

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 401-405

Chapter 401 What Have You Done?

Veronica's mind went blank when she heard what he had said. "You mean... Uh..." By the time she regained her composure, she realized that Matthew had a sly expression. She could not help but be annoyed. "You are such a b*stard, Matthew!"

She rushed to him in a fit of anger and pointed at his face. Before she could even curse at him again, he grabbed her finger and embraced her. "Are you mad, Roni?"

Veronica's back was facing Matthew and she struggled for a while, but was unable to escape from his grasp. "B*stard, let me go!" "Wear the attire on the couch and I'll let you off the hook!"

"I..." Veronica was still mad at that instant and as a result of his words, she turned beet red. Such an expression made her look like a cute, ripe peach.

She closed her eyes in embarrassment and silently cursed Larry's ancestry. Suddenly, she remembered a scene in her mind. I remembered that in high school, on the day of Larry's birthday, I bought him a birthday cake in the shape of a bikini. I even made a wish that when Larry becomes an adult, I'll give him loads of products from the brand Q. That'll help him to woo and court girls. This idiot!

Although the wish from many years ago was finally realized, the recipient was now a different person. Veronica was helpless; she had to reap what she sowed.

She did not forget that the bikini-shaped birthday cake made Larry the butt of everyone's jokes for his birthday back then. "Can I... not wear it?" She made a last-ditch attempt to struggle because she was unwilling to wear those clothes.

"Since you are being naughty, why don't I ask the few young masters standing at the entrance to teach you how to wear 'em?"

Veronica was speechless. My God, have some boundaries! She resisted with all her might.

Matthew rested his chin on her shoulder before he went close to her ear. Then, he gently blew on it before whispering, "You can refuse, but you have to bear the consequences."

The words 'bear the consequences' were slurred. Veronica felt that she was being threatened and tilted her head to look at the two-piece suit in resignation. Then, she decided to cave into the pressure.

"Alright, I admit defeat!"

The main reason for her surrender stemmed from the fact that she was assigned to be Mia's assistant for tomorrow morning's show. If Matthew decided to take 'revenge' and cause Veronica to oversleep or unable to get off the bed, she could kiss her job goodbye.

He raised an eyebrow with a smile while his slim fingers played with a strand of her hair. "I can teach you so much."

Teach my *ss! Veronica silently scolded Matthew in her heart, but she took the said two-piece suit to the bathroom in the end. After hesitating for close to half an hour, she changed into the attire and emerged from the bathroom.

In the living room was the man who closed the curtains and sat on the couch with crossed legs. Such an action illustrated his domineering presence, just like a boss.

The corners of his lips lifted upward into a slight smile before he raised his hand and pointed to her bathrobe after which he asked her to throw it away.

A reddened Veronica wished that she could bury a hole in the ground to hide in.

At last, she pursed her lips and took a breath before she pointed at Matthew with a warning. "Matthew, I'm warning you to stay within your limits. Otherwise... Oh, hey! I—"

Matthew did not leave her with any chance to finish her words because he stepped forward to push her onto the bed and pounced on her like a hungry wolf.

Rip. The sound of bare hands tearing the bathrobe was then heard, followed by the apparel being turned into strips of cloth and thrown onto the ground like it was a piece of trash.

"Matthew, you... uh... You... Be gentle..."

...

It was a beautiful day with a blue sky and white clouds to complement it. The curtains were closed, which left the suite in a dim manner with remnants of their love being amplified in the air. The two of them were comfortably immersed in such an atmosphere.

It did not take long for voices to be heard with contents that would make one blush.

However, such joy was soon replaced by a plea for mercy before it died off with a sob.

"Matt, I... I can't do it anymore."

“Huh? Matt? That wasn’t what you called me earlier, though.”

“Ugh... Really, s-stop...”

“What did you call me?” asked the man as he did not plan on letting her off the hook.

“Honey...”

“What? I can’t hear you.”

“Honey; that was what I screamed. Honey.”

“Louder.”

“Mat—Uh... Honey. Can you let me off the hook, honey?”

The moment he heard her addressing him as ‘honey’, there was a sense of contentment on Matthew’s face. Yet, he responded, “Women never mean what they say. So, if they ask to stop, it means to continue!”

After that, there was a series of back-to-back curses in the room.

Veronica had used all of her remaining strength to curse Matthew with colorful languages before she finally dragged his ancestors into the conversation.

It was a known fact that the man was aroused by her reaction like this.

...

Veronica did not know how much time had passed; she only felt that the b*stard, Matthew, intended to practice all of his moves on her before letting her go.

She was sprawled on the bed and was so exhausted that her eyelid felt like it weighed a ton. Then, she fell asleep in her drowsy state.

I’ll just catch a wink...

The minute she opened her eyes, it was already 6:00PM the next day.

“F*ck!”

The person sleeping on the bed suddenly jumped awake and immediately sat up. Since Veronica had woken up in such an abrupt movement, her limbs were in such pain that it felt like someone had tortured her violently. This pain is indescribable.

She took a deep breath and reached out for her phone only to realize that the device was already switched off. "Sh*t! I'm f*cked! What is the time now?"

She pushed the blanket aside and rose from the bed, but her legs weakened at that moment and she collapsed onto the ground with a thud.

"Ouch..." she gasped in pain.

Veronica's knees ached as she grabbed the bedside table with both hands to balance herself. While looking at the time on the phone, she growled at Matthew, "Matthew, you son of a b*tch! I'm going to return the favor!"

As soon as she opened her eyes, she knew that she would not be able to see him because he had angered her by going overboard. To save his own soul, he left in a hurry.

She swore in her heart that Matthew would not have his way with her the next time they crossed paths, but—

"What?! It's 6.39PM?!" Veronica was stunned and plugged her phone into the charger before she switched the device on.

It only took seconds for the phone to be switched on, but for her, it left like she was in purgatory.

After the device was switched on, the display screen was exactly the same as the one listed on the landline phone screen.

"I'm dead. I'm so f*cking dead."

Now that she was in Castron, her phone's navigation system had also detected her current location. Therefore, the clock had been adjusted to the local time automatically.

Her heart was originally racing because she thought that she was late. However, she no longer felt nervous because the catwalk on the T-shaped runway was in the morning whereas it was already nighttime now!

Buzz! Buzz!

The phone vibrated continuously to notify the number of text messages coming in and when Veronica saw it, she rose from the ground and buried herself in bed. Screw it. It's already late, anyway. If Sean wants to pursue the matter, I'll let him deduct my wages.

She left her phone aside in despair before she stared at the ceiling with wide eyes. Then, she realized a serious issue. She and Matthew did the deed intermittently whereby they stopped and continued their actions until the morning. I actually slept from morning until almost seven at night? And my sleeping hours gradually increased?!

Chapter 402 They Had a Divergence

Veronica was not sure how she should respond to the matter. Does an active sex life help me to sleep better? No way! This is embarrassing! Since she was not certain about her theory, she took a mental note to keep an eye on this matter in the future.

After she took a minute to catch her breath, she began to feel hungry. Sliding down from the bed, she cleaned herself in the bathroom, then changed into her clothes.

Fortunately, Matthew was being considerate of her current career as a model. He did not leave any hickeys on her yesterday; otherwise, she would not be able to go anywhere in that state.

Later, she dialed the room service to ask them to serve her dinner. As she was having her meal, she checked her messages on her phone. It was at that moment she found out that Mia had taken the last flight of the day to return to Bloomstead. Thus, she could only book the ticket for tomorrow's flight without any choice.

On the second day, she took the flight to return to the country. The local time was 7.00AM when she arrived at Bloomstead.

Feeling like she was freezing, Veronica hunched her shoulders while tightening the trenchcoat around her as the weather in Bloomstead was chilly.

As she walked toward the exit, she found a car parked outside and a man was leaning against it. Matthew!

She stared at him in silence while he did the same.

When their eyes made contact, she rolled her eyes at him. Then, she immediately carried her luggage and turned to the left side where the cab services were situated.

A cab rolled to a stop before Veronica in time, so she opened the door and got in. However, Matthew invited himself into the car with a bouquet when she was closing the door.

"Why are you following me?" She scowled at him before she asked the driver, "Sir. I don't know this guy. Can you ask him to get off?"

The driver was observing them from the rearview mirror as he asked, "Where are you going?"

"I'm going to the Starshine Media Agency."

"I'm heading in the same direction."

Both of them answered one after another.

The driver sighed and he began, "Miss, you know it's hard to make a living nowadays, don't you? Since the two of you are heading in the same direction, there's no point in chasing him away. I'll give both of you a discount as a compromise. After all, there aren't many cab services available at this time."

Veronica stuttered, "I—"

Before she could reject, the driver already floored the gas and headed toward their destination.

"Roni, this is for you." Matthew shoved the bouquet into her hands.

"I don't—"

Just as Veronica tried to throw the flowers away, he quickly pressed her hand on the seat to stop her. "I got the roses from the garden shed in the Kings Residence. Don't let them go to waste."

"What does that have to do with me?" She glared at him. "Stay away from me! Any closer and I'll call the police on you for committing sexual assault!"

She stared at him with a cold expression as the anger enveloped her mind. She looks like the Angry Bird, he thought.

He found it both interesting and heartbreaking by looking at her irritated look, so he asked, "What can I do to earn your forgiveness?"

At that moment, the driver burst into laughter. "Hahaha! I thought so! I was thinking that you're related to each other because you two look like a couple, no doubt! Let me tell you something: it's common for couples to fight, but you will make up later as nothing is going to dwell on you forever."

Pursing her lips, Veronica turned her attention to the scenery outside without a word. You know nothing! she thought.

"Last warning. Stay away from me!" Anger was boiling inside her as she did not bother to wear a friendly look at him.

"You don't need to be angry about it. I've asked Sean for a day off for you, so you don't have to worry about the deduction of your pay. Besides, he permitted you three days off. You can take your rest at home."

Last night, Matthew did not restrain himself because he was furious. However, he regretted his choice for 'torturing' her and felt bad for her soon after, so he got in touch with Sean and asked him to allow Veronica a few days off.

"Matthew, I told you before, didn't I? I didn't want you to meddle in my career. What do you think you're doing?"

Veronica was merely sulking until she realized that Matthew was crossing her boundaries.

She had learned a lot from what happened to the Encounters Bridal Store last time, which included not announcing her relationship with Matthew to the public at this point. Otherwise, the public would criticize their relationship.

People would laugh at her for upgrading into a noble family, or accuse her of seducing Matthew to become one of the Kingses, or blame her for sabotaging the relationship between Matthew and Tiffany as his mistress and so on. Their words were making her feel uncomfortable.

Even though Veronica would no longer be mad as she had frequently heard those words from others, the words still hurt her like a knife to her heart and the feeling was suffocating.

She was a tough woman who did not want to depend on others, even if the person was her significant other in the future. She wanted to achieve the goal to become a better person who could stand beside Matthew.

“Roni, I...” Matthew had always been the one who scolded others instead of being scolded, but things were different at the moment. He was overwhelmed with guilt as he watched her silently with a tender look in his eyes. She’s right. I’ve crossed the boundary.

“Please stop the car,” Veronica asked the driver.

The middle-aged driver was aware of the couple fighting in the back seats, so he advised instead of stopping the car, “Oh, miss. Your husband did this for your good. Even though he’s wrong to meddle in your business, he cares about you.”

Still, her expression sank and she raised her voice as she repeated, “I said, let me off!”

However, the driver was not stopping the car. Understanding the kind of person Veronica was, Matthew interrupted, “Sir, please stop the car.”

“All right.” The driver stopped the car at the roadside when he finally realized the atmosphere between them was terrible.

As the car came to a stop, Veronica did not think twice as she opened the car to get off, but Matthew stopped her. “You don’t need to get down. I’ll go.”

His handsome face showed a hint of resignation. Before he pushed the door open and alighted from the car, he cast a meaningful look at her.

However, just as he stepped onto the ground, Veronica threw the bouquet out and closed the door with a thump. “Sir, you can drive now.”

Even if the driver was willing to offer a peace talk, he could only start the car as he was not in the position to meddle in their business.

Matthew stood at the roadside when the cold wind swayed at him like a thousand knives.

He took out a pack of cigarettes from his pocket and placed one between his lips before he lit it. He began to walk while smoking as thoughts were running through his mind.

He knew Veronica was furious. Even though it was a trivial deal to him, he had crossed her boundary.

Matthew finally knew she was much tougher than he imagined she would be. A sudden worry filled his mind as the way she cared about the public's opinion would push them further away from each other.

He pondered with a frown between his brows. Will everything change if Veronica is pregnant? As the idea flashed in his mind, he immediately called Skyler.

"Matt? What's wrong?" Skyler answered the call with a yawn, then he mumbled, "You better have a good reason for waking me up this early in the morning."

"How do I make it easy for someone to get pregnant?"

Chapter 403 Xavier Has Kidnapped Monica

Matthew's words woke Skyler up from his drowsiness. "What? Pregnant?"

"Hmm," Matthew hummed in response. The other party kept quiet for a moment before bursting into laughter. "Matt, are you kidding me?"

He laughed non-stop at Matthew as though it was the funniest joke of the universe. Matthew's countenance darkened as his lips were pursed into a thin line. "Do you have a death wish?"

The sinister threat sent chills down Skyler's spine and he covered his face in an attempt to hold in his laughter. "I mean, Matt, you've gone overboard. I'm just happy for you. You've finally wished to have a son to play with and I'm going to be another father figure!"

"Shut up!" Matthew snorted. "Just answer me." "Oh, about that." Skyler cleared his throat before saying, "Let me think."

Silence dawned upon the other side of the line and Matthew could scarcely hear a laughter afterward. Little did he know that Skyler was guffawing while covering his face with the blanket.

It took him a while to calm down. "That's not a problem. I'll prescribe some supplements that are good for pregnancy. As long as you do your best, you can get yourself a football team. It won't be a big deal."

“I’ll ask Thomas to retrieve it in the morning.”

“Sure. Looks like you can’t wait any longer, huh? Good, good.” Skyler started the teasing before letting out a hearty laughter again.

Matthew’s face dimmed and he terminated the call.

On the other hand, Veronica returned to her place by car and unpacked her stuff when Sean suddenly rang her.

“Have you returned to the country, Veronica?” he asked in concern. “I heard you’re feeling under the weather. Are you feeling better now?”

The corner of her lips slightly twitched as she wondered what Matthew told him. “Yeah, I’m all better now, but I didn’t attend the showcase that day—”

“It’s alright. Didn’t you get someone else to help Mimi at that time? That’s fine.”

“Oh, okay. Glad to hear that.”

Veronica assumed that Matthew had only taken a leave for her. She did not expect him to be so meticulous in taking care of the situation by sending a temporary assistant to Mia for assistance. No wonder Mia did not blame her.

She was still vexed by the fact that Mia had ripped her off for over ten thousands of dollars. Although the clever Mia had raked in more than that by reselling the signed pictures, Veronica decided to just shrug it off.

Veronica went to Twilight Condominium in the morning where Yvonne was playing games in her bed. Noticing Veronica’s visit, she spared her a glance. “You’re already back from your business trip? That’s quick.”

“It’s because I’m worried about you,” retorted Veronica intentionally.

“Oh, really? It is my honor.” Yvonne continued playing the mobile game while speaking, “Give me a moment. I’m about to finish this round.”

Suddenly, she sat up and turned on the microphone. “What the hell? What are you guys doing? Attack the base, dude! Hurry! Hurry! Phew... That was close.”

Yvonne heaved a long sigh and put her phone aside to look at Veronica. “What’s with the sour mood? Look at me. I’m still doing fine although I was made a fool of. You seemed to have it worse than I do.”

In spite of that, she actually felt terrible for the past few days because she was worried about the baby in her belly. What could she do about it, though?

“Where’s Conrad?”

“I’m not sure what happened, but he was caught and released by Zac. I reckon they’ve made some kind of a deal.”

Having said that, she flopped back onto the bed and stared at the ceiling. In a haggard voice, she exclaimed, “Men are like this. They say they like you, but they change their attitude at the very next second. Zac hasn’t contacted me these days. I received a text from Conrad, though. He sent me two words.”

“What is it?”

““You cruel woman!””

“That’s three,” Veronica corrected only to receive silent glares from Yvonne.

“Get up. I’ll take you somewhere nice for lunch.”

“The morning sickness is unbearable. I can’t eat anything.” Yvonne’s voice trailed off into a whimper. “My parents don’t know about my pregnancy yet. I don’t know what to tell them.”

It pained Veronica to see Yvonne in that state, but there was nothing she could help with as she patted her shoulders. “It’s alright. Just take your time to think about the baby.”

Despite the urgency, she dared not put the pressure on Yvonne. They played mobile games for the entire day and Yvonne was happy to have Veronica carry the game. Matthew neither returned to the condominium nor gave Veronica a call that day.

Since she was on leave, she was not in a hurry and was phubbing in her bed the next morning. Suddenly, her phone rang and it was Shirley calling.

“Hi, Shir. What—”

“Roni, where are you? Monica is missing,” sobbed Shirley.

A foreboding was cast upon Veronica the moment she received the call. Never once did anything good happen whenever it was a call from Shirley as though it was a curse.

“She’s missing? She’s a grown-up. How could she possibly have gone missing? Are you overthinking things?”

“No! Monica’s phone is still in the patient room and the kid is in the ICU, but I haven’t seen her all day.”

“Okay, okay. I’ll be on my way there.”

Veronica got out of the bed and did not wake up Yvonne, who was still fast asleep. After a quick shower, she drove to the children's hospital hastily only to see Shirley crying frantically with reddened eyes.

"Calm down. Everything's gonna be fine. I'll check on the surveillance footage." Veronica comforted Shirley before heading to the monitor room. At that moment, her phone rang upon receiving a message.

Her footsteps did not stop as she checked the text. However, it was a clip and the person in it was none other than the missing Monica; she finally stopped in her tracks and color drained from her face.

Glancing at the unknown number, she thought, Is Monica kidnapped by her vengeful mother-in-law? No, that's impossible. If so, why would she send me a message?

Dubious, she dialed that number and the call got through after a few seconds.

"Hello, who are you?" she dived straight into the question. However, she received zero responses.

"Speak to me. How am I supposed to know your conditions if you don't talk to me?" Not only did the person kidnap Monica, he knew Veronica's number and sent her a clip. It was obvious that the criminal was fully prepared.

Suddenly, she heard a man sniggering on the other side of the line. Why is his voice so familiar?

Her brows slightly furrowed as she contemplated for a second before asking, "Xavier?"

Chapter 404 Xavier Has Gone Mad

"I expect nothing less from you, Roni. You're clever as always. It's me—you've guessed it right! Now, tell me, what should I do if you're so clever?"

Despite the chuckle, Veronica was assaulted by a sense of insidious ferocity despite not being physically around him. "Stop beating around the bush. I don't like it."

It was not a surprise for her to know that it was him. Ever since he had tried to attack her but was hampered by Crayson's timely arrival, she was aware that he would take revenge one day. It was just a matter of time; what was meant to be would eventually happen.

"I'll text you an address. Let's meet up," suggested Xavier calmly before threatening, "You must come alone. If Matthew finds out about this, I'll kill Monica."

"Okay. I promise." She agreed to his condition without a second thought.

"Cool. I like that decisive attitude of yours. Too bad you're not mine," he exclaimed with mixed feelings.

Xavier's embittering words made her heart throb for some reason as her stomach churned. When they first met each other, he was the unwelcomed playboy in the Crawford Family. Yet, after spending time with him, Veronica realized that he was not that bad of a person.

Still, people were the imponderables themselves; who would have known that so much had changed between them within one year? She could only say that nothing was predictable in this cruel world.

After hanging up the phone, Veronica returned to the patient room and informed Shirley, "Monica has something on and she's gone back to her parent's place. I'll leave the kid to you, but you may leave if you have something else urgent to do. Since it's the ICU, the nurses can look after him. Don't worry about it."

"I see. What a relief. I was really scared just now." Shirley trusted her words wholeheartedly and the doubts in her mind were dispelled.

Then, Veronica left the hospital and went back to her place in which she was surprised to see Matthew's car at the entrance. Frowning, she stared at the man leaning against the car while smoking. Strange enough, the silhouette made her chest tighten.

Although she was not sure when he had been waiting, she presumed that it had been a long wait given the pile of cigarette buds around his feet. Clenching onto her phone, she felt bitter, but she wheeled around and made herself scarce in the end.

It was true that they were now a couple. Still, she did not wish to be codependent on Matthew. It would make her seem like a fool that was devoid of any merits and only knew how to rely on men.

She hailed a cab by the road and headed straight to the promised location. Her initial plan was to drive her own car, but Matthew would find out about it since he was there.

Veronica phoned Xavier upon arriving at the destination. "Where are you?"

The cab driver scanned the area. "Miss, are you sure that your friend is here? It's a desolated place with only mountains, though. You better be careful."

Xavier chuckled. "Did you come alone? Why did you hail a cab? Did you perhaps call the police?"

"No, I did not!"

"Head south for another half mile."

"Okay." She then told the driver, "Sir, please head south for another half mile."

The car moved slowly and arrived finally at a desolate area, which comprised five tall buildings. They were roughcast buildings that were over ten floors tall; even the walls were left unpainted.

Veronica alighted from the car. Along her way to the final destination, she talked over the phone with Xavier to listen to his guidance, which led her to the thirty-third floor of the last building.

Huffing and puffing, she climbed the stairs and could see Xavier sitting by the window from afar whereas Monica was all tied up on a chair with her mouth silenced by a tape.

Veronica had a decent physique, but she had not recovered from Matthew's torture yet; that was why she was all panting while ascending the flight of stairs.

She looked at Xavier, who was in a dusty space with casual clothes, unlike the usual days where he would always be neatly and handsomely dressed; he did not seem to care either.

Due to the scratch left by Veronica, there was a visible scar on his handsome face, rendering him a fierce look. Furthermore, she knew that he had one of his arms chopped off and his leg fractured by Crayson. Thus, here was the question—how did he manage to get to the thirty-third floor?

He has an accomplice.

Despite the colossal thoughts in her head, she remained pallid as she stood next to him. "Long time no see."

If they were as close as before, she would have wished him a Happy New Year and given him a hug. However, that was all in the past now.

"Yeah. It's been so long, isn't it? It's already the new year." Xavier sat on the unglazed window frame, where it would take him a second of distraction to fall off from. Still, he sat there nonchalantly while smoking in dismal silence.

"Let Monica go. She's innocent. I can be your hostage."

In fact, she was completely aware of the reason for his summon. Now that he had hurt her, it was no less different from offending Matthew, who kept subjugating the Centian Group in every way possible.

Recently, there was a problem with the company's cash flow; many of the small factories were either sold off or mortgaged to fill the pit but in vain.

The bank had caught a whiff of their financial crisis and rejected their loan application, pushing the Crawfords to the edge of the cliff. If it was not for that, Xavier would not have resorted to this!

"Letting her go?" He frowned. "So that she can report to the police?"

"I could've done that earlier if I really wanted to. I wouldn't have come this far." Veronica chuckled. "You've had my trust since day one. Don't you believe me?"

“Trust?” Xavier averted his gaze upon her. “Really? Were you being honest with me when you were sleeping with Matthew?”

Veronica fell into silence as she could not answer that question. During Matthew and Tiffany’s engagement ceremony, Matthew did take her to a private lounge where they slept together in the end. At that time, Xavier called her and questioned what she was doing at which she did not reply in honesty.

“Stop twisting my words.”

No one would be in their right state of mind to bring up such a topic. The both of them conversed and paid no heed to Monica as though she was invisible.

“You’re the one talking about trust first.” He tossed the cigarette and trampled on it before pointing at his leg. “Should I thank you for having my leg fractured, then?”

Chapter 405 The Unbearable Weight of Love

“Your leg is hurt. You should stay in the hospital, not kidnap Monica.” Veronica could never understand what was going on in Xavier’s head. It was not like he had his leg crippled for eternity; it was only a fracture. However, not only did he refuse to stay in the hospital for recovery, he came to such a sketchy place to kidnap Monica.

“Stay in the hospital?” He burst into laughter as if it was a ridiculous joke. “I do want that.”

Xavier brought his injured leg up and the spasm of pain contorted his face as he gritted his teeth. Still, he forced a smile. “What about that old man? Do you think that he will give me the liberty to stay in the hospital until recovery?”

He shook his head before gazing out of the window with a bitter smile. Veronica’s chest tightened as she did not know what to do with him.

She had to admit that she had once acknowledged him as her best friend, but she could not forgive his betrayal. Needless to say, she was very well-informed of how much pressure he had because of Hendric. It was nearly impossible for Xavier to take a good rest in the hospital.

“It’s just that you’re not willing to.” She sighed helplessly. “Hendric is in Bloomstead and he will find you wherever you go, but how about leaving the city? I don’t think he has the energy and time to track you down if you’re on the other side of the globe.”

“Don’t you get it?” Xavier suddenly turned his head with that sharp gaze of his. “I’m talking about Matthew. He ruined the Crawford Family and I became the public enemy. Everyone in the family is going against me. Do you know how exhausting that is?”

He rose to his feet with difficulty before teetering toward her to grab her arms and prod her chest. “Veronica Murphy, get your facts straight. If it wasn’t for Matthew Kings, I wouldn’t have ended up like this.”

“What about you, then?” Veronica snapped. “Do you think that you’ve been righteous all this time? Most of the time, you totally deserve the punishment. You’ve never appreciated anything you have!”

She then shoved him away. “I took you as my best friend and yet, what have you done to me? Back in that storage house, Matthew would have killed Melissa if I didn’t do that to the both of you. I expect nothing from the two of you, but how could you guys do that to me?!”

People tend to be ironic sometimes; how would anyone know if you never reveal the good deeds you have done? But then again, who does that all the time?

Veronica thought Xavier would understand. Even if he was not grateful for it, she thought they were best friends at the very least. Yet, she had not expected things to end up like this.

“You...” Words failed him as he stared at her with dry lips. Memories of the storage house began to flood his head. Never in his wildest dreams had he expected her merciless acts were done for their sake.

Even though she had previously mentioned it, it pricked his guilty conscience now that she reminded him about it again. However, what was done had been done. It was meaningless to bring up the past.

“We will never be the same as we were in the past. The Crawfords despise you to the bones. Even if I don’t come for you today, Hendric or Melissa will still be after you tomorrow.” Xavier lowered his head with a sigh before taking out a cigarette to smoke in silence.

Gazing at the quiet man, Veronica did not know what to say at the moment either.

Ring! Ring! Ring!

Her ringing phone broke the silent yet solemn atmosphere; it was Matthew calling. After taking a glance at Xavier, she went elsewhere to answer the call.

“Roni, where are you?” Matthew’s voice resounded from the other side of the line.

Her gaze swept across Xavier and the glint in her eyes simmered. Colossal thoughts fled across her mind and at last, she questioned, “Anything?”

“Roni, I’m at your place. Could you—”

“If you like to stay there, suit yourself then. As I’ve said, I will never forgive you.” Having said that, she terminated the call and blocked his number.

She was worried that Xavier would be irritated because of Matthew’s incessant calls. She wished to let Monica off the hook, but she knew that there were Xavier’s underlings around the area, which rendered it difficult to escape from here.

“Xavier, just tell me if you have any plans.” She kept her phone.

Xavier slightly tipped his cigarette. “Did he piss you off?”

Ironically, they were not on the same channel in the conversation. Still, her heart throbbed in agony at that moment as she could feel how much he liked her, but she could not bear the overwhelming weight of love.

“The injury on your leg is serious. It’ll take a long time to recover. I can give you a sum of money for you to leave the city. Find somewhere else and start a new life. It’s...” She paused momentarily before continuing, “It’s the only way I can help you.”

Since there was still some savings left, she could give him the money to start his life anew in a new place. It could be a chance for him. Be it right or wrong, she owed Xavier a lot and could not bring herself to be cruel to him.

“Giving me money? Why? Are you pitying me?”

“You can take it that way if you want to. I’m not going to explain anything either, but there’s one thing you gotta know—the Crawford Family stands no chance against Matthew and that includes Conrad. He can’t even fend for himself. Who else is going to help you right now?” She approached Monica and Xavier remained silent while watching her come over.

Anxious, Veronica stared at Monica and shook her head, signaling the woman to stay quiet. While she was removing the ropes behind Monica, she continued the conversation with Xavier. “Matthew always preserves until the end once he has made up his mind. No one is able to stop him from doing anything he wants. Your family will never be able to save themselves given the situation. So, leaving Bloomstead is your best option. Instead of pitying you, it’s the last favor I can do for you as your old friend.”

Monica’s face turned pale due to the shock. Veronica noticed that she was shaking when she approached the woman. She then patted Monica’s shoulder lightly to put her mind at ease. When Monica stood up, she moved her limbs before sprinting all the way out.

Even so, just as she arrived at the entrance, Xavier grabbed a rock and struck it toward her back, causing her to fall onto the ground. It hurt so much that she could not get up to her feet.

Veronica looked at him. “What are you doing? Monica is innocent. What’s the point of kidnapping her?”

Furious, she shifted the chair and sat next to him. “I’ll be your hostage.” She even took and proffered the rope to him.