

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 236

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 236 Thomas Revealed the Truth

Matthew's refusal wasn't something unexpected. Veronica leaned against her chair and looked at the documents with a frown. "If I weren't Grandma's god-granddaughter, the company wouldn't have achieved such a success. As much as I am grateful to you, I am indebted to the Kings Family. Nonetheless, I can't deny that it's a burden too."

She laid out her genuine thoughts without hiding. "It's your call whether you want to accept the offer or not."

If Matthew didn't sign it, she would shut down the company due to the guilt of receiving the money.

Suddenly, a knock resounded on the door, and a waiter walked inside to serve the food. Veronica thrust the documents back into her bag before pointing at the dishes. "Let's eat. The filet steak is amazing. Try it."

Veronica poured Matthew a glass of wine before raising her wine glass and smiling sweetly. "Anyway, thank you so much."

While his eyes were fixated upon her, he wasn't feeling as happy as he was when he first stepped into the restaurant. Mixed feelings were churning in his stomach as he silently raised his glass in a toast to her.

After polishing off the drink in one-go, she exclaimed, "The wine's not bad. I guess I should dig in now."

Humming in response, he savored the sweetness in his mouth. As incisive as he had always been, he noticed the exhaustion behind that wry smile on her face. He then gazed out of the window, drifting into a pensive rumination.

When they first met, there was a dazzling smile on her face all the time, as though no pall of sorrow could ever rein her in. Yet, she rarely smiled nowadays, and it pained Matthew to realize that.

Throughout the meal, they conversed lightly about the trivias before separating ways to their own companies.

Holding the unsigned contract, Veronica arrived at her store. Before she could even announce the sad news, Thomas dropped by her place.

"Miss Murphy." The man in a suit strode into the store and made his way to Veronica, who happened to be in the hall on the first floor.

She turned to him in confusion. "Mr. Ritter, what brings you here?"

"I have something for you. Can we talk privately at your office?"

"Sure. This way." She nodded before giving her assistant an order. "Shirley, please bring us some coffee."

While Shirley went to prepare them some coffee, they headed upstairs to the office. Along the way, Veronica inquired, "Did Matthew ask you to come?"

"Yes." Thomas let out a smile. "So, here I am to relay the good news."

After entering the office, they sat opposite each other. With a business smile, Veronica piped up, "What good news?"

The enigmatic smile on Thomas' face was beaming so brightly, as if he couldn't suppress the gleeful feeling in his chest. He placed two documents before her. "Young Master Matthew mentioned that the business at your bridal store has been pretty good recently, so he would like to be a shareholder. However, considering that the store is quite small, he asked someone to rent the abutting ten-storey building for ten years. He especially noted that you must fill in the share rights by yourself."

"Ten-years rental?" She was awestruck by someone's generosity.

Renting a ten-storey building for ten years in this kind of place? Is he trying to monopolize the industry in the city?

"Yes, for ten years." Thomas nodded with certainty.

Veronica sifted through the contract, only to find the equity division still blank under the written terms. She hadn't filled it in yet, but Matthew had already signed it beforehand.

While she was focusing on going through the contract, Thomas added, "Young Master Matthew said it is up to you."

However, he had already jumped to conclusions in his head. I bet someone greedy like her will have the lion's share. She's not going to pass up such an opportunity.

"Since he has rented the place, I should sign the contract, of course."

Matthew was a businessman who only had his eyes on promising projects. Judging from how he had rented a ten-storey building for a decade, he knew how much profit was ahead of them.

She took a pen and flipped open the document again to fill in the blank space. However, just as she was going to sign her name on it, Thomas piped up, "Miss Murphy, what do you think of Young Master Matthew?"

"He's a nice guy."

"After working for him for so many years, it's my first time witnessing how he treats someone nicely." Thomas smiled sheepishly as he blurted out the implicit words.

Remaining silent, Veronica merely glanced at him coldly.

Then, he asked the very question, “How are you going to divide the equity, Miss Murphy?”

At that, she stopped short and looked at him dangerously. “Mr. Ritter, are you trying to teach me how to handle things?”

From the moment he passed over the documents, she was aware of his whirring mind as his curious gaze had given him away, but she forbore from breaking the ice by ignoring it.

As he had not expected such a direct and indifferent question, Thomas pursed his lips before flashing a wry smile. “It’s a misunderstanding, Miss Murphy.”

Next, he zipped his lips under her scorching gaze. It wasn’t until then that Veronica wrote ‘95%’ on the paper.

Bang!

In a fit of rage, Thomas slammed the table. “Don’t you think that you’ve gone overboard, Miss Murphy? If it wasn’t for Young Master Matthew, do you think your bridal store could’ve done the same? The rent alone surpasses millions. It will be a massive amount of money, including the renovation. Do you think that everything comes for free, Miss Murphy?”

His brusque action startled her, but she smiled sarcastically in return. Paying no heed to him, she continued filling up the contract.

Meanwhile, the man stared at her while grumbling furiously, “When you were kidnapped on the cruise back then, Young Master Matthew relinquished a contract worth billions and took a flight from Castron immediately just to save you; he risked his life to rescue you when there was a deluge in the Dawnpol Village; besides, he found out about your insomnia, so he elft the underground chamber and...”

At the mention of the underground chamber, Thomas suddenly recalled Matthew’s warning, and he immediately glossed it over by saying, “Young Master Matthew went to lengths to find you the medicine, but he didn’t tell you in case you might feel a burden. Not only that, he even hired some people to live as your parents’ neighbors just to keep them safe. He sacrificed so much for you, but how can you repay his kindness in this way?”

Veronica’s hand stopped when she heard that. Her eyes glazed over as his words kept ringing in her ears.

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Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 237 The Beginning of Thomas’ Journey in Hell

What? Matthew asked around just to find insomnia medicine for me? And he gave up a billion worth contract just to rescue me from the cruise? He even risked his life to save me from the flood and hired people to protect my parents? Veronica was shocked to the core and her mind was in a mess.

It was no wonder her parents mentioned that they had new neighbors a few days ago. According to them, the newcomers were hired to keep an eye on the reservoir for any intruders that intended to fish there. In actuality, it was to keep her parents safe!

But... Do I have insomnia?

Before this, she was completely aware that she could only sleep when it was four or five in the morning. However, it wasn’t a big deal to her as she thought that she only needed a shorter sleep period compared to others.

Not only that, she assumed that Matthew was spouting nonsense when he told her about her problem. She did not believe in him one bit! Did she misunderstand him all this time?

After maintaining her composure, she continued to finish off both the contracts. By the time she raised her head, Thomas was standing by the window, smoking silently.

Even if his attitude was indecent, he was a loyal assistant who had always done his best for Matthew. Thus, never once had Veronica blamed Thomas.

In any case, she had encountered nastier comments since the day she managed the company as Elizabeth’s god-granddaughter. Once was bearable, but not for long; eventually, she had built a towering barrier with the bricks thrown at her.

“I’ve signed the contracts. Please pass it to him.” She placed the pen aside.

Right then, Shirley entered the office to serve the coffee. She smiled politely at Thomas. “Mr. Ritter, here’s your coffee.”

However, Veronica told her, “Shirley, please escort Mr. Ritter out.”

“Huh? But it hasn’t been long since he arrived here.” Shirley could sense the heavy mood hanging in the air.

Thomas held the cigarette with his fingers before saying, “No need for that.” Then, he took the contract and strode out in a fuming rage.

Glancing at the man’s long face, Shirley knew that a note of discord had surfaced during the conversation. “Veronica, Thomas works for Young Master Matthew. Did you guys fight?”

Veronica breathed a heavy sigh. “It’s nothing. Don’t worry about it.”

Looking at her wristwatch, she realized that it was 3 in the afternoon. “Stay here. I gotta put up a vacancy announcement.”

“Huh? Didn’t we have newcomers already? Why do we need more?”

“Forget it, then. I’ve got some business to attend to. See ya.” She waved her hand and left with her bag.

I bet a rigorous man like Matthew will transfer over some experienced workers, right? Then, there’s no need to hire more people for now.

While Veronica was on her way to the hospital, Thomas was heading toward Spinfluence Group, which was quite near the place. A ten-minutes drive was all that it took.

After alighting from the car, he made a dash for the president’s office with the contract. Matthew was leafing through some documents when he heard someone enter. He assumed that it was one of the secretaries, yet the oncoming person flung a document in front of him.

He lifted his head to see a furious Thomas. “What happened?”

“Young Master Matthew, I told her that she could decide the equity division as she wished and she only gave you 5% of the share! I was wondering how much she would be grateful for what you’ve done for her, and I know now. She’s simply incorrigible!”

Working under Matthew, Matthew had always known Thomas to be a mature and tactful man. However, he could no longer contain his temper, considering how much Matthew had changed and sacrificed for Veronica. He was quite touchy whenever she was involved in the issue.

“Oh, really?” Matthew leaned against the chair as he flipped through the contract. “Did you say anything else to her?”

“I said everything that was on my mind! She’s mercenary, cruel, heartless, and full of schemes! Not only that...”

Thomas began his harangue by speaking badly of Veronica in every possible way. As the list went on, he suddenly felt a sharp gaze glaring at him as it sent chills down his spine. He raised his head instinctively, only to see Matthew’s face covered with seething anger.

Matthew rose to his feet and tossed the contract right in Thomas’ face.

“Take a closer look at it!” Matthew insisted.

Feeling the stinging pain on his face, Thomas had no clue to the reason for Matthew’s rage. It wasn’t until he read the terms properly that he finally realized his terrible yet foolish blunder. 95% of the shares belonged to Matthew!

That means Veronica only has 5% of it?

“I-Impossible! How did I get it wrong?!” Unable to accept his mistake, Thomas flipped open the papers once again before coming to terms that it was indeed his misunderstanding. Veronica owned only 5% of the shares.

His expression fell. “She loves money, yet she gave herself only 5%? But why?”

Even though he hated to admit it, it was a fact that she only owned 5% of the shares. In other words, due to his daft assumptions, Thomas presumed that she hogged the lion’s share the moment he saw the written numbers.

“Y-Young Master Matthew, is this the reason why you let Miss Murphy decide the division?” He trembled in the face of Matthew’s fearsome gaze. He gulped in horror as the memories of him attacking Veronica with a tirade flashed across his mind. His guilty conscience was pricked, but his idiotic action was irrevocable.

In the meantime, Matthew took a cigarette and began smoking. He deeply inhaled the tip before breathing out a puff of smoke. “You haven’t rested well in the past ten years while working for me. It’s time for you to take a leave.”

“Huh? I... Young Master Matthew, I apologize for my rash actions, but please rescind that order. I will apologize to Miss Murphy until she forgives me. I promise!”

Why did I say that? Why did I freaking say that? How could I commit such a sin?!

“You should enjoy yourself for a few months on Cory Island.” Matthew walked toward the French window with a smoldering cigarette in hand.

However, Thomas’ face was contorted in despair and pain. “Young Master Matthew, I think I should apologize to the person involved myself. I’m sure Miss Murphy is a magnanimous person, and she will forgive me.”

The urge to slap his untrammelled mouth himself was so strong. He thought, To Cory Island? That’s not an ordinary trip, but a trip to hell!

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Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 238 So, I’ve Misunderstood Matthew

Cory Island was an obscure island where a hellish training took place. The people who went there would have a taste of what it felt like to be in hell, but they would return as whole new people after the arduous drill.

In fact, Thomas was one of the candidates who had successfully completed the inhumane training, and he would never want to go back there. Once was enough.

However, his mistake was beyond recall as Matthew insisted on sending him there. "Ask your brother, Troy, to take over your position."

Thomas swallowed back his pleading words and gave in in the end. "Understood."

"Leave." The man ordered icily.

The corner of Thomas' lips twitched as he left the office instantly. Once he exited the building, he gave Veronica a call at the entrance, but no one picked up the phone no matter how many times he called.

His heart sank, and he slapped himself a few times in despair. "F*ck! You dumb sh*t!"

The brisk sound of slapping attracted the bypassing workers, who knew him well.

"M-Mr. Ritter, are you alright?"

"Mr. Ritter, are you okay? Do you want us to call the hospital?"

"Mr. Ritter, is everything fine?"

"There are no mosquitoes, though. Why did you slap yourself?"

...

The weird gazes from his confused colleagues irritated him. "What are you looking at? Don't you have work to do? Can't I slap myself when my cheeks feel stiff? Have you got a problem with it? Huh? Scram! Just leave me alone!"

The crowd dispersed in a heartbeat upon hearing his lecture. Once he got into his car with trudging footsteps, he rang his elder brother. "Troy, I'm done for. I'm gonna die."

"What's wrong?"

"F*ck! Today, I..." Thomas recounted the incident in detail over the phone before getting into the main point. "Then, Young Master Matthew is going to send me to Cory Island! He even told me to enjoy myself there for months! Darn it! I'm not the same as I was during my younger days. I'm old now. Am I going to die there? Troy, is this the end of my life?"

"Yeah, you're doomed." Troy took a deep breath before bursting into laughter. "Thomas, I-I'm sorry. I don't usually laugh at this kind of situation, but I can't help it. How could you say that to Miss Murphy? You know how much Young Master Matthew cares about her. You silly!"

While his brother was guffawing nonstop, Thomas' face was perfused with red in embarrassment.

...

Veronica went to the hospital to see a neurologist. When it was finally her turn, she told the doctor about her situation.

On the doctor's advice, she underwent tests like electrocardiography and electroencephalography. Once the doctor took a glimpse of the results, she nodded. "It is insomnia. I presume that it has been two months, but most of the patients have it because of massive stress. And most of the youngsters suffer from sleep deprivation due to work pressure..."

The doctor proceeded with the common situations insomniacs might encounter as well as the things Veronica should take note of before scribbling a prescription for her.

It was half past five when she left the hospital. She checked her phone and saw the missed calls from Thomas in the car. Since she was doing a check-up at that time, she could not answer the phone.

Pondering for a moment, she had a rough guess of the reason why he called her, but she had no intention of returning the call.

Just as she was about to put her phone in the bag, it rang. It was Matthew. Holding the phone tightly, she glanced at the medicine on the passenger seat. She had misunderstood him all this time.

The porridge he made and the warm milk he prepared at the Twilight Condominium contained medicine that could cure her insomnia.

Even right now, Veronica still couldn't face the fact that she was suffering from insomnia. She felt awful thinking about how she had thrown all those nasty words at him back then. Although he had tried to explain, she never trusted him in the slightest.

Never in her wildest dream had she imagined the arrogant man being so helpless in front of her. A pang of guilt hit her hard upon realizing the truth.

She would pretend nothing had happened in front of Matthew nonetheless, because the 'misunderstanding' would be a perfect shield for her to reject him.

It was true that Matthew was nice to Veronica, but that alone couldn't fill in the gap between them. The fact that they weren't of the same world had determined their fate from the start, not to mention she didn't like him at all.

"Hello." She answered the call with indifference.

"Have you gotten off work?" His voice sounded gentle as ever. It sounded as though he was handling something very precious.

"Nope. I'm still busy. Thomas stopped by today with the contracts, and I heard everything from him. You're planning to expand the business, right? I'm looking at some information to understand more about the bridal stores in Bloomstead."

“There must be a balance between work and life. Some rest time after work is important for you to do your job better.”

“You’re right.”

“I’ll pick you up from your office in 20 minutes. Let’s have dinner together.”

“Okay.” The conversation ended and Veronica headed straight to her company. Since it was rush hour, it took her longer to arrive due to the traffic. Not long after she alighted from the car, Matthew could be seen standing at the entrance.

“Woah, he must be Young Master Matthew.”

“He is President Murphy’s god-brother. I’m sure he’s here for her.”

“Oh lord, look at that handsome face! I didn’t get the chance to look at him closely at the wedding.”

“He’s so handsome. A coat and a pair of sunglasses? He can be a supermodel and I’ll be his number one fan!”

“If only I had such a handsome brother…”

…

The employees, who hadn’t yet gotten off work, swooned over Matthew’s surreal visuals. The sheer sight of his well-defined features could captivate one’s heart readily.

Hearing the commotion in the lobby, Veronica turned around to see the man standing by the door.

“You’re here,” she stated nonchalantly before clapping her hands to draw everyone’s attention. “Alright, guys. Since we still have some time left, I would like to announce something.”

While everyone gathered in the lobby in three lines, she beckoned Matthew to come over, after which he gladly walked toward her side and hung the sunglasses on his shirt.

“The way he hung his sunglasses is so cool!”

“With those well-defined sculptures and ethereal features, he’s the president we only see in comics.”

“If I was as handsome as he is, I wouldn’t have stayed single until today.”

“Pfft. Well, I can guarantee your girlfriend wouldn’t have broken up with you.”

“I don’t think I can fall for another man anymore.”

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Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 239 The New Boss

Standing before her workers, Veronica attempted to maintain her composure as their enthusing words reached her ears. She couldn’t help but exclaim, Good looks aren’t always a good thing.

“Silence. Allow me to introduce Matthew Kings, the president of Spinfluence Group, who will be our majority shareholder from today onward. Henceforth, he will be your—I mean he will be our boss,” she introduced Matthew’s new identity succinctly, and the employees soon surged into a ruckus.

“What? That’s so sudden!”

“So, President Kings will be our boss from now on.”

“What a surprise. The Spinfluence Group has been one of the Top 500 companies worldwide. Since Young Master Matthew is our boss, does that mean we’re in the Top 500 as well?”

“I’m all fired up to work for my handsome boss right now!”

…

Veronica clapped her hands once again to silence the noise. “We’ve rented the abutting ten-storey building for a decade to expand the business, and the renovation will commence tomorrow. Therefore, I would like to make it a point to everyone that our company prioritizes talent and dedication. Promotions will be offered based on your achievements and performances. Last but not least, we should believe we will be able to strive forward and hit big in the future under President Kings’ guidance.”

It was certainly good news to hear that, as the employees were all giddy with excitement and vehement joy upon hearing the announcement. Their merriment rubbed off on Veronica, and she was equally happy as they were.

She then turned toward the man standing beside her. “President Kings, would you like to give them a word or two?”

With a gentle smile, he nodded and looked at the team. “Do your best. I’ll be looking forward to your accomplishments.”

Veronica frowned when she heard his short statement, albeit heartening. “Nothing else?”

He hummed in response before the thrilled employees began gushing about him.

“That is so cool.”

“Cold and domineering. He’s the coolest guy I’ve ever met.”

“Gosh, I’m in love!”

“President Kings, may I have a picture with you?”

“President Kings, me too!”

“Can I have a signature of yours, please?”

...

Veronica was rendered speechless by the sight of the meeting turning into a fanmeeting.

This guy and his deadly charms! It’s not even his first day officially coming to work, yet he has everyone falling for him already!

“Sure.” Unlike his usual aloof disposition, he was rather approachable and amiable today. In hindsight, how did the workers react? They surrounded him and took pictures together with him, of course! It was a chance that would only come along once in a lifetime!

At that moment, Shirley scampered toward Veronica with light steps as she swayed her phone. “Veronica, look! Did the picture come out fine?”

Gazing at the girl grinning ear to ear with a peace sign next to the man in the picture, Veronica thought she looked cute.

“Pretty. You look nice.” Veronica was never stingy with compliments.

Shirley nodded rigorously as she smiled sheepishly. “I think it came out nice too.”

While talking to Shirley, Veronica noticed a figure ascending the stairs. Realizing that it was Monica heading upstairs, she followed suit.

Monica was spacing out by the window when Veronica walked up to her. “Are you worried that Matthew wouldn’t agree with your part-time job here?” Veronica saw through her concerns easily.

Surprised by the sudden question, Monica hastily rose to her feet with her bulging belly.

“Sit. The due date is nearing. You should be extra careful.” Veronica seated herself opposite her.

Monica sighed. “I’m more concerned about what will happen after giving birth to my child. President Kings is capable of handling the company well with strict rules and management. When the time comes, I’m certain that he will...”

“As long as I’m here, you have nothing to worry about. Don’t you know that you’ve been one of the important pillars of the company? If you can get everything in order and handle the wedding planning well, you’re allowed to stay. You have my words.” Veronica buoyed Monica up as she was completely aware of how much passion Monica had for the industry. As a woman herself, she understood how exhausting it would be to juggle childcare and work at the same time.

“For real? Thank you, President Murphy. Thank you so much!” Monica was genuinely grateful. “Don’t you worry. I’ll hire a nanny to look after my kid so that I can focus on my work.”

“Glad to hear that.” Veronica got up and patted her shoulder to encourage her. “Take care and don’t stay too late. I’ll head off first.”

Veronica went downstairs, where Matthew was waiting for her while smoking after the hectic photo session. Hearing the oncoming footsteps, the man tossed the simmered cigarette into the trash bin. “What would you like for dinner?”

“Anything is fine for me.”

“Let’s go, then.” He walked abreast of her before suggesting, “I’ll take the wheel.”

She followed and hopped onto his car. Along their way to the restaurant, she sat mute, and he didn’t bring up the contract either.

The bridal store had been the pressure that was weighing her down, and he no longer wanted to mention anything remotely related to the company. The 5% share was enough to imply a lot of things.

The duo ordered some simple dishes, including porridge, in the private room.

While they were waiting for the food, Veronica piped up, “Since the store will be expanded, I’ll leave the employment to you. Plus, you should select some candidates as the supervisor.”

“Let’s not talk about work on the dining table,” Matthew advised gently as he poured her a glass of water.

His gallantry hit her soft spot, and she felt her heart of iron melt because of the warmth enveloping her. She focused her eyes on the man with mixed feelings.

The good-looking man, who only exerted arrogance and an aloof air around him, was always nice and gentle to her in particular.

Recalling back the misunderstanding, she deeply repented her ridiculous reaction. He was trying to help, yet she made him mad. However, she knew that relationships could not be forced.

“Okay. I’ll be visiting Grandma at Kings Residence tomorrow. Wanna come along?” Veronica invited.

“Sure,” responded Matthew. “There’s a charity in the city the day after tomorrow. Would you like to come?”

“Sure, I’ll go.”

The atmosphere in the room was wholesome as the light conversation continued before they left the restaurant separately. When the afternoon came the next day, they went to Kings Residence together.

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Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 240 Bringing Veronica and Conrad Together

Holding a basket of fruits, Veronica ambled toward Elizabeth. “Grandma.”

Elizabeth handed over the grain that she fed the poultry to the maid. “Roni, you’re here.”

“Yeah, I miss you, Grandma.” Veronica smiled and clung onto the old lady’s arm before looking at the poultry. “It’s nice to rear some chickens and ducks as a pastime.”

Elizabeth couldn’t work because of her old age, so it was best for her to indulge in something to lift her mood.

“You’re right. I gotta at least do something to kill time.” Elizabeth pulled Veronica in the direction of the parlor. “Let’s go inside. It’s windy.”

Matthew, who had been there the whole time, received no attention and trailed behind them with a helpless smile.

“Grandma, you previously said... said...” Veronica sat next to Elizabeth, hesitating to bring up the topic.

Elizabeth patted the back of the girl’s hand. “Don’t be such a stranger. Go ahead.”

Only then did Veronica let out a sheepish smile. “Didn’t you say that you were going to introduce me to someone? Is it still valid?”

When Matthew heard that, his footsteps came to a halt, and the gentleness of his countenance was replaced with seriousness.

At the same time, Conrad, who had been staying at the residence, came to the living room after knowing they had arrived.

He happened to hear Veronica’s question, which elicited a smile on his face. “Finally? After this whole time?”

“Of course, it’s still valid!” Elizabeth laughed merrily.

She had been in a sour mood due to Tiffany’s fake pregnancy, but thanks to Veronica, who visited her often lately, she was able to live her days happily. Her affections for Veronica were genuine.

“Uncle Conrad, don’t tease me! You’re embarrassing me.” Veronica didn’t mind the joke as she deliberately ignored the stoic Matthew.

“Speaking of it,” Elizabeth clasped Veronica’s hands as she looked at Conrad. “Conrad, you’re still single, aren’t you? I’ve always wanted the two of you to be together. Since the two of you are here, why don’t you guys think about it?”

“What?” Veronica shook her head without hesitation. “No, Grandma. Uncle Conrad is nine years older than I am.”

Back then, a drunk Howard accidentally spent the night with Conrad’s mother, hence the youngest kid was born. He was two years older than Matthew, but there was a nine-year age gap between him and Veronica.

Sitting on the chair, Matthew held a cup of water that was served by the maid. Unbeknownst to everyone present, his eyes were flaring with rage.

“We’re living in the 21st century. It’s not a big deal.” Elizabeth glanced at Veronica and tapped her forehead. “Men are more mature when they’re older. He’ll take good care of you.”

In the meantime, Conrad averted his gaze from the girl to Matthew, who was sitting silently. Little did Matthew know that his tightening fingers around the cup had given him away.

Interesting.

“Grandma, I—”

Just as Veronica was about to say something, Conrad preempted her. “I think Roni’s smart and cute. My days always seem brighter with her around.”

Not only did he not reject the suggestion, but he also blurted out his genuine thoughts. Regardless of his feelings, Veronica was someone useful to him.

Veronica was stunned for a moment upon hearing that. She looked at Conrad and noticed the insidious smile on his visage when their eyes met. Beneath the facade was a terrifying bottomless pit that ranged beyond the unknown.

As a cold chill traveled down her spine, she felt her hair standing on her skin.

Like a happy bunny, Elizabeth laughed heartily at Conrad’s approving words. She held Veronica’s hands tightly as she said, “See? He’s down for it. Don’t be shy. Why don’t you give it a shot?”

“No, no, no. Grandma, what are you talking about?” Veronica shook her head vigorously. “I don’t like someone who’s older than me by so many years. Five years is the limit. It mustn’t go beyond that. The generation gap will be a hindrance to the relationship.”

“It seems that I’m already an old man,” teased Conrad, as he didn’t take her words personally. However, Matthew dropped his gaze to the floor as a flicker of glint sparked in his eyes.

She can only accept a maximum of five-years age gap, but I’m older than her by seven years. Is this why she doesn’t like me?

The seething ire in him morphed into sorrow at the knowledge that a happy relationship couldn’t be a forceful one. He couldn’t possibly keep her to himself for the sole reason that he liked her! That would be preposterous!

He finally realized why Veronica invited him to come along. It was on purpose.

“In this case, it looks like Conrad is not for you. What a shame.” Elizabeth frowned and sighed. “I guess I should hunt down some men for you and let Matthew know. His judgments are never wrong.”

Now that the topic had been steered to Matthew, an air of awkwardness began to linger in the atmosphere. Veronica calmed herself down while reminding herself that she could end things with Matthew this way.

“That’s great. You’re right about that. Matthew has a talent for judging people.” She flashed an enticing smile.

Even Conrad was blinkered by her dazzling smile as he said exactly what was on his mind, “Can’t I help you with that?”

“Oh, since Conrad is back for good now, you guys should hang out often. Roni, you can take this chance to learn more from him. You know that he’s good at managing business.” Elizabeth had always treated Veronica as her own granddaughter and couldn’t help the urge to shower her with love and care.

Despite the repulsive offer, Veronica nodded and forced a pristine smile. “That sounds great. Grandma, you’re the best!”

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Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 241 A Shopping Spree

“Little Roni is a liar who tells lies to my mother. You promised her, but I haven’t even received your contact number as of today.” Conrad sighed while crossing his legs. He took a sip of water, masking the mischievous side of him with his dashing looks.

“Really? Roni, how come? Quick! Add your uncle’s contact number at this instant.” Elizabeth glared at Veronica as she feigned displeasure.

In the end, Veronica forced herself to nod her head. “It’s because I’ve been too busy recently.”

Next, she rose to her feet and walked toward Conrad before saving his number. Matthew witnessed the entirety of the situation, but he held his tongue until the end of the day, as though he wasn’t there with them to begin with.

As the lively atmosphere reached its height, they enjoyed dinner together.

After that, an energetic Elizabeth even blabbed on and on about everything to Veronica in the backyard. It was only until then that she was willing to let the girl leave, despite the heavy heart.

“I will swing by often to see you, Grandma. Bye bye.” Veronica waved goodbye to the old lady before getting into her own car. Matthew left on his own as well.

Standing abreast of Yura while watching the cars disappear from her sight, Elizabeth heaved a long sigh. “Roni’s so much like Lily. If Lily’s still here, she should be at Roni’s age now.”

Somewhere in Elizabeth’s heart, there was always a place for Lily, her little daughter. Akin to Lily, Veronica was always the boisterous kid, and that was why Elizabeth had taken a liking to her.

“Lily loved martial arts and was good at playing chess. She was quirky but adorable and kind. She always had that happy face like Roni. And they even have dimples whenever they smile.” The tendency to dwell on the past grew as people aged, especially on matters buried in one’s heart with loose knots.

When Elizabeth and Howard got married at the age of eighteen, she gave birth to Matthew’s father, Flavian Kings, the following year. When Flavian was bestowed with the company along with his wife, Jessica Espin, they named the company ‘Spinfluence Group’.

After having Flavian, the old couple had a few more children, and it had been a happy family until the day they welcomed Conrad because of Howard’s mistake. The incident inevitably left a scar in Elizabeth’s heart henceforth.

When she reached the age of 44, she was pregnant with a baby girl. It was a geriatric pregnancy, yet she insisted on keeping the baby.

Lily had been a cheerful girl whom everyone favored because of her quirky nature. It was a disaster when she passed away ten years ago. The terrible accident had cast a pall of regret upon Elizabeth, who took a long time to move on with her life.

That was why she liked Veronica when they first met at Twilight Condominium. Despite the ugly make-up on Veronica’s face, the girl

reminded her of her daughter with that same cheerful nature. As she spent more time with Veronica, she was captivated by her kindness and optimistic side.

“Though Lily isn’t here anymore, you still have Veronica by your side. She’s a girl with a warm and tender heart,” Yura comforted Elizabeth. “Let’s head inside. Winter’s coming and it’s getting colder outside.”

...

On the other hand, Veronica, who was oblivious of the family’s past and the reason behind Elizabeth’s affections, had finally achieved her goals. She was sure that Matthew would understand her implicit rejection.

However, she noticed that the man had been following behind her car all the while. Not wanting to reveal where she was currently staying, she simply took a turn and drove to a nearby supermarket for grocery shopping.

Matthew parked his car next to hers in the underground parking lot, and they both got out of the cars. Veronica feigned indifference to hide her helplessness. “Why are you following me?”

“It’s still early and I’m bored.” He pimped his coat while striding toward her.

“I need to buy something. Are you sure you wanna join me?” She pointed at his face, as if she was trying to say, Are you sure you’re going to join the crowd?

He pushed her finger lightly. “I’m not that famous. Let’s go.”

Having said that, he took out two black masks for both of them. Despite the fact that he was the sort of person who kept a low profile, everyone in high society knew him, but that wasn’t the case for the ordinary people who were busy slogging through life. Still, in light of the recent wedding incident that had transpired, he reckoned that it would be best for them to wear masks.

“Fine by me.” Veronica wore the mask, and they walked toward the entrance.

Suddenly, a question struck her. “When was the last time you went to a supermarket?”

It was a hard question for Matthew as it took him a while to give a vague answer, “A few years ago?”

“Gosh, I wonder how mundane your life has been.” She shook her head lightly and deemed that his life was devoid of color.

It was 8 p.m., which was the busiest hour in a supermarket. While he went straight into the entrance, she pushed a shopping cart for herself. “You’re not buying anything?”

The man turned around and offered, “I’ll push.”

Veronica gladly let go of the cart and let him do the work. Wandering around the place, she scanned the shelves. When she caught sight of her favorite snack, she took one packet and shook it in Matthew’s face. “Wanna try this?”

Matthew responded without a second thought, “Okay.”

Then, she grabbed a box of nuts. “What about this? Do you eat this?”

“Yeah.”

After taking another two steps, she grabbed a box of chocolate that was on sale. “What about this? We can buy two and get one free.”

“Sure.”

At first, Veronica thought he needed those as well, so she took two packets each. It wasn’t until she raised a packet of spicy chips that she realized that her presumption was wrong. “Do you like this?”

“Yeah.”

She paused momentarily before pointing at the shopping cart filled with a pile of snacks. “Are you sure that you eat these?”

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In the end, Veronica heard him solemnly mentioning, “I’ll buy you everything that you like.”

Instantly, the smile on her face disappeared. Despite her having a face mask covering her face, he could sense her frown, and so he knew she was quite displeased. “How can I possibly finish all this?! If you don’t want to eat them, just say so! You’re being wasteful by buying so much!”

Matthew replied, “I have plenty of money.”

He said that nonchalantly and he was completely unperturbed by her angry retort. On the contrary, his words had an indulgent note to them.

“I can buy them myself. I don’t need you to pay for me! Hmph!” Veronica glared at him furiously as she muttered, “Wastrel.”

“I’m your godbrother, so by right, I should pay for your purchases.”

He had a face mask covering his face and the only visible part was his pretty-looking dark eyes. From the look in his eyes, one could clearly see the doting expression in them. He was clearly expressing his feelings as a grown male doting on an attractive female, but he insisted that it was a brother's affection for his sister.

At that moment, Veronica—holding on to a packet of salt and vinegar potato chips in her hand—paused momentarily in her action, and she instantly turned around to avoid the intense look in his eyes.

She was clearly aware of Matthew's feelings toward her, but she continued to force a silly smile on her face. "Oh, you've shown improvement." She clenched her hands into fists and lightly punched him on the chest. "That's right; you're my brother, so you should behave righteously that way."

"I..."

Matthew stared intently at her with a tender yet complicated look in his eyes. He seemed to have something to bring up, but on second thought, he reckoned that she seemed to have a bad impression of him and that she was quite against their huge age gap, so perhaps it was wiser to continue developing their relationship as siblings for the time being.

After all, he had a higher chance of success if they remained closely in touch. Over time, one would definitely develop feelings for the other after spending time together, so there was no need to rush into things.

As soon as Matthew realized this, he instantly changed his words. "I don't like snacks."

"You don't like going grocery shopping, and neither do you enjoy snacks. Where's the fun in your life, huh?" As soon as Veronica heard him claim that he should pay for her as her brother, the pressure she felt from before dissipated without a trace.

It seemed she had achieved her goal of coming to Kings Residence tonight.

"Do they taste good?" He lifted his brows and glanced at the snacks in the shopping cart as he asked.

"Of course!"

Veronica waved the packet of salt and vinegar potato chips in her hand and replied excitedly, "Did you know, back when I was in school, I would open up a packet of chips as the teacher taught in front of the class? I would hide the chips behind a book and secretly enjoy them under the table."

As she was quite excited, she reached out to pull down her face mask. She stood by his side and spoke as they continued walking. "In the end, do you know what happened? As soon as I opened the bag of salt and vinegar chips, the smell of vinegar filled the entire classroom. The teacher caught a whiff of it and she managed to identify where it came from accurately. She grabbed a pencil and flung it at me. It hit me squarely on the forehead and then... And then I was kicked out of the classroom. As punishment, I had to stand by the corridor for the entire period. The next time I ate salt and vinegar chips in class again, I was caught by the same teacher, so she banished me to the flag stand of the sports ground. From then on, I was famous in the entire school for this embarrassing matter of eating salt and vinegar chips in class."

The man by her side listened as she shared the interesting things that had happened to her in her schooling years. He couldn't help picturing her naughty self in his mind, and he laughed out loud as he teased her, "No wonder you're quite stupid. It must be because you didn't study well in school."

"That's not true! I was very smart during my schooling years and I even gained a scholarship with my results." She smugly showed off to Matthew her glorious past.

Meanwhile, he nodded his head slightly and there was an impressed look in his eyes as he kept his eyes on her and smiled without saying anything.

They continued to browse the grocery store and selected some snacks and groceries before paying for the items.

While they were paying for the items, Matthew stood at the back while Veronica stood in front to pack the items into bags. At that moment, she heard the cashier suddenly say in a soft voice, "Wow! Your boyfriend's really handsome. He looks like President Kings from the Spinfluence Group."

Veronica did not expect the cashier to know Matthew, so she smiled and replied, "He's my brother. However, he's not comparable at all to that rich guy that you just mentioned."

The cashier's face flushed pink as she glanced at Matthew from time to time but didn't dare to look him in the eye. "Oh, so he's your brother, huh? Does he have a girlfriend?"

"Huh?" Veronica was slightly taken aback. Are girls so straightforward in their intentions nowadays?

Suddenly, an idea popped into her mind, and she immediately shook her head earnestly. "Nope. Not at all. My brother doesn't have a girlfriend. Hey, you're so pretty. Why don't you share your contact details with him?"

"Sure!"

The cashier was considered to have a fair complexion with beautiful features as well. She lifted her head and looked at Matthew with sparkling eyes. "Handsome guy, let's swap numbers, alright?" Gosh, he's so handsome and he's almost six feet tall. He has such charisma too. Besides, he looks so handsome and cool, plus he doesn't have a girlfriend! This is great!

"No, that's not necessary."

He rejected her rudely, with a thunderous look on his face. This annoying woman! She seems to be in a haste to sell me off to another woman! Since when am I so worthless?! I've never been outrightly rejected to such an extent!

"Huh?" The cashier was stunned, and there was a look of disappointment that flashed across her eyes.

At that moment, Veronica kicked Matthew. "You could befriend each other and keep in contact. Anyway, you don't have a girlfriend."

As soon as she finished her sentence, he shot a cold look at her and held his gaze for a moment before turning to the cashier. He spoke in a magnetic voice, "I'm sorry. I'm not interested in women."

His words were so shocking that the others around them turned their heads to look at him at that moment.

"Y-You... You're not interested in women?" The cashier lamented as she scanned their items with the barcode machine.

Even as the others lined up to pay behind them started to point fingers at Matthew, they also looked at him with odd expressions on their faces.

"He's such a handsome man, but he's not interested in women!"

"Although it's quite common, it's still such a shame because of his good looks."

"Damn it. This man's partner must be extremely handsome too. We girls can't even find a decent man, and yet we've lost out on two handsome men here. Gosh!"

"Judging by his aura, he should be the dominant one in the relationship."

...

Meanwhile, Veronica heard the crowd's comments and the peculiar looks that they shot at him, and she wished she could stick her head into the ground. This is so embarrassing! I'm so embarrassed!

She looked at Matthew, who had an indifferent and calm look on his face as she quickly said, "I've a stomach ache. I'll leave first. Take your time to pay."

The cashier totaled up their bill and spoke up, "Hi, that comes to a total of 398.5."

He paid the bill, took the items in his arms, and walked off.

Meanwhile, the speculative voices behind him grew louder, but he was unperturbed by everything.

He walked out of the grocery store and went straight to the underground car park. Veronica was waiting for him beside the car by then. As soon as she saw him approach the car, she rolled her eyes at him. "There were so many people there earlier. How dare you mention that you prefer the same gender! Aren't you afraid of being on the front page of the newspaper tomorrow?"

She was quite impressed with how he held his composure. After all, she was so awkward when faced with that situation earlier on.

Matthew took the items and walked to the back of her car. Subsequently, he opened the trunk and placed the items inside.

He shut the trunk and walked to stand in front of Veronica. With a cold look in his eyes, he looked down at the woman in front of him and reached out to lift her chin. "Do not fool around next time."

"I..."

She opened her mouth and tried to say something, but before she could even get a word across, he had retracted his hand. "Good night. You should go home."

He got into his car and drove off.

The reason why Matthew walked off so swiftly was that he knew Veronica had made a U-turn and gone to the grocery store because she didn't want him to know where she was staying.