## Bumpkin 421

Chapter 421 Is Crayson Sick?

"Why are you concerned when they won't stop you from receiving your marriage certificate?"

"You're as worried as a toad under a harrow. Are you afraid that I'll fall in love with someone else?" Matthew pursed his lips and patted Veronica on the back of her head.

"Hey! If you really fall for someone else, say the word and I'll leave without a trace." Veronica snorted softly and appeared arrogant on her petite face.

She was so proud of herself knowing well that Matthew loved her and was fearless because of his love for her...

Matthew's smudged smile stiffened after hearing the sentence and his smile gradually converged until it vanished.

"Look... There's a car! Look out!"

lost his focus and wandered as he stared at

the front and yelled in horror as the

in the next second,

ears and Veronica's body was jerked forward before the safety belt dragged her back. Her

are you doing? Keep your eyes on the road while driving!" She frowned

furious because he drove recklessly,

was just talking to you, but

I was almost shocked to death." Veronica clutched her heart,

looked ahead and

man. "Are you hiding something from me?" Intuitively, she felt that

Master Crayson didn't

like that. He likes to ignore people, but he is genuinely nice

let's get it tomorrow," she said while clutching Matthew's hand as they

"It's Saturday tomorrow."

Then... That's fine. Let's

recall you not being

what he meant, she responded, "Oh, yeah. I don't like the number nine,

go of Matthew's hand, Veronica then walked over to the couch and leaned against it while looking up at the ceiling

adoptive parents despised their marriage. They

her a cup of warm water before saying, "It's a marriage after all, so they will naturally be concerned. In the end, I was the one who

a firm nod. "You are a wealthy, attractive man who likes me. Isn't this like

fabricated story intended to cloud people with wishful thinking. How many real-life examples of Prince Charming falling in love with Cinderella will

you have the upper hand." Matthew sat next to her and hugged her. His handsome face turned solemn and a glint

narcissist." Veronica laughed and set the cup down before wrapping her arms around his neck. "I'm getting

she used to have terrible insomnia. Ever since meeting Matthew, her insomnia had been relieved and her complexion

Rest on me." He embraced Veronica and placed her

Chapter 422 Hendrey is Leaving

The movement of Veronica's hand came to a halt. "Huh? Did Master Crayson agree? Why am I completely unaware of this? When did this happen?"

On cloud nine, she handed Daniella the comb and said, "Mom, you can comb your hair. I'm going to see my master."

"You... brat." Daniella shook her head, but her face was flushed with affection. Knocking on the door next room, Tony appeared in front of her. "Good morning, Dad." She gave him a friendly smile.

"Why are you smiling when you've upset Master Crayson?" chided Tony.

"I know I'm the one to blame. I'm now pleading for his forgiveness." She squeezed in through the gap between the doors and found Crayson lying on the bed, quilted and sleeping on his side.

"Master Crayson? Master Crayson?"

Veronica approached and appeared in front of his face. "Hey, Master Crayson. My mom told me that you have agreed to my marriage with Matt. You're the best!"

like you!" Crayson growled angrily.

crossed the bed to the other side. As such, Crayson eyed her and prepared to roll over before she could say

this time, he was stopped by her. "Hey! What are you doing, Master Crayson? You've agreed to

that Matthew and I will be happy for the rest of

continue, Crayson pouted and slapped her on the head, exclaiming, "Shut up! I'm not even in the mood. You'll irritate

him a hug across the bedding. "With the exception of my parents, you are the best in the world. You must live at least

able to move at the age of a hundred. I'm afraid you won't feed

I'll have steaks while you have salads; I'll eat bananas while you eat the peel... Ouch..." She cracked a joke, just like she used to do when she was

about halfway through her joke. "Stop playing with me! You rude

"You can't ignore me,

it! You should take a beating!"

more

his servants along with him to have

condition was brought to Matthew's attention by Veronica, thus, he

was elevated, but everything else was normal. As such, Veronica's anxious heart had calmed down and she left for work after bidding everyone

from the stage

Veronica was taken aback when she saw

only seen him a few times in

a white suit and appeared as gentle as he always did. He smiled brightly as he stood in front

"Yes."

has healed," Veronica said while

looking good, by the

not so bad. So, how about you? What brings you here?" She was here for a runway show at one of Bloomstead's clothing show exhibitions,

only here

me?" Veronica frowned,

could have just given me a call. Why does he have to come in person? Is

over there." She pointed at

his hand and continued, "My plane is departing in an hour. I'm here to

you just return and intend to

Chapter 423 Tiffany's Dead

Veronica raised her wrist and gazed down at her bracelet; her mood oddly depressed. "It's very beautiful. I really like it." She could not help but sigh. In other words, she promised Hendrey that she would not take off the bracelet. However...

There were words which she still kept to herself and remained unspoken. Back then, Hendrey left abruptly without saying any goodbye; seeing that he had paid a visit to bid his farewell this time after reconnecting many years later, it was considered an improvement.

He looked Veronica in the eyes with an ambiguous expression. No matter how much he resisted leaving her, he did not show a hint of that on his face.

"Go on with your work, I... It's time for me to leave." He pointed at his wristwatch, indicating that boarding time was approaching and that he would miss the plane if he did not leave now.

"I'll send you off," Veronica added with a smile, "I just happened to be done with my work, so I'm free later."

"Will that be okay?"

"Of course! I'm available anyway." She smiled again before continuing, "Give me a moment. I'll get changed."

Having said that, she entered the dressing room and changed into a new outfit. Before leaving with Hendrey, she said her goodbyes to her boss.

With that, they left the scene in her red car and drove straight to the airport.

the way. "Are you planning on staying

glanced sideways at Hendrey as she

taking a deep breath and heaved a silent sigh; it was a

chance if I

the very question which

about that?" Veronica asked, pursing her red

seemed like she was giving him an incongruous answer just to avoid answering

Bringing it

the two kept their relationship to themselves. Since there were never any rumors about them in Bloomstead, Hendrey assumed that they

it sound like ... "You're marrying in

she admitted in a wow. That is a brave secret marriage, so I'm not planning a marriage in advance! Wishing you both ... uttered the words 'a lifetime of happiness and love'. It was a painful, bitter sensation that made it even more at him next to her. Even with a quick glance really understood why he'd suddenly fallen But now, I do. the first place. He either saw Tiffany as my replacement or he was using her to get a reaction out of me. Otherwise, why would he, as a boyfriend, remain silent when such look after yourself. You know I'm only a phone carrying a backpack on his side, he She gave a slight turned and but Veronica stood there as she watched his express Even if he was her touch the bracelet on her wrist and sighed before in front of the floor-to-ceiling windows while his to see each other again, so leave Bloomstead, but he had no other received a phone call from ID flashing across the phone screen. Why is he calling? Is there something wrong with Chapter 424 Matthew Lied to Her "Follow your heart. You can go if you wish to." Matthew allowed Veronica to make her own decision. "I..." She paused for a moment before saying, "Alright." An hour after she hung up the phone...

Knock, knock—

The door opened moments after Veronica knocked. When Matthew saw her standing at the suite door, he grabbed her hand and snatched her into his arms, giving her a warm hug.

Within his embrace, she closed her eyes and snuggled into his arms.

The two remained silent as he raised his hand and gently patted her back to soothe her emotions.

"Has Roni returned? Come on in! Let's eat." Not hearing any response, Daniella turned around to see the two of them standing at the door while hugging in a lovey-dovey manner.

"Oh, okay."

Matthew and turn to face Daniella. She responded

about Tiffany's affairs even though they did

entering the living room with

a sumptuous meal was prepared on

and I will be returning to Bloomstead with Master

"You'll leave in the afternoon? Didn't you

Snap—

getting older now. We can't take care of you forever. You are free to make your own decision regarding your marriage." The enraged master took a sip of alcohol from the glass with

listened to Crayson's words and glanced at Veronica without saying a word; she intended to maintain

some truth,

head in thought while chewing the pork knuckle in her mouth. "Master Crayson, I know you're doing it for my own good, but my happiness is in

and let us know

the three elders insisted on leaving. As

way, Matthew expressed a desire to have someone drive them back to Bloomstead,

talking to Tony and Daniella

Crayson." Matthew offered his assistance as if he was

himself from the group and quietly

sake of Roni," said Matthew so casually, but the disappointment and

you must know who the murderer is. Am I right, Master Crayson?" he asked

Daniella had no idea about Veronica and Crayson's identities even

was not an accident and Crayson should

as he raised his head to look at Matthew meaningfully after pausing for a moment. "I'd be very supportive of you two getting

start; it was all an act with Matthew

night, he informed Matthew of some critical information regarding Veronica, prompting Matthew

Matthew would not register his marriage and marry

"Sigh!"

speaking, Crayson shook his lowered head and slowly withdrew his hand

from the bathroom and Matthew handed them the gifts he had prepared

was getting farther away and Veronica finally exhaled a sigh of relief. "Phew! They've finally

Chapter 425 Attending Tiffany's Funeral

"Skyler praised Monica?" Veronica asked in disbelief. Monica, in her desperation, came to Veronica for help once. Her mother-in-law abused her and had hurt her child badly. She phoned Skyler and asked him to admit Monica's child into Westcross Children Hospital. Thanks to that, the child was saved.

Monica fell on her knees and thanked Skyler, but they did not really talk after that.

"Yeah." Yvonne pouted. "He said she's gentle, smart, understanding, knows how to make money, and takes care of children really well. Instead, he called me a spoiled princess who can't even take care of myself, let alone a kid!" She smacked the table. "Of course, I'm mad!"

She's complaining, but uh... That sure doesn't sound angry to me. She looked at Ivana, but the woman only cocked her eyebrow and smirked. Oh... So that's what this is. Okay. This is surprising.

took some time to process it and answered, "Skyler's just concerned about you, but he doesn't know how to show

talk about him. He's

I still have to call Skyler if you need me to get you into Westcross, and

Monica that!" She slammed her cutlery down. "You guys go on ahead without me. I need to use the restroom." She got up

"She's had wild mood swings ever since

don't think it's because of

Starshine and her wedding planning agency was not that far away either, so she stayed around. The agency had opened for business a month ago, but it was a relaunch with Matthew as the boss in name. Numerous clients supported it thanks to that and the business boomed. Since Monica had to make money for her kid, Veronica assigned her as a part-time wedding planner. Thanks to her talent and capability, she was one of the pillars of the

Thanks to Veronica's team, she had been enjoying great success ever since she invested in the company. They had been making profit ever since the second month. They had made four-hundred and forty thousand up until the current month; their momentum

started up a game, Matthew

game. I'll finish up this match in a

and poured her a cup of tea. He placed it in front of her and stood behind the chair to watch

home base tower. With that, she won the match and removed her

her cheeks and pressed his lips against hers. "Why didn't you go

not waiting for you. I-I just don't feel like sleeping." She would not admit that she was expecting him. Suddenly, she remembered something and her eyes shone. "Dad and Mom blessed our marriage. Can we head to the

that. I need to tell you something." He went around and pulled her up

to get wed. She leaned against his chest

Chapter 426 Respect the Dead

Infuriated, Ruka chided, "Quiet! Respect the dead, will you?"

Caitlyn and Reese wanted to say something, but Ruka and the Larsons were not looking too happy, so they glared at Veronica and stepped aside in silence.

Veronica stepped through the crowd and came to Tiffany's gravestone. A line of golden words were engraved on the surface. It read, 'Here lies Tiffany Larson.' A black-and-white photo was placed right above that line. Tiffany was smiling sweetly in the photo; her eyes were clear and innocent.

Veronica had no idea when this photo was taken, but seeing the photo of someone that resembled herself on a gravestone was bizarre for her. She hated and envied Tiffany before, but now that she was nothing more than a pile of ashes, all that hatred disappeared. She stood before the gravestone and bowed deeply, then she placed a white lily on it before walking to the side.

were. Having to witness their child die was a harrowing experience. The death of their daughter traumatized them

ago to prove her innocence and that recording was provided by the Larsons. As Tiffany's parents, they should have protected her, but in the end, they gave her up to prove

why they did it. Maybe they were scared of Matthew or maybe they had other reasons, but she

the man looked at Veronica and heaved a sigh as if

so she left. Matthew left a lily for Tiffany and bowed to the gravestone. He

so much like her had died just like that. They might be at odds when she was alive, but Veronica still thought

how dejected she was, so he went around it and opened the passenger seat's door. He leaned ahead

all of this smells fishy. Caleb said someone made Tiffany's death look like a suicide, but it's actually a murder. Who's the one behind this? And who took Randy away?" All the 'coincidences' in this case told Veronica that things were not as simple as she thought. "I..." A woman's sixth sense was powerful and

case is none of your business and Floch and Rachel are handling their company's affairs. They're leaving Bloomstead next. Randy probably isn't

him away and frowned. "Who did he cross anyway?

she was staring at him with burning curiosity as

for a moment and nodded. "Yes.

not understand why

Chapter 427 Sasha's Back

On the phone, Yvonne would not stop crying and Veronica was trying her best to calm her down. "Don't worry about it. It's alright. I'll go to your place right now." She hung up and looked at the time. 2.00PM... Peak hour. No wonder the ambulance is stuck in traffic. "Matthew? Matthew?" Seeing that he was not in the living room, she went to his study instead.

"Matthew, are you—" She thought he would be in his study, but it was empty. "Where is he?" She heaved a sigh and called Matthew. Headed to the porch, she changed into her shoes and left the house. The moment she entered the elevator, the call went through and she could finally get hold of him.

"Oh, you're awake," said Matthew.

"Where are you?" she asked. Just as she was about to hear his answer, she lost all signal when she went into the elevator. As such, she came to the parking lot on the second floor of the basement and headed toward Matthew's parking spot.

and a drop dead beauty with long, curly hair and short crimson skirt was standing

him tightly then let him go, only to punch him in the chest.

don't see the point in calling you." Matthew

talk to a lady like that. I came to see you because

talking like an anime girl?" Matthew was starting to get really impatient now. He hated it

snorted and approached him again. This time, she held his arm. "I don't care. I don't get to see you every day. You're spending the day with me

icy glare. "Hold my

and she puffed her chest out, showing off her cleavage. "Impressive, aren't they? I spent a ton of money on them. Bust them up

for the

you can't just..." She could not argue anymore and flung his arm away. "You're so cruel, Matt. You'd

could not take it anymore.

would have flown into a rage if she saw Matthew flirting with another woman, but after everything they went through,

you really didn't have to come down, Veronica."

looked at him for a moment and turned her gaze to this impossibly sexy woman. "Is this your friend,

appraising Veronica, she approached her and extended her hand. "Hi, I'm Sasha. You must be

see this woman clearly earlier, but now she realized who the woman was. She was the

nice name." Veronica generously shook her hand. "Are you Matthew's

Matthew was standing beside Veronica with one arm around

Chapter 428 Yvonne's Bleeding

"You?" Matthew spared Sasha a glance nonchalantly. "In your dreams."

He then marched toward another car and entered it whereas she hurriedly hopped into its passenger seat as well. "Where are we going?"

"I'm bringing you to Skyler," he answered while driving. "No!" She shook her head and glared at him in rage. "I've returned to the country for you. Why are you bringing me to Skyler?"

"I already have a girlfriend, so mind your attitude, please." "Matthew Kings, how can you treat your friend like this? Do you still call yourself a man?"

"I don't befriend women."

that she could only sit still in a huff without uttering a word. Soon, silence dawned upon both parties in

while driving to his company to find him. Thirty minute later, they arrived at their destination and the duo took the elevator. They arrived at the presidential office under the secretary's guidance where Skyler was sitting in

here. That's fast." Skyler put down his leg and snapped his fingers

secretary nodded before leaving the office and closing

and pointed at Skyler. "Skyler, do you have a death

knew that you'd be so shy. That's so not like you." He crossed his arms and came up to her before walking around her. Shaking

straightened her body with pride at his compliment. "That's a given. I've spent a few millions for

it feels to touch it?" She then approached him and pulled his

taken aback by Sasha's sudden actions as he jumped

a pallid face in silence.

the couch and flopped onto it. "Hmph! My father keeps calling me a shemale and pervert, but how

cool tone, Skyler noticed her sour mood and touched his nose while glimpsing at Matthew, who shrugged his shoulders

to Matthew and looked at the woman opposite them. "Uhm... Don't take it personally. You're a woman, so you should keep a safe distance with

we grew up together. I even know how many strands of hair

counter that statement. Propping his chin with his arm on the armrest, he cocked his head at her. "Don't you have a partner? What if your boyfriend finds out

mention of her boyfriend, but he questioned further without a care of her emotional

again when it's a success? I'm not an immigrant and I don't have the intention to

you have

loved dancing from a young age and had a natural flair for it. She was the student whom every teacher favored. As much as her love and passion

eventually persuaded her parents successfully. In the end, she traveled to another country for a surgery to become a woman with the

Chapter 429 Sasha's Flirting With Matthew

Veronica had to admit that Yvonne had a point. "Have you contacted Skyler?" asked Veronica. "No. Why should I?" Yvonne snorted with ego.

"Okay. I'll help you contact someone to get you an appointment at Westcross Children Hospital." It was the most famous hospital in Bloomstead with the best doctors and equipment.

To give birth at a maternal and child care hospital was not a bad choice, but she had a hunch that Yvonne was going there for Skyler. Strange enough, such thoughts just suddenly came to her mind.

Matthew had asked Skyler to accompany Yvonne during the past few months after her broken relationship. In addition to his cheerful personality, Skyler was approachable, gentle and adept at cheering people up.

Perhaps, Yvonne has taken a liking to him because of his gentleness?

"Yvonne, do you still... love Conrad?" Veronica tested the waters.

be out of my mind to keep loving him. There's

you to find yourself a boyfriend

stopped as she lowered her head and caressed her belly. After a moment of rumination, she said, "Not everyone dislikes women with kids. Look at Skyler. He keeps mentioning how good Monica is. It

fell into

company for a while, Veronica

What's the matter?"

great person, just a little

she can have an obstetric check-up at

just ask me personally?"

and is now in the

in a stable condition since she's

Yvonne, Veronica gladly sent the address

Skyler

Yvonne whereas Veronica looked

her darkened face, he approached her and primped her fringe.

me?" She raised her eyebrow before snorting. "Who doesn't love a hot babe? If I were a man, I would

she could even finish her words, he pulled her into his arms."I don't like it, though." He wrapped his arms around her waist and responded in a gentle voice, "Every woman looks the same to

blurting sweet nothings without

the cringe." Veronica could not help but smile. Despite the retort, warmth and happiness sprang up in

don't like it,

like it?" She lifted her head and glared at Matthew before hugging him to pinch his waist. "You haven't told me who Sasha is yet. How dare you share the same bed with her when you were still a child?

see her boyfriend being so close

we were young, the cheeky person next to me in bed would've been you,

and she likes you that

just a friend. If she dares to have

only did Sasha put up with a lot of stress before the surgery, she now had to deal with the massive pressure from manifold parties as well as the destructive

keep the truth to themselves.

Chapter 430 The Lovey-dovey Couple

Veronica suddenly pitied Sasha, who was actually a softie under her sexy appearance. It would be overboard to leave her alone by the streets. "Matt, why don't we... let her come with us?"

It was the end of April; although it was hot in the afternoon, the night breeze was chilly due to the huge difference in temperature. Leaving Sasha at the underground parking lot in thin clothes would be too cruel.

"Aren't you afraid of letting a fox into the house?" Matthew questioned nonchalantly.

She shook her head in response as her sense of security came from him. Why should she be concerned when he was being honest to her?

"Sasha, come. Let's head inside." She beckoned at Sasha.

knew that you're this understanding. Others would have already gotten into a fight because of

her gaze onto Matthew. "So... Matt, am I not charming enough to

gave her a perfunctory

hair at times while his gaze on her was rife with gentleness. Meanwhile, Sasha, who was standing at the corner while clutching her bag, had mixed

Ding!

elevator stopped at the top level before its door

a card, a caring Veronica took out a pair of new flip-flops. "Sasha,

her shoes and turned toward the living room,

matter?" Her brows furrowed

"What about me?"

flip-flops worn by Sasha. It was not until then did she realize that she had never taken care of

placed them in front of him. With her hands on her belly,

man was satisfied with her acting as

laughter before giving another bow. "Honey, it's been a long day. Please put

much he enjoyed

"Please have mercy on me. I'm standing right here, you two. I'm so hurt. Stop being all lovey-dovey. You might

stomach was

flip-flops. Placing the leather shoes on the cupboard, he suggested, "You can leave if you

called Skyler and the

Veronica gladly accepted

Matthew's on the arm and whispered, "She's a girl. Don't

be able to go through the door if it

her when she heard that. Just how fortunate she was to be able to meet such a handsome, gentle, and rich guy in her life? Most importantly, he did not worry

touched Veronica stared at him. "Matt, has someone told you how great of a person you

to face her and tap

"Who?"