

Bumpkin 791

Chapter 791 Mateo's Confession of Love

No matter what Crayson did, he always put Veronica and the good of the hidden clan first.

"I've watched the girl grow up myself, and honestly speaking, this time..." Crayson sighed, then waved dismissively at Matthew. "You've had a long day as well. Get some rest."

He did not air dirty laundry in front of others. "Yes, sir," Matthew acknowledged and turned in.

Meanwhile, Hayley frowned as she watched the young man walk away. "Is he staying upstairs as well? Are you sure this is a wise decision?"

'Iron' was a man, after all, and Hayley thought it wasn't proper for him to be staying on the same floor as Veronica.

"Iron's an agile fighter. It's for the benefit of Veronica's safety that I have him stay on her floor. So, he can get to her immediately if anything happens," answered Crayson, who had only given the order after much deliberation.

"I see where you're coming from." Hayley nodded in acknowledgment and said nothing more.

his gaze over to Hayley with pursed lips every now

smiled at him. "Is there something you want to say,

that, Mateo scratched his head and chuckled bashfully.

"Well, speak up then."

"Really? Anything at all?"

I have been friends for so long; we're family, are

I, um... I'll

as he was about to tell her his secret, he found

is not allowed to know about it, is he?!" Crayson shot a

his shoulder to glance upstairs before finally requesting, "Actually, I... I was wondering if... I

with amusement. "You're friends with Veronica. It's

got curious for nothing." Crayson thought his grandson was just carrying coals

what I'm trying to say." Mateo quirked his lips, knowing

"What is it then?"

Chapter 792 Possessive Boyfriend Strikes Again

As Mateo pulled a long face, Hayley chuckled. "You do know she has two kids and was once married, right?" "I do."

"Then, why still her?" "As I said, I'd already fallen for her when I first met her at Bloomstead, and I've been waiting for her all these years. Actually... I didn't want to bring it up, but I worry she'll be taken when she's such a keeper."

Mateo genuinely loved the young woman, and he wanted to seize the chance now that she had returned and years of waiting finally ended. Nothing would change his love for her, no matter how her past had been.

"Oh, Mateo, you're still too young. Sometimes, things aren't as simple as you imagine," dissuaded Hayley earnestly as she patted his shoulder.

wait for over a decade?" he debated with determination. "I'm saying this because I want your support, Madam Hayley. Just say yes, and I'll pursue Roni above board. She and I are the same age;

one of Mateo's life creeds. But too bad Veronica hadn't been living in the hidden clan until now. Thus, he never got a

successfully moved her. "I've known you since you were a child, and you're a decent match for Veronica, too, knowing you're simple

up. He was grinning from

I'm still not the one with the final say, no? You have to get Veronica to say yes." Hayley didn't stop him from pursuing Veronica, as

in a marriage, her heart remained there, so grounding her here was impossible. Thus, they had to find a reason to make her stay willingly, and love was

Mateo could successfully make Veronica fall in love with him, she would

hidden clan monarchy was super liberal and could even accept polygamy, and once Veronica ascended the throne, she could take in more husbands. So what if Mateo was one of her many

he couldn't stop grinning. In fact, he would jump with joy if the three of them

child." Hayley teased, then got up, announcing, "I'm going to

Chapter 793 Well, This Is Awkward

"Haha, I, uh..." Veronica gazed at Matthew with her back pressed against the door, and as her conscience crept up on her, she shifted her head aside, no longer daring to look at him. "What does it have to do with me?"

Goodness, this is maddening! Liam was already enough trouble as it was, and now Mateo was trying to wedge himself into the picture! I seriously have no time to deal with this sh*t.

"What does it not?" argued Matthew as he pressed his forehead against hers. His sudden closeness intimidated her so much that she forgot to breathe for a second.

At that, she shook her head like a rattle for the sake of her dear life. "You can't possibly hold me accountable for whom they like, can you? Whom I like is you," rejoined Veronica as she lifted her chin, gazing doe-eyed at him. The sincerity in her eyes made it impossible for anyone not to believe her.

“Really?” Matthew quirked a brow. “Is this your love confession to me?”

His inner self did a summersault of joy.

“Not really.” She shook her head without a second of hesitation.

“Why?”

is an old piece of news that you already know about, or why do you think I’d marry you? Thereby making this a fact and not a confession,” explained Veronica solemnly, but it only made

There’s a

to love me, and

trying to get her to dig herself

that either. You’re now the father of my twins, which

there is?

threw his

hand wrapping around it. “So, someone lost her love for me and now wants to move on, does she?

Looks

words, he picked her up, locked the door, then gently put

dead meat if they find out.” Veronica tried to

then. I’m on the verge of losing my wife. What do I care

lips, kissing wildly and passionately as it was all he could think of right then, and yet Veronica couldn’t stop thinking about what Matthew had just said. Let them find out, then. I’m on

ever say, but he did, and

Kings would one

her arms around his

Chapter 794 Tricked

“I... Can we talk?” Hayley decided that she needed to have a heart-to-heart talk with Veronica after some deliberation, as she believed too many things were getting in the way between them. If she didn’t sort them out, Veronica would probably never accept her as her mother.

“We can talk tomorrow. I’m already in bed.” Veronica turned her down without hesitation. In fact, she thought Hayley was being ridiculous.

It was already in the middle of the night, yet the latter wanted to chat with her instead of going to bed. Please don’t tell me she intends to talk all night.

“Oh, okay then.” Hayley left with great defeat at that.

Because of how well the soundproofing was in the room, the couple couldn't tell if Hayley had left, so Matthew could only hold his beloved tenderly while kissing her lips as he moved slowly.

"How is it possible for you to be so busy?" He quirked his lips, a tiny chuckle escaping him.

"You should consider yourself lucky that it isn't our babies out there, or you can only sleep in the guest bedroom every night."

lip gently. "I'll see that the two sleep

father

my wife, and that makes you mine,

peal of laughter, made amused.

Veronica into the bathroom for a quick shower, but then the young woman winced in pain as her hand came

it wasn't until he checked her hand that he noticed the wound in her

it hurt?" he asked with a

had happened with one glance—she must've injured herself to stay sober after having gotten drugged in the bonfire feast

deep. Don't worry about it," said Veronica groggily with closed eyes as she lay in the tub, so spent that don't want to see you dealing with it

I..." Worn out, Veronica left her words hanging

adorably alluring, Matthew caressed her cheek

dried her up before finally carrying her back to bed, and it wasn't until

just a floor above, all he needed

Chapter 795 Schemes

Trick? Shirley naturally realized it was a sham, but what she didn't expect was that Garrick would admit it so frankly and even apologize for it. But why?

Seeing Shirley say nothing, Garrick continued, "This is a family matter, so it's never disclosed to outsiders. I won't be telling you about this either if it isn't that I owe you an explanation. Hmm..." He began sounding hesitant. "How about this? We'll meet when you're available so I can explain it to you in person."

Never had Shirley expected the CEO of Cyberten to humble himself before her, and it would be on her now if she continued to snub him. After all, Garrick made it clear that he wanted to apologize to her in person, so he might have had a good reason for his actions.

"I'll meet you in an hour where we had coffee last time."

Since she had said that she was occupied, it'd be evident she was lying if she agreed to meet him right away. Thus, she could only push the rendezvous an hour later.

see you there." Garrick hung up

spacing out as she sat on her chair, her phone, which

a missed call from Skyer—the call had ended after ringing for a

is he trying

her, and she blushed involuntarily. At that,

up for the rendezvous and found Garrick sitting by the window once she entered

approached the table. "Sorry to

Garrick, who had been engrossed in his

here! Care for a

who approached her. "How

Mountain, please.

your order." With

Chapter 796 An Apology Gift

"Oh, so that's what happened." The truth was finally revealed to Shirley, but just as she was about to accept Garrick's apology, Sofia came to her mind.

The next second, Garrick's voice traveled to her ears. "After you left last night, Pia told me about what's going on between you and Skyler. I'm not going to get involved in whatever it is between you guys, but of course, I still have to apologize to you on behalf of Pia for that slap. I reprimanded her last night, but given how spoiled she is, it's hard to make her listen to me."

He shook his head, and his smile was laced with helplessness. "I think you've gotten the wrong picture. There's nothing between him and me." Shirley clarified at once. "Skyler and I—"

"As I said, I won't get myself involved in whatever's between you guys," Garrick reiterated without letting her finish her explanation. He then handed her a gift. "A token of my apology. Please accept it."

"It's cool. I didn't take it to heart." Her instincts told her what was inside the blue, rectangular velvet box likely cost a fortune. Thus, she returned the gift. "What matters is that the misunderstanding is cleared. I'm willing to give you the benefit of the doubt, Mr. Brennan."

Brennan to Mr. Brennan was

look at what's inside?" he asked amiably while pointing at the box, to which Shirley shook her head

had the pleasure of meeting many women in my life, but you're

the box

it's an affordable necklace," he said while pointing at the price tag. "I know you won't accept anything too valuable, so I got you this instead

thyself, know thy enemy; a thousand

had asked around and learned that Shirley was simple, honest, self-reliant, and not materialistic. Giving a girl like her something expensive would

Shirley that

turned her gaze onto the gold necklace, which looked off-the-shelf. It was

thoughtful of a billionaire CEO to even want to buy an affordable necklace. It would indeed be rude of her to turn

but I still have to turn you down. Why don't you buy me lunch,

what you prefer."

Chapter 797 Pretentious Pair

Awkwardness laced Shirley's face as she saw the pair while Garrick stood up and asked, "What brings you guys here?" It was evident he had no clue about it.

"Huh... Is Shirley the friend you're meeting with?" Sofia asked Garrick after taking a gander at the other woman. "Skye and I were looking for a place to get coffee, and you said you were here, so we came. Why didn't you tell me you're on a date with Shirley?"

While she spoke, Skyler, dressed in a black t-shirt, glanced icily at Shirley, who also happened to be glancing at him.

As the two made eye contact, all that happened the night before popped into their heads.

While he remained impassive, a tinge of redness laced her face, and she immediately lowered her head, no longer daring to look him in the eye.

Garrick hurriedly explained, "Nonsense. I got Shirley to act as my girlfriend at your party last night to stop Nancy from making further advances. As such, I asked her out today to express my gratitude."

to Shirley. "Isn't that right,

"Huh? Yeah, that's right."

was somewhat different from what he had told her earlier, Shirley just

frowned after hearing Garrick's explanation, and his gaze at Shirley this time was one of

Then, I'd mistaken her last night,

the other hand, Shirley felt uncomfortable by Skyler's burning gaze, so she could only sip her coffee

had colluded with Sofia when he asked Shirley to meet him, and that was why she had shown up with Skyler at

had achieved her purpose, Sofia turned to Skyler. "We'll let you guys get back to whatever you were doing. Come on, Skye. Let's

don't we have a meal together?" he suggested after

and behold, her gaze

the night before when Skyler did whatever he wanted to me in the Brennan Manor's bathroom, and especially

the pair was in, but she did know that

it'd be awkward for Miss Wilson and me

agree with Mr. Brennan,"

Chapter 798 They're Getting Married

Sofia paused, probably trying to find a way around what she wanted to say. However, she gave up in the end, thinking it was too unpleasant no matter how one put it.

Then, she continued, "It's only later that I realized it was all just a show. I'm sorry. I meant to apologize to you but could never find the right chance to do so. Tell you what? Let me pay for lunch. How about that?"

Can't find the right chance to apologize? Yeah, right. I'll be a monkey's uncle if you weren't able to apologize in the last six months. Just how shameless can you be to say something like that?! Shirley ranted in her head but didn't express anything on the surface.

As the saying went, 'Punish no man who sincerely asked for forgiveness', she could only force a smile and forgive Sofia. "It's all in the past."

"Thanks, Shirley. You're the best. Do you suppose we could be friends?" Sofia asked, then grabbed her phone without giving Shirley a chance to say no. "Come, let's add each other on WhatsApp. We should hang out sometimes."

If Sofia hadn't opened her WhatsApp QR code, Shirley could've still said no, but now, the unique square barcode was right in front of her. "Here, scan mine."

sister, after all, and Vincere still needed the collaboration

Skyler's countenance was grim

can't turn me down when I ask you to hang out, alright?" Sofia

black crop top, long, let-down hair, and delicate makeup gave her the sense of forthrightness and insouciance of a capable woman, and it wouldn't

work." Thus, Shirley would certainly turn Sofia down with the excuse of being busy with work whenever the latter invited

to see you two shake hands and put everything behind." Garrick guffawed. "You

that as a

just telling the truth.” At that, Garrick turned to Skyler. “Skyler, you must invite Miss

only took a silent and enigmatic gander at Garrick. Instead, it

honor.” Shirley nodded with a superficial smile, then put all her attention on her

getting married?

before came to her mind, and a

Chapter 799 Hatred Out of Jealousy

“What would you guys like for lunch?” Sofia changed the subject and beckoned to a server, who came over with a menu. At that, Sofia handed the menu out.

Initially, she had intended to hand it to Skyler, but an idea struck her, and she shifted it toward Shirley, saying, “Here, Shirley—have a look at the menu.”

“I’m good with anything,” Shirley replied. “Alright then...” At that, Sofia said nothing more and ordered sharing plates for everyone.

Surprisingly, it was a rather pleasant lunch—well, for three people at least. Only Shirley felt uncomfortable as though she had a fishbone stuck in her throat the entire meal. Though no one said anything unpleasant, she still felt like she was on a chopping board.

It wasn’t until the end of the lunch that she heaved a sigh of relief and smiled at Garrick. “I’ll have to make a move, President Brennan, Miss Green. I still need to make a trip to the hospital.”

She had ordered some food using her phone, so she had to pick it up and bring it to Wade’s mother.

tensed up,

do what you’ve got to do. Gary and I should be leaving as well. We have something

going to Big Heart Hospital?” Skyler asked

me a ride, then. I happen to have business with their director,”

hospital to sightsee. Why don’t I give you a lift

he wanted someone to give him a lift. However, that certain

brother? Go ahead. I’ll call you when I’m

that, Sofia clenched her fists which were resting on her knees. Despite being disgruntled, she dared not let it show too obviously. “I’m sorry to trouble you, Shirley. Please don’t mind him.

Skyler’s request. “I have to make a detour and

Skyler, seemingly

her

as she could

headed

Chapter 800 A Super Loving Matthew

She should stay away from Skyler even more so when that had happened between them. “Well, someone’s full of herself, isn’t she? I merely asked you to give me a ride, and you’re already imagining all sorts.” Skyler shifted his head to the side and tugged at his lips, looking like he was holding back his amusement.

On the other hand, Shirley, speechless by his rebuttal, just started the car and headed to the restaurant to pick up her order.

After arriving at the restaurant, Skyler turned grim again as he watched the young woman jog into the restaurant from inside the car.

Very quickly, she returned with a food jar in her hand, even panting as she entered the car.

Since she was worried that the food might spill, she shoved the food jar into Skyler’s arms, requesting, “Keep it close to you, please.”

“Why can’t you leave it in the back seat?” A certain someone grumbled, feeling displeased.

Given how much traffic

overreact? Skyler retorted but still reluctantly took the food jar from her, not saying a

...

brought them

Veronica descended the stairs, her heart ached as she watched the once nobleman now

smile when the couple exchanged a glance,

quickly, everyone took their seats and enjoyed

who was sitting next to Veronica, gallantly pushed a glass of milk to her and said, “Have some fresh milk, Roni. I had Iron buy you

trying to do, and they exchanged glances but said nothing, eating their breakfast

happened to be coming out of the kitchen, heard Mateo’s words, and he turned

the same time, Veronica caught sight of Matthew the second she looked up, and

in this lifetime, so how