

## Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 363-368

### Chapter 363 Simmering Tension Beneath the Surface

“Tiffany?” Veronica’s head buzzed with white noise when she saw the woman. In all honesty, she never expected that the girlfriend Hendrey was courting actually turn out to be Tiffany! What’s going on here? Tiffany merely gave Veronica a gentle smile as she faced Veronica. “Veronica, I heard Hendrey say that you’re his classmate. Is that true? If so, that truly is fate.”

“Really?” Even though Veronica was utterly shocked, she still managed to maintain her composure.

Instead, she just sat in her seat without much emotion. Then, she held her glass and took a sip of the lukewarm water. “It really is ‘coincidence’.”

Is this a coincidence or intentional?

“Yeah. It’s a coincidence indeed,” Tiffany said as she tilted her head to look at Hendrey. Like a lotus rising out of the water, her smile was beautiful and compelling.

She even went on to say, “Hendrey mistook me for you when he met me for the first time, and I had to untangle that web of misunderstanding.”

“I’ve been abroad, so I don’t know much about you and your sister. So, if it weren’t for her explanations, I would have continued mistaking her for you.” Hendrey smiled and explained the situation to Veronica.

“Really? How long have you two been together?” Veronica raised her eyebrows and asked calmly. Her indifferent attitude was like she was casually chatting with her close friends.

“I fell in love with Tiffany the first time I laid my eyes on her. I particularly liked her gentle, virtuous, and graceful nature. I have been confessing and courting her for so long, and it was only after she returned from overseas that she was willing to be my girlfriend.” Hendrey tilted his head and looked at Tiffany. His words were filled with endless tenderness.

In response to his words, he raised his hand to brush the hair on Tiffany’s cheek. It was as clear as day that he was genuinely smitten with her.

It never crossed Veronica’s mind that she would witness Tiffany sitting and being in a relationship with her first love one day.

Is this some sort of cosmic joke?

“Hendrey, let’s order first. Otherwise, Veronica will be hungry.” Tiffany pursed her lips, and Veronica noticed that when she talked to Hendrey, there was a hint of allure in her tone.

When Veronica heard it, she felt that Tiffany’s voice resembled a soul extractor. Suffice to say, she couldn’t help but cringe at it and felt that her soul had ‘left’ her body out of sheer disgust.

The two of them ordered first. Then, they handed Veronica the menu, and she ordered hers.

After the three placed their respective orders with the waiter, they sat and chatted.

At that moment, Veronica swore to God that if it were not for the fact that Hendrey was her first love, she would have left without a word rather than torture herself with Tiffany's company. But, alas, here she was, in this very room, feeling her potent disgust toward Tiffany while maintaining the polite facade even though her stomach churned at her actions.

"Hendrey, I told my parents about you, and they said they liked you very much."

"Really? That's good," Hendrey said as he tilted his head. His gaze, which was full of affection for her, met Tiffany's.

Their love was so deep that he disregarded Veronica's existence and kissed Tiffany's rosy lips.

At this point, Veronica was utterly speechless.

Damn it! Someone save me from this! I know love is blind! But I never would have expected Hendrey to be one of these blind fools!

"Oh, Hendrey. Veronica is still here. Stop fooling around." Tiffany covered her lips while looking shy.

"Haha. Veronica, uh—" Hendrey smiled awkwardly as he raised his hand, scratched his head, and smiled like a lovestruck moron. "Veronica, I hope you don't mind. I—Tiffany is my first girlfriend, so I—sorry."

"It's alright. We're all adults. It's fine." Veronica waved her hand. Nevertheless, she felt that it would be a torment for her to sit for an extra minute in this environment, so she excused herself for a momentary reprieve, "I'm going to the washroom. You guys continue."

As soon as those words left her lips, she didn't waste any time removing herself from that bizarre situation.

Veronica could not help it; there's just a limit to one's tolerance when it comes to something like this. The room was filled with flirty vibes, and she was afraid that the lovebirds would suffocate her at the rate they were going if she stayed in the private room for a second longer and didn't get some well-deserved fresh air.

The door closed, and the room fell silent.

Hendrey looked at Tiffany next to him and saw that she leaned forward to him. Soon, she wrapped her arms around his neck, raised her head, and kissed his lips.

How could Hendrey possibly not give in to his desire when a beauty such as Tiffany was in his arms?

Naturally, he hugged her back and responded with a passionate kiss. Meanwhile, Veronica washed her hands in the public sink in the washroom and leaned on one side to play with her phone after she came out.

After a while, someone appeared in front of her.

“Why are you hiding here? Are you feeling particularly upset seeing your first love being taken away by me?” Tiffany stood in front of Veronica and smiled triumphantly.

Veronica snorted as she kept her phone away, “Do you think that Hendrey would still like you if he knew about your past?”

“Oh, well. It’s not my fault that Hendrey likes me.”

As Tiffany spoke, she crossed her arms in front of her chest and pondered deeply. Finally, she added, “Not to mention, Hendrey is really handsome. His nature is as gentle and graceful as a gentleman. Apart from Matthew, no one looks more handsome than him. It makes me happy to be together with someone like him.”

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While the two were bickering in the washroom, Hendrey called a mysterious man in the room. “Boss, I have approached and got close to Tiffany. So what should I do next?”

To begin with, Hendrey was not a good person, and his feelings for Tiffany weren’t genuine.

Even so, he did feel that Tiffany was a natural beauty. Like a lotus rising out of the water, her beauty was breathtaking.

It’ll be a pity if I don’t enjoy myself after taking such a beauty down.

I, Hendrey, never claimed myself as a good person. So, of course, I won’t sit around like a saint and not have a taste of her.

“I will send someone to pass you a type of drug. Then, find a way to inject it into Tiffany’s body and see if there will be any marks on her back.”

At first, the mysterious boss ordered Hendrey to come to Bloomstead simply to ask him to get rid of Tiffany as soon as possible.

Yet, for some reason, the mysterious boss later asked him to date Tiffany first in order to not inadvertently alert their enemy and asked him to find a way to prove Tiffany’s true identity.

For this reason, Hendrey transformed into Tiffany’s suitor and courted her.

“Do you mean that Tiffany may not be the person you’re looking for?” Hendrey was a little confused.

“We often cannot be fooled by one’s appearance.” With that, the other party directly hung up the phone.

After a while, Veronica and Tiffany returned.

The three of them were sitting in the room. Outwardly, they looked like they were ‘chatting harmoniously’. But, in reality, there was simmering tension going beneath the surface, with each of them occupied with their own thoughts and schemes in mind.

After dinner, Veronica left.

Hendrey took Tiffany’s hand and told her he would take her home.

However, Tiffany suddenly said she wanted a cup of coffee from Urban Break on the roadside. Thus, Hendrey had no choice but to buy her a coffee.

Unexpectedly, Tiffany suddenly spilled the coffee all over herself. She furrowed her brows at the coffee stains on her dress as she pouted, “Oh, no. What should we do now? Hendrey, can you stop at the nearest hotel so I can change out of these clothes?”

The man driving raised his brows slightly upon hearing her suggestion, “Well, sure.”

Since she’s in a hurry to fling herself into my arms, there’s no reason for me to refuse.

Therefore, Hendrey took Tiffany to the hotel and checked into a suite room.

After they entered the room, Tiffany said to Hendrey, “Hendrey, call the customer service department for me and request them to send a set of clothes.”

“Okay, sure.” Hendrey nodded slightly.

With that, Tiffany went into the bathroom to take a shower. But, before she went into the washroom, she tilted her head and looked at Hendrey when she closed the door. “Hendrey, you mustn’t peek.”

When the man heard that, a smile painted across his handsome face as he replied, “Okay.”

### **Chapter 364 The Mysterious Crayson**

Tiffany took a shower in the bathroom and walked out wrapped in a bathrobe after a long while.

Hendrey smoked a cigarette as he stood in front of the French window when she came out of the shower. Tiffany glanced at the brand new set of clothes on the bed.

Her eyes flashed slightly, and she said softly, “Hendrey, you mustn’t look, okay?” The man couldn’t help his instinctive reaction to turn around when he heard her voice and saw Tiffany wearing a bathrobe. She was barefaced, and her long hair was down to her shoulders, revealing her white swan-like neck and delicate and alluring collarbones. Coupled with her erect nipples due to the chill, she was a true beauty desired by all.

In an instant, Hendrey thought of the lines of a poem by William Wordsworth called 'Perfect Woman', She was a Phantom of delight. When she first gleamed upon my sight, a lovely Apparition was sent to be a moment's ornament.

I must say: these two sisters, Tiffany and Veronica, really are two gorgeous women. Their beauty is still soul-stirring even if they don't wear any makeup.

But Veronica is the goddess in my heart, so she's definitely unattainable.

In fact, she's even a little aloof. She isn't as sl\*ttty as Tiffany.

It's interesting. One is a country-bumpkin who came to the city searching for better prospects in life, while the other is a daughter of a famous noble family in the capital city. Yet, both have entirely different personalities from what people would have expected.

Truly ironic!

How could Hendrey not know about Tiffany's 'seduction'?

With that, he snuffed out the cigarette and walked to Tiffany. Then, he wrapped his arms around her waist and pulled her into his embrace. "What's the matter? I'm your man. Can't I look?"

The domineering words that escaped Hendrey's lips were utterly different from his warm and soothing temperament.

Actually, there was even a moment when Tiffany could see a dangerous aura coming from his eyes that lingered around her and did not go away.

Tiffany pursed her lips as she said enchantingly, "H-Hendrey, I-I'm not ready yet."

With one hand blocking the distance between them and resisting his approach, she covered her chest with the other and murmured with her head lowered.

"Silly girl." Hendrey leaned over and kissed her lips. The kiss was intensely hot and insanely passionate.

None of them knew when the bathrobe on Tiffany's body fell to the ground. Instead, all the two knew that they were taking advantage of the hotel bed as they continued their vigorous activities.

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The next day, Hendrey invited Veronica to go back to their hometown together. He lied to her, saying his car was being repaired so that he could ask Veronica for a ride.

Not knowing about his lies, Veronica readily agreed.

Veronica went to pick Hendrey up, and the two drove back to their hometown.

On the way, Veronica asked tentatively, "D-Do you like Tiffany very much?"

Hendrey thought of Tiffany's debauched appearance yesterday upon hearing that question. Boy, she was akin to those regulars in clubs. There was not even the slightest bit of nobility in her bones that was expected of an heiress like her.

At that thought, there was a hint of contempt in his eyes.

"Well, she's not bad," Hendrey replied, betraying his conscience.

As Veronica heard Hendrey's words, she leaned against the seat and turned her head to look out the window.

She knew exactly what had happened to Tiffany. From the beginning, when she liked Matthew, she had sex with other men in order to conceive a child for the sake of marrying Matthew until she was assaulted by the men sent by Melissa and was unable to have children due to a miscarriage. I know them all. Since then, Tiffany has been in a slump and has failed to recover from the setback. In addition, she even began to develop a 'what-the-hell' mentality and enjoyed all kinds of pleasures with Xavier.

Although Veronica knew that it was because Tiffany had suffered a colossal blow in life, she had gotten to where she was today because she had given up on herself.

So, despite how much Tiffany disgusted her, she could somehow grasp her despair in the 'darkness' too.

Although some factors were self-inflicted sins that led to her tragic ending today, it still could not change the fact that Melissa did send people to assault her, and Tiffany could no longer bear children after a miscarriage because of that. To most women, these two things were unbearable.

Pitiful and sad at the same time.

Whenever Veronica thought about this, she would develop sympathy for Tiffany.

Too bad she doesn't deserve it! "You must have heard affairs about her, right?" Veronica asked tentatively, wanting to know Hendrey's thoughts.

"I know everything about Tiffany and Matthew. But as a girl, it's actually good enough that she gathers her courage to admit her mistakes. To me: these things aren't important. I don't think it matters much as long as she turns over a new leaf in the future. After all, not everyone is a sage: who can commit no error? And we're still young. Which of us has never made mistakes before?" Hendrey replied.

Veronica did not know what to say for a moment as she listened to Hendrey's words.

She did not even know if she should tell Hendrey about what happened between Tiffany and Xavier.

Nonetheless, Veronica eventually could not bring herself to shatter Hendrey's expectations for Tiffany. Thus, she decided to observe them for a while.

After they had been on the road for a few hours, they finally reached Collins, and it was already 11:00AM by the time they arrived.

Veronica could not resist Hendrey's enthusiasm, so the two had lunch in Collins. Only after that did she drive back to her village in Cabot Town.

After an hour, she finally arrived in her hometown.

Veronica parked her car at the gate of the yard. Tony and Daniella immediately ran out of the house when they heard the sound. They walked to the car, and they welcomed her with happy smiles on their faces.

"Mom! Dad! I'm home!" Veronica got out of the car. Then, she gave Tony and Daniella a hug. "How are you guys doing?"

"We're doing fine." Daniella could not help but smile widely.

Meanwhile, Tony sighed. "You're finally back. At last, I don't need to listen to your mother's constant rambling and nagging."

"What's the matter? Do you think Roni would stand up for you when she comes home?" Daniella rolled her eyes at Tony.

As for Veronica, she was used to their bickering and could not help but smile at them.

Then, she said, "Mom and Dad, please help me carry my things."

She returned to her car, opened the trunk, and systematically retrieved everything inside. "Mom and Dad, here are your clothes and shoes, as well as some nutritional supplements. Bring them in first. These are the things I bought for my master, and I'll bring them over to him."

"Sure thing. Quickly bring them over to Master Crayson's place. Oh, and while you're there, ask him to come down from the mountain. Let's have a get-together," Daniella urged Veronica.

"Okay, Mom." Veronica nodded and smiled. Then, she headed straight to the mountain to look for Crayson while carrying these few things.

The cold breeze in winter was freezing, especially in the mountains. Her face hurt from the cold breeze constantly brushing against her skin as the chilly wind howled.

While walking up the mountain, Veronica could not help but mutter in her heart, Damn it, Master Crayson! Don't you feel cold living on the mountain every day?

Shivering from the coldness, she quickened her pace up the mountain.

However, the door was locked when she went around the small pond and reached the door of Crayson's courtyard.

Veronica looked around the house as she placed her gifts down carefully. Yet, there was no sign of Crayson at all.

And thus, she took her phone to call Crayson. However, as expected, there was no signal on the mountain.

Resigned, she could only sit on the milk crate that she carried and quietly wait for Crayson's return.

It didn't take long for the boredom to settle in without her phone to entertain her. So, naturally, she looked around for something to do. However, she suddenly discovered that there were several footprints on the ground at the door of Crayson's house.

As it snowed earlier, it left rather obvious tracks to be seen. She could even see the shoe prints as it hadn't been snowing.

Judging from the striation and size of those shoe prints, I could tell there were at least four or five people.

Master Crayson lives in the back mountain, and he doesn't have the most welcoming personality and generally doesn't like to talk to people. So, only a few people will come to find him.

Just like Dad, Master Crayson isn't that tall, and their shoe sizes are size 7. But these shoe prints on the ground are at least size 8 or 8.5.

The owner of these shoe prints is at least 5'11" to 6'2".

At the thought of that, Veronica's eyes narrowed slightly as she scrutinized the footprints. Finally, she got up to get a closer look. She squatted as she carefully observed the shoe prints and discovered that there were striations of at least three people's soles, and the sizes were 8 or more.

### **Chapter 365 It's Christmas!**

In other words, at least three people with a height of nearly 5'11" are visiting Master Crayson. But it's the 23rd of December in the Gregorian calendar, which is the day before Christmas Eve. Who will come here?

The most significant part is that the shoe prints look new, and Master Crayson isn't here either. Where could he go? Therefore, she got up and followed those shoe prints all the way back. She found herself at the other end of the back mountain as she walked.

Once she took a closer look, she surprisingly realized that Crayson was standing together with three tall men.

While Crayson stood with his hands behind his back and head held high, the three men opposite him held their hands in front of them and bowed their heads slightly respectfully.



Veronica felt a chill down her spine as she witnessed this scene.

Who are these guys? And, what exactly is Master Crayson's identity?

Suddenly, she remembered the person who looked like Crayson she saw on Mudwood Street the other day.

Was I really mistaken?

Also, was Master Crayson really in the company's office? Or was he just coming back from outside and happened to enter the company and meet Shirley when I saw him in Encounters Bridal Store that day?

As she started pondering on the matter, she couldn't help the growing sense of fear.

She knew that Crayson had sharp eyes and even more sensitive hearing, so she did not dare to stay. Therefore, she could only creep forward and leave quietly.

When she was back at the door, she sat by the door and continued to wait for Crayson.

However, Veronica abruptly thought of something that made her heart lurch in her chest with fear while she waited. "Oh, sh\*t!"

I was observing the shoe prints on the ground earlier and followed them to find Master Crayson. So, naturally, I must have also left my tracks!

I'm afraid—Master Crayson will surely find out!

Veronica fell into deep thought as she saw her set of footprints. Then, she walked in that direction again.

She carefully followed the shoe prints that she had left before, as she shouted while walking toward that eerie scene, "Master Crayson? Master? Master?"

At first, her voice was relatively low. Veronica only amplified her voice a little when she was about to reach the spot she discovered them just now. "Master? Master Crayson? Where are you?"

Not only that, she slowed down her pace. Thinking that those people would have enough time to hide, only then did Veronica walk forward quickly and continue to shout.

Although Veronica had already spotted Crayson when she came over, she pretended not to see him and kept shouting at the top of her voice.

"Oh, my ears! Be quiet! What are you yelling about?!" Crayson came out of the woods with two bundles of firewood on his shoulders. He effortlessly carried them as he made his way toward her. "When did you arrive?"

“Hahaha! I finally found you, Master Crayson!”

Smiling, Veronica trotted toward him. However, her eyes reflexively glanced at the spot where Crayson was standing and conspiring with several people.

Sure enough, there was no one there any longer.

“Why do you get so much firewood? I’ve told you many times, haven’t I? Just stay over at my place if the weather is cold. So, why are you still burning firewood? Don’t you know it’s dangerous?”

Burning firewood was certainly not a big deal if it was an ordinary house. Unfortunately, there were plenty of flammable items in Crayson’s home. Furthermore, he lived there alone. Hence, it was really worrying.

“We can’t avoid doing something essential just because of a slight risk.”

As Crayson spoke, he halted his tracks. Then, he put down the firewood on his shoulder and looked at Veronica. “Here! You’re strong enough. Carry this firewood for me.”

Veronica went speechless at his shameless request. Afterward, she pouted, walked over, and carried the firewoods obediently. “They’re so heavy!”

“Where did all your energy to nag from earlier have gone to? Hurry up, and let’s go!” Crayson ordered Veronica, showing no mercy at all.

Veronica walked forward staggeringly as she carried the bundle of firewood.

As a result, her feet slipped as she walked, and she fell to the ground with a loud ‘thud’. “Ouch! My butt—”

“Useless!” Crayson snorted with contempt as he grabbed her by the collar to pull her up. “You can’t carry the firewoods on your shoulders, and you can’t carry them with your hands. So what can you do?”

As he spoke, he picked up the firewood and walked back.

In the meantime, Veronica followed behind and moped. “It’s not like it’s normal for me to carry firewood. So, how am I able to do it?”

When the two returned to Crayson’s house, he started a fire with the firewood he brought home. Then, he took some sweet potatoes from the house and placed them on the fire. “Come, I’ll roast you some sweet potatoes to eat. I remember that you liked to roast sweet potatoes while warming yourself by the fire in the winter when you were a child.”

“Haha. As expected, master, you love me the most!” Veronica was very moved.

Although she accidentally discovered that Crayson held many secrets just now, Veronica thought for a while, Master has been by my side for so many years, and he has always been very kind to me. He's like a teacher, a father, and a family to me. Moreover, he is at a higher level than ordinary people in terms of skill, ability, altruism, and vision. He's always been a character full of mysteries anyway, so I should leave him some private space. I shouldn't interfere with other matters as long as Master Crayson doesn't harm me.

After she thought things out, her mood naturally got a little better.

Veronica sat and chatted casually with Crayson at his home. Later, she dragged him back to her home in the evening. The family of four sat together to eat and drink. It was a good time.

When Veronica returned home, she turned off her phone. She did not want to be disturbed by the outside world, let alone answer Matthew's phone calls.

The following day, she went up to the back mountain after breakfast. Crayson dragged Veronica to go fishing by the river.

Wearing a self-made coir raincoat, he sat by the river with a fishing rod and fished quietly.

Looking at Crayson, Veronica thought that the scene exuded a vibe of the lines of a poem she once read. 'There is only one boat on the water. With an old man in a straw rain cape, who stands on deck and fishes by himself, where the snow falls on the cold river.'

Veronica liked it very much, so she turned on her phone. Taking a few photos of Crayson, she then uploaded them to her Twitter timeline.

Thanks to her shooting angle, no one could see Crayson's face.

After that, she posted the pictures with the same caption that conveyed her thoughts. 'There is only one boat on the water. With an old man in a straw rain cape, who stands on deck and fishes by himself, where the snow falls on the cold river.'

Since they were high up in the mountain, her phone had no internet connection. However, Veronica could care less and just allowed her phone to upload the photos automatically whenever there was a connection.

In the afternoon, Crayson took her to practice her boxing skill and play chess. The time passed in a flash.

The next day, it was the 24th of December, Christmas Eve.

After getting up early, Veronica went straight up the mountain and dragged Crayson back to her home. They sat and chatted together. Later, they made crown roast pork chop and quiche.

It was already noon after they finished preparing everything.

After they were done enjoying their lunch, Daniella began to prepare the food for Christmas dinner. Meanwhile, Tony was busy hanging the Christmas wreath and lights.

Because they had their own Christmas wreath for their house, Tony also prepared a Christmas wreath for Crayson.

Since it was Bloomstead's custom to light firecrackers during Christmas, Tony prepared firecrackers for Crayson too. Later that night, Veronica went up the mountain with Crayson while taking the Christmas wreath and firecrackers with them. Once they arrived at Crayson's house, she helped him hang the Christmas wreath and light the firecrackers.

Bang, bang, pop—

The sound of firecrackers crackled, and the strong scent of firecrackers filled the air. With the colorful sparks of the firecrackers exploding in the sky and constant wafts of smoke coming from the sparks, the view looked particularly conspicuous in the snow.

As Veronica stood there and listened to the sound of firecrackers, she felt like she had returned to her childhood.

Christmas was the best back then!

In the evening, the four sat together and watched some Christmas shows on TV as they drank and chatted. The atmosphere was quite harmonious.

Crayson and Tony were feeling happy, and they drank a lot of wine. In fact, the two of them even directly lay on the dining table. Moreover, it was Daniella who dragged them to bed while muttering grumpily.

After they cleaned up the mess, Veronica and Daniella sat in front of the brazier and warmed themselves by the fire. They chatted while waiting for Christmas Day to arrive.

Knock, knock, knock—

Just then, someone knocked on the door.

At first, Veronica thought it was someone else lighting fireworks, and she misheard.

She did not look at Daniella until the knock sounded again. "Mom, who could it be at such an hour?"

"Let me check."

Daniella was about to get up, but Veronica pressed her down, asking her to stay seated. "You've been busy all day. I'll go get the door."

With that, she got up, walked to the front yard, and opened the door.

At this moment, she saw that the person standing at the door turned out to be—Matthew.

It was not just Matthew alone. Several of his homies, Skyler, Caleb, and Miguel, tagged along too.

### **Chapter 366 Veronica Chases Matthew Away**

When Veronica saw the people who showed up at the front door, she was stunned. Shouldn't he already be abroad? "Why are you here?" She simply asked coldly, and there was not much of a happy look on her face.

"Hey, Veronica. Merry Christmas!" Like always, the talkative Skyler warmly greeted her. When Caleb saw Veronica, he just greeted her by nodding slightly.

As for Miguel, he kept his composure. "Merry Christmas. Sorry for the abrupt intrusion as we come here without notice."

Matthew stared at her with mixed emotions as he stood before Veronica bearing gifts. After a while, only then did he speak, "I'm here to see Mr. and Mrs. Murphy."

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In the meantime, Veronica stood by the door and held the door with both hands. It was as if she had no intention of welcoming them. "Are you that close with my parents? You don't need to visit them."

When she recalled the day she accidentally saw Matthew being intimate with a woman and even lied to her on the phone. She felt that she didn't know him all that well.

But it's perfect this way as it just so happens that I feel that I'm not worthy of Matthew either. So, I should end things here once and for all.

Once she finished speaking, the four men all had different expressions on their faces. Finally, their gazes landed upon Matthew. Only Skyler pouted out of guilty conscience and dared not utter a sound.

At this moment, he was almost certain that Veronica must have seen the content of the video in the hospital that day.

It was just that her reaction at that time was too calm. Now that Skyler recalled it carefully, he felt that her calm state was horrifying.

“Roni, you—I-I have been busy recently and couldn’t accompany you...”

Matthew did not understand why Veronica was mad at him to the point that she constantly refused to answer his calls and reply to his messages.

At once, the man’s intuition told him that something was off. Therefore, he immediately took a flight and flew back home.

“Since your homies are here, let me just set some things straight. The trial period agreed upon by us is three months, but I can tell you my conclusion now. I have concluded that you and I are not suitable for each other, so let’s just break up. Also, you guys better hurry up and go back. There’s no place for you guys to sleep, considering I won’t let any of you stay overnight,” Veronica said calmly.

At this moment, Daniella’s voice came from the living room and asked, “Roni, who’s outside?”

“No one, Mom.” She turned her head back and responded. Afterward, she glanced at Matthew coldly again, shut the door with a ‘bang’, and locked the clasp. The action was ruthless and heartless.

If Matthew had not stepped back in time, he would have slammed his nose against the door.

Veronica turned back, headed straight to the living room, and ignored them.

Veronica’s thoughts wandered off as she sat in the living room and watched the Christmas show. In her mind, she thought, It’s the 24th of December today, yet the four of them gave up the opportunity to spend Christmas with their family and drove all the way here?! Am I too cruel for shutting them out?

Whoosh—pop!

Suddenly, the sound of fireworks sounded outside.

When Veronica looked back, she saw fireworks shooting into the sky in the front yard. The fireworks exploded and bloomed all over the sky, which was absolutely gorgeous.

Daniella frowned at the sound of fireworks as she asked curiously, “Roni, who’s setting off fireworks at the door?”

Veronica scratched her nose sheepishly upon hearing Daniella’s inquiry. She knew that it would be impossible for her to hide things from Daniella, so she replied candidly, “It’s Matthew and his friends.”

“What? Little Roni, Matthew is here? Why didn’t you invite him into the house? Such a mischievous young lady,” Daniella reprimanded Veronica.

While saying that, she went to open the door.

Veronica immediately gripped Daniella’s hand as she briefly explained the situation. “Mom, Matthew, and I aren’t of equal social rank, and we belong to utterly different worlds. So, it’s not suitable for us to be together at all. What will that mean if you open the door now and let him in? Does that mean I agree to be with him or disagree to be with him?”

After Daniella heard Veronica’s side of the story, she nodded and sighed. “Yeah, you’re right. We’re an average family. It’s already overwhelming enough that you could claim ties with Old Mrs. Kings by becoming her god-daughter. How can you get married to Matthew?”

“I’ll handle this myself. But, mom, you go to bed first.” Veronica looked at her with rare seriousness.

Daniella hesitated for a moment before she smiled in gratification. “Roni, you have grown up wanting to take care of things yourself in the future. Okay, I’ll go to bed first.”

Of course, Daniella wouldn’t be sleeping after hearing such information. She simply wanted to give Veronica the space she needed to deal with the situation outside.

“Good night, Mom.”

Daniella hummed, entered the bedroom, and closed the door behind her.

Then, Veronica got up and walked to the living room corridor. As she stood there, she watched the fireworks blooming outside and felt very uncomfortable.

But I have made a decision. I won’t go back on my own words.

Finally, she returned to the house and continued to wait for Christmas Day.

During this period, Matthew kept calling and texting her. Yet, Veronica ignored them all and eventually blocked him.

In fact, she did not even reply to a single message sent by Skyler. Furthermore, she rejected all his voice calls. Eventually, Skyler was also yet another contact on her blacklist.

Later, Veronica sat in silence as she waited until the clock struck midnight and the host of the Christmas show on TV started wishing everyone a Merry Christmas. Only then did she hold a tray of firecrackers weighing 10,000-ton and lit them up in the yard. First, she cautiously lit the firecrackers. Then, she immediately ran to the corridor to watch the firecrackers crackle and explode as they flashed sparkling firelights.

Once she lit all the firecrackers, the whole yard was filled with the smell of gunpowder smoke. When that was over, she simply whispered lightly, "Merry Christmas, Veronica."

She wished herself a Merry Christmas. After that, she went into the house without looking back and went straight to bed.

According to the Christmas tradition in Bloomstead, one should not turn off the lights at night.

Hence, she lay on the bed and was bored. As she constantly thought about the guys outside, she became increasingly agitated. Therefore, she switched on her computer and started playing games. She stayed up until 4 or 5:00AM, and only then could she fall asleep.

Finally, she was able to fall asleep. However, Veronica only slept for a while until she was woken up by her phone.

She opened her phone and saw a bunch of Christmas wishes.

First, it was the Legion of Vin's group chat. One of the members of the group mentioned Veronica. 'Merry Christmas, Boss! Give us our presents.'

'President Murphy, Merry Christmas! We want presents!'

'Guess what's missing for my Christmas? Of course, it's a present. I'm tagging and mentioning all three bosses here. Please give us our presents.'

'President Murphy, what about the year-end bonus? Is there any year-end bonus?'

...

Later, the chat group of Vincere Games became lively too.

'Merry Christmas, everyone!'

'I hope your Christmas is filled with joy this year!'

'How time flies. It's already the final week of this year.'

'Dear my fellow bosses, Merry Christmas, and don't forget about our present.'

'Guys, what are we waiting for? Let the gift exchange session begin!'

...

Following the other two chat groups, the Encounters Bridal Store's chat group seemed boisterous as well.

'President Murphy, wishing you a Christmas that's merry and bright!'



'Yahoo! Let the exchange of presents begin!'

'Boom! Here are some gift cards. Come and grab them!'

Suddenly, one of the employees mentioned Veronica in the group chat. 'President Murphy, come on out and give us some benefits!'

...

Back then, many colleagues left the group chat when Veronica announced the closure of Encounter Bridal Store. However, Matthew took over the company's operation later.

And thus, Veronica directly retained some colleagues in the group and gave them paid leaves. Hence, there were still quite several colleagues in the group.

Later, she received a text from Hendrey. 'Merry Christmas!'

After Hendrey, it was Ruka. 'Merry Christmas! I'll throw you a welcoming dinner once you're back in Bloomstead later.'

Shortly after, Veronica received a Christmas wish from Sean. 'Merry Christmas! Although you're Starshine Media Agency's newcomer, according to the rules of Starshine Media Agency, everyone will receive their Christmas presents in monetary forms.'

Subsequently, Monica also texted and wished Veronica. 'President Murphy, thank you for helping to save my son. Here's my Christmas present for you. It's my token of appreciation, so you must take it. Merry Christmas! I hope your holiday season is full of peace, joy, and happiness.'

Apart from all the above, Veronica also received Christmas wishes from Shirley, Elizabeth, Conrad, and Yvonne, respectively.

While holding her phone, Veronica read through all the messages one after another. It was as if her phone was about to explode from the number of incoming messages. At that moment, she felt a migraine incoming as she wasn't used to all of these.

Veronica lay on the bed as she took her phone and checked the presents that they gave to her one by one. As most of them were monetary, she basically logged into her Venmo account and checked the money wired to her by her friends. Once she went through her statement, she realized she received 1,000 from Sean, 888 from Hendrey, 100,000 from Elizabeth, 5,000 from Monica, and a million from Matthew.

One by one, Veronica thanked those who gave her monetary presents by wiring the money into her Venmo. She even personally gave Elizabeth a call and wished her a Merry Christmas.

### **Chapter 367 Matthew and Company Visiting for Christmas**

Then, Veronica sent presents to all the employees. In an hour, she spent 50,000 on the presents. Although Veronica was reluctant to spend 50,000 on presents, she wanted this Christmas to be merry.

“Wake up, you lazy lump!” Daniella tried to wake Veronica multiple times in the morning. In the end, Daniella took a feather duster, pointed at Veronica, and growled, “Wake up now! It’s Christmas. Wake up to have the quiche!”

There were different customs in different places. In Bloomstead, it was customary to have dinner on Christmas Eve and eat quiche for Christmas.

When Veronica saw Daniella was getting angry, she jumped up from the bed and said, “Mom, don’t be angry. I’m awake!”

If Mom maintains her usual attitude, it means Matthew and his company aren’t here. If they are here, she won’t be angry. Instead, she will sit on the bed with me and nag.

After Veronica got dressed, she reached out to Daniella. “Merry Christmas, Mom! Any presents for me? I want a present.”

Veronica happily smiled, much like a child. She could buy herself anything. However, she was just a child before her parents. They would be happy instead if she asked them for a Christmas present.

With an icy expression, Daniella used the feather duster to softly smack Veronica’s head. “You don’t do anything special for me but still dare to ask me for a present?”

Although Daniella nagged, she lifted her apron. She then took out a small present she had prepared and handed it to Veronica. Smiling, she muttered, “Here, take it. The only thing you keep thinking about every year is presents.”

“Yay! Long live your majesty!” Veronica chuckled brightly.

Seeing Veronica smiling happily, Daniella was happy too.

As they laughed, Daniella suddenly thought of what happened last night. So, she sat on the bed and asked worriedly, “Roni, did you drive Matthew and the rest away yesterday?”

“I think so.”

Daniella had a thought. It was quiet outside after setting off firecrackers yesterday. Maybe they left with their car.

“No matter what, he is the young master of the Kings Family. Did we offend the Kingses?” Daniella wore a sad expression while taking Veronica’s hand. “We are just an ordinary family. I am worried that you will be in trouble after offending them.”

In the end, Daniella was worried Veronica couldn’t handle this matter well and would bring disaster.

“It’s alright, Mom. He—” Veronica thought about it and replied, “I think he is not such a person.”

“Okay, I hope so.”

Daniella patted Veronica’s hand. She then sighed heavily and walked out.

She turned around when she walked to the entrance and glared at Veronica again. “Hurry up and get up to eat. The quiche is getting cold.”

Daniella’s tone returned to its usual sternness.

Veronica’s mouth twitched when she heard that. Mom really is unpredictable. “Okay, I’m getting up.”

In the end, she got up and wore a new set of clothes. She then cleaned up briefly, and went to the kitchen. She and Daniella then took the quiche to the living room.

At the same time, Crayson arrived.

Veronica stood at the entrance and she couldn’t help laughing when she saw him in a red suit. “Haha! Master Crayson, that’s a good suit. I have good taste.”

“Yeah, you seem energetic wearing this.”

“You look radiant today.”

Daniella and Tony followed suit to praise Crayson.

Crayson entered with something in his hand and stroked his beard. “You look good in your clothes too. Although Veronica is a little brat, she has good taste. Haha—”

“Tsk! No one talks bad about their apprentice. You seem stupid for saying that.” She rolled her eyes at him.

As she was saying that, Tony slapped her on her head. “Don’t be disrespectful to your master.”

It was a light slap that didn’t hurt.

“Okay.” Veronica shrugged and smiled at Crayson. Then, she stepped forward and put her arm around him. “Merry Christmas, Master Crayson.” As she said that, she spread her hands open. “Quickly give me a present.”

Daniella, who was distributing plates on the dining table, glared at Veronica and scolded, “Don’t ask him for a present. He’s getting old and has no income. You’re putting him in a difficult position.”

“It’s alright. It’s a celebration, after all.”

Veronica smiled, currently in a good mood.

As Crayson was getting old, he had no income. However, she had transferred money to his bank account monthly for his living expenses. During Christmas, she would transfer extra money to him too.

So, she asked for a present because she knew he had the money.

“Of course.” Crayson took out a present and stuffed it into Veronica’s hand. “Little brat, I see you’re happy to take my present, eh?”

The family laughed, and the atmosphere was harmonious.

“Master Crayson, please have a seat. The quiche is getting cold.” Daniella pointed at the dining table and invited him to take a seat.

“Oka—” Before Crayson could finish his words, the family heard a loud noise from the entrance.

At first, they thought someone had breakfast early and visited their home.

They looked at the door, only to see Matthew, Skyler, Caleb, and Miguel coming in with presents.

At that moment, Veronica froze and she was at a loss of what to do. They didn’t leave? Could it be that they stay in the car overnight during the cold and windy winter?

She couldn’t help feeling a little guilty and thought her way of handling the situation was not right.

“Merry Christmas, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy.”

Matthew was wearing a checkered windbreaker with a gray scarf around his neck while carrying a pile of presents. With a smile, he proudly walked in and bypassed Veronica to talk to Danielle and Tony.

“Oh—Young Master Matthew. Why are you here? It’s still early; didn’t you sleep last night?”

Daniella didn’t tell Tony what happened last night, so he thought Matthew and company came from Bloomstead in the early morning.

“Matthew, why are you here?” Crayson smiled and patted Matthew’s shoulder with affection.

Danielle glanced at Veronica but didn’t say anything.

“Haha! Merry Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, and Mr. Crayson. I am Veronica and Matt’s friend, Skyler Robins.” Skyler greeted and then introduced his other friends. “This is Caleb Shaw, and the other is Miguel Lynch. We’re friends with Veronica, so we rushed to meet you early in the morning. We wish you a Merry Christmas!”

The talkative Skyler finished all the pleasantries by himself.

## Chapter 368 Eating Quiche Together

Behind Skyler, Caleb looked at Miguel as they smiled helplessly. Then, they walked up and greeted, “Mr. Crayson, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Merry Christmas.” They said simultaneously.

“Yes, Merry Christmas!” Tony was hospitable, and he quickly put them in their seats. “Come on, have a seat. We haven’t had breakfast yet. Let’s eat together.”

Every Christmas, the family would bake a lot of quiche, so there was no need to worry about not having enough of them.

When Daniella heard Tony say that, she could only comply. “Let’s have a seat. There’s still quiche in the kitchen.”

“Come on, take a seat. It’s more lively this way.”

Crayson urged the visitors to take a seat too.

Veronica glanced at Matthew. She saw he kept talking to Crayson and Tony, completely ignoring her.

Matthew’s easy-going appearance was completely different from his usual noble self. He looked friendlier this way.

“Then, we won’t hold back.” Skyler laughed. He then moved a chair and sat down without a second thought.

Caleb nodded at Veronica. “Merry Christmas.”

“Merry Christmas.” Miguel bowed at her.

No one could be rude to someone polite.

So, Veronica didn’t embarrass them. She just nodded and smiled. “Merry Christmas. Please have a seat. I’ll bake more quiche for you.”

“Okay. Roni—Veronica, Mrs. Murphy’s quiche is delicious. It tastes like the ones from my childhood. Can you ask her to make more?”

Skyler was outgoing. However, he could only call her Roni in private and not in public.

As soon as Skyler finished speaking, Matthew, who was sitting next to him, silently raised his foot and stepped on Skylar’s foot to make him restrain himself.

“Ah!”

Skyler gasped as his face distorted. Thereafter, he found everyone’s eyes were on him.

He immediately laughed. “Ha! The quiche is so delicious. Mrs. Murphy’s baking skills are absolutely amazing!”

That was a good save.

Crayson and Tony laughed heartily.

“You can eat more if you like it. Daniella has pre-baked many crusts,” Tony said as he greeted Caleb and Miguel. “Come on in. Just treat this place as your home. Don’t be a stranger.”

“Okay, Mr. Murphy.”

“Okay.”

Caleb and Miguel sat down as well, and the men sat at a table to chat and eat. The atmosphere was lively and harmonious.

Veronica stopped before entering the kitchen and looked at the men in the living room. Then, she touched her head and shook it helplessly.

When she was sighing, Daniella walked out of the kitchen. Daniella held Veronica with a cold hand and dragged her into the kitchen. Then, the former asked quietly, “Roni, didn’t you say they left? Why are they here now?”

“I thought they were gone. It seems they slept in the car yesterday.” Veronica made a guess.

“So, it turns out that Kyoland’s car at the roadside is theirs!” After finding out the answer, Daniella sighed and asked, “What will you do now? I didn’t manage to tell your dad about them. I didn’t know he couldn’t take a hint and instead, he invited them in.”

“It’s fine. It’s Christmas and they slept outdoors for a night. It would not be appropriate to drive them away,” Veronica said.

“That’s true.” Daniella agreed with Veronica and pointed at the counter to where another freshly baked quiche was. “Take that quiche to the living room. I’ll bake more soon. It’s still not enough for everyone.”

“Okay. Mom, you’re doing great.”

Veronica walked up to Daniella and hugged her, then kissed her on the cheek mischievously.

“Hey, you got saliva all over my cheek. Jeez!”

Daniella wiped her cheek with disgust and glared at Veronica angrily. However, Daniella didn't hide the smile on her face.

Thereafter, Veronica went to the living room with the quiche.

Skyler was smart to clear up a space for Veronica, and he patted the chair on the right. "Veronica, have a seat. Let's eat together."

Skyler was currently sitting to the chair's left, and Matthew was on the right.

Although Veronica didn't want to talk to Matthew, she was not an aggressive woman.

Hence, she put the quiche on the table and said, "You can enjoy it first. I'll go bake some more quiche with my mom. I'll be back soon," Veronica said with a smile to everyone but Matthew.

Matthew, on the other hand, was enjoying the quiche, the rich taste lingering on his tongue.

However, his attention was on Veronica, so he didn't hear what Tony was talking about.

Suddenly, Matthew gently put the tableware on the table with a clank. "Master Crayson and Mr. Murphy, you may continue eating. I will look for them."

"What do you want to look at? They'll come back soon." Tony tugged Matthew down, as Matthew was a guest.

However, Skyler immediately said to Tony, "Mr. Murphy, Matthew is Veronica's brother, so he is kind of a part of the Murphy Family. He should be walking around and be familiar with this house."

His smooth talk made Tony happy. So, Tony nodded. "That's true! You're right."

"Mr. Murphy and Master Crayson, I'll take my leave."

Matthew stood up and walked to the kitchen.

In the kitchen, Veronica was chatting with Daniella. Then, she noticed a shadow over at the entrance of the kitchen.

The mother-daughter duo looked back and saw Matthew standing there.

Danielle glanced at Matthew, then at Veronica, and immediately said, "There you are. You're just in time; please help Veronica. I'll go get some firewood."

As they were baking, Daniella made an excuse to let Veronica and Matthew spend some time alone.

"Thank you, Mrs. Murphy."

Matthew smiled politely and respectfully.

“Just treat this place as your home. Don’t be a stranger.”

Daniella wiped her hands on her apron and walked outside.

Matthew stood at the entrance and looked at Veronica.

Veronica slowly lowered her head. She then sat on the chair and continued to add firewood to the oven.

“Roni?”

Matthew called out and walked over to her side. The woman was making a fire in front of the oven without make-up on, looking as lovable as the little girl next door.

It made Matthew’s heart throb.

He then asked, “Why didn’t you answer my phone?”

Veronica, however, played with poker and poked the fire. She answered casually, “I said, I don’t think we are meant to be together as shown during the trial. So, there’s no problem in denying your call.”

Veronica raised her head and looked at him coldly.

Her face was calm and indifferent, making it impossible to tell what she was thinking.

“Is it because of her?”

Matthew took out his cell phone and enlarged a photo before handing it to Veronica.

Veronica raised her head and took a look.

The woman in the photo was the one who video called Skyler while putting her arms around Matthew’s neck that day.