

## Bumpkin 41

### Chapter 41

After leaving Twilight Club, Veronica heaved a sigh of relief as the matter of the hospital costs was finally sealed.

Her next target—the Larson Family. Once she settled the matter about the Larsons, she could leave Bloomstead and get a proper job to provide for her adoptive parents. After all, she was most grateful to her adoptive parents for upbringing her.

*Ring... Ring...*

Just then, Veronica's phone rang. She took out the phone to see the caller ID on the screen—it was Tiffany. So, she lifted her brows and answered the call. "Veronica, what the hell are you thinking? Do you wish to ruin the Larsons?"

The moment Veronica picked up the call, Tiffany's hysterical roar came forth from the other end of the line, and there was not even the slightest trace of the gentleness of a socialite.

Veronica moved the phone slightly away from her ear and only spoke up calmly after Tiffany stopped. "What? I don't get you." She feigned an innocent look.

"Drop your act already! The pictures on Twitter are clearly taken at that time when you donated bone marrow to Randy in the hospital. Who else could be the one exposing the news besides you?!"

Tiffany was exasperated as her greatest fear actually became her reality. Then, she paused a while and continued before Veronica could say anything. "I've warned you not to expose your identity. Don't dig your own grave, Veronica Murphy!"

Tiffany's words were filled with ferocity as she threatened Veronica, and it was hard to imagine that such words would actually come out of her mouth as they were totally opposing her image.

"Dig my own grave? Are you thinking of staging a car accident again to kill me just like how you staged one to injure my parents?"

At this moment, Veronica directly brought up the incident where the Larsons staged a car accident against her parents.

but she quickly snorted. "Since you already knew that, you better know your

to attend your

referring to Floch Larson or

daughter of my parents. Who do you think you are?

I'm a piece of trash, what are you then? Tiffany Larson, don't forget that we

so pissed off that she was at

to expose the pictures, so I can reveal my identity as well. If you dare to lay a finger on my adoptive parents again, I'll make sure to make the

two pictures. One of them captured a scene of Veronica standing beside Tiffany while the other was taken when the former donated blood marrow to Randy. Both

the pictures were not in high definition, Veronica's looks could be clearly

directly, and at the same time, the recording was automatically saved. Truth was, she provoked Tiffany just now to force her to

her phone and smirked coldly as she reckoned Tiffany was throwing a fit at home now. And that she

her tremble in anger, Floch

finger on her old, fool parents, she'll reveal her identity."

fiancée, and she was afraid of losing it. As chance would have it, the existence of Veronica was to Tiffany, but there was nothing they could do about her, so

that incident?" Floch was low-key flustered. Before this, although Veronica sent someone to investigate the incident, all she could find was the driver who caused the accident. But who would've guessed that eyes as anxiety spread over her

going to drive us to

eyes red-rimmed. "Dad, you have to help me

right. We can't let Veronica

## Chapter 42

Veronica and Xavier-both of whom were in the public's eye-were currently enjoying skewers at an open-air food stall.

"Well, since your parents have gone back home, when are you planning to *come* work at my company? By the way, what do you do at your company?" Xavier asked as he chewed his mouthful of skewered lamb.

Even though Xavier, a young master from the Crawford Family, which was one of The Four Big Families of Bloomstead, had graced this humble stall with his presence, other patrons of the place could still easily tell that he was on a different level from them. He had a rare kind of elegant temperament that made it hard for others to approach him.

At his question, Veronica turned to look at him. Besides the pair of sunglasses that was gently tucked on the bridge of Xavier's nose, he also had on a floral shirt and a pair of similar-looking pants. Even though he looked frivolous with one arm propped up against the window while the other held onto the steering wheel, his eccentric appearance still failed terribly at diminishing his good looks. It was an undeniable fact that Xavier was a handsome man. With his devilishly attractive features, he was a bad boy to the bone.

After a few moments of silence from her, he said again, "Hey, I'm asking you a question here."

"I manage the marketing department," she quickly answered after she was brought out of her reverie.

"Oh, just join the project department in my company, then," he said. "Might as well learn something there."

Her interest was obviously piqued at his nonchalant reply. "Can I really?" she asked just to make sure.

"I'm the boss. My word is the law." His eyebrows were slightly raised as he replied with a pleased smile on his face.

Unbeknownst to him, Veronica wasn't asking if Xavier would really take her in. She was, in fact, asking if she would be able to learn something worthwhile if she were to work in his company.

A smile then began to grow on her lips too. Making do with tea instead of wine, she

raised her cup and lightly knocked it against Xavier's. "Here's to cheers for being my future boss then. I look forward to working under your guidance!"

And with that, their conversation for the rest of the night was filled with joyful laughter. It seemed as though being with Xavier was the only time she could let go of all inhibitions. After having their full of skewers, they both eventually parted ways to go back to their individual homes.

It was an instant knockout for Veronica—who had been giving her all at work for the past few days. After stepping into her room, she made sure to lock her bedroom door before going to wash up and finally hitting the sack.

woke up in the early hours of the next morning, and after changing into her workout attire,

since Tony had fallen into a coma, she had to spend her days focusing on earning money for both—to

had been lifted off her shoulders. That was why, she could afford to resume

as she was resting on a bench after running for more than 30 minutes at a park near the river, a crowd started to form not far from her. A few people

is going on over

granny has

how did this

themselves around the unconscious woman, and yet, no one, other than an old man who dialed emergency,

a Tai Chi uniform sprawled out on the ground. Judging by how the older woman was foaming at the

the commotion as she

"Please make space for us! She is

Elizabeth!

Veronica exclaimed in confusion. Who would have thought that they would meet under such circumstances? However,

make it easier for Elizabeth to breathe, Veronica immediately turned Elizabeth's head to one side as she unbuttoned the collar of Elizabeth's Tai Chi uniform. She then started exerting force on two acupuncture points on Elizabeth's

do you know her?"

on, "Be more careful, okay? She is already foaming at the mouth.

her. I will be your witness

are doing good,

Veronica with compliments when Elizabeth unexpectedly began to

she removed her hair tie from her hair. She then rolled the small piece of cloth and put it into Elizabeth's mouth to prevent her from accidentally biting her tongue. The situation was so dire that she didn't even

whole process, she never ceased her massage on Elizabeth's acupuncture points. Even though she was drenched in her own sweat, she managed to keep her heart calm as they waited for an

better to do, the crowd started

"This is so scary."

convulsing and

are doing? Why did

you don't know what

Veronica had been pressing on the acupuncture point

### **Chapter 43**

Equally concerned about Elizabeth's well-being, Veronica followed behind Mathew toward the doctor.

"The patient suffered from an intracerebral hemorrhage, which means thrcr has been bleeding in her brain tissue," the doctor explained as she took off her surgical gown. "The symptoms are as she had displayed earlier. Good thing we got to her here just in time. It would have been bad if it was even a second later."

Veronica could not help but let out a huge sigh of relief upon hearing the doctor's words. *Intracerebral hemorrhage*.

Those were the exact symptoms Tony had when he had the same condition two years ago. She remembered how panicked she was when Tony had gone to the fields to work only to end up foaming at the mouth while convulsing because a blood vessel in his head had ruptured.

She had immediately called for an emergency back then. She as-briefly-as-possible mentioned the symptoms, and the doctor patiently told her what she could do to help. Alas, she managed to bring Tony back from the brink of death as she did according to the doctor's instructions.

After that incident, Veronica, as a precaution, had made sure to teach Daniella what to do in case something like that were to happen again. After all, Daniella was the one who was staying by Tony's side.

"Is she awake?" Veronica asked with a concerned look.

The doctor nodded in response and reassured her, "Yes, she has regained consciousness."

As the doctor spoke, a nurse emerged with a hospital bed from the emergency room—in the middle of the bed lay Elizabeth.

The worried Matthew hurriedly stepped forward and caringly asked, "How are you feeling right now, Grandma?"

Even though Elizabeth had just gone through a life-threatening ordeal, she still managed to show her grandson a kind smile. "I'm fine. I was just—"

Her words came to an abrupt stop when she noticed that Matthew wasn't the only one there.

"Veronica? What are you doing here?" she eventually asked.

Instead, it was the doctor who answered on Veronica's behalf. "This is the girl I told you about earlier! She is the young lady who saved your life! You have to give your thanks to her. It would have been bad if she wasn't there."

her thumbs up, she asked, "Have you learned first aid or something before? You did

through something similar 2 years ago." She then looked toward Elizabeth. "Madam, I'm glad to see that you are fine and awake now. I'll be taking my leave

Veronica by her wrist. "Hold on. I would

quietly followed along.

exit from the ward.

threw a glance at Veronica as she waved the younger woman over. As soon as Veronica was standing by Elizabeth's bedside, her hand was caught in yet another grip. "Dearie," she cooed. "Thank you so much for saving me. If it wasn't for you, I would have died right there

that, madam. You will live a long, long life," Veronica quickly

at the Kings Residence, madam? What

didn't make sense for Elizabeth to be there early in the morning by herself. From what she

to overthink when I am alone. So, I can only go to

not expected Elizabeth to share her honest feelings with her, but when she did just that, Elizabeth seemed like any other elderly person who was equally susceptible to loneliness. In fact, she surprisingly sounded humble for a woman of her standing. Because

would somewhat feel lonely. Pretending to be a regular granny to hang out with

should get someone to accompany you even if you are

purpose?" She chuckled as she lovingly patted the back of Veronica's hand. "You saved me. Tell me, what can I do

Veronica did save her life after all! At that moment, Veronica couldn't help but feel as though it was fate that brought them

is fine, madam. I didn't do it for a reward. I would have done the same even if

wouldn't have come from a sincere place if she had saved Elizabeth thinking she would get a reward

glaring at Matthew the whole time. "It is a pity that we don't

Veronica ever since they had first met. She strongly believed that it was

could not find her words for a moment there, and when she finally did, she blankly repeated, "Huh? Make

that

It is a pity that the both of you could only cross paths and not get to the end of the road together. I still feel guilty for what happened to the

Veronica could only

had been a complete coincidence, and yet

if she were to

#### **Chapter 44**

"Madam, let's talk about that another time, okay? You need to rest for now," Veronica urged. Despite feeling conflicted, she couldn't help but feel proud to be on the receiving end of such affections.

Upon hearing Veronica's words, she immediately corrected her, "Don't call me Madam anymore! Call me Grandma!"

Veronica let out a chuckle as she looked at the hard-headed Elizabeth. "Alright, Grandma," she said with a smile. "Please get some rest. I'll be leaving now."

Matthew, too, had an anxious look on his face as he reminded, "The doctor said you have to keep your talking to a minimum and rest as much as you can."

Unlike the gentleness Elizabeth had shown Veronica just seconds ago, she was impatiently waving Matthew off. "Okay, okay. I got it. Now get out."

Without saying another word, Matthew stepped out of the ward before closing the door behind him. As soon as he caught sight of Veronica waiting for the elevator in the corridor, he strode toward her and pulled her back before she could enter the elevator that had just arrived.

"What the hell are you doing, Matthew Kings?!" she growled as she struggled to loosen her arm from his grip.

He then quietly dragged her to the stairway and pinned her against the corner of the wall. "What do you want? Why did you approach Grandma?" he spat.

Seeing that she was being accused, she fumed, "What do you mean I approached her? You are delusional!"

She immediately brandished her phone and thrust it into Matthew's face. The video of her heroic actions was currently playing on the screen of her phone. "Take a proper look. This is a video I took when I saved her. I didn't even know that it was your grandmother before I flipped her on her back." Then, she continued sarcastically, "Am I a god or deity to you? Do you think I can foresee the future or something?"

He merely took a look at the screen before his eyes went back to staring at Veronica.

His long, elegant fingers firmly grabbed her chin and tilted her head up so that she was looking directly into his dark eyes. "Listen," he coldly warned. "Watch out for

whatever line you can and cannot cross now that you are part of the family." He then inched closer to her. "If I were to find out that you are planning something behind Grandma's back, I'll make sure you live the rest of your life wishing you were dead."

"You crazy prick!" she cried. "To

Tiffany had been

answering Veronica's question, he interrogated her in return. "But I am caught Veronica by surprise. Does he know

who has ill intentions toward my grandma. How else would I know how

intentions?" Veronica softly sneered at that as Matthew was getting more and more ridiculous by the minute. She didn't

So, she started to

walking away by unhurriedly grabbing her by the collar of her shirt, and then sternly said, "Just stay here since

me of having bad intentions, and yet, you are now asking me to stay here and take care of Grandma. Matthew, stop contradicting yourself. This isn't the right way to live, you

he curtly answered, "Just

either. "I need to go to work. I need the

Veronica couldn't say no to. "I will pay you 10 thousand a

to it. "But you have to pay me

are showing your true colors

as though he was spewing nonsense, "Who would say no to

annoyed by her arrogant attitude, but he decided

informed him, "I'm going home for a bit. I'll be back here after I

and silently agreed to

in a ponytail, she was now wearing casual clothes. However, she soon realized that she wasn't alone in the ward. Tiffany and Rachel, too, were in the living room area

a younger sister had become a hot topic after Veronica had leaked the news to the public. As expected, the first thing

you doing here?" Tiffany questioned. Her eyes looked at Veronica at first, and then Matthew, only to fall back onto Veronica. She had a suspicious look in her eyes as she stared at the woman standing before

too, was looking at

felt her heart skip a beat as she tried to come up with an answer. Saying that she was now working as Elizabeth's servant would probably be the most peaceful way

## **Chapter 45**

Her pretentiousness made Veronica feel sick to the core.

As she pursed her lips and had an emotionless face, she brushed her hand away. "You'll have to ask Matt..." After glancing at Matthew from an angle, she continued, "You'll have to ask my brother... when he will marry you."

At that moment, not only was Veronica disgusted by Tiffany, she also simultaneously was disgusted with herself for addressing Matthew as her brother.<sup>1</sup>

It was evident those words had hurt Tiffany as her mesmerizingly beautiful face wore a terrifying expression.

Rachel, who was watching by the side, did not manifest her anger outwardly. With a look of a noble lady, she calmly stated, "The engagement was only recently decided, so there's no rush to get married."

"Yes, Mom's right," Tiffany gracefully retorted. At that moment, her facade was nearly broken under Veronica's constant cynicism. To maintain her image in front of Matthew, Tiffany could only say, "I'm going to visit Grandma with Mom now. We'll talk later." After that, she hinted at Rachel with her gaze before they both entered the ward.

Only Matthew and Veronica were left outside the small living room of the ward. Raising his eyebrow, he looked at her deeply while asking with a firm tone, "What happened between you two?"

While avoiding the question, she gave a slight smirk as she took out a note from her pocket and placed it in front of him. "Please pay for the bill first." After all, they had agreed on the prepaid wage of 10,000 per day.

Matthew reminded her, "Answer my question."



"I'm not obligated to answer you, nor do I need to satisfy your curiosity." Aside from being arrogant, Veronica also had a feeling that she couldn't care less about this.

*Ring, ring, ring.*

It was at this moment when her phone rang. As she took it out, she looked at the screen only to discover it was a call from Xavier. Then, she suddenly realized that this was supposed to be her first day of work at Xavier's company.

in distress

you at the company for two hours now." Xavier questioned her from the other

laughed before she replied, "Xavier, about that... I'm sorry, but I suddenly ran into some

here immediately. If I don't see you present within half an hour, don't blame me if I come over to drag you from your

"Erm, about that, I—"

*Beep... Beep...*

she actually forgot that today was the first day of

before immediately bending over to retrieve

mysterious gaze. "Do you know what kind of animal comes and goes

words threw

indistinguishable

even his gaze held certain amounts of scorn. She's ready to leave so

been listening to him until she stopped in her actions. As she slowly raised her head, under her luscious eyelashes was

was burning inside her, she still managed to suppress her anger after nearly

dog is that I have a human

creatures!" After saying that, she left

more like he was

mother and daughter came out after visiting Elizabeth. Upon noticing Veronica's absence,

his computer as he immersed himself in work. He did not even spare Tiffany a glance throughout the whole process of replying to her. It was as if his cold attitude was telling her that she was not worth it for

and we've decided that I'll stay here with you these few days to take care of her together,"

tone and gentle demeanor all pointed to her being a candidate for a wonderful wife. There were no men safe from her charms, yet

yes, your grandma did say that.” Rachel quickly followed up on her words, “Tiffany is coincidentally quite free nowadays, so allowing her to come take care of Old Mrs. Kings would also be a good way to foster their

I’ve no qualms about

## **Chapter 46**

The news that Veronica was now Elizabeth’s god-granddaughter gave Floch and his wife an impending sense of doom.

To ensure that Tiffany had a stable life when she married into the Kings Family, they started to plan and scheme in their villa.

At the same time, Veronica arrived at the Glory Medical Equipment Company.

The company, which was one of the corporations that Xavier owned, was barely surviving even though it had the backing of the Crawford Family. However, it wasn’t bleeding any money either.

Standing in the CEO’s office, Veronica looked at Xavier fooling around and asked, “What work do you want me to take on here?”

After entering the company, she instantly lost all her fervor when she saw the state of the workplace.

The employees were all lazy, slow and inefficient. The company should be thanking God that they haven’t gone bankrupt yet with such a management.

No, the one they should be thanking is the Crawfords.

Xavier had a laid-back expression as he leaned on the executive chair in his suit. While he had crossed his legs on the office table, he had a cigarette in his mouth as he smoked lazily.

“You could be the manager of the warehouse, sales department, project department, supervisor of the accounting department or the head of the secretaries. It’s up to you.”

Looking at Xavier wasting his talents made Veronica feel extremely disappointed.

With a slight frown, she shook her head in resignation. “Xavier, are you going to just let your youth waste away like this?”

“To live unexamined while being supported is also a kind of enjoyment.”

He felt the disappointment and feeling of loss in her smile, but merely smiled in response.

Then, he stood up and raised his hand to point around the extravagant office. “Do you know how many would *dream* to live a life like mine?”

His words spoke the truth.

And this truth was something that Veronica had no reason to rebuke him with.

After looking at each other for a few seconds, she broke the silence by saying, "My sincere thanks to you for looking after me, but I don't want to work here."

This was a company so mismanaged that it could close down at any moment.

she was worried about was the kind of atmosphere in the company could influence her to become just as

after hearing her words as he looked at her unblinkingly without uttering  
still have something to

her farewell, Veronica turned around to

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did she suddenly stop. Looking back at him, she asked, "Do you have someone

Xavier

his hand earlier as he was ready

Veronica's words, he stopped in his actions and raised

you'll only come to regret your own incompetence and lack of motivation when you can't even protect the

strong oppositions had

of her foster parents, she persevered with

she had suffered so much was because she was a nobody. She didn't have any money or  
did not

and closed the

that he repeated in his mind while standing at the same spot. Yes,  
the first person who was able to fit that description was none other

*Clink*

the engraved lighter in his hand fell

helplessness,

amount of insults and ridicule he

unknown reason, it only took just a look

he was being defibrillated after suffocating, his sunken

the elevator down to exit the

toward the motorcycle parking

“Roni?”

was Xavier who

turned her head, she saw him running toward

curious Veronica

spark in his gaze, “Are you willing to stay and develop Glory Company into the giant that

“What?”

felt extremely astonished

really believe that I can manage this

you had

smart and wise-unlike what the rumors

are you willing to stay and fill that

any hint of all this

## **Chapter 47**

Veronica suddenly woke up out of sheer will.

Opening her eyes in a state of semi-consciousness, she discovered herself being dragged to a Toyota Corolla that was parked in the underground carpark.

“Hahaha, boss. After this deal is done, we’ll be living a good life from then on.”

“The Larsons have already informed us that if we silently get rid of her, there’ll be one million waiting for us as our payment.”

“Shut up and just do as you’re told. Work more, talk less.”

The two men merely allowed her arms to hang from their shoulders and it was in this posture that they carried her forward. This way, they could just tell people that she was drunk.

What shocked Veronica the most was that she found the two men’s voices to be extremely familiar, which she found to be Jameson and Rio after looking through a slit of her eyes.

The two of them were brothers who shared a history with her. *Why are they doing this?*

As Veronica squinted, she glanced at the quiet underground space and knew that she could totally escape under the circumstances.

However, in the end, she still closed her eyes and pretended to be unconscious while she was carried into the car.

The car was being driven on the road after it had exited the underground parking lot.

Even with closed eyes, she intently listened to their conversation.

“Hey, bro, how should we kill her?”

“Floch’s orders were that we should do it so that no one could trace the matter back to us or them.”

“I’m afraid this doesn’t seem *that* easy since they gave us such a high price to deal with her.”

“You fool. We’ll just have to set her apartment on fire after leaving her in it.”

As she listened to their words, it made her mock them in her heart. *Rather than going through all this trouble, why not just create a simple car accident? After all, isn’t this the Larson Family’s specialty?*

After half an hour, Veronica was brought back to her apartment.

The door to the living room was opened with a key of unknown origin by the brothers.

the couch after they closed

we do now, bro?”

pair of gloves from his pockets. “Wear these

two bottles of highly concentrated liquor and a bunch of cigarette

“Why?”

fire was

if she wakes up

sleeping agent that can be inhaled. This can eliminate

Veronica was still unconscious, the brothers started to

that, there was a cigarette pack that they used Veronica’s hand to crush a few times before carefully placing it

towel that was doused in the sleeping agent to cover

flat on the sofa. Her left hand,

as they spilled the alcohol onto the carpet with the remaining alcohol in the bottle on

a fire be created just

burns to the end; then, the sparks

really are

between the two, they then left the bedroom

to finish was within three minutes as

*Bang*

room close, Veronica slowly opened her eyes with a

their plan contained some flaws, all evidence from the Dusk Family knew Veronica, they could lie about her being a compulsive anything suspicious, especially with the Larson Family bribing happens, her death would be ruled out as just was that as someone who grew up in a village, there was a reservoir right by Veronica's house, which meant that she could swim and hold her breath extremely been covered earlier, she managed to not inhale any of The important thing was... Family would make a move on her. At the same time at the Twilight Club, it had been half an hour since Veronica said that she was heading out for a breather who went out to search for her, failed to locate phone were still inside the on Veronica since she had offended them. So, her disappearance made surveillance room and asked to look at due to Xavier not having the authority to do he could only phone Matthew. "Matthew, how did you teach your staff here at the club? Don't I even

## **Chapter 48**

*She's in trouble?*

As Matthew slightly frowned, his handsome face showed signs of concern; it looked like he was in deep thought.

This change of emotion wasn't only noticed by himself, though.

At that moment, Tiffany happened to walk out of the ward and saw at once that something seemed off with him, so she asked, "Matthew, is there something wrong?"

Just as Matthew received news about Veronica, the Larsons had already informed Tiffany about their plans.

Not even a few seconds after immersing herself in happiness, Tiffany overheard Matthew being on the phone with someone.

Although it was vague, she knew it was likely to be something concerning Veronica.

That was the reason why she had gone out. Since she had a restless mind, she wanted to ask about what happened.

Pacing around the living room, Matthew turned back and saw Tiffany before immediately hanging up on his call.

"Why are you still awake at this ungodly hour?"

Keeping his phone away, he cast a distant gaze on her.

As there was an extra bed in the ward, Matthew had arranged for Tiffany to sleep on it while he would spend the night on the living room's couch.

"I." After pursing her lips, she replied, "I could not sleep."

"Oh."

The moment he heard her answer, he only gave an uncaring response before staring into a random space in the living room to immerse himself in his own thoughts.

His strange demeanor made the perplexed Tiffany ask with a frown, "Matthew, is everything alright?"

Her words snapped Matthew back to reality as he looked at her at an angle, "There's something at the company that I need to deal with: I'll come back later."

After saying that, he turned around and left.

Matthew's words, knew that he was obviously concerned about Veronica, which

cared about lying to someone else and neither would he care about someone else than Elizabeth. Yet, is he actually going to find that

was about to leave, she walked briskly and grabbed his wrists. "Matthew, please don't go. I'm sweet and gentle voice sounded

eyebrow, she stepped forward and tightly embraced him with her head on Matthew's sculpted chest. "Could you stay with me

anyone pity her on

Tiffany had a frosty gaze that emanated jealousy from within. Veronica, you b\*tch. You can give up on the thought that

and flattery on her talents in music, chess, arts and literature. All the compliments

because of Veronica's appearance that she felt a great sense

like her. If Veronica became the center of attention by any chance and Tiffany's own dirty laundry was aired to the public, it would

come and

that Tiffany hugged him of her accord to the point that the disgust in his eyes

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her away, but who could have known that she had hugged him with a hospital

akin to a bell that rang into one's

was a brewing pot of

Let Thomas accompany me? You're letting Thomas stand in for you just because you want to look for Veronica,

being constantly pestered by Veronica, Tiffany could no longer maintain her image

pushed her away. "I'll let Thomas send

icy words carried with it an unmistakable

out

she took in a deep breath before shouting at him as she watched him

matter how she shouted, he still entered the elevator without even turning his head to acknowledge her. His actions had only served to anger

but now that she was at

to swallow

to the stairwell

hospital, was on the road while he tried to

left was

two beeps before

"Where's Veronica?"

through, Matthew immediately questioned Xavier

Regalia Condominium at the same time and worried sick about Veronica. Yet, upon hearing that Matthew was also concerned about her wellbeing, he began to

## **Chapter 49**

Thomas honestly told Matthew everything that he had knowledge of.

Hearing Thomas' words caused Matthew's heart to palpitate as he felt his breathing slowing down. The strange feeling made him uncomfortable. "Immediately call the fire department!"

"I'll do it now."

After hanging up, Matthew put the pedal to the metal. As the car screeched, what followed thereafter was a vehicle that sped as fast as lightning, dodging and cutting off other drivers as they voiced their anger.

He couldn't care less about this, though.

After ten minutes, he had finally arrived at Regalia Condominium.



It was the dead of night and everyone was asleep except for the community of the condominium where people had gathered under it.

The residents in the second block where Veronica lived were all woken up by the commotion as a lot of people fled down the stairs. Some even shouted, "There's a fire. A fire has broken out. Quickly go and save the ones who are still trapped inside."

"Call 911."

le

"I've already called the emergency services, but since the people are on the eighth floor, there will be some difficulty in saving them."

"If there's anyone, please quickly head up to the eighth floor and evacuate any remaining residents."

"Someone's shouting."

All the security guards in the community had rushed to the second block to evacuate the residents after activating the fire alarm.

Yet, there were still no signs of the fire truck after a long time.

Standing outside, Matthew looked at the blazing fire on the eighth floor as his heart started to race in nervousness.

Then, he dashed toward the second block.

However, the security guard stationed at the ground floor suddenly stopped him. "Sir, there's a fire in there. You cannot go in right now."

words on the guard, Matthew pushed him aside and dashed up the fire escape

made Matthew's ascend

"Escape now."

eighth floor

all too terrifying. Run,

Mommy. I'm

residents as they were either screaming

the crowd, Matthew finally reached the eighth floor

big fire spreading as the flame licked at the edges of

all of his might, but it still did not budge after two

there was no response after he screamed for a long time, so he could only call the

as he walked toward him with a fierce glare. He suddenly took  
Veronica, I won't let you off the hook that  
who knew why Veronica had fallen into her current predicament in the first  
hands, he was no faster  
simple block from him was enough for  
at him, Matthew bellowed, "What are you doing  
about Veronica's safety at the moment and didn't have any time to  
aside, Matthew then walked to the front door before removing his suit jacket and heavily  
side, Xavier had his hands tied in anxiousness. "Stop  
cigarette from his pocket, Xavier lit it before deeply inhaling it. "I've already informed the fire  
mean?" Matthew coldly  
his mouth. "If it weren't for the goddamn incident  
she could have ingested the medicine that caused the  
had knocked on the door, but nobody came to open it. So, he then proceeded to kick the  
Veronica lying  
house after that incident. It was only the day after that fateful day when Xavier  
had people install a specially reinforced  
knew that this door now stood in their way of  
his rage was endless self-blaming. So, now that Xavier faced Matthew, he could only vent all  
strike, although fast, still could not land on  
warned in a low tone, "I don't want to talk to  
the firefighters  
"What's this?"

## **Chapter 50**

In the living room, Veronica was nowhere to be seen, so the first thing that Matthew did was rush into her bedroom.

However, she wasn't in her bedroom as well, but in the end, he realized that the bathroom in her bedroom was deadlocked.

He screamed, "Veronica! Veronica!"

As he shouted, he lifted his feet and kicked open the bathroom door. Using the flashlight of his phone, he saw that Veronica was on the bathroom floor.

At that moment, he immediately rushed inside to protect her face with the suit that he used to cover his mouth and nose. Then, he carried her up and ran out.

Xavier, who was standing in the corridor, first thought that Veronica was already dead. However, when he saw Matthew running out with her in his arms, Xavier froze while his eyes widened as he stared at her in disbelief.

“Veronica? Veronica?” He approached her and called several times, but there was no response.

2

Matthew carried her all the way downstairs and took her to an ambulance, but Xavier was denied access by the medical staff.

While accompanying Veronica inside the ambulance, Matthew finally realized that her feet and arms were burned and had blisters when the bright lights shone on her. A huge portion of her long hair with ends that fell at her waist was also burned.

Due to an excessive amount of smoke inhalation, she was now in a coma.

When they arrived at the hospital, she was admitted straight to the emergency room for treatment.

Half an hour later, she finally woke up... but in her dream.

“Ah, save me!” she screamed and sat up in shock while her head was drenched in sweat. Due to her sudden movement, she tore her wound, which caused her to wince in pain.

“Are you awake?”

“Veronica, have you finally woken up?”

a sideways glance, she saw Matthew and Xavier standing by  
messy state and his face was even covered in ashes, giving him  
at that time. It... really is

Veronica was doubtful, she pretended to know nothing. “Why are you here? Who saved  
her, the joy on Xavier’s face immediately faded

his eyes were filled with mixed

hint of gratitude, shock, admiration and

the various emotions surged within

knew that Matthew was a

fire without any regard for his own life, he suddenly realized that... he cared

always boasted that he liked Veronica, but he wasn’t the first to rush in when

thought that Veronica had died in the fire; maybe he didn't dare to rush into the fire as he feared losing his life; or maybe there was

he didn't rush into the

when Xavier saw Matthew carrying her out of the flames like

as though something was sucked out of his body, causing him

pain.

question, Matthew went straight to

glanced at

with a recording and was highly

also acted as a listening device and at the other end wasn't some stranger.

the Larson Family, Veronica had contacted Cody and two private detectives to monitor her every move around

they would immediately call the police to

don't know." She leaned on the head of the bed while tears continued to roll down her

involuntarily glanced at Xavier, as if she

Therefore, Xavier remained silent.

a cold expression and said, "Since you are awake, you

With that, he left.

he didn't reveal that he was the one who saved her,

like that, he left afterward without showing any concern for