

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 377-380

Chapter 377 Caleb Wants to Sponsor the Young Lady

Caleb stepped forward and pulled Abby up, only to realize then that the back of her hand had been split open by the woman's whippings, and there were streaks of blood where she was hit.

The open chilblain wounds also had fresh blood flowing out of them. Without waiting for Caleb to say another word, Abby retracted her hand as she turned around and ran into the house. He continued to stand where he was, but he was gradually feeling embarrassed and redundant. After watching her enter the house, he shifted his gaze to glare at the woman instead. "Even though she is your family member, domestic violence is a crime. You can still get arrested! I won't let this go if there is a next time."

He only left Abby's house after he threw out a warning. Matthew was still chopping wood when Caleb returned to Veronica's house. The rest of them were nowhere to be seen.

The kitchen chimney in the front yard was billowing with smoke. It was obvious that Veronica's mother was preparing lunch. Caleb pulled out a cigarette from the cigarette box and handed it to Matthew. "This is my first time finding out that this is what your muscles are intended for. Chopping wood, eh?" he joked.

Matthew lightly held the cigarette between his lips as Caleb helped him light the end up. Matthew then took a drag, and wisps of smoke came out with his breath as he spoke next, "That mute girl hasn't even come of age."

Caleb was lighting his own cigarette with his head lowered when he heard those words. He was stunned for a long second, but he soon continued to light it. "What are you telling me about this?" he asked slowly.

"You make it too obvious," Matthew raised his eyebrows, and tilted his chin to gesture to Caleb's pocket.

Caleb looked down again, only to find that the box of chilblain cream he bought was so big that the part with 'chilblain' written on it was showing from the top of the pocket.

His thoughts revealed, Caleb and Matthew looked at each other before they leaned against a tree at the side and quietly smoked.

Matthew flicked the cigarette ash and reminded, "She dropped out of high school, and she is mute on top of that. You have to think this through."

“I want to sponsor her to keep in school.”

“Is this out of charity, or do you have other intentions?” Matthew asked. He knew Caleb too well.

Caleb had never shown interest in any woman. For someone who spent his days at work, he had no time for romances. He definitely didn't have the time to meddle in the affairs of people who had nothing to do with him.

“I am not as nasty as you think I am.” Caleb snorted softly.

Matthew wordlessly smiled at that. “I will arrange for someone to send her to study in Collins, then.” He had intentionally mentioned ‘Collins’.

That was because Veronica lived in Collins.

“The standard in Collins cannot compare to that of the capital Bloomstead. Since you are offering to help, why not send her to Bloomstead?”

“Oh—Bloomstead...” Matthew repeated somewhat oddly.

The corners of Caleb's mouth twitched slightly then. “You... I... It is just that she is a mute. Bloomstead is the capital, and schools in big places like that are more inclusive. It will be better for her.”

“Fine. We will proceed as you say.” Matthew naturally understood Caleb, so he didn't say anything more.

Caleb was the one who warningly added, “Don't let that chatterbox Skyler know. It is not like you don't know how he will—”

“What can't you let me know? You taciturn prick, you don't think I am your bro, do you?!”

Skyler had popped out of nowhere when the duo were conversing.

When Caleb looked back, he saw Miguel and Skyler walking in their direction.

Skyler continued to question his friend, “You little piece of sh*t, what have you been sneakily doing all morning behind our backs that you can't let us know?”

Matthew took another puff of his cigarette before he threw the butt on the ground and put it out by stepping on it with the front of his shoe. He then picked up the axe and continued to chop wood.

Skyler, whose curiosity had been piqued, rushed over and stood in front of Caleb. “What are you hiding from me?”

“Nothing.” Caleb held his cigarette in one hand and draped the other across his chest as he turned to look the other way.

It was fine when he didn't move, but as soon as Caleb tilted his body, the content in his shirt pocket showed itself to Skylar.

Skyler snatched the box out of his pocket then. "Chilblain cream? Tsk! Now this is kind of interesting."

"Give it back, Drew!"

Caleb stretched out his hand to grab it, but Skylar swiftly hid it behind his back. "I won't give it to you. Hey, you taciturn prick. None of us, including Roni, have chilblain. Oh, I see. Matthew and Veronica were talking about a village chick called Wabby Wright, weren't they? Is she the one with chilblain?"

"What Wabby Wright are you talking about? It is Abby Wright!" Caleb quickly explained.

But after he said that, his expression froze as he raised his eyebrows. He suddenly didn't know what more he could say to get out of this.

What a slap in the face!

He had snitched on himself!

"Oh? Haha! Abby Wright. Wow, it looks like our taciturn friend has finally stepped out of his comfort zone. This is great." Skylar was sincerely happy for Caleb, but he still punched him in the chest. "You heartless man! Why are you hiding something like this from me?"

"Stop talking nonsense. She's a mute who isn't even 18 yet. I only want to help her go to school." Caleb grabbed the cream from Skylar and put it in his pocket, and he then swiftly walked away.

Miguel hadn't said a word the whole time he watched them.

On the contrary, Skylar tilted his head to look at Matthew and asked, "What is this, Matt? A mute who isn't even 18 yet? Wouldn't... Wouldn't this be a problem?"

The man didn't seem to hear a word his friend said then. All he wanted to do was chop wood.

Knowing that he wasn't going to get his fun from Matthew who was ignoring him, Skylar shook his head and grumbled, "Forget it. I will go find out more from Roni."

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Matthew finished chopping the firewood before the afternoon. As if he had some sort of obsessive compulsive disorder, he neatly arranged the firewood one by one.

He only started to head inside when he was done tidying everything up.

Veronica had come out right about then. Seeing him get done with his task, she couldn't help feeling warm in her chest, and she trotted over. "It must have been hard on you. Here, let me take the axe."

As she spoke, she took the axe from his hand.

However, at this moment, she noticed that three blisters had grown in the palm of his right hand.

She hurriedly put down the axe and grabbed his hand, only to get disheartened when she saw that there were three bumpy, translucent blisters there. "Just look at these blisters! Why didn't you take a break?"

She then grabbed his left hand, where she also found three blisters there.

Veronica couldn't help feeling guilty at the thought that a man like Matthew who had never done any manual labor had now chopped a pile of firewood by himself in the morning.

"Wait here." She jogged back into the house with the axe. After a while, she came back out with his coat in her hand. She then went around and behind him. "Come on, put your coat on."

She automatically helped him with it.

The man was fully indulging in the special treatment that was exclusively his.

He reached out his arms to put it on, and she started to take off the scarf around her neck. "Here, put on the scarf. You will easily catch a cold after sweating."

Even though it was a red scarf, Matthew didn't show any disdain as he looked at her thoughtfully wrapping the scarf on him.

The woman proceeded to hold his hand and walked toward the side of the road. "Let's go. I will take you to town to get some medicine."

He wanted to refuse because those blisters were merely caused by friction.

Still, Matthew wanted more alone time with Veronica. He finally followed her and walked over to the road. They then got into a car and headed straight to town.

Matthew kept his head tilted to gaze at Veronica from time to time as he sat in the passenger's seat. At that point, he was in an impossibly good mood.

Chapter 378 I Will Bring You to Bloomstead

"Why are you staring at me like that?" Veronica was not used to Matthew's burning gaze. A smile appeared on his handsome face then. Keeping his eyes straight ahead, he suddenly said, "You are pretty, Roni."

You are pretty, Roni? Veronica had her hands on the steering wheel when the corners of her mouth violently twitched. She couldn't help but throw him a glance. "Can you please behave like a normal human being?" she grumbled, somewhat nauseated by his sudden compliment.

Was this even still the indifferent, high-and-mighty Matthew from the time they first met? It was like he was a different person altogether!

“Hmm? Do you want to see the abnormal side of me?” The man looked back at her, his thin lips pulled up into a wicked smile. She could tell at a glance what he meant by that.

She quickly shifted her gaze in front as she drove cautiously. “My parents are still at home waiting for us to have lunch together.” “Sure. Let’s not make Dad and Mom wait for long then. We have plenty of time in the future—”

“Hey!” she exclaimed. “They are my dad and mom!” “Yes, and that makes them my dad and Mmm too.”

“We haven’t even planned the wedding. Stop with your nonsense, Matthew.” “It is bound to happen sooner or later anyway,” he smilingly said. She could see the joy on his face.

She somehow couldn’t find a word to say in return. There was nothing wrong with what he said. After they got the ointment, they headed back to her house.

While they were on the journey home, Veronica stuffed the ointment in his direction and instructed him, “Put some of that on your blisters.”

“There’s no need.” Ointment for just a few blisters? Matthew was too unbothered to do something so pretentious.

“Matthew Kings, is there something wrong with your brain?! Why did we go to town to get you that ointment if you weren’t going to use it?”

“I wanted to spend some time alone with you,” he admitted. All that couples who had only confirmed their relationship wanted was to have some time to themselves. Even time spent sitting around and idly talking could feel wonderful.

Veronica felt her heart break as she listened to his words. Out of nowhere, she started to pity him.

They soon arrived home and by the time that they did, the food had already been served on the table. The rest of them were waiting for Matthew and Veronica to come back before they started eating.

With everyone at the dining table, the ambience was harmonious and peaceful even though it was a little cramped. After lunch, Hendrey didn’t bring up wanting to go home when he realized that Matthew and his friends were going to stay.

Now that they had nothing to do, they sat together for a poker game of Five Card Draw. But considering that Crayson and Tony were here, they only played a quick game to pass the time.

Veronica quickly huddled over to join the game when she saw them playing. Caleb only played for a while before he got bored of it, and so he informed them that he was going out for a smoke. He then took a stroll around and about the village.

It was probably fate that he came across a person harvesting cabbages with a machete at a vegetable farm as he was walking on the rural ridge. Seeing that, he decided to walk over to fully experience the life of a farmer.

After all, life in Bloomstead was fast-paced. On top of that, there was nowhere in that urbanized city that was remotely rural. It was when he was near that person that Caleb realized it was Abby who was hacking off at the cabbages.

She had changed out of her aqua coat from this morning, and was now wearing a black-and-red plaid smock. She probably wanted to prevent her clothes from getting dirty in the fields.

He stood aside as an unexplainable wave of sadness hit him, but he did not say anything to her. Abby was placing the head of cabbage she had just harvested in the basket behind her when she noticed him standing behind her.

She was surprised at first, but she swiftly smiled and politely bowed. However, instead of signing at him, she continued with harvesting the vegetable.

“You...” Caleb abruptly spoke. “Do you want to continue your studies?” Abby’s hands seemed to stop for a while before she stood up straight and turned to look at him. After she put down her machete, she signed to him. I am a mute. My mother said that it is a waste of money for me to go to school. It is not like studying will do me any good.

“I heard that you went to high school before. How were your grades?” he asked. Hearing this, she lowered her head and pursed her lips. A myriad of emotions seemed to flash across the dejected look on her face.

She then raised her hands again. I went to high school after I got first place in town, but my family had no money and my school teachers also thought there was no future for me even if I were to make it to university because I am mute. They didn’t insist on having me study.

Even though universities nowadays accepted mutes, it was true that there wasn’t much they could do even if they were to graduate from universities.

Of course, there were mutes who stood out from their peers, but they had to work a hundred times harder than normal people in order to get a good job and have a bright future.

“Do you want to study?” Caleb felt sympathetic for everything Abby had had to experience.

She was a young lady who wasn’t even of age and yet, she had to put up with the pain and manage the house chores even when her hands were covered in chilblains.

She should be spending the most beautiful years of her life studying without worrying about anything else.

Her question made her ponder, and her beautiful eyes suddenly dimmed as she fell into her thoughts.

She then answered by shaking her head. Turning around, she picked up the knife again and continued to harvest the cabbages

For some reason, Abby suddenly put down the machete again and looked back at Caleb. "My mother has found me a partner. I will be getting married after Christmas. What is the use for me to study again?"

In remote rural areas, girls who did not go to school would often be arranged to get married early.

Abby was no exception to this.

"You are getting married?" Caleb exclaimed in shock after hearing that.

How can she get married when she isn't even 18 years old? Is she going to give birth and continue to live a life like the one she is now?

Abby didn't 'talk' anymore, and only continued to cut the cabbages off their roots.

"Do you want to get married?" he took a step forward and asked.

He only saw how she stopped cutting for a second there before she resumed with her chore.

Abby had probably learned to accept her fate because she knew she couldn't resist it.

Struggling was but a futile attempt.

"I know a charitable organization that can allow you to continue studying."

She froze again when he said that. She proceeded to put down her machete and put all the cabbages she had harvested into the basket without answering him.

"No one can stop nor interfere as long as you want to go to school. Not even your stepmother and biological father. Nothing everyone else says matters!" Caleb stubbornly added.

He had always thought he was not a kind person, but he really couldn't stand it when he came across such a young high school dropout who was abused at home, and was being forced to marry early.

Now that her basket was full of cabbages, Abby carried the basket in one hand, the machete in the other, and left without looking back.

Seeing this, he persistently followed her and even stood in front of her.

The young lady paused briefly to look up at the handsome man in front of her. She only blinked her eyes and didn't 'say' anything before she went around him.

Caleb was surprised when he realized that her red eyes were blurry from tears. She was so pitiful but at the same time, stubborn enough to not want others to see her pitiful side.

He stretched out his hand and blocked her from walking. "I am a policeman. I have the right to help you."

In order to prove his identity, he deliberately took out his police badge and showed it to her.

He then continued, "I will arrange for you to resume your studies in Bloomstead High. No one will bully you there. Your stepmother and father can't interfere in any of your affairs."

After hearing his words, Abby frowned and put down the basket and machete before he angrily glared at him. "I don't need your intervention in my business. Who do you think you are? You might be able to help me for now, but you can't help me for the rest of my life!"

It was either because he had angered her or because she had her guard up against him, but the words that she signed to him were nothing short of dejecting.

Chapter 379 Roni Is Aggrieved

Caleb was not fluent in sign language. As a result, he didn't understand what Abby was trying to express. "I... I can't understand you," he said.

When she heard that, her original bright gaze dimmed and her eyes were filled with disappointment. She simply smiled and lowered her head to take her basket and machete before leaving.

"Wait!" Caleb went after her and handed her the frostbite cream that he purchased. Noticing her full hands, he placed the cream in her pocket before moving off to one side and allowing her to leave.

Abby lowered her head to look at the cream in her pocket, then at him. Her gaze was filled with gratitude and, at the same time, helplessness. After that, she left.

Caleb did not chase after her again.

Meanwhile, after spending some time at Veronica's house, the lot of them were packing their belongings and preparing to leave.

Veronica wanted to accompany her foster parents for a longer period of time, so she did not follow them back.

When Matthew was about to leave, he pulled Veronica into the bedroom.

She couldn't help but ask, "What are you doing by acting so mysteriously?"

Moments after they entered the room, he shut the door and turned around to face her. One of his hands yanked her arm while his other hand rested on the back of her head as he lowered his head and kissed her on her lips.

His heavy breaths rushed into her nose and she found herself immersed in a familiar sensation.

Veronica raised her hands which were beside her and wrapped them around his waist, tiptoeing to kiss him back.

For those who were in love, separation was unbearable.

Just as they were enjoying their kiss, someone knocked on the door.

Veronica pushed him back and asked with her head tilted, "Who's there? Give me a minute."

However, there was no response from outside the door.

She then looked at Matthew, only to notice some dampness on the corner of his lips.

With her face flushed, she raised her hand to wipe it away. "I have to accompany my parents and will be back in Bloomstead in a few days," she said shyly.

Hearing that, Matthew took her hand in his and gently rubbed her back with his fingers. "I need to rush back to Castron for some urgent matters first. I should be in Bloomstead by the time you have arrived."

"Okay. Take good care of yourself."

"You too."

"And..." Veronica suddenly had a solemn look. Pointing to his nose, she warned, "We're over if I find out that you lied to me again. I cannot stand any kind of deception or betrayal."

"Of course. I'll follow whatever you say, my wife."

Matthew then smiled tacitly before taking her hand and kissing the back of her palm.

"I'm not your wife yet! Come on, you should leave now."

Then, she pried open his grip and opened the door.

However, as soon as the door was opened, Tony and Daniella nearly fell to the ground after losing their balance.

"Dad, Mom, what are you both doing?" Veronica asked with her brows furrowed. Truth was, she obviously knew what the both of them were doing. What is going on? These two elders even know how to eavesdrop now?

“Oh—nothing much. We’re just leaning against the door while discussing something. We didn’t know Matthew and you are in the room.” Tony tried to wiggle his way out by making up some excuses.

“That’s right. We were discussing whether we should give Matthew something since this is his first time here.”

Daniella suddenly recalled that she had a small present for Matthew in her pocket and she quickly took it out and handed it to him.

“Mrs. Murphy, this is not necessary.” He simply waved his hand to it.

“Don’t say that. Since this is your first visit, please accept our best wishes.” She insisted on Veronica keeping the present while speaking.

“Just take it. This is my parent’s wishes,” Veronica persuaded Matthew.

With that, he had no choice but to accept it.

All of them then chit-chatted for a while by the doorway before they left respectively.

After they all left, Veronica was dragged by Crayson to his house for training.

Throughout the entire Christmas season, she was subjected to twelve hours of intense training per day. It was unbearable and she even tried to flee once, but he found out and taught her a lesson.

Finally, the holiday season had come to an end whereby she could escape the sufferings and return to Bloomstead.

When she arrived at Bloomstead, Matthew approached her with a bouquet of flowers in his hand just as she stepped out of the car. “Roni, this is for you.”

It was a bouquet of blue enchantress, decorated with baby breaths and bright green leaves. The colorful silk threads on it made it look especially lovely.

However, Veronica merely took the bouquet and threw it into the car.

Matthew was a little disappointed by her actions, but she suddenly jumped onto him and clung to him as if she was a koala

And he reflexively held her as well.

She then rested her chin on his shoulder and moaned, “I’m finally back! You have no idea how Crayson had tormented me. My entire body is aching now...”

He was initially feeling disappointed with how she had discarded the flowers but now, when Veronica took the initiative to hug him and began whining, he couldn't help but smile. His mood improved almost immediately.

While holding Veronica in his embrace, Matthew stroked her back and attempted to console her, "I know. It's been extremely difficult for my girl."

"Yes. It's extremely difficult! Crayson would not have allowed me to return if it hadn't been for Sean's call asking me to report to work tomorrow."

Veronica treated her superior, Sean, as her life savior now.

Matthew was aware of her modeling contract with Starshine Media Agency as well as the fact that Sean was the company's owner. Thus, he did not inquire further. "Would you like to head out for some delicious food?" he asked instead.

"No. I am too tired now and I just want to rest."

"Okay."

He closed the car door with his leg and carried her up the stairs.

Matthew would have driven her back if Veronica hadn't insisted on him not picking her up from her house.

"Look, they're so lovey-dovey."

"This man is attractive and has a great physique! He's exactly my type!"

"So embarrassing for them to do this in public!"

"She is so blissful. I'm envious."

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Veronica was tired after driving back and she merely wanted to rest on Matthew's shoulders.

It wasn't until she heard the bystanders' comments that she realized Matthew was carrying her in such an embarrassing position that even the bystanders couldn't stand it.

Noticing that, she immediately straightened her body and struggled. "Put me down."

"No."

"There are a lot of people staring at us. It's so embarrassing!" She looked around while patting his shoulder and noticed that many people were talking about them. Embarrassed, Veronica covered half of her face and continued, "Put me down now!"

“They can say whatever they want. I just want to spoil you.”

Matthew tightened his embrace even more and completely ignored her request. Then, under everyone’s gazes, he carried her into the elevator.

Chapter 380 Be Decent, Matthew

Ding! The doors of the elevator shut. Just as Veronica was about to leave his embrace, Matthew turned around and pushed her against the elevator wall, thereafter kissing her on the lips.

“We’re in the elevator, Matthew! Don’t mess around.” Veronica was so taken aback by his actions that she hit his shoulder repeatedly.

But Matthew did not let her go. Instead, he gently bit her lips. “Ouch!”

Veronica gasped in pain. With her brows furrowed, she asked, “What’re you doing? That’s painful!” “That’s to punish you for not concentrating,” Matthew reprimanded.

She realized right away that he was saying she wasn’t paying attention when he kissed her and that she needed to be punished for it.

This man is getting more and more indecent!

Ding!

The elevator stopped and the doors slowly opened.

Veronica seized the opportunity when his attention was diverted and broke free from his embrace before standing beside him.

They both then focused their attention on the door. A casually dressed elderly man carrying a bunch of keys walked in, followed by a young couple.

They were most likely here to rent a place.

Then, the doors closed, and the elevator rose gradually.

Matthew put a hand around Veronica’s waist. However, before he could do anything further, the young couple standing behind the elderly man began to hug and kiss each other, completely disregarding Matthew and Veronica, who were standing behind them.

When Veronica saw this, she pursed her lips and reflected on how daring today’s youngsters were.

Even looking at them made her feel shy. She cast a sidelong glance at Matthew as she lowered her head and noticed him looking at her as well.

Seeing that, she merely rolled her eyes, to which he gently pinched her cheek.

The elevator quickly arrived at Veronica's floor and the door opened.

They both got out of the elevator but before she could get into her own unit, Matthew dragged her to the one next to hers.

This unit beside hers was Matthew's.

He used a card to unlock the door. With his hands on her shoulder, he pushed her inside before turning around and pressing her against the door.

The door shut with a bang.

Matthew placed one hand on Veronica's waist and the other on her face as he lowered his head to kiss her.

"Hey! Calm down!"

Veronica placed her fair palms on his face and said, "Control yourself, young man!"

Through her fingers, Matthew looked at her. "Don't you... miss me?"

"I do, but we've just seen each other, haven't we?"

"That's all?"

"What else do you want?" Veronica pretended to be ignorant.

Hearing that, the man lowered his gaze and gently pinched her around the waist. "You're up to your old tricks again, Roni."

As soon as he finished speaking, he took her in his arms and carried her into the bedroom.

Veronica felt that she wasn't on her feet anymore and she instinctively wrapped her arms around his neck, making their positions appear intimate.

After they entered the bedroom, he gently placed her on the bed.

Just as Matthew was about to do something more, Veronica raised her leg and pressed it against his abdomen, trying to create some distance between them.

"Rumors say you're not interested in women, but I've realized you're just being sanctimonious." With her head on the pillow, Veronica said with a curious tone as she narrowed her eyes.

"You're the only one I'll do this to," Matthew replied with a raised brow.

"Well, that's what you say."

Laying on the bed, Veronica pursed her lips and placed her hand on her stomach. "I'm starving..."

“I’ve already ordered some food from the One Piece Restaurant. It’ll be here soon.”

“That’s good. Let me have a rest.”

“I’ll accompany you.”

“That’s not necessary!”

Veronica immediately declined Matthew’s offer and gave him a thoughtful look, leaving him to ponder what she meant.

Due to her various rejections, Matthew felt his burning passion fade away as well. He then moved to one corner of the room, pulled a cigarette from his pocket, and began smoking quietly while sitting on the sofa.

Noticing his disappointed look, Veronica couldn’t help but ask, “Are you angry?”

“No,” he replied indifferently without looking at her.

At that moment, someone rang the doorbell. Hearing that, Matthew rose to his feet and went to get their lunch.

He then neatly arranged the dishes on the table before returning to the bedroom to inform Veronica that their lunch was ready. However, he saw her fast asleep on the bed.

That caused him to raise his brows. Is she no longer suffering from insomnia?

He then approached her and covered her with the blanket, but there was no response from her. Veronica appeared to be in a deep sleep.

Seeing that, he smiled and quietly lay beside her, his arms wrapped around her waist.

He then turned around to look at her. Both of them were close to each other, and a faint and familiar scent filled Matthew’s nose, making him all hot and bothered.

However, he did not want to wake her up. Hence, he could only try to restrain the fire burning within him.

After a while, a sleeping Veronica noticed that something was blocking her mouth and making it difficult for her to breathe. She even felt someone laying on top of her.

She was so exhausted that she couldn’t open her eyes, but she started to wonder, Is this sleep paralysis?

It was until she felt the familiar sensation of something within her that she awakened out of shock.

And the first thing she noticed when she opened her eyes was Matthew's attractive and seductive face.

"Matthew... You... You're such a b*stard!" Veronica was furious and began to punch him on his chest while mumbling, "I am so tired..."

"You can just lay there if you're tired. You don't need to move at all."

He then gave her an indecent smile, to which she cursed.

She then lazily closed her eyes and started scolding him in her heart.

"If I had known this earlier, I would not have agreed to be with you," she mumbled to herself.

"Do you want to repeat what you've just said?"

Under his threat, she surrendered immediately. "Be fast. I am hungry."

"Okay," Matthew promised.

Veronica naïvely assumed that given his promise, he would end it soon.

However...

He took almost two hours before he let her go.

Even she, who was previously exhausted, became much more awake after what he did. He then carried her to the bathroom to clean her up before carrying her to the living room.

"Put me down. I am not disabled!" she grumbled.

"I just want to carry you."

And so, Matthew carried her to the dining table and placed her on his legs, her front facing the table, as if she were a child.

That left her speechless. "It is inconvenient for me to eat in this manner. Place me down."

"No!"

He rejected her right away. "I'll feed you," he said. With one hand around her waist, he used his other hand to spoon some food.

The table was full of delectable food, all of which were Veronica's favorites.

Matthew then took a fork and fed her a piece of braised meat.

Veronica, on the other hand, simply shook her head and said, "I'm not going to eat unless you put me down."

When he heard that, the hand holding the utensil stiffened and his face became solemn. "Really? You're not eating? Do you believe I'll deal with you here?"

Here?

Veronica would never doubt Matthew's ability to follow through what he said.