

Bumpkin 201

Chapter 201

As Miguel was abroad for a period of time, he had no idea what had happened here recently. In addition, he had returned rather late, and there were many things which the others didn't manage to tell him on time. Therefore, he didn't think so much before speaking and had accidentally stepped on a landmine.

Amongst the four of them, he was the oldest—a year older than Matthew—but he wasn't as mature as him. Maybe it was due to the fact that he was running a talent agency, and that made him naturally easygoing in character.

"Today, we are not talking about women." As Matthew left for the changing room, he uttered, "Miggy, we haven't exchanged skills for a long while. Let's practice together."

Even though Miguel was the eldest, Matthew preferred to call him by his nickname because there was only a year difference between them.

"Sure, I'm thinking of the same thing as well." The ignorant Miguel stood up and went to change in the changing room.

This was their private gym with a dedicated changing room, and clothes were already prepared for them.

his head while Skylar muttered, "Tsk, tsk. Caleb,

as he took out a cigarette from its box and started to smoke leisurely on the

spectators beneath the ring, Caleb and Skylar, had a plate of watermelon and peanuts on the table in front of them as they

Miguel was beaten to the floor by Matthew in the ring, and he held his bleeding nose as

over and

on the floor to dodge his punch. Then, he did a carp

his left arm, punching at Matthew's face, but Matthew dodged it effortlessly, and the both

yelped, "Damn it, Matthew! We're just having

"Stand up!"

pulled him up and

his head in the ring and wanted to jump out, but Matthew didn't give him

helplessly, "Caleb, Drew, are you guys blind? If you don't save me,

Chapter 202 Investigating the Truth

Fortunately, Caleb and Skyler found out about the incident surrounding Veronica and Matthew from Thomas. Even though they had known about it just before they came, they still managed to dodge the

bullet.

Otherwise, it would have been them needing the trip to the hospital.

Watching Miguel being badly beaten up made Skyler reach out to caress the man's cheeks, which left Miguel gasping involuntarily. "Matt seems to be really laying the beatdown on him."

Caleb playfully said, "How about I call Matt to let you stand in for Miguel instead?"

"Ha, that's unnecessary." Skyler did not share his sentiments. Sighing, he continued, "Looks like Matt really likes Veronica. Otherwise, how could he have taken that slap? In all the years that I've known him, nobody has dared to do that before."

"Just goes to show how deeply he cherishes her," Caleb commented as his smile slowly faded. "Love is a burden for Matt."

...

At a private hospital.

Tiffany, who went out in the morning, cautiously came to a private hospital to visit Elizabeth. Because of what happened yesterday at the wedding, a lot of reporters had their eyes on her right now, forcing her to lay low.

It was until she entered the hospital and saw how the bodyguards were surrounding the perimeter to ensure that there were no suspicious individuals or reporters that she breathed a sigh of relief.

Veronica knew that Matthew must have made a visiting call to the news agencies; otherwise, this kind of news would have spread like wildfire now. Since Elizabeth was hospitalized, no reporter would give up on such a scoop.

After asking around, she found out where Elizabeth's ward was located, which was on the 22nd floor. Then, Tiffany prepared herself outside the VIP ward with flowers and supplements in her hands before proceeding to knock and enter the room.

"Old Mrs. Kings?"

Yesterday's accident had happened so quickly that Elizabeth, who did not expect such a thing, could not withstand the shock and fainted.

After resting overnight in the hospital, she found herself recovering quite nicely.

Nonetheless, her utmost concern when Tiffany appeared was... "How's the child in your stomach?"

Tiffany was a bit stunned by her words. Even though she knew that Elizabeth only cared about her unborn baby, her straightforward question still made her a bit sad.

"Old Mrs. Kings, I'm... I mean, the baby's fine."

The thought of the baby made her angry, helpless, and ashamed at the same time.

Due to the importance of the child, letting those people take the child away was not an option. Hence, she chose to get humiliated by those people.

Six of them, in fact.

Tiffany felt true despair of being at the hands of those people for half an hour.

It's all fine now. I'll just treat it as being bitten by dogs. They don't affect me.

She had thought that once she endured that horrifying experience and managed to save the baby, she could continue to be with Matthew.

Of course, after that, Tiffany hired investigators to find out who those men were, but to no avail. Not daring to make a move on Veronica, Tiffany feared that the videos might surface.

In the end, she came to a conclusion.

Come what may, I'll face them all head on.

Placing the things down, she sat beside the bed in tears. "Old Mrs. Kings, I never thought that she hates

me so much. Sob..."

"I know how helpless you must have felt. Don't worry, as long as the baby is around, I will continue to side with you," said Elizabeth, who was wearing a hospital gown and resting against the headboard. Holding onto Tiffany's hands, she tried to comfort her.

As the venue of the wedding was all arranged by Veronica, the timing of the video was all too strange, so nobody was sure whether it was done by her.

Even though Elizabeth had Alzheimer's, her symptoms were still considered relatively minor. She was still able to cope with her daily life just fine.

"Old Mrs. Kings, will Matthew... Will he no longer want to marry me?" Clenching her teeth, Tiffany had a face full of tears.

"Please give me, as well as him, a bit of time. Don't worry. I will never let this baby be born without a mother."

Although Elizabeth seemed to be comforting her, Tiffany understood another meaning from her words, which was that even if Matthew did not marry her, the Kingses would still take the baby away.

Even if the baby was not Matthew's nor did she ever have any consensual relationship with him, Tiffany still felt a chill down her back upon hearing the old madam's words.

"Thank you, Old Mrs. Kings... You're too kind." She did not mean a single word of what she said.

Then, she left the ward after a brief chat with Elizabeth.

Exiting the ward, she bumped into Conrad. "Hello, Mr. Conrad."

As Tiffany had met Conrad before, they were by no means strangers.

Equipped with a short beard and a gentle smile, this man seemed, at the same time, mature yet approachable. Paired with his natural charisma that radiated outward openly, one would fall for his charm at a moment's notice.

Conrad, who was in a suit and tie, looked like a business mogul with a hint of elegance about him. "Did you cry?"

Tilting his head and looking at her yet-to-dry tear stains, he then took out his pocket square and handed it to her. "Matthew really doesn't know how to cherish a beauty such as yourself, Tiffany."

His gentlemanly actions made Tiffany a bit shocked.

Chapter 203 The Truth Comes to Light

Tiffany, who had covered herself from head to toe with clothing, had left the hospital, not wishing to be recognized.

However, she had only arrived at the car park without getting the chance to get into her car when she saw Thomas walking toward her.

"Mr. Ritter... What a surprise..."

Tiffany greeted him with guilt.

From Thomas' original spot, it looked like he had been waiting for her for a long time.

"Miss Larson, the boss wants to see you."

Thomas walked right up to her with a stern expression and mentioned it in a cold tone.

"M-Matthew wants to see me? What for?"

For some reason, she felt an uneasy sensation well up from within as she felt her heart skip a beat.

Trembling, she was afraid that something might happen.

Thomas only motioned toward her. "Miss Larson, please get into the car!"

He no longer possessed a respectful tone.

Clutching her bag tightly, Tiffany touched her mask and sunglasses before falling into deep thought. I had dressed myself so discreetly, yet Thomas was still able to discern my identity from a glance... It looked like he had been waiting for me. But, what could make Thomas personally find me instead of Matthew calling me to meet up?

Even though she felt very apprehensive, Tiffany still chose to follow Thomas.

As the car drove away slowly, she felt more and more suspicious of the whole situation.

Taking out her phone, she called Matthew, but nobody picked up.

“Mr. Ritter, where are we going?”

Tiffany took off her sunglasses and tried to get a grasp of the situation.

Yet, Thomas did not answer her and only kept his silence.

“H-How did the investigation go yesterday? Matthew didn’t do anything to Veronica, right?”

Since she did not get the answer she wanted, Tiffany started to change the angle of attack.

After the incident yesterday, Tiffany had sent her people to search for Veronica, but a whole day of searching yielded not even a trace of Matthew or Veronica. So, she could not determine if Matthew had made a move on her.

Maybe nothing happened.

The car kept heading east until they reached the North Ring Road.

Tiffany finally noticed that something was off by this point. “Mr. Ritter, where exactly are we going? Also, where’s Matthew?”

“You’ll know when you get there.” Matthew only answered some questions. If there were any topics concerning Veronica, he would avoid them completely.

It was another ten minute drive when they arrived at another hospital.

This hospital was located in a more secluded and outskirts part of the city.

Sitting in the car, Tiffany looked at the hospital and clutched her bag involuntarily, terrified. “Why... W-W-Why did we come to another hospital?”

She held her stomach subconsciously, as if she had guessed what was about to happen.

Thomas, upon parking the car, looked at Tiffany through the mirror. “Miss Larson, please get out of the car.”

“I won’t. Not before you tell me what we’re doing here.”

Shaking her head profusely, she said, “I want to see Matthew. Where is he?”

At this point, Tiffany was so nervous that she was almost suffocating while she called Matthew.

Ring, ring, ring...

After a few rings, Matthew answered her call.

“Sob... Matthew, where are you? Thomas brought me to a place called Lifeline Hospital...”

“I’m waiting for you at that hospital’s fifth floor.” Matthew immediately hung up upon saying that.

It was already eleven in the morning by then.

Pale-faced, Tiffany tried calling him again to no avail.

Then, the back door of the car opened just as she was hesitating whether to get out or not, as she saw a few bodyguards in suits standing outside.

It looked like they were going to forcefully carry her upstairs.

Tiffany then wanted to call Elizabeth for help, but Thomas had intercepted this and snatched her phone away before shooting a look at the bodyguards.

Immediately, one bodyguard stepped forward and held her up on each side of her arms while another one stuffed her mouth and carried her upstairs, despite her futile struggles.

Since this hospital was more remote and Tiffany had lived for so long in the center of Bloomstead, she did not know what the main purpose of this hospital was.

Panicking at this point, Tiffany tried to shout out for help only to find that there was not even a staff member on the ground floor, making her sink into despair and fear.

Entering the elevator, they proceeded to the floor where Matthew was on.

Like a pig being sent to the slaughterhouse, Tiffany was brought forth to Matthew on the fifth floor.

The man had just showered and had changed into a pinstripe suit after visiting a boxing gym. He was leaning on the office desk with a cigarette in his hand, taking a drag.

Upon seeing Tiffany being brought inside, he raised his hand, motioning for them to let go of her.

Chapter 204 She Could Not Keep It in the End

Up to this point, Tiffany knew that the cat was out of the bag.

The folder dropped from her hands as her legs wobbled, making her stumble and fall to the ground.

She looked like a soulless marionette that sat on the ground silently.

“The baby inside you. Whose is it?” asked Matthew with one hand in his pocket while the other was holding the cigarette, as he flicked it against the ashtray nonchalantly.

Petrified with fear, Tiffany raised her head. “What... The child? Of course, it’s yours. Matthew, you... you can’t break your promise so easily.”

How did it come to this?

Wasn’t he acting just fine yesterday? Why is he suddenly suspecting where the baby came from?

This sudden development caught Tiffany entirely off guard.

She had never thought Matthew would react so quickly.

“Do you know why I didn’t contact you yesterday?”

Matthew raised his eyebrow, looking like a god about to descend his punishment onto the mortals who defied him.

“W-Why?”

Tiffany asked cautiously, with a voice so small that only a mosquito could hear it.

“The boss had me contact Castron to investigate every detail of when you were there. Otherwise, why would he not call you on the day of the incident?” Thomas explained.

Matthew only suspected her of having a child in her belly because she pretended to save him and tried multiple times to harm Veronica.

She really is a cruel woman who would do anything to achieve her goal.

In order to marry me, she tried every trick in the book. This made him wonder whether ‘that one time’ abroad with her was enough to make her pregnant.

As expected, the results of the investigation surprised everyone.

Thomas’ words made Tiffany ghastly pale, making her look a bit terrifying.

“I-It’s... not like that. This is impossible.”

Shaking her head maddeningly, Tiffany clutched her belly. “The baby is yours. It really is yours... Ugh...”

Nonetheless, she only managed to explain halfway when Matthew leaned down and choked her. “Have you thought about how you’re going to die?”

“Ugh... It hurts...”

He tightened his grip, making his joints pop, while Tiffany felt like her windpipe was being crushed to the point her face started to go all red.

Raised by the man like a chick, she tried her hardest to hit both of Matthew’s hands. “Ugh... Let... Let

go..."

These few words took all she had.

Matthew peered at her with a flash in his gaze before he tossed her away like a piece of trash.

With a bang, Tiffany's head hit the bed, and her forehead began bleeding.

Huff... Huff...

The moment she fell down, her neck was released with air rushing into her body, making her cough chokingly, completely ignoring the wound on her forehead.

Matthew only took a couple of tissue papers from the desk and wiped his hands before throwing them away in the trash can with a disdainful expression. "Proceed with the operation."

"Yes, boss."

Thomas nodded.

Scared out of her wits, Tiffany crawled to Matthew and tugged on his pants. "Sob, sob... Matthew, the child really is yours. You can't be so cruel. If Old Mrs. Kings knew about this, she would be really sad. Her biggest wish is to have a great-grandchild. If she knew... Ah!"

In this world, there would always be some that kept crossing his line.

And in front of him right now was Tiffany, who had not only lied to him but his grandmother as well. She had let an old woman who had well crossed fifty years of age wait so long for nothing.

This d*mned woman!

Raising his leg, Matthew cruelly kicked Tiffany's chest as she stumbled backward and rolled on the floor. Laying on the ground, she spewed blood.

She had never seen such a livid and violent side of Matthew.

In her eyes, the man she loved was silent yet proud and capable. He was the goal of many young women.

Even though he had a cold attitude, at least he treated her somewhat gently.

It was only that she did not know such a vicious man lay beneath that cold mask.

Holding onto her chest, Tiffany was in such pain that she could not utter a word.

She looked spitefully at him while clenching her free hand so tightly that it started to bleed, yet she did not take notice of that.

Excluding Tiffany, even Thomas and the other bodyguards did not dare to even breathe loudly due to what they had just witnessed.

In over ten years of service, they had never seen their employer so furious before. Even more so, they had never seen him harm a woman.

They were all completely baffled!

Soon, Thomas and the others brought Tiffany, who was still lying on the floor, away.

Chapter 205 Conrad's Ploy

As both mental and physical pain enveloped Tiffany, she could only repeat Thomas' words in her head. 'Your uterine walls are thinner than normal ones. The doctor had said that after this, you'll never get pregnant again!'

She had ascended to the peak in one day and fell into the darkest abyss the next.

This rise and fall made Tiffany feel as if her whole life was just a joke.

Even though the pain was ripping at her inside out, she had trained herself painstakingly all these years only to live a more lavish life and to become the center of everyone's attention.

Alas, all it took was but a moment for her to fall from grace, as she did not have any room to even resist.

Matthew Kings. That man... That man is just a devil in disguise.

The pain had left her weak all over. Even though Tiffany felt that she was losing blood all over the place, she still climbed up strugglingly and walked one step at a time toward the villa.

I cannot die here!

I need to live on. I must live on!

I will return the pain that I received today a hundredfold to those two snakes, Matthew and Veronica!

She had decided that since Matthew had refused her right to be a mother, she would also never let Veronica have another child in this life!

I will never allow that to happen!

Taking a few steps forward, Tiffany felt her vision go dark as she fell backward...

However, before she felt the sensation of crashing to the ground, she fell into a person's embrace.

At the last moment, she caught a glimpse of the person and was shocked to find out that it was none other than Conrad.

"M-Mr. Conrad. It's you?"

She fainted right after uttering that.

...

Waking up, Tiffany found herself lying in a ward upon opening her eyes.

"You're finally awake."

Conrad saw Tiffany regain her consciousness and stated that.

Tilting her head, Tiffany looked at Conrad, who was sitting beside her. "Thank you for saving me, Mr. Conrad."

"I was investigating the incident at yesterday's wedding. After discovering that your call wouldn't connect, I went to your house in hopes of finding you. Then, I found you fainting."

Up to that point, Conrad then frowned hesitatingly. "Why did you..."

"I'm ashamed to have let you see that."

The conversation made Tiffany suddenly cry uncontrollably.

She looked very pitiful.

This made Conrad reach out and touch her face, wiping her tears away with his thumbs gently. "Women should learn how to cherish themselves. Matthew wasn't meant for you. You should give up on this foolish thought."

When one was in total despair, the smallest act of kindness given by others would seem like a saving grace.

Tiffany felt this gentleness from Conrad, as a thought came to her, when she looked at him with teary eyes.

If I can't be Matthew's woman, I can be his aunt!

Chapter 206

This thought made Veronica's joy disappear, as she hesitated for a second before saying, "Investigate if they are Matthew's people. If they are, return the deposit and reject them."

Even though the incident at Matthew's wedding caused the reputation of Encounters, her bridal shop, to tank, she still did not want to receive any help from him.

That disgusting man. He must be planning something else. I should just stay well away from him.

Shirley only felt that this was a wasted opportunity as she replied, "Are we really going to reject this deal? Miss Murphy, our shop had sacked over ten staff members at this point. If no business comes our way, the employees might grow doubtful. I'm afraid..."

"We just need to keep to our principles. I know what to do."

Not saying much to Shirley, Veronica then hung up.

After that, she sat in the room by herself, remembering all of a sudden that it was Elizabeth's birthday the day after tomorrow. However, under these kinds of conditions, she was thinking that Elizabeth might not hold a banquet anymore.

Yet, she still knew she needed to choose an appropriate gift for her.

At the Spinfluence Group.

Matthew, who had dealt with all matters at hand, returned to the company to

continue working

Reaching his office, Thomas stated, "Boss, our stocks have dropped by a whole three points since the exchange opened in the afternoon. The higher ups have been voicing their complaints over this and said that they wish to arrange for a board meeting to discuss this tomorrow."

Matthew listened to him as he sipped on his tea and focused on reading through the documents on his table.

It was only after a while that he slowly uttered, "Just let everything take its course."

+10 pearls

"Mr. Conrad is back. I think he wants to make use of this chaos and reap some benefits."

Thomas knew these kinds of people's little ploys the most.

could think of,

still kept his calm, as he would never waste his thoughts on such little things, nor did he think that such little

any changes by not

Matthew handed it to Thomas and asked, "How is the progress on the thing I asked you

"What?"

first, Thomas was a bit bewildered, but he then instantly knew what his employer was talking about as he sighed defeatly. "The subordinates

"Useless fools!"

Matthew exclaimed coldly.

Knock, knock, knock.

someone knocked on his
landed his gaze on the person
slowly, he
nodded and bowed. "Hello, Uncle Conrad. You guys catch up first. I'll
also followed
of Matthew and Thomas' close relation greeted
did not say a word as
standing while the other
gazes of
"Unde, what is it?"
he would
that Conrad, who came to him personally, did not just want to tour
had on a full suit
resting area by the side and sat on the sofa before speaking, "About the incident at the wedding, what's
Grandma want you
crossed his legs as he leaned against his office chair and crossed his fingers. Hitting the back of his hands
with his fingers rhythmically, he
family's dignity. As the madam of the family,
of a
he shared the same roof with Elizabeth for a long
used
took out a cigarette before holding it in his mouth and lighting it, slowly taking a drag in the
clear that he did not wish for Conrad
knew that Conrad only shrugged his shoulders helplessly and opened up his arms

Chapter 207

At the same time, Hendric, who was on a business trip, took a flight back to the country and made a dash to the hospital as soon as the plane landed.

When he saw that Xavier and Melissa were fine in the VIP patient room, a wave of relief washed over him.

“D—Dad, you’re f—finally here.” When she saw her father, Melissa burst into tears as her fragile heart was crushed after having her leg injured.

At the sight of her tear—stained face, his heart throbbed in pain. The family had always treated her as the apple of their eyes, yet she was now injured.

Placing his briefcase aside, he strode over and lifted the quilt to take a look at her condition. “How do you feel? What did the doctor say?”

“Sobs. I—I have to rest for at least three months. It hurts, Dad,” whined the pale—faced girl whose voice was choked up. The sheer sight of her forlorn state would have caused anyone to feel sorry for her.

Attempting to comfort her, Hendric patted her shoulder. “As long as you’re alright. Don’t worry about it. You’ll recover soon. Speaking about it, the Kings Family have gone overboard this time!”

Having said that, he glanced at Xavier with an icy gaze before making his way toward his bed. Ever since Hendric had entered the room, Xavier had been phubbing with his head low in a languid manner. In truth, he actually listened attentively to the conversation just now.

They were all Hendric’s children, yet he only had his eyes on a few of them and there would never be room for Xavier.

Such thoughts fled across Xavier’s mind before a slap landed on his face at the very next second. Feeling the stinging pain on his cheek, he looked sideways.

incident, not a part of his body was free of blemishes.

that, neither did Hendric comfort him nor did he ask for the cause. Instead, he straight up

are you doing? He had nothing to do

the sudden hit that she voiced out her

is your incompetent brother who can’t take good care of you?” Hendric’s chest heaved

massage it; he poked it with his tongue instead. As he flashed a contemptuous smile, his face was glaring with

father I

not Xavier’s fault. It’s all because of that b*tch, Veronica

relationship took a turn after she

because of her! She took the gun and hurt us! D—Dad, Xavier is innocent!” Melissa explained while tears were

himself. What did he get in the end? Veronica is still wagging her tail at Matthew, that motherf*cker. F*ck! How dare they touch my daughter! They’re not getting

don’t you

lose his sense of right and

Anyone who dares to lay a finger on my daughter deserves to die!" As the seething resentment bearing in Hendric to his bones. He didn't stop the man, though. Whether it was deceptive tranquility, there was an insidious storm raging into the reporters, she had a strong feeling that something were currently residing in the countryside. Someone might hurt them. She promised herself that she would leave Matthew and stay sever the complicated ties with the Kings Family, though she seemed to have had nothing to do with them. She was now worried about her own safety. Still, there was someone else caring for forced upon Tiffany, Floch and his wife reprimanded

Chapter 208 The Exasperated Matthew

Elizabeth offered the fruits to Veronica. "Have some with me. I can't finish everything myself." Since it would be tactless to refuse, Veronica took a fork and a bite of the fruit thereafter. "It's soft and sweet. Grandma, try it."

Paying no heed to Matthew who was just right next to them, they blabbered on and on. It was not until a short moment later that Elizabeth cast her gaze on him. "The poor girl, Tiffany, came today and she cried buckets. Even if you don't intend to marry her, she still has your baby. You should've at least shown some mercy."

Though she chose not to interfere with the matters of youngsters, she just could not ignore it as she was their elder after all. Meanwhile, Veronica lowered her head at the mention of Tiffany's name and remained without a word. Knowing Tiffany's situation was the last thing on her mind, let alone interfering.

"I know what I'm doing." He did not tell Elizabeth the truth in the end. Considering that she had fainted due to high blood pressure yesterday, he surmised that it was untimely to reveal the truth right now as she might not be able to accept it. As an afterthought, he had made up his mind to spill the beans only after her birthday.

Elizabeth snorted without a reply and turned to Veronica instead. "It's my birthday the day after tomorrow and we will have a birthday party at Kings Residence. You should come with Matthew."

"Okay, Grandma." Veronica had initially thought that Elizabeth would call off the banquet after such an incident had occurred. However, the more one thought about it, the more it made sense.

The very first thing Matthew did after the wedding was call the company's public relations team. In fact, involving them was a brilliant move as he had managed to control the commotion before it escalated. Even so, such a trivial incident had caused Spinfluence Group, a corporation which raked in an annual profit that surpassed trillions, to incur some losses. It would not be an exaggeration to say that a mere sneeze from them could lead to a turmoil in the stock market.

About an hour later, Veronica was planning on leaving the hospital and Elizabeth requested Matthew to send her home. While they walked to the elevator, Veronica did not bother to talk to him at all. Once they arrived at the inpatient department, the man finally broke the silence. "Hold on. I'll get the car." "Am I amputated? Do I not have legs? I don't need you to drive me home," she retaliated and glared at him before leaving the scene with pride.

What should I do with this unprincipled scoundrel that knows no boundaries? Of course, I should distance myself from him. There is no better answer than this.

Now that she was deep in her thoughts, Veronica had walked long enough to realize that she should purchase her own car for the sake of convenience. When she left, Matthew did not chase after her. However, a car halted next to her just as she arrived at the roadside where a familiar voice called for her. "Hop on."

It was an authoritative tone, which left her no room to refuse. After becoming vexed, she had enough of his arrogance and after glancing at the oncoming cab, she waved her hand to hail the driver and instantly got into the vehicle. Her actions were reflected onto the rearview mirror and Matthew was disgruntled upon witnessing the entire thing.

This pampered woman!

Swiftly, he followed closely behind the cab until they arrived at a hotel. As he watched Veronica entering the building, he waited a few minutes before walking in to confirm his suspicions, only to be told that she was staying there for the time being. Despite the vast metropolis, she had no place to call 'home'. Matthew felt his chest tightening due to the heart-wrenching truth.

...

It was Elizabeth's 65th birthday banquet today at the Kings Residence and an influx of leading figures as well as renowned celebrities from the city was being welcomed to the place.

Veronica went to the mall in her newly purchased car worth thousands yesterday in search of the ideal birthday gift for Elizabeth.

The doorbell suddenly resonated throughout the room early in the morning just as she was about to head to the said party. As a result, Veronica walked to the door in confusion. "Who is it?"

The door quickly opened to reveal the tenacious man whom she knew as Matthew. As the gleam on her face simmered, she quickly closed the door but he wedged his foot between the crevice.

An irritated Veronica addressed him with a sharp gaze, "What the hell is wrong with you? Remove your foot or I will gladly cripple it!"

Why does he have to ruin my day the second it starts?!

"Change into this." Matthew gave Veronica a paper bag.

"What's this?"

"Clothes."

today and all the big names are invited. This means that today will mark the day you reveal your new identity to the press. So, do

Chapter 209 You Old Sleazeball

Although Veronica had always been the untainted beauty in Matthew's eyes, her beauty was taken to the next level as she was dressed to the nines with make-up, albeit a light one. She had him at hello just as easy as a snap of the finger.

Still, someone like her naturally radiated the aura of a royal ice queen, but only if her lips were zipped. Such an imaginary facade would instantly shatter into pieces once words escaped her mouth.

"What are you looking at, you old sleazeball? If I catch you staring at me again, I'll dig out your eyes right away!" Her gaze that was as sharp as daggers landed on him as her seething wrath overflowed.

The uncouth words jarred into his ears and caused his brows to furrow tightly. Despite the urge to teach Veronica a lesson, Matthew told himself to be patient. F*ck, why do I even like her?

The ever decorous and restrained man could not resist his internal cursing anymore. "From today onward, you're part of the Kings Family. Thus, every word and action of yours represents the whole family. You gotta behave yourself in public," he advised patiently.

"You're telling me?" Veronica snorted before turning around.

"Hold on!" He suddenly grabbed her wrist.

"What's wrong?"

"I... think it's better if you leave in the one you were wearing previously." He touched his nose as his voice had clearly become meeker than before.

Veronica's expression fell upon hearing that. "Matthew Kings, do you have a few loose screws in your brain? The one who told me to change into this dress was you, but you're telling me to change it again? Do I look like a clown to you?"

While her face was rife with anger, she prodded his chest with her finger. "Why should I listen to you, anyway? I'm not gonna change! Bite me if you want to because I don't freaking care!"

she lifted the skirt of her dress before she strode toward the elevator. Matthew followed suit as he he was standing behind Veronica but she remained quiet. When they left

even get into the car, she noticed something flying toward her and she hastily caught it. She realized that it was a key to a Ferrari car after opening her

unless you

him. "What? Since I'm Grandma's god-granddaughter, am I no longer Veronica Murphy? If so, part of her plans, anyway. However, with how things had transpired lately, she wished to protect herself as well as her family under

rules in order to maintain the perfect life of the finest as Elizabeth's god-granddaughter, she would of the moment consigned Matthew into a pensive contemplation. Veronica was right; a fetter would only trammel her if her life

But...

something seeped into his mind, Matthew tested the waters. "You should know well regarding the standing our family has in Bloomstead. For Grandma's sake, are you willing to break..." Your

he could not bring himself to finish the

for me to fit into the high society. I am 'me'; the one and only 'me' in this world. I will never show concession by changing myself. Life is enough of a struggle itself. I

Veronica Murphy, someone who definitely would not change herself

hand, Matthew frowned as perturbation sat on his
can't change her, change yourself. A voice suddenly
with her imperfections when he married her? However, the voice had
Therefore, he should be the one endeavoring to make changes if he really intended to walk down the
aisle with her one day.

elicited a smile on Matthew's face, which softened his frigid expression.

driver seat of the ordinary, mid-range priced car.

was nonplussed by his sudden change of

Chapter 210 A Cat's Paw

"Oh gosh. Isn't that Young Master Matthew?"

"Hurry and take some pictures! Since when did he drive such a cheap car?"

"This is going to be in the headlines."

"Oh, I get it. It must be a branded car with a lame design."

"Yeah, that makes sense. You're clever."

...

In light of Matthew's identity, all the onlookers were racking their brains to investigate the truth behind
that car. While Veronica was getting out of the car, she overheard their discussion and was annoyed.

So what if it is only worth ten thousand? Why are they judging someone for a mere means of transport?
Geez!

Before she could even voice her thoughts, the reporters focused their gazes upon her. "Isn't she
Veronica Murphy? The one who forced Miss Larson to abort the child."

"Oh, I know her! She's the long-lost daughter of the Larson Family!"

"They resemble each other so much, but after taking a closer look, they have different sets of eyes.
Veronica has a mole on her nostrils and she has short hair."

"Could it be that Young Master Matthew called off the engagement to Tiffany because of her?!"

"What's going on?"

...

gazes on Veronica. Since she felt their scorching gazes burning into her skin,

exclaimed behind her. "Oh! Isn't

a beautiful woman in a black glittering dress. Her maroon tresses were tied up to expose

she just call

me as another person. I'm Veronica Murphy." Veronica introduced

The woman offered a handshake out of courtesy before

"I'm

instantly as she asked with an icy voice, "Is there anything I can

compromise was shown toward Ruka's courtesy, which resulted in Ruka's

village. She knows nothing about etiquette." Following behind Ruka was

her best friend, Reese pitied

collection with a price of 800,000. Why don't you tell us where you bought the counterfeit from?"

Caitlyn, who got

remembered these familiar faces as she had wandered around the hall the whole morning to handle the decoration. It was not difficult to see through their malicious intentions, though. Judging

ear, she looked at the rude

tight and small for you. Just how many pads did you shove into your chest? You should've used the money to get a boob job instead. Don't try to stand out when you're not even that attractive. Know your place or it'll backfire. Who

of luck today? Why must I listen to

"Pfft. She's sharp-tongued."

"Interesting."

"Gosh, that's nasty."

they had

...