## **Bumpkin 671**

Chapter 671 Return Me the Wedding Night

Veronica scoffed as she ceased beating him. "You're such a jerk! Do you have any idea how difficult it is for me to put on that act? What were you thinking when you found that replacement, and even rendered him mute and handicapped with broken limbs? You're so vicious!"

"That wasn't done by me." Matthew took her hand in his and the two of them sat down on the ground, her in his embrace."

When he was brought out of Antheena's castle, he was already mute as a result of being poisoned. The veins in his left leg ruptured, while his elbow became infected and had to be amputated. All of this had absolutely nothing to do with me."

The person who was killed by Veronica earlier was the one they found in the cellar of Antheena's castle previously. It was the same man who looked like Matthew and was hired to pretend to be Matthew.

Subsequently, at the harbor, Xavier handed that man over to Thomas in exchange for Antheena, who had been kidnapped.

That man, along with Troy, was then brought back for treatment in case they needed to use him in the future.

out a top plastic surgeon to perform minor procedures on the man,

and wounds on the man's body were deliberately created in

tell them that he wasn't you, but they did not understand sign language

you killed him?" In fact, Matthew understood

innocent, but she was left with no other options. There would be a lot of repercussions in the future

was already half dead. He would have died long ago if it hadn't been for my intervention. When he agreed to be my substitute, I had given his parents thirty million. He was expecting

and he leaned in so that

"I know that."

by what he said. She was well aware that since the man was willing to be Matthew's substitute,

Roni is! So, when did you realize I was still alive?" he asked, his large palm caressing

that Thomas shot you three times in the heart, I

"Why?"

me that your heart is on the right side. And when I first met that man in the small town, I knew he wasn't you. Caleb too. Being an investigator with excellent observational skills,

leaned on his shoulders as she spoke, feeling happy but with something weighing on

Chapter 672 'Matthew' Is Dead

He then grinned roguishly and landed on top of her. The dark clouds were dissipating in the middle of the night, and the bright moon rays shone through the leafy trees, casting lovely shadows on the ground.

Chirping of birds and insects filled the air. Fireflies, shining with beautiful green-yellow lights, were flying around freely.

The duo's heavy breaths and light hums were both drowned out by the insects' chirping.

Unknown to everyone else, it was a passionate and exhilarating summer night for Matthew and Veronica.

As Veronica's phone was left in the car, nothing, including phone calls, could interrupt them.

But fate decided otherwise. About two hours later, Veronica heard someone yelling for her from a distance.

"D\*mn!"

Matthew scolded. "I have to punish Thomas when I am back for destroying the ambience."

"I truly pity him."

amused by

two hours of being intimately close, he reluctantly ended what he was

"I have to leave now, Roni. You know what you have

chest and closed her

I will

good care of yourself.

him go,

more, and she couldn't bear to let go of

I really have

her face in his palms and gave her a kiss on her forehead. "Remember, don't trust anyone other than Thomas. Not even Master Crayson," he reminded

seemed to imply more, but

As he turned

touching, and gradually, even the warmth on

Veronica saw him vanish among the

heart became empty

but she couldn't see him anymore. She could only listen to

Chapter 673 They All Knew the Truth

"He... He is dead?" Veronica was still in a happy and blissful mood as her thoughts were still on the man who had been intimate with her earlier, and his scent seemed to be lingering on her.

It was like a child finally getting her favorite blueberry cake. This joy could last her a few days. But now, she had to pretend that she was in agony because of 'Matthew's' death.

This was extremely difficult for her. "How... How did this happen?"

She wasn't in the mood to act and had no idea how to proceed. Hence, she pretended to faint right away. "Young Mistress?"

"Are you alright, Young Mistress?" "Get her to the car and send her to the hospital right away!"

The conversation between the bodyguards and Thomas echoed throughout the surroundings. Then, they carried Veronica to the car. When they were loading her into the car, they accidentally used too much force and knocked her head against the car door, which luckily, she didn't yell in pain.

The car started and drove away. She noticed that the cars behind followed as well. Not long after, they arrived at the hospital. Veronica was still pretending to be unconscious.

have been caught if she had acted differently, but

would pretend to faint every now and then. Such

scans, Veronica was taken to the ward. She heard someone talking initially, and thereafter,

a blow too heavy

love. It must be

at the same

contacting Caleb, Miguel and Skyler throughout

the other hand, actually fell asleep while pretending to be unconscious in the

by herself when she noticed no one else in

Thomas walked in with his eyes red. His face was haggard, and his

walked toward

he turned around to make sure no one was behind him before

stunned her. "He... is fine," she replied, her eyes

polite towards 'Matthew' that she assumed he was in the dark. It turned out

Chapter 674 Acting Is Difficult

"Since you've sensed something, I believe both of them did as well. Miguel has been away for several years and may not have suspected anything, but Skyler is a doctor. He should be able to see that the wounds on the deceased man were all purposefully created."

Veronica began to analyze the situation. Then, she grumbled, "And he is the type of person who cannot keep a secret! He might have also told Miguel. Everyone is just putting on a show right now."

Initially, Veronica thought that Skyler and Miguel would not have discovered the truth. However, given that Thomas had picked up on it, she assumed that Skyler and Miguel would have suspected it as well.

"You're right. That's what I think too," Thomas agreed while nodding his head.

he asked, "Master Crayson seems to be feeling

Veronica of Matthew's words the night before. "Remember, don't trust anyone. Not even

pursed her lips and pondered for a moment. "That's not necessary. The fewer people who are aware of it, the better. We found out the truth because we are all close to Matt. Conrad, on the other hand, had been away for several years and didn't know Matt well, let alone Zac and the others. What we need to do now is to

who knew Matt well, so in fact, it wasn't surprising for

footsteps

her gaze to exchange glances with Thomas. The next second, she started shaking her head, pinching her thigh hard, causing tears to well up in her

to be strong for the sake of Ada and Alan!" Thomas right away

an ease comparable

thing right now is to return to the hidden clan. It is no longer safe to stay here," he

going back. I want to stay with Matt here. I don't

is his body? I want to be with him right now. Bring

morgue. We have arranged with the aviation authority for a special plane to return his body to Bloomstead

Chapter 675 It's All Part of the Plan

Because Thomas was leaning over to support Veronica by her arm, she got up and whispered in Thomas' ear, "Someone is monitoring us. Go check the morgue's surveillance and see if anyone has touched the body. You should know what to do."

Hearing that, he frowned as he knew what she meant. "Understood," he replied without turning his head, for fear that he would be exposed if he did.

Hence, Thomas had no choice but to continue acting with Veronica. "We have to respect the dead. Let's hurry back to the country. They are all waiting for Young Master Matthew back home."

After they went to the morgue, Veronica burst into tears while holding the corpse.

Her grief-stricken act was a perfect enactment of how a heartbroken person would be.

While Thomas stood aside to comfort her, he took out his phone and sent a message to someone, asking him to check the surveillance.

an hour later. 'Someone

gently touched Veronica's shoulder to let her take

was crying, quickly took a glance. As Crayson couldn't stand seeing her sad, he chose to stand outside

pocket and passed

the plane and set off for their

his subordinates. "We

the French windows smoking a cigarette when he listened to his subordinate's report. With a frown, he reached out to take the report and glanced at it before he shook

escape even if he wanted to. Isn't he just a fish on a cutting board that life is in

Tiffany Larson sure helped us

a good thing that Miss Larson only killed Matthew Kings and left Veronica Murphy unscathed. It will be difficult to explain to Flake Denson and

Heavens must be watching over

raised his head and laughed. He then turned around and walked to the couch to sit down before he picked up the wine glass and shot the red wine down in

his subordinates leave as he gave Conrad a call. "He is dead. The corpse will arrive in Bloomstead in a few hours. You will

Chapter 676 Sasha Kicking up a Storm in the Mourning Hall

The news of Matthew's 'death' spread like wildfire. Veronica decided to unabashedly organize a funeral, but she didn't tell Elizabeth, for fear that it would be another blow to the older woman.

In an instant, news about Matthew was everywhere in Bloomstead, and even Veronica became a trending topic on the Internet.

As it hadn't been long since Veronica and Matthew had gotten married before his 'death', some unscrupulous media outlets had straight-out said that Veronica had the face of a 'husband jinx', and that she had killed her husband as soon as she got married. Some even speculated that she was a villainous Cinderella who had gotten married because she was up to no good, and had now killed him so that she could take the inheritance.

Despite all that, Veronica chose to ignore the trending topics and poured her heart into the funeral.

Even though she didn't invite anyone to the huge memorial hall, there were still countless guests who came to mourn Matthew on this day.

She stood aside looking at the ice casket in the mourning hall, where lay a man she knew but didn't know his real name.

she would cry

alive and well. If he really died, she might not be able to forgive herself

black mourning clothes as she watched the people walk in with white

were sincere or not, happy or sad, it seemed that human nature could clearly be seen at this moment. It was like a magic mirror that showed the most ugly

uncles would have come here to start something if it wasn't because Miguel and the others were in the

a busy day, the crowd gradually

moment, Sasha walked in in a

her hand, she walked step-by-step into the mourning hall and to the ice casket. It was as

at how disheartened Sasha was, but she thought that the pain was a good

let go of her obsession

have survived no

flowers against the casket. She seemed

Veronica frowned and immediately gave Thomas a knowing look. Thomas then stepped forward and held onto Sasha. "Please stop, Miss Claude. Young Master Matthew is gone.

go of me. Don't

Chapter 677 She Hit Veronica

Thinking that she needed to give Sasha an explanation, Veronica peeled their hands off of her before she walked toward Sasha.

"Thomas, let go of her."

As she waved Thomas off and walked in front of Sasha, who was making a fuss, a waft of alcohol scent hit her nostrils almost immediately.

Sasha could only numb herself with alcohol after being unable to accept the news of Matthew's death.

Hearing that, Thomas did as instructed with hesitation, but he didn't forget to remind Veronica, "Please stay away from her, Mrs. Kings. She is crazy."

To him, Veronica's current status was the same as that of Matthew. Since his boss was currently not around, he naturally needed to be responsible for protecting the safety of the lady of the house.

but the

good to you. Now that he is dead

Matthew were together. Seeing Thomas being so loyal to Veronica after

own choice. It has nothing to do with you,"

nothing to do with me. It has..." Sasha came to a pause and turned her outstretched hand toward Veronica. "It has everything

and scolded

as true. Even though Veronica was being humiliated, she couldn't find a word to say to Sasha, and she didn't have the heart to have Sasha

had expected Sasha to suddenly raise a hand and swing her palm at Veronica's face when the latter was

Slap!

sound reverberated around the hall, multiple pairs of eyes immediately turned in the direction of was barely anyone left at this time of the night, Matthew's

looked over at the same time

What

fast reflexes, Thomas shoved Sasha out of the way. As she was in high heels, she quickly lost her footing and heavily

Chapter 678 Adrian Colland's Arrival

Skyler, who was walking toward them from not far away, stopped dead in his tracks when he saw what was going on. A hint of surprise flashed by his pitch-black eyes that went wide slightly.

No, instead of surprise, it was more like he was amazed.

It was as if the door to a whole new world had been opened, and he was learning new things about Shirley again.

"Oh my, I didn't know she had such a fiery temperament," teased Miguel, who was standing beside Skyler.

As they were at a place like this, Miguel's voice was lowered so that no one else could hear him.

Hearing him, Skyler tilted his head and quietly glanced at him with his eyebrows raised.

Just as Skyler was about to approach Shirley, another figure was one step ahead of him.

Said person was no one other than Wade Yoder.

a model at Starshine Media Agency, was also

break up as she didn't think they suited each other. However, Wade, who

on the day

work everyday. The few times

and pull her aside,

standing here? Aren't

playful smile on his face as he watched Skyler's

turning and walking to the pantry, where he stood

"Miss Claude," he said to Sasha as she scrambled off the floor and tried to pounce

best get out of my way! I am going to tear her to shreds. B\*tch! How dare she...

she had the bone structure and strength of a man. As she staggered forward, she pushed Wade aside and swung her hand at

Sasha, causing the intoxicated woman to fall to

are you all

stop him, another voice

heads in the direction the sound came from, only to see Adrian emerging

Seeing her fall to the floor, he automatically picked

Chapter 679 An Impulsive Move

Adrian wasn't an ordinary man. If Wade got on the man's bad side, he would have to suffer the consequences.

Shirley wasn't expecting a man to stand up for Sasha. As she came back to her senses, she found the man standing imposingly before her having a unique temperament, unlike any normal person would.

Recalling Wade taking the other man head-on for her, Shirley was deeply touched. Her gaze landed on him, shining with a hint of respect and gratitude.

Adrian studied the mark on Veronica's face before he lowered his gaze to the woman in his embrace. "She indeed hit you, but not without a price. Besides, you even kicked her. Mrs. Kings, do you think you can bully my woman and walk away with it?"

"What do you think? Sasha deserves to be hit after kicking up a fuss at Young Master Matthew's funeral!" Nobody would ever know if Thomas was too deep into his act or if he was hating Sasha from the bottom of his heart. In any case, he looked like he was enraged as his cheeks flushed with anger. Then, he added, "Since you claim her as your woman, you should've taught her to behave. She better remember to never show her face around Mrs. Kings again."

his warnings, he turned to Sasha. "Listen up, Sasha—even though Young Master Matthew is dead, he's Mrs. Kings' man. You have no right to confront

gaped at the domineering man as she

the anger building up inside his chest and continued, "Even so, it didn't give you the excuse to hit

need to remember to respect the dead. Are you trying to cause

than Adrian, her courage didn't waver for a single moment when

this matter slip for once, as Matthew

you on my husband's behalf," Veronica

headed toward the exit. As he walked fast, Sasha was having trouble following

at the duo leaving, a bad feeling clung to Veronica's chest. According to what she knew of the man, Sasha was

she was right

"Roni, who is that guy? He has

hands. "I understand that you're doing this for

Chapter 680 Skyler Was Losing His Temper

Stepping out of the break room, Skyler lit himself a cigarette. As he felt his mood ease, he turned around and found Shirley holding Wade's arm. She lifted her head to see him better with a smile plastered to her face. Skyler's face darkened when he noticed the lovey-dovey vibe the pair was emitting.

As Shirley could see the overflowing affection in Wade's eyes, she avoided meeting his gaze and involuntarily chose to run away. "I-I have to go to the washroom."

She looked for an excuse to get out of the situation.

When she began to walk in his direction, Skyler immediately turned on his heel and returned to the break room.

Shirley had to walk down the corridor and pass by the break room until she reached the washroom. As she was halfway through, someone grabbed her arm out of warning and pulled her inside the breakroom before slamming the door closed.

Her world spun for a moment, and Shirley finally found Skyler standing in front of her when he pinned her against the door.

"Young Master Skyler, what are you doing?" As she found out the person was him, Shirley pouted in displeasure as her thin brows furrowed tightly.

kitten. Not only was she harmless with the look, she also looked more adorable. It was hard for one to stop

can't even touch you?" Recalling her casting a smile at Wade a moment ago but frowning at him as if he was her foe, Skyler

her confused and she had no idea about

it for she was despising him, and the thought annoyed him more than

comes from a poor family. Lately, his mother has fallen sick, which will cost a lot of paused for a moment before

were more strange than made sense. "He's free to make friends and be close to them. Young Master Skyler, are you implying he shouldn't

talk

from the president of the Horizon

early thirties who took great care of her appearance. She was a rare beauty with an enchanting look and been expressing their affection to her, but she

he got the information from

weren't even there when the president of the Horizon Group gave him one million!" Shoving him away, Shirley cast him an angry look. "Stop meddling in others' business and pay more attention to

harrumphed with displeasure before she opened the door