playboy in the Crawford Family. Yet, after spending time with him, Veronica realized that he was not that bad

the imponderables themselves; who would have known that so much had changed between

I'll leave the kid to you, but you may leave if you have something

relief. I was really scared just now." Shirley trusted her words wholeheartedly and the doubts in her mind

the entrance.

had been waiting, she presumed that it had been a long wait given the pile of cigarette buds around his feet. Clenching onto her phone, she felt

she did not wish to be codependent on Matthew. It would make her seem like a fool that was devoid of any merits and only knew how to rely

road and headed straight to the promised location. Her initial plan was to drive her

at the destination. "Where

friend is here? It's a desolated place with only mountains, though. You

you

"No, I did not!"

for

## Chapter 405 The Unbearable Weight of Love

“Your leg is hurt. You should stay in the hospital, not kidnap Monica.” Veronica could never understand what was going on in Xavier’s head. It was not like he had his leg crippled for eternity; it was only a fracture. However, not only did he refuse to stay in the hospital for recovery, he came to such a sketchy place to kidnap Monica.

“Stay in the hospital?” He burst into laughter as if it was a ridiculous joke. “I do want that.”

Xavier brought his injured leg up and the spasm of pain contorted his face as he gritted his teeth. Still, he forced a smile. “What about that old man? Do you think that he will give me the liberty to stay in the hospital until recovery?”

He shook his head before gazing out of the window with a bitter smile. Veronica’s chest tightened as she did not know what to do with him.

his betrayal. Needless to say, she was very well-informed of how much pressure he had because of Hendric. It was nearly impossible for Xavier to take a good rest

you go, but how about leaving the

the Crawford Family and I became the public enemy. Everyone in the family is going against me. Do you know how

feet with difficulty before teetering toward her to grab her arms and prod her chest. “Veronica Murphy, get

you, then?” Veronica snapped. “Do you think that you’ve been righteous all this time? Most

as my best friend and yet, what have you done to me? Back in that storage house, Matthew would have killed Melissa if I didn’t do

to be ironic sometimes; how would anyone know if you never reveal the good deeds you have done? But then again, who does that all the

would understand. Even if he was not grateful for it, she thought they were best friends at the very least. Yet, she had not expected things to end

storage house began to flood his head. Never in his wildest dreams

mentioned it, it pricked his guilty conscience now that she reminded him about it again. However, what

Even if I don’t come for you today, Hendric or Melissa will

## Chapter 406 Monica Will Die

Prior to this, Xavier harbored a hatred against Veronica to the point that he had even imagined torturing the damned woman badly when he encountered her. At that moment, he suddenly felt that there was a huge gap between the two of them; it seemed that he was no longer good enough for her.

On the other end, Monica sobbed silently in pain as she scrambled up from the ground awkwardly. She turned back to look at Xavier and Veronica before hastily rushing down the stairs.

Veronica had no choice but to sit by Xavier's side and chat with him to allow Monica to escape safely.

"Although I haven't been paying much attention to the matters of your family, I do realize that Hendric used to be mean to you. After everything that happened, not only did he not comfort you, he forced you into doing what he wanted. Frankly, he failed as a father."

Initially, she had assumed that Hendric was upset with Xavier's lack of capabilities, but she had ended up realizing that Hendric harbored too much hatred against Xavier from the way Hendric treated his own son.

Hendric was a difficult person with conflicting thoughts; on one hand, he wanted to treat Xavier kindly, but on the other, he yearned to torture Xavier.

"Give Matthew a call and have him stop going after my family. Otherwise, Monica won't be able to leave this building." Xavier ignored Veronica and brought up his condition.

"W-What do you mean?"

wants to use the company as collateral, but have a guess at why all the banks refused to approve the loan? It's

shot a cold look at her, causing a shiver to run down Veronica's

you

about this except

it, though? Even if she had never delved deep into the Crawford Family matters, she knew that Matthew must have secretly given instructions to the banks, which they then had to evaluate the

banks would not have rejected them outright, so there was still a chance of

order to drag things on in hope

be able to leave the building', it was enough to

for the business?" she

realized that the banks might not approve the loan. Therefore, with five hundred million, he would be able to solve the cash flow issue of their company at the moment and

a huge

for the walkie-talkie and spoke to the person on the other end, "Tie up Monica. In five minutes, if I don't send you a text, then you can shove her

was then followed up

and there was a layer of sweat

make any

been put through this ordeal of being kidnapped by Xavier. If Monica lost her  
to think of it, Monica's child was still in hospital and this was

Xavier had not contacted Monica's husband, Randall, in the past, then he would not have been  
imprisoned; there would not have been all of the further occurrences. Randall's mother was extremely  
annoyed with Monica after

to him, but

she located Matthew's name from

seconds when the man on the

where are

anxious and she had a bad

Crawfords," she asked despite knowing the answer. She also attempted to keep the current tense  
situation from Matthew as she

yourself about the Crawfords.

with your actions. Xavier's my friend and he has helped me in many ways, so could

to Matthew, she signaled Xavier and indicated, It's yet the right time to tell Matthew to stop him from  
going after your family

Chapter 407 Xavier's Broken Promise

Ding— Suddenly, there was a notification on WhatsApp from Veronica's phone.

She unlocked her phone and took a look. It was a message from Matthew. 'Today's your birthday and  
I've ordered you a cake. Send me your location. I'll arrange for the cake to be delivered to you. I won't  
turn up.'

Today's not my birthday. Veronica frowned. She was quite aware that they had celebrated her birthday  
two days ago in Castron.

During her birthday, he had kept her up the entire night. That was not an enjoyable celebration at all.  
What does he mean by this text message, huh? Suddenly, it dawned upon her.

Although she had purposely flared up at Matthew by speaking in a rude voice earlier and sounded as if  
she was picking a fight, this was her tactic of confusing Matthew so that he would not overthink the  
situation.

However, he was too smart and he had discovered that she was currently held captive. He had sent this  
message to probe and figure out whether she was currently in a safe condition.

If she was safe, then she would be able to send him her location and he could come over to save her.

Veronica continued to consider the situation, but everything flashed through her mind quite quickly and she hesitated about whether to send her location to Matthew.

at? Give

daze, which caused a sudden sense of apprehension

that moment, Matthew called Troy while seated in his car. "Contact the presidents of the banks

Matthew, why did you suddenly decide to approve

Matthew's solemn voice rang out and he emphasized his instructions several times. Although Troy had no idea what was going on, he was

up the phone, he instantly contacted all of the

of town, Veronica waited anxiously and checked her watch from time to time. "Don't worry. Matthew will definitely

he remained seated and held her phone in his hand. He then scrolled

send her a cake, but Veronica merely replied, 'I would never accept a cake from

it your birthday today?" Xavier lifted his brows. "I've known you for ages, but I

herself, It's lucky that you don't know when my birthday is. If you did, then I would be in hot

today's your birthday, then I'll grant you a

he spoke to Veronica

there were no windowpanes installed in the building, it felt quite

a joke. You're saying as if

you'll never know if

She hesitated for a moment as she pursed her lips while lost in thoughts. "I wish for Monica's safety." After all, Monica was the innocent

and took the walkie-talkie to instruct the man on the other end, "Send some men to escort Monica out of the place, but make sure that she has a good night's sleep today." It was an indication to ensure Monica would not report

that. After all, it was natural for a kidnapper to be careful in his ways. She merely had conflicted opinions toward

the next moment, he had agreed to grant Veronica

was just about to express her gratitude when she heard Xavier ask, "Have you caught the

sank to the pit. Frightened, she asked,

end of

“Hold her captive instead.”

boss... Ah! What are you doing? Aaaah! Save me!!!

subordinate had just finished his sentence when Veronica suddenly heard Shirley’s

her best efforts at putting up a calm front, she could no longer contain

I told you to come at

trigger you? You got to

contain herself at that point and turned around to head down

down this flight of stairs, then Monica and Shirley will become your worst nightmare for the rest of your life.” Behind her, Xavier expressed this

Chapter 408 Xavier, Are You Out of Your Mind?!

This decision was perhaps the worst move that Xavier had made. Veronica ignored him and helped him down the stairs. He had trouble walking properly, so it took him quite some time to get down the stairs.

For a moment of thought, she was thinking about exacting revenge on Xavier, but she knew that he was near desperation. If she actually took control of him and threatened his subordinates to release Monica and Shirley, there was a chance that he might choose to take everyone down along with him.

That was because the Crawfords would undoubtedly face complete destruction if they did not manage to obtain the five hundred million as cash flow.

If they lost everything, then there was no way that Hendric would let Xavier off the hook. As such, Veronica did not dare to act rashly.

After quite some time, they finally got down the stairs and there was a car waiting below. Xavier pointed at the car and indicated for her to enter it.

The bodyguard inside the car saw the two of them approaching and he instantly opened the car door for the duo to get in. Subsequently, the bodyguard entered the driver’s seat and drove off.

in her mouth the entire time. “Roni, what do

you,” she mentioned coldly but he merely responded, “Let’s go to

make his way there.

tilted her head to glance at the screen and it was Matthew’s number that appeared on there. However,

She planned to leave after ensuring Monica and Shirley’s

sent that message, she deleted the message

message by insisting that she

way of responding to Matthew to indicate that

that, he no longer

silently for him to arrive as soon as possible and

Thomas and a group of men along

and all of the bodyguards alighted from

with his hand as he spoke, "Search the building and find

"Yes, Young Master Matthew."

However, he was told that there was no one at all after a few minutes of

feeling within him deepened. He stood in his original spot and gave Troy a call to ask, "What's going on?

Have you captured

family

wait along each exit of the highway," Matthew gave his instruction and turned around to

this had been a futile effort that meant nothing. The only minimal thing he gained out

Xavier would definitely make the

Master Matthew, there's

in the car with his eyes closed, Matthew could not help but reveal hints of

else mattered to him right now more than Veronica. Unfortunately, Thomas handed over the phone to him and spoke up awkwardly, "Y-You should

were tightly knitted, and his sharp eyes widened. All he saw before him was the video on Thomas' phone. The video playing was taken in a hotel room and it depicted Veronica and Xavier in

idea that the person

and Melissa, no

as the trending topic. Many people

## **Chapter 409**

However, Xavier's psychotic infatuation was terrifying. Veronica's body trembled in anger and there was a wave of fury that filled her. She had to control herself to stop herself from strangling him.

She glared at the man she used to think was her best friend and she seemed to find him much more distant and terrifying than ever. "Hah!" After quite some time, she revealed a smile.

She leaned back against her seat resignedly. "I can't stop what's coming because it is only a matter of time. Luckily, Melissa has already pre-warned me about what is coming, so I'm not as fearful as I should be. If you really intend to die, then I don't mind dragging your sister along. That's fine with me."

Veronica was not one to be confined by the ways of society since she was a child, so even if the video was released, she was not going to seek death because of that.

As soon as Xavier heard that, he tilted his head and scrutinized her with a solemn expression. They looked each other squarely in the eyes for a few seconds before he finally voiced out, "You're my Roni, so I won't stand by the side and watch you perish."

With his strong feelings for her, he reached out to stroke her cheek, but before he could even touch her face, she slapped his hand aside. "Don't touch me."

sharp look she shot at him

sentence and it was quite hurtful as he felt a sharp pang in

side of her face. His facial muscles twitched significantly. "Filthy hand? Hah! That's

was significantly speechless

to say anything. After all, she felt that whatever she said was basically a waste of breath and she

was inside the car with the doors locked, so she could not get

about to enter the highway, she instantly spoke up,

Xavier

and she glared

they arrived at the toll station and the driver stopped

so she formed a fist with her right hand and gathered up all of her strength. Suddenly, she

Crash!

the sound rang out, the glass window was shattered by

in the direction of the staff manning the toll booth, but Xavier immediately smothered her lips with his hand. As soon as the driver noticed the unfolding scene, he instantly accelerated and rammed

everything that she could. However, it was because of this very cause that it

reckoned that she must have broken some

this final chance, then there would be no way she could get the

Veronica's lips and pressed her against his lap as their car drove away from

and the coldness was bone-chilling. However,

was eerily thunderous. "Are you planning

lap to prevent her from yelling for help at the staff at the toll booth. At that moment, he released her but noticed that she was barely moving

was not trembling from the cold but from the pain. Her hand hung limply and her fingers were blood-soaked as the blood trickled down her

“I would rather lose a hand than be held captive

one knew how much effort it took for her to utter those words. She refused to leave with Xavier and though she had tried to come up with various solutions along the way,

that, the car continued moving along

could abandon this car there and get off the highway. There was a main road after exiting the highway and he had arranged for five identical cars there. As long as they arrived there, then he could successfully

as simple as Xavier

continued to bleed profusely and her body became increasingly weaker as her face turned paler by the minute. He was originally engrossed in

#### Chapter 410 Veronica's Dying

“This is so annoying and disgusting! Do you realize that everything in life has a sequence? I was the one who met you first and fell for you, but how could Matthew, who came after me, overtake me? This isn't fair to me! There's another matter that I've never told you. Would you like to find out?” Xavier spoke to Veronica continuously as he was afraid that Veronica would give in.

That can't be right. Why did she suddenly deteriorate? If it's just the wound from her wrist, then she shouldn't be in such a bad state. Xavier felt that something was amiss.

He held her up and at that point, he was shocked to discover that there was a wound on her left collarbone as well.

The bright-red blood trickled down her left hand, which was hanging loosely by her side, while the car seats were stained in crimson.

“What the heck? What's going on?”

Xavier was taken aback. “Damn it! I can't believe that you actually harmed yourself this badly! Veronica, do you really despise me so much to the point of doing this to get away from me?!” He felt goosebumps out of fright.

At that point, he finally recalled that she had broken the glass at the toll station. Subsequently, he smothered her lips and pushed her down on his lap. In response, she yelped out painfully and struggled to get away.

had assumed that she found the pain on

the broken glass pieces had been lodged in the surface of her clavicle skin

the gap between his knees was quite wide. Hence, as the blood trickled down her collarbone and ran down her left arm dripping onto the car seat, he had not realized a thing at

half-shut and she seemed limp in his arms. Her head lolled to the side and she was lifeless. Despite Xavier's

Can you hear

her. All that was left was his self-remorse. If Veronica lost her life like that, he would not be

highway! Hurry up and get off the highway!" Xavier

if we get off it right now, then it's no different than surrendering. We have another car in front, so why don't I send you there and you can leave first? I'll exit the highway after that and send Miss Murphy to the hospital." The driver tried to analyze the situation with

"Darn it! Do my words mean nothing to you

see Veronica in such a weakened state. She was nearly unconscious, and her face was as pale as a sheet. It felt as if she was

he loved die before him was his mother; the second time was Veronica. He finally realized that his love for her was

to the hospital as soon as possible. He was much

I won't allow you to

gave his instructions to

nodded. "Sure, I'll turn back right

gotten on the highway not long ago, so the best way right now was to turn back and head in the opposite direction. If they delayed things any further, then there was a

highway—every car was going in the right direction, but there was one single car that was alerted

rushed over at the first instance, but he was not fast

back and arrived at the toll station, he could actually hear the sound of

on ahead without stopping. He got off the

Don't fall

bitterly cold wind caused shivers to run down one's spine and Xavier held Veronica tightly in his arms as he wrapped his clothes around her. Subsequently, he used both palms to rub

end, Matthew was about to enter the

in confusion as he received the phone call as

He rammed the barricade of the toll station

"Okay, noted."