

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 266

Chapter 266 She Was Learning to Grow

The ten of them met each other in a unique way.

The other nine members of the tour were all men, leaving Veronica to be the only woman. Everyone was surprised to find that out.

Afterward, Veronica traveled with the tour group while discussing with them her plan.

Fortunately, she could walk normally after two days as her injury was no longer serious.

She made efforts to meet them as she did not want to stir up too much attention in case Matthew finds out too much about her.

Water could carry a boat but also capsize it.

Matthew could make her rich, but he could also destroy her easily with his power.

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Therefore, Veronica silently paved her way to start a business. By traveling on a tour together, she managed to get along with the rest and observe their personalities.

While traveling, she also visited a few well-known e-sports companies to carry out thorough research. She even participated in two large-scale e-sports competitions throughout her tour.

After discussing with the nine members of Black Dragons, she only managed to persuade two members to invest in her idea. The remaining seven members were unwilling to invest due to the high risk.

Veronica thought about it at first, and eventually, she managed to persuade them to sign a two-year contract with an annual salary of 30 thousand, while three of them were offered 5% of the shares. At the same time, she also managed to recruit e-sports operation managers, project managers, data analysts, referees, and club managers with high salaries.

The reason why the seven members of Black Dragons who did not invest were given such high shares and basic salaries was that Veronica saw their abilities and values!

After returning to Bloomstead, Veronica rented the 17th and 18th floors of her building as office space.

After that, the company was registered in the name of one of the members—Vincere Games. It was a homonym of Vincent Yale.

Once everyone signed the contract and the office was fully equipped, they officially started operating.

Once everything had been settled, two months had already passed.

In the past two months, Veronica seemed to have been working in Encounters Bridal Store all the time, but in reality, she often took the elevator to the 17th or 18th floor whenever her colleagues were not paying attention.

The two adjacent buildings were commercial residential buildings, and there was no connected area between the two. Therefore, it was not easily noticeable when Veronica moved around.

After the e-sports company officially started its operation, Veronica spent a lot of money to promote Black Dragons and started the game commentary live broadcast. The fame of Black Dragons easily attracted tens of thousands of netizens to watch the live broadcast online that day.

Of the seven people who signed the contract, five people formed a team called Black Dragons, while the remaining two were responsible for the commentary.

A few days after the live broadcast, the Black Dragons, who had been attracting attention from netizens, gradually gained more fame and even attracted a group of diehard fans.

Veronica and the project manager agreed that at present, they only had to build momentum for Black Dragons, increase their popularity, and make them compete with other e-sports teams. Eventually, they planned to challenge the most powerful e-sports team to grow their fame!

Veronica felt fortunate that she met such a group of like-minded people early on. Moreover, they were gaming experts.

The only issue they faced was that there was no start-up capital.

Now that they were officially established, it was only a matter of course.

For the past few days, Veronica was so preoccupied with the marketing plans for Encounters Bridal Store as well as planning for Vincere Games that it completely drained out her energy.

Even when Hendrey invited her out, she had only met him twice. The two of them would have a casual chat over a meal and part ways after that.

As for Matthew and Xavier, she had not seen them for two months.

The e-sports company was gradually getting on the right track, so Veronica was finally able to rest in Encounters Bridal Store's office for a while.

She had not slept for two to three days now, so she was extremely exhausted.

Ring—

The phone on her table started ringing.

Veronica squinted her eyes to answer the phone and put it to her ear, asking, "Hi, may I know who this is?"

"What do you mean who am I? Didn't you save my phone number?" Yvonne's voice sounded on the other end of the phone.

Hearing Yvonne's voice, Veronica slowly opened her eyes and inquired, "What's up?"

"It's snowing, and it's freezing outside. Let's have some sushi," she suggested.

Blurgh—

Veronica's stomach started growling the moment she heard Yvonne's suggestion.

Since she was hungry, she craved some sushi too, so she agreed readily, "Okay."

"Alright then. See you later at Shiro's Sushi."

Hanging up the phone, Veronica sat up and placed the blanket over her sofa.

Looking at the document with last month's turnover on the table, she picked it up and flipped through the document. Last month's turnover was only 30 thousand dollars.

Although there was more than 20 staff before, she managed to recruit a dozen people when the business of the bridal store soared. The company now had a total of 40 manpower.

Rent, salaries, utilities, and other expenses added up to a total of 30 thousand a month.

Therefore, the earnings leveled off last month's expenses. Compared with the previous month when the total turnover was only 7000 dollars, this month's performance was way stronger.

Putting the document aside, she put on a thick woolen jacket and left the bridal store with her bag.

It was misty in the evening, and snowflakes the size of goose feathers fluttered in the air.

Veronica, who was wearing a pair of black heels, sank her feet in the thick snow at the entrance of the company. As the cold wind blew in the direction of her face, she wrapped herself tightly in her khaki-colored trench coat and pulled the red knitted scarf around her neck to cover her face.

She then spread out her hand playfully to catch a snowflake. Watching a hexagonal snowflake falling into the palm of her hand, she felt a cooling sensation. Under the dim streetlights, it glowed like a star before melting into a droplet of water. She found it exceptionally beautiful, feeling her tense mind relax in the sight of it.

Half an hour later, she arrived at Shiro's Sushi.

Seeing Yvonne by the window, she took off the scarf, put it aside, and sat opposite Yvonne.

Yvonne handed her a cup of warm tea and tilted her head to look at Veronica, asking, "Goodness, I haven't seen you for a long time, but why are you so haggard? The dark circles under your eyes are so obvious now. What have you been up to for the past month?"

She simply thought that Veronica went on a trip two months ago and had been busy managing the bridal store for the past month.

"Really? Maybe it's because I didn't sleep well last night."

Veronica took the cup of tea and took a sip to warm her body.

In fact, she had not had a proper rest for more than a month now as she was busy with Vincere Games and Encounters all day.

After all, she majored in marketing management and was good at planning and operation, so she was naturally worried about her two companies.

To put it bluntly, the reason why she worked so hard was that she was currently cash-strapped.

Before this, Matthew said that he would give her 15 million in compensation whereby 9 million had been paid to her in advance to buy a necklace that she was currently wearing, but the 6 million had not been given to her until now.

Now that she had to support the operations of Encounters and invest in Vincere Games all by herself, she could not guarantee how much longer she could sustain the businesses if there were no more funds.

Veronica was aware that Matthew seemed to be deliberately making things difficult for her.

Nevertheless, it did not matter. She chose a difficult entrepreneurial life where she could grow stronger and be more independent instead of relying on others for everything and being mocked for gaining support from the Kings Family.

That kind of disapproval would only make her life bleak and meaningless.

“Can’t you love yourself more?”

The relationship between Yvonne and Veronica gradually became closer. Although they met less in the past two months, they kept in touch via WhatsApp.

Seeing her friend working so hard, Yvonne could not help but feel her heart ache for her.

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Chapter 267 4500-Dollar Part-Time Job

“Ivana just called and said that she’s coming too. I think she has something to discuss with you,” said Yvonne when she suddenly thought of something.

Just as Yvonne said that, someone said ‘hi’ and walked over. “Sorry to keep you guys waiting. I got off work late.”

“Take a seat. I just arrived too,” Veronica greeted her with a smile.

Ivana placed her bag on the seat and sat next to Veronica casually. “It’s only been two months since I met you. How did you lose so much weight? Your jawline is so sharp that you probably can cut fruits with it!”

Her little joke elicited laughter among themselves.

After exchanging a few customary greetings, the trio chatted while waiting for the rest of the food to be served.

“Yvonne said you have something to tell me?” Veronica inquired straightforwardly.

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Ivana, who was holding a piece of sushi and dipping it in the sauce, paused and put down her chopsticks. She then scooped near to Veronica and asked in a low voice, "I have a job in hand. Would you like to consider it?"

"What is it about?"

Veronica's eyes lit up when she heard that it was a money-making opportunity.

"What is it? Don't be so mysterious. Hurry up and tell us." Yvonne glared at Ivana while chewing on her tempura. She was getting impatient when Ivana intentionally built up suspense.

"Remember how Veronica helped me out at the jewelry show before? I met a business partner today who is going to organize an auto show and needs a famous model. I recommended Veronica to him, and he happily agreed."

After she finished speaking, she looked at Veronica again. "They're offering 4500 dollars for two hours. I wasn't sure if you would agree to it, so I came over to ask your opinion."

"So little? It's freezing cold in winter! How could they only offer 4500 dollars of appearance fee?! That's not enough." Yvonne shook her head, grabbed a piece of salmon, and mumbled, "She's the boss of Encounters. How could she only be earning 4500?!"

Veronica mixed the sauce on her plate, thinking about it thoroughly.

Although 4500 was not a big sum, it was not a bad deal for two hours.

"When did you guys know what happened to me?" She suddenly raised her head, looked at Yvonne, and then looked at Ivana. Her sharp eyes were cold.

"I..."

Ivana was stunned for a moment before she threw Yvonne a look of help.

Chewing the food in her mouth, Yvonne pursed her lips and replied, "Bloomstead isn't a big place. Rumors spread easily through the walls. I don't know who started it, but in this circle, rumor has it that you and Matthew aren't getting along, and he's deliberately making things difficult for you."

Initially, Yvonne did not plan to tell Veronica about this, but she did not expect her friend to be so smart to catch on so quickly.

"Yeah. People in our company are also talking about it," Ivana echoed.

Veronica acted like it did not bother her as she continued eating her food.

For the past two months, she had been busy with Vincere Games and Encounters. Naturally, she had no time to pay attention to rumors and gossips.

If it was not for Ivana who mentioned to her about the auto show company offering 4500 to work as a car girl, she probably would not have thought about this matter.

After all, she was the god-granddaughter of Elizabeth. If she was only offered 4500 dollars for a one-time appearance, most people would worry that Veronica would be offended due to the cheap fee, and thus, indirectly offend the Kings Family.

Since the other party invited her to be a model and offered such a low price, Ivana must have said nice things about her in front of them.

If she analyzed it in detail, she was able to figure everything out.

“Erm... What Yvie said makes sense. You are the boss of Encounters, so it doesn't seem appropriate for you to take up the offer...”

“Why not? I'm taking it!”

Veronica took a sip from the cup before exclaiming, “4500 is enough for me to pay my house rent for more than a year. I can make a lot of money for rent just by working for two hours!”

These words came from Veronica's heart.

She did not feel pitiful that she had ended up in such a situation. Instead, she thought it was the normal state of life.

However, when Ivana and Yvonne heard it, they could not help but feel bad for her.

“Are you insane? The auto show might be an open-air one, and we're currently in the middle of winter! Do you know how cold it will be?!” Yvonne admired Veronica's resilience and determination as she regarded her as a good friend.

Seeing that Veronica was willing to take up a modeling show for 4500 dollars made her heart ache.

She was so infuriated that she slammed the table angrily, scolding, “Don't take up the job! Isn't it just 4500 dollars? You don't need that money.”

“I do need that money,” Veronica chuckled softly and continued chewing on her food nonchalantly. She then took another piece of sushi, dipped it in the sauce, and raised

her eyebrows, questioning, "I can eat at Shiro's Sushi for a lot more times with 4500 dollars. Doesn't it sound like a good deal?"

Yvonne looked at the plates of sushi and salmon while nodding with approval, "Yup. Sounds like a good deal, but... wasn't your first love called Hendrey? Isn't he in Bloomstead? Are you not afraid that it'll be awkward for him to see you?"

"He was dispatched by the company to take up a course in Castron, so he will likely be back in a month or two."

Though Veronica did not meet Hendrey often recently, she kept in touch with him.

Otherwise, she would not have known about Hendrey's current situation.

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The three women ate and chatted until 8 pm before parting ways.

After returning home, Ivana gave Veronica the contact number of the auto show organizer.

Veronica immediately texted the auto show organizer via WhatsApp and chatted with the other party about the event. Eventually, the other party transferred her a deposit of 1500 dollars and agreed to meet her at the open-air auto show at Bloomstead Convention and Exhibition Center in the afternoon the day after tomorrow.

Open-air auto show?

Veronica was lying in bed while listening to the violent gust of cold wind blowing outside. She could not help but shudder due to the cold just by thinking about it.

Making money was not an easy task.

She politely replied with a message:

No problem, Mr. Wagner. I will see you then.

After that, she opened the live broadcast app, searched for 'Black Dragons', and clicked in to watch a game of Black Dragons against a regional team online.

The opponent's team was well-known, and Black Dragons had also been spending loads of money to gain popularity recently. In addition to the popularity accumulated before, they too had attracted many fans.

However, the number of netizens watching the live broadcast online was less than 50,000.

Veronica sent a gift without hesitation and commented:

Let's get it, Black Dragons!

After that, she sent a few more gifts generously before putting her phone aside and going to the bathroom to take a shower.

While she was in the bathroom, her phone started ringing.

Wrapped in a bathrobe, she walked out, picked up her phone, and saw the name 'Xavier' popping up on the screen.

"Why is he calling at such late hours?" Veronica muttered in confusion but answered the phone anyway.

"Hello?"

"Did I wake you up from your sleep?" he asked.

"No, I'm used to going to bed late." Veronica smiled and asked straightforwardly, "It's kinda late for a phone call. Is something wrong?"

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Chapter 268 Yvonne Was Stirring Up Trouble

"Why didn't you call me when I hadn't contacted you for the past two months?" Xavier teased Veronica.

In truth, he was learning to take over the Crawford Family's business for the past two months.

Konig Company was previously established as a small business for him to play with. It could barely support him financially, but now, he had a heavy burden and responsibility.

Even though Xavier did not want to take over the Crawford Family's business, he had to bear the pressure, bite the bullet, and accept it.

That was because... he wanted to become stronger.

In fact, there was an urgent need for him to become powerful in a short period of time.

"I heard that you've been busy hanging around with your eldest brother to take over the company. I'm worried that I'll disturb you, so I didn't contact you."

A polite reply slipped out of her lips so naturally that even Veronica herself could not believe she said it.

The last time she injured Xavier, Veronica simply thought she had injured two people, but she never expected that she would hit Melissa's knee meniscus with another shot, causing her to be lying on the hospital bed until today.

Even if she received the best treatment available, there would still be long-term side effects.

Veronica did not feel guilty toward Melissa, but she always found it difficult to face Xavier as calmly as she did before.

"Are you free tomorrow? Do you want to go skiing together?" he invited warmly.

"Skiing? Sounds like fun, but I don't know how to."

She indeed did not know how to ski.

"That's nothing to worry about when you have me."

After saying that, he immediately added, "I will call you at 9 am tomorrow on the dot. Can't wait to see you tomorrow. Have a good rest. Bye."

"Huh? I... Hello?"

Veronica wanted to reject him, but Xavier did not give Veronica any chance to before hanging up the phone.

Such a rushed plan made Veronica feel a little awkward.

She sighed. "Skiing? Sounds like a good way to unwind."

She did not even take a day off in the past two months.

Vincere Games was currently operating smoothly while Encounter Bridal Store's business was gradually stabilizing and she was assured that the future of both companies was bound to develop steadily.

Therefore, now was the chance for her to take a break.

However... when she thought about being alone with Xavier tomorrow, Veronica found it somewhat uncomfortable, so she called Yvonne.

"Why are you calling me so late at night?" On the phone, Yvonne muttered.

“Do you want to go skiing tomorrow?” Veronica inquired straightforwardly.

“Sure. Where are we going?”

When Yvonne asked the question, Veronica was taken aback because she forgot to ask Xavier where they were going.

“It should be... in Bloomstead’s ski resort. Where else could it be?”

“Who are you going with?”

“Xavier.”

“That’s all?”

“And you?”

“You... You want me to be a third wheeler?” Yvonne snorted, thinking how unkind Veronica was.

“I just thought we haven’t been out for a long time, so I want to take you out for some fun. How about you invite another person?”

“Okay.”

The two chatted for a while, and after deciding the time, they ended the call.

After that, Veronica lay in bed, feeling exhausted while watching the live broadcast. As time passed, she suddenly realized it was already 3 or 4 am in the morning, yet she tossed and turned but could not fall asleep.

Although she was very sleepy and her eyelids were as heavy as lead, she could not fall asleep.

Feeling helpless, she took a sleeping pill to aid her into sleep.

The next day, she woke up at exactly 6 am.

After getting up and going for a morning jog, she had breakfast, went home, got ready, and waited patiently for Xavier’s call.

At 9 am, the four of them met at Encounters Bridal Store.

When she arrived at the store, she first saw Xavier, followed by Yvonne, who got out of another car.

Behind her was... Conrad Kings!

“Good morning, Roni and Young Master Xavier.”

Yvonne was wearing a black velvet parka, adorable earmuffs, a gray knitted scarf around her neck, and had her hair tied into a bun. She looked mischievous yet lovely.

Conrad, who was standing behind her, was wearing an army green trench coat and a black turtleneck sweater. He looked casual yet mature and sexy.

Especially with a beard, his smile looked exceptionally sultry.

Veronica could not help raising her eyebrows, looking rather surprised as she greeted, “Morning.”

“You look cute in this outfit today, Yvie,” Xavier praised without hesitation, and then looked at Conrad behind her, remarking, “Sir Conrad, aren’t you usually busy with work? Most people don’t manage to invite you out. Seems like Yvie is amazingly charming to be able to do so.”

His words held another meaning behind them.

In response, Yvonne’s fair cheeks were stained with a blush as she bit her lips and smiled awkwardly. “I planned to ask Ivana to come, but she’s got a last-minute business trip, so I had to put down my pride and drag Sir Conrad with me.”

“She’s right. Yvie told me that Roni was with you, so I came.” He raised his hand and brushed his messy bangs that had been blown by the wind. His sexy lips then curled into a smile. “I haven’t gotten a chance to relax after returning to Bloomstead, so I thought I could hang out with you guys today.”

“Sure. Let’s continue the chat in the car,” said Veronica while moving toward the car.

After a round of discussion, all of them decided to leave in Conrad’s Jeep Wrangler.

Conrad and Xavier sat in the front, while Veronica and Yvonne sat in the back.

An upbeat song was played in the car loudly, and it boosted the atmosphere in the car.

Veronica lowered her voice, leaned into Yvonne’s ears, and whispered, “Why the hell did you bring him when I asked you to invite someone?”

Yvonne rolled her eyes at Veronica while replying, “Who else can I invite? Ivana isn’t in town. Wouldn’t it be awkward for you if I invited someone you don’t know?”

“You...”

Veronica was rendered speechless because of her anger as she exhaled a deep breath, glanced at the two people sitting in front of her, and whispered, "Weren't you aware of what happened at the wedding banquet last time? Aren't you afraid that the two will become jealous later?"

Although Melissa was the mastermind behind the incident at the wedding banquet last time, Xavier was still somehow related to it.

On the other hand, Conrad was Matthew's seventh uncle, so he belonged to the Kings Family.

The incident upset the Kings Family and the Crawford Family, so they were still holding grudges in their hearts.

Now that Yvonne invited Conrad over, wouldn't that mean she was stirring up trouble?

Veronica's words alerted her.

Yvonne was stunned for a while before rubbing her head embarrassingly. She then covered her face and admitted innocently, "I... I forgot about this."

Last night when she was eager to join in the fun, Yvonne contacted Ivana immediately.

After all, Ivana and Veronica were quite familiar with each other and could hang out together now.

However, Ivana had to go on a business trip, so she contacted Conrad in desperation. Who knew that Conrad would accept her invitation?!

Because of that, Yvonne decided to bring Conrad over.

She completely forgot the grudges between Conrad and Xavier.

"I'm so done with you!"

Veronica raised her hand to prop her forehead, not knowing what kind of situation she would encounter later. She simply hoped that Xavier and Conrad could get along well with one another.

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Chapter 269 A Little Worried

After a while, Veronica suddenly thought of a key point. "Uncle Conrad came back not too long ago. How did you two get so close?"

She then looked at Yvonne with sharp eyes without blinking, trying to detect anything out of the ordinary on her friend's face.

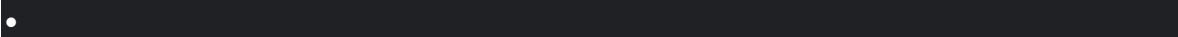
Sure enough, Yvonne, who had always been a social butterfly, suddenly had a subtle tinge of crimson on her cheeks.

Veronica narrowed her eyes slightly...

Something fishy was going on!

"What do you mean? Remember the charity event last time when you dragged me to dance with Conrad? We exchanged phone numbers back then," Yvonne explained.

"Oh."



Veronica recalled what happened that day, nodded in response, and said nothing more. She merely glanced at Conrad, who was driving, and fell into deep thought.

Although she was not close to him, he was a comfortable person to hang out with. He was not as cold as Matthew, but for some reason, she had a hunch that Conrad was not a simple person.

Even Matthew had warned her before.

Conrad and Xavier, who were sitting in the driver's seat and the passenger seat, were chatting and laughing along the way. They seemed to get along well, so Veronica was relieved.

After more than an hour, they arrived at Alpine Ski Resort in Bloomstead.

Alpine Ski Resort was the largest ski resort in Bloomstead. In fact, it was the largest in the country.

Not only were there snowboard skiing activities available, there were also tubing, ice sculpture exhibitions, as well as performances at night. It was a great place for winter travel and vacation.

Since the ski resort was at a high altitude and was on the shady slope of the mountain, it only operated skiing activities in November every year until March of the following year.

Ski resorts required ski tracks with different slopes. Therefore, the owner of Alpine Ski Resort would convert the steep ski tracks into paragliding spots in summer while the

shorter ski tracks would be modified to accommodate other activities to ensure that the venue was not vacant and that they had continuous revenue throughout the year.

Once everyone got out of the car, they saw how crowded it was at the ski resort. Veronica could see that this place was profiting by the minute and she could not help but sigh. "The business here is really good. The boss of Alpine must have made a lot of money."

"Yeah. Just look at the crowd!" Yvonne also sighed.

The endless stream of tourists was equivalent to walking cash notes.

"Yeah. Business is really good. As expected, Matthew is a smart businessman." Conrad put his hands in the pockets of his trench coat as he watched groups of tourists walking into the ski resort, looking like he was sincerely happy for Matthew.

"Is this ski resort under Matthew's name?"

Veronica was a little stunned because she did not expect Alpine Ski Resort to belong to him.

"Let's head in," Xavier suggested.

The others nodded and entered Alpine Ski Resort together to get tickets.

"Wait here. I'll go and get us tickets," Xavier offered.

Veronica pondered about it before suggesting, "Why don't you go, Uncle Conrad?" She then looked at Conrad and smiled. "You are Matthew's uncle, so you must be able to get a discount for us. Perhaps we can even get a pass to play all the activities in the resort to make our visit worth it!"

The cost of a huge resort like this one must have been a hefty amount. In addition to the labor, water, electricity, and maintenance fees, the tickets must be pricey.

"True!" Yvonne strongly agreed with Veronica's suggestion, so she urged, "Conrad, I think you should go instead."

"Of course, if you want me to."

The corner of Conrad's lips curled into a smile. Though it looked villainous, there was a hint of obedience in his smile. Turning around, he walked to the ticket window while calling Matthew.

"I'll get some drinks for you girls," offered Xavier as he walked to a stall and lined up.

Since the resort's business was booming, every stall had a long line, so it took a while to get what they needed.

While the two girls stood at the same spot, Veronica noticed Yvonne had been constantly staring at Conrad. It was as if her eyes were filled with stars.

"Cough..." Veronica cleared her throat, pulled the red scarf around her neck to shield her cheeks from the wind, and asked Yvonne, "What do you think of Conrad?"

"Huh?"

Yvonne was taken aback for a moment before she withdrew her gaze and replied Veronica, "Conrad? I think he's a nice person. He's sexy, calm, and very friendly. Combined with his short beard, he looks really handsome and cool."

"Is he comparable to Zac Francis, the prince of Castron?" She slowly set a trap for Yvonne.

The oblivious Yvonne tilted her head and looked at Conrad without blinking. After hesitating for a while, she replied cautiously, "He is more handsome than Zac, of course. Way more handsome."

"Hmm... I heard that the more handsome a guy is, the more dangerous they are." Veronica let out an audible sigh.

It was this sentence that made Yvonne instantly catch the hint.

Her eyes sank and she turned to meet Veronica's worried gaze. "Do you mean to say that Conrad is a dangerous person?"

"I'm not sure, but Matthew told me that..." Veronica raised her chin slightly and pointed in the direction of Conrad. "He's not a simple person."

"Tsk! They are all businessmen. Which businessman is not treacherous and cunning? Besides, a simple-minded person isn't suitable to run a business, right?" Yvonne snorted lightly, not taking Veronica's words to heart at all.

In other words, Veronica tried every means to persuade Yvonne, but her friend did not seem keen on listening.

Sometimes, it was better to not linger on a topic too long, so Veronica decided to stop after a while.

"Can you ski?" She knew that Conrad and Xavier could ski, but if Yvonne could too, she would be embarrassed.

“Me? Of course, I can,” Yvonne boasted proudly.

On the contrary, Veronica pouted helplessly as she felt an oncoming headache.

After waiting for more than half an hour, they finally got the tickets and passed the security check smoothly.

Since Veronica did not know how to ski, she eventually went to a ski trail suitable for newbies.

Conrad accompanied Yvonne while Xavier accompanied Veronica.

Yvonne stood in front of Conrad while holding the equipment and pouting, “Conrad, I can only ski a little. You must stay beside me, okay? If you drop me and I get injured, you have to take care of me for the rest of your life.”

Veronica, who was standing beside her, went speechless. However, she was still a little worried for her friend.

“No problem, leave it to me,” he reassured Yvonne while helping her wear the protective gears.

“What are you looking at?” When Xavier noticed that Veronica was absent-minded, he quickly inquired.

“Nothing. I’m just figuring out how to use these things.” Veronica quickly found an excuse to reply to him.

“Come on, I’ll teach you.”

Xavier, as always, was very gentle to her. Holding the knee pads, he went on one knee to help her wear them.

“No, it’s fine. I’ll do it myself.”

Veronica was not used to Xavier’s attentiveness, so she sat on the snowy ground without bothering too much about her image. Grabbing the knee pads, she put on her ski gear and announced, “All done.”

Once she was done, she stood up with the support of ski sticks. However, before she could stand straight, she exclaimed, “Oh no...”

Just as she was about to fall, he pulled her into a warm embrace and hugged her tightly as he reminded her, “Be careful.”

Veronica was a little uncomfortable with his sudden tenderness, so she quickly collected herself. "I-I'm fine. I should be able to stand properly now."

Pushing Xavier away, she held onto the ski sticks to stabilize herself on the ground.

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Chapter 270 Awkward Meal

The moment he hugged Veronica tightly, Xavier could smell the fragrance of her body. His heart began to beat uncontrollably and he started to feel nervous to the point that he could feel his body temperature increase when he gazed at her.

However, once Veronica withdrew from his arms reflexively, Xavier could feel a drop in his heart, and there was a chill in his eyes.

"Let me hold you."

Xavier stretched out his hand toward her.

Veronica hesitated for a moment but still held his hand, planning to learn to ski with Xavier.

"We're all set. Let's go."

At the same time, Yvonne and Conrad were ready, so they held their ski sticks and slid down the track smoothly.

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"Come on, I'll hold on to you." Xavier dragged Veronica forward a little, but just after taking a step, Veronica fell to the ground with a thud.

"Ouch."

Veronica, who had just plopped onto the ground, glanced at the tourists beside her with a smile, feeling a little embarrassed.

"Are you still going to ski like this?"

Suddenly, a familiar female voice sounded.

Veronica turned around and was surprised to find that the person who spoke was Ruka!

Beside Ruka... was Matthew!

The two of them were carrying snow gears as they walked over and stood in front of Veronica.

There was a mocking smile on Ruka's face, but when Matthew saw Veronica, the gentleness on his face was gone and was replaced by the cold and indifferent expression he wore when they first met.

It had been two months since she hurt him mercilessly with her words in the hospital.

Even when she went to visit Elizabeth at Kings Residence, she never saw Matthew.

"Are there any rules stating that beginners aren't allowed to ski here?" Xavier spat with a gloomy face while leaning down to help Veronica stand.

Once Veronica got back up, she clenched Xavier's hand tightly, perhaps worried that she would fall over again.

When she looked up to meet Matthew's dark eyes, she felt her heartbeat speed up inexplicably. She even felt a little restrained.

"Mind your own business, bitch!" Veronica avoided Matthew's gaze and snapped at Ruka angrily.

"Did you just call me a bitch?!"

Ruka did not expect Veronica to scold her, so she stomped her feet angrily and questioned her.

"If you think that's what I meant, then it is what it is, Miss Dame. I'm not your mother, so I can't control what you think!" Veronica sneered and reached out to brush off the snow on her body. Anger was currently boiling within her.

At the jewelry show last time, Ruka tampered with her shoes. Veronica had not even settled that matter with her yet, and now Ruka was trying to pick on her again.

Since she enjoyed being scolded, Veronica decided to give her exactly that.

"Veronica Murphy, you... you better know your limits!"

Ruka clenched her fists tightly and glanced at Matthew beside her as if wanting to see his reaction.

However, she only saw Matthew lowering his head and pulling a cigarette out of his pocket. He then placed the cigarette between his lips and lit it with a windproof lighter.

Although he did not do much, his swift and dashing movement made Ruka's heart flutter.

At the thought of that, Ruka's anger dissipated.

"Forget it. I don't want to argue with you." Ruka smirked proudly at Veronica as if deliberately showing off in front of her.

She then said to Matthew, "Matthew, let's go skiing. Getting here is not as easy as a walk in the park. Let's not ruin our mood because of a certain someone."

"It doesn't matter if our moods are ruined. The smell of someone's perfume as cheap as those sold at a broken shop is polluting the air."

Veronica ruthlessly mumbled a sentence and added, "Xavier, I don't want to ski anymore. I want to go snow tubing and relive the memories of when I was a kid."

As she spoke, she took the snowboard off her feet.

After all, she could not even ski. Why did she have to force herself?

Most importantly, she should have as much fun as possible to relax and unwind.

"Sure." Xavier nodded in agreement, took off his snowboard and protective gears, and turned to leave.

The two went to the tubing section, lined up, and slid from the highest point of the slope all the way down the mountain.

Perhaps it was the fun of tubing that brought Veronica back to when she was a child. She slid down from it, hiked up the slope, slid down, and repeated the process.

Ring—

At this moment, the phone in her pocket rang.

Veronica was currently sitting on the tube, her hands tightly gripping the handle on each side, while Xavier sat in the back as the two rushed downhill at high speed.

The cold wind blew on their cheeks like a sharp knife, but they had a lot of fun.

Whoosh!

It did not take long for them to arrive at the bottom and hit an obstacle before the tube came to a complete halt.

Veronica laughed joyfully as she stood up like a happy child.

On the contrary, Xavier was not very interested in such a childish activity, yet seeing Veronica having a good time lightened his mood.

“It’s way more fun to play here. When I was a child, I would grab some cardboard and slide down a hilly slope on snowy days. There was even once when I accidentally plopped into a pond. My mom was so angry when she pulled me out of the pond that she gave me a good scolding.”

Veronica fished her phone out from her pocket while recalling her childhood.

When she looked down at her phone, she saw that it was a missed call from Conrad, so she said to Xavier, “Uncle Conrad called. Hold on. Let me call him back.”

After dialing his number, Conrad answered quickly, so Veronica asked, “Uncle Conrad, are you guys done?”

“Yeah. It’s almost 1 pm already. We’ve ordered food in Room 905 of De Luna Hotel. Come over quickly,” urged Conrad.

“Oh, okay. We’ll head over now.”

After hanging up the phone, Veronica and Xavier immediately walked to the side of the road, stopped a sightseeing car, and went to Room 905 of De Luna Hotel.

Unexpectedly, when she pushed open the door to the private room, she saw Matthew and Ruka sitting inside!

Were they together?!

When she thought about it, Conrad was Matthew’s seventh uncle, so it was normal for them to sit together for a meal, but she did not expect Conrad and Matthew to meet just now.

“Oh? You guys are here. Come in. We’ve been waiting for you.”

Seeing Veronica standing at the door of the room, Conrad took the initiative to greet her.

Yvonne, who was sitting beside him, could not help but glance at Matthew, then at Veronica, feeling a little awkward for the latter.

What was going on?

Matthew and Veronica had not been in contact for two months, and now, they were sitting together here...

That was really awkward.

"Roni, come and sit next to me." Yvonne stood up and waved at Veronica.

Since there was no escape, it was better to face reality.

Veronica smiled slightly, walked toward Yvonne, and sat directly beside her, while Xavier took a seat beside Veronica.

There were two empty seats in the middle, and then there were Ruka and Matthew.

Veronica's current seating, however, was perfect to meet Matthew's eyes.