

## Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 461-465

### Chapter 461 Investigating Tiffany's Death

Sean's respect made Veronica happy. She chatted with Sean for a while before leaving the company. When she reached home, she turned on the computer and checked Hendrey's surveillance video from when Tiffany died three months ago.

From the surveillance area near Hendrey's house, Veronica slowly cracked the surveillance video of each place one by one. Veronica found out that Hendrey was not at home the day Tiffany died. Instead, he only went home at 9.00AM. After entering the house, it took less than 20 minutes for him to pack up, change his clothes, and leave with a suitcase.

It was the same clothes he wore when Veronica and Hendrey last met. Veronica retraced Hendrey's footsteps and found from the surveillance that he did appear near the Dragon's Creek Villa, but he never went in.

However, the surveillance near the villa only played for a few minutes, and there was no video. Since Hendrey appeared, all the videos were deleted. Veronica tried to restore the deleted video, but it was to no avail.

It had been three months since the videos were deleted, so they could not be retrieved. All the clues stopped here. Tiffany had been buried for several months with no evidence, so an autopsy can't be performed... Wait, autopsy?

Veronica narrowed her eyes thoughtfully. Caleb handled Tiffany's case and he was in the Bloomstead Bureau, so he must have an autopsy record at his police station.

Hence, Veronica switched an IP address. Hiding all her browsing traces, she broke into the system and tried to check Tiffany's autopsy report. However, it showed that there was no such person. Seeing this happen, Veronica was unable to calm down.

Tiffany's death has too many secrets. At first, Caleb concealed the truth about Tiffany. Matthew didn't even know about it at all. Now that I think about it, they are not ignorant but deliberately hiding the truth. What happened?

There were no more leads. Veronica leaned on the couch, looked up at the ceiling, and fell into deep thought.

If Tiffany's death is related to Hendrey, why would Matthew ignore it? Could it be because Tiffany and Xavier kidnapped Matthew, so he turned a deaf ear? It makes sense, right?

"Forget it. I should stop thinking."

After thinking about it, Veronica didn't know what the problem was. She then felt that since Tiffany was dead, she didn't need to hold on to the matter.

She tried to soothe her emotions but couldn't suppress her deep desire for the truth. She sighed. When she was about to close the computer to rest, she realized it was already 5.00AM.

"It's this late!"

It seemed that Veronica had investigated Tiffany's death for a whole night. She took a quick shower and went straight to bed to sleep. She had taken a two-day leave from Sean, so she didn't have to work the next day.

Although she didn't have to go to work, she couldn't escape Crayson's torture, as the man had come over at 5.30AM to wake her up for training.

Hearing the knock on the door, Veronica got up and opened the door. "Master Crayson, please let me sleep. I just slept for half an hour."

She begged him pitifully with pleading eyes.

Seeing Veronica's dark under eyes, messy hair, and pale face, Crayson couldn't bear to make her train. In the end, he waved his hand. "Okay, I'll let you rest today. However, you must make up for it tomorrow."

"Okay, Master. Thank you!"

After Crayson let Veronica go, she closed the door and went back to sleep on the bed.

Ever since she broke up with Matthew, her sleep quality had returned to its previous state, with her having a short sleep time and insomnia.

She had gone to the doctor and had some medicine prescribed, but it had little effect.

Veronica's cell phone rang at 9.00AM.

Veronica, who was playing with her phone, answered the call. "Crazy?"

"Where are you? Stephen and I have already packed up. Have you decided where to take us?" Larry asked Veronica eagerly.

Meanwhile, their part-time guide, a.k.a. Veronica, was in the toilet. She turned on the loudspeaker on her mobile phone, opened the browser interface, and kept scrolling through the content. "I haven't decided on it. The weather is good these days; how about taking you to a barbecue?"

"A picnic? Not bad. However, it will be boring with just the three of us."

"Bring Stephen along, and I'll invite some friends over. We can go together."

“I don’t know your friends.”

“After meeting each other, you guys will get along.”

“Okay. I’ll ask for Stephen’s opinion.” Larry ended the call.

Then, Veronica looked at the travel guide of Bloomstead. After reading it, she didn’t think there were any exciting places on it, so she decided to take Larry for a picnic.

Soon, her phone rang again. It was from Larry.

“Stephen agreed. However, we will bring a friend over too. Is that okay?”

“Of course. No problem. Don’t be hasty, though. I’ll send you the location later.”

After Veronica finished talking to Larry, she hung up the phone.

Then, she contacted Monica, Shirley, Skyler, and Caleb to invite them out.

This time, Veronica had an ulterior motive for inviting them.

She invited Skyler in order to make the invitation to Caleb more natural. This way, she could find out something about Tiffany’s death.

For some reason, she desperately wanted to know about Tiffany’s death.

It was as if her death was enchanted, which attracted Veronica to investigate further.

After inviting them, Veronica spoke to Skyler. “Skyler, I have a task for you. First, you must bring Miguel along, but don’t tell him I’m here too.”

Skyler was confused upon hearing that. “But why?”

“It’s because... I met Miguel once and had an argument with him, which made him angry. After thinking about it, I realize I was in the wrong, so I want to take this opportunity to apologize to him. If you let him know I’m there, he definitely won’t come.”

Veronica lied without batting an eyelid.

Skyler believed in the lie. “Okay, easy-peasy. I will invite him.”

“I believe in you. If he’s not here, I won’t be your friend anymore. Also, your idol, Stephen, will be there. If Miguel isn’t there, you are not welcome either.”

As Skyler knew martial arts, it was not surprising that his idol was Stephen Armstrong.

With Stephen around, it was easy to make Skyler help her.

Sure enough, just as Veronica said, Skyler had a gleam in his eyes. He nodded repeatedly and vowed to bring Miguel.

At the same time, Matthew, who was busy working in the Spinfluence Group, received a call from Miguel.

“Matthew, Skyler invited me to have a picnic. Are you going?”

### **Chapter 462 I Like You**

Miguel received a call from Skyler, asking him out for a picnic. Hence, Miguel asked, “What about Matthew? Is he coming?”

Skyler remembered Veronica was there, so it wasn’t appropriate to call Matthew over. He declined politely, “He’s crazily busy with work, so I didn’t invite him.”

Miguel didn’t think much about it and hung up the phone. However, he felt that not inviting Matthew meant they would miss out on some fun, so Miguel still called Matthew to invite him over.

“I’m busy with work.” Sure enough, Matthew declined. Since breaking up with Veronica, Matthew had turned into a workaholic. He worked non-stop, from day to night. It was as if he had gone crazy.

Miguel sighed in response. “Although work is important, you should take care of your health. Also, our gang hasn’t spent time together for a while; we should meet-up sometime.”

Miguel’s words made Matthew unable to refuse, so he could only agree. After that, Veronica found the most suitable place for a picnic and sent everyone an address. Skyler shared it with Miguel.

Then, Miguel said to Skyler on WhatsApp, ‘I called Matthew, and he said he would come.’ Seeing this message, Skyler widened his eyes and wanted to stop Matthew from coming. However, after thinking about it, Skyler knew Miguel would start to suspect things if he stopped Matthew.

If Miguel doesn’t go, I can’t meet my idol, Stephen Armstrong. After weighing the pros and cons, Skyler muttered, “I’m sorry, Matt. Unfortunately, to meet my idol, you have to come along too.”

He couldn’t imagine what would happen when Veronica and Matthew met again, but Skyler couldn’t care much. And so, Caleb, Skyler, and Miguel prepared the barbecue grills, ingredients, drinks, and the like.

Then, they drove their respective cars and met at Qurra Mountain. The mountain was the most suitable place for a barbecue.

There was a small stream at the foot of the mountain. The beach was to one side of the stream, and to the other side lay Qurra Mountain.

Qurra Mountain had beautiful and pleasant scenery, and it was a good choice for a barbeque.

An hour later, the cars arrived at the foot of Qurra Mountain.

When Veronica stood at the foot of the mountain and waited for them, the first to appear was Monica.

Monica had hired a maternity matron to care for her child so she had the time to go out.

Then, Shirley and Caleb arrived.

However, Caleb brought Abby over too.

“She is on break, so I brought her over. You won’t be angry, right?” Caleb asked Veronica after greeting Monica and Shirley.

Veronica teased, “You have already brought her here. I can’t chase her away, can I?” As she said that, she looked at Abby and stepped forward, thereafter giving the girl a big hug. “It’s been a while. You’re getting more beautiful.”

The last time Veronica met Abby was during winter. Abby’s face was chapped, and her hands were covered with frostbite. After half a year, her face was clean. Her hair was tied up in a ponytail, and Abby wore a white T-shirt, jeans, and canvas shoes. She looked like a cute girl and was attractive.

Everyone would like a girl like this.

As Abby and Veronica came from the same village, they knew each other.

Abby smiled and signed, Long time no see, Veronica. How are you doing?

However, Veronica was confused, as she could not understand sign language.

Caleb immediately stood up and acted as an interpreter. “Abby said it’s been a long time, and she asks how you are doing.”

“Oh, I’m alright. Unfortunately, I was rather busy, so I didn’t have the time to visit you. However, since you’re on semester break, you can visit me whenever you have some free time.”

Abby nodded. Okay, don’t blame me for annoying you.

Caleb translated again.

After chatting for a while, Veronica introduced Shirley and Monica to Abby, so they would get to know each other.

Abby was worried it would be hard to communicate with them, so she typed out her words on her phone.

At the same time, another car came and parked beside them.

Looking at the familiar car, Veronica frowned as a premonition arose.

Sure enough, she saw Matthew and Miguel get out of the car.

Veronica's temple throbbed.

Why is he here?

Matthew looked at Veronica with the same look.

He stood beside the car and stared at Veronica with flickering eyes. His handsome face even showed a hint of gloominess.

D\*mn it! Why is Veronica here for the picnic? How dare Skyler lie to me?!

Miguel, too, was dumbfounded. "Uh... Hehehe, I didn't know Veronica was here. I wouldn't have come if I knew she's here."

As he said, he turned around and looked at Matthew. "Forget it. Caleb is here too. You can stay; I'll leave now."

The last time Miguel was in the Kings Residence, Elizabeth introduced Veronica to him. Since then, he had avoided Veronica.

However, the world was too small. He now met her here.

Deep down, he wanted to run away.

And in reality, Miguel did exactly that.

He turned around and got into the car to start it, preparing to leave. Then, he saw Veronica run over and grab the car door while ignoring Matthew. She said to Miguel with a smile, "Miguel, why did you run away when you saw me? Do you really hate me this much?"

Miguel looked at Veronica, then looked away. However, he accidentally caught a glimpse of Matthew's fierce gaze.

He was in despair.

Veronica, I don't hate you. However, I cherish my life and want to live longer.

“No, no! Of course not! I just remembered that I have something to do and have to go now. I will see you next time.”

Maybe not. The more I see you, the more my life will be in danger.

“Why next time? We just met. Since we are meeting now, let’s have fun.”

Veronica tilted her head and smiled brightly. Then, she leaned forward and reached out, effectively taking out the car key.

Miguel wanted to grab the key, but she hid the key behind her and raised her eyebrows. “You’re not coming down? Should I say, pretty please?”

It was obviously a threat.

She meant that if Miguel did not come down, Veronica would attack him.

Miguel pursed his lips and felt a chill run down his spine.

It was especially the case when Matthew stood behind Veronica and he stared at Miguel. It made Miguel break out in goosebumps.

“Veronica, please forgive me. We’re really not compatible. Right, we are not suited for each other. Moreover, I found a girl I like.”

Miguel could only come up with an excuse to reject Veronica; otherwise, he was afraid he would die in Veronica’s hands.

“Have you really found a girl you like? But I can tell it’s a lie.” Veronica shook her head. “Besides, even if you find her, she should get in line behind me. After all, I like you too, and I will compete with that girl to find out who is more suitable for you.”

### **Chapter 463 I Have No Shortage of Spares**

Veronica only asked Skylar to bring Miguel over to put on a show, in the hopes that Matthew would eventually hear about it. However, Matthew was there.

In this case, I must really put on an act before Matthew. “You... Miss Murphy, please have some self-respect,” Miguel said as he reached out to grab the key.

However, Veronica hid the key behind her, not wanting to give it to Miguel. “Am I disrespecting myself by pursuing someone I love? You must have failed your comprehension test during your school days.” “I... You...”

Miguel stammered. At that point, he was sweating profusely. He glanced at Veronica and Matthew, and Miguel felt a chill run down his back upon noticing Matthew’s terrifying gaze.

Gulping, Miguel answered in a resigned tone, "Fine, you win. I can't afford to anger you, but I can hide." After speaking, he moved from the driver's seat to the passenger's seat and was about to leave.

Veronica turned around and planned to go to the other side of the car to stop Miguel. However, Matthew stopped her path, and he did not plan to move an inch.

Frowning in displeasure, Veronica raised her head and met his eyes. Still, she didn't speak and chose to go around to the left. However, when she went left, he went left and when she went right, he went right as well. Veronica was annoyed that she was blocked, so she ordered in a cold voice, "Get out of the way."

Matthew put his hands in his pockets and looked down at Veronica from his upright position. His dark gaze was like an unpredictable abyss. He remained silent. Veronica pursed her lips and frowned. "I told you to get out of the way. Didn't you hear me?"

Why is he deliberately blocking my way? Could it be that Matthew is still in love with me? Bah, who am I kidding?! He loves Sasha right from the start. F\*cking cheater. "No."

After a long silence, Matthew said a word. "Are you trying to pick a fight?"

"Miguel is my good friend. You are disturbing a good friend of mine, so I can't just sit back and ignore what is going on."

Matthew spoke in an orderly manner. Those words are reasonable. "Is he your biological brother, then?" Veronica snarled, then continued, "He's not your family, don't interfere with us."

The scene had everyone's attention, but they wisely chose to watch silently and not intervene. Although Veronica had broken up with Matthew, their relationship was delicate and hard to fathom.

"I treat him as my own brother."

"Ha! Is that so?"

Hearing his words, Veronica grinned. "You say that, but do you want to sleep with your brother too? You already have Sasha, yet you still want to cheat on her and get together with Miguel too?"

Veronica felt sick when she thought Matthew had feelings for Sasha while they dated.

She had to admit she was a conservative and couldn't accept it. She was even more unwilling to accept a cheater.

Veronica's words were full of humiliation, but Matthew could sense a fit of jealousy in her words.

She says such cruel words because she still cares about me, right?

Thinking of this, he couldn't help but laugh. "It has nothing to do with you." However, that smile was over-analyzed by Veronica.



He's smiling so gently. Could it be that he really likes Miguel?

Veronica remembered that when she first went to Twilight Condominium to find Matthew, she saw him with two women.

She entered the living room at that time, and the two disheveled women came out of the apartment.

Although Matthew explained it later, now that I think about it, could it have been a lie?

"You... That's impossible. Miguel is an upright gentleman, so he wouldn't cheat like you." Veronica raised her eyebrows and smiled confidently. "Don't worry. I won't give Miguel up because of your words. I love his gentle, easy-going, and cheerful demeanor."

Veronica tilted her head, looked at the fleeing Miguel, and smiled. "Although he escaped today, there's still a long time ahead. One day, I will capture his heart."

She said this to Matthew, but her gaze was on Miguel the whole time. It sounded like a declaration of love.

The smile on Matthew's face disappeared and it was replaced with a cold and terrifying aura.

At the same time, a car honked.

Another car was parked there. The door opened, and Stephen and Henry came out.

Matthew was about to speak, but he saw Veronica looking behind him. He followed her gaze to see Stephen and Larry appear.

Are they... here too?

Matthew's expression turned thunderous at that moment, and there was a sense of calm before the storm.

A majestic air came over him, making those surrounding him unable to breathe.

"Hi, Crazy! Hello, Stephen."

Veronica walked toward them while waving at them from a distance.

Matthew narrowed his eyes and silently stretched out a foot. Veronica stumbled unexpectedly and fell to the ground.

Matthew quickly stretched out his arms to wrap them around her waist and pulled her into his embrace. "What's wrong? Do your legs go soft when you see handsome men?"

Matthew had hidden meaning in his words.

The dirty joke caught people off guard.

Veronica couldn't help but feel annoyed. When she was about to curse at him, she changed her mind and smiled at Matthew. "That's right. Is there a problem?"

She was hugged tightly by Matthew. She used one hand to put some distance between them and used the other to pull at his tie. With a charming smile, she purred, "Speaking of which, you taught me a lesson. You let me know that love is not worth it at all. However, life is too short, so I must learn to enjoy life. I must not miss any good things around me, such as money, power, and handsome men. Of course, I have no money or power, but it doesn't affect me in hooking up with men."

Veronica said those words lightly, and no one could tell the sadness she felt within. On the contrary, one would think she was showing off.

In the end, Veronica rose on her toes and approached Matthew before she whispered in his ears, "Actually, I don't have to take the initiative. With my appearance, I will never lack a spare that loves me."

To irritate Matthew, Veronica painted herself as an easy girl.

As she said that, she pushed Matthew away to walk toward Larry and Stephen.

As she walked, she turned back and loudly thanked Matthew, "Thank you for helping me; otherwise, I would've definitely fallen."

#### **Chapter 464 But Demoness Doesn't Like Me**

The way she spoke sounded like she was cutting Matthew out of her life. After she finished her sentence, she ignored the troubled expression on Matthew's face as she hurried off toward Larry and Stephen.

"Why is it just the both of you? Didn't you guys say there was someone else?" Veronica tilted her head and peeked into the car to find just the both of them.

Larry shrugged. "Both of us took a day off. The rest of the production crew is busy, and the director didn't allow them to take a break," he explained. Both of them were used to speaking in English. Before Stephen could comprehend what they were saying, Skyler charged toward them like a madman before grabbing Stephen's arm. "My idol! Hahaha... Hello, my idol. I'm... Oh, my apologies! I should speak in Chinese," Skyler cried.

Skyler had been too excited for a moment—he nearly forgot that Stephen was from Castron.

After Skyler switched to a different language, he began to speak to Stephen again. "Hello, I'm Veronica's friend, Skyler. I'm a loyal fan of yours, and I'm so shocked to see you here today. Can I get an autograph?"

You're my idol. Hahaha... I'm so excited! I'm so happy right now!" Skyler grabbed Stephen's arm firmly while he bombarded Stephen with a string of words.

Veronica dragged Skyler aside when she saw the embarrassed look on Stephen's face. "Stop fooling around. Can you be a little more dignified?" she whispered to him in English. Then, she apologized to Stephen in Chinese. "I'm sorry. My friend is a loyal fan of yours, so he's especially excited to see you in person."

Stephen nodded before responding with a grin. "Hahaha... It's fine! Don't worry about it." Skyler immediately pulled his phone out when he saw how laid-back Stephen seemed. Skyler hastily stood beside Stephen before snapping a few pictures with him. Right then, the few people who were standing by the side walked over. Veronica positioned herself as the middleman as she began to introduce the two parties to each other.

However, she introduced all of the people except for Matthew. She didn't seem to care even as the man's expression turned grim and sour. Larry, on the other hand, asked about Matthew when he realized that there was someone Veronica hadn't introduced. "Who's this, Demoness? I noticed how you guys seemed really close earlier. He's not your boyfriend, is he?" Judging by how the man interacted with Veronica earlier, Larry had a feeling that this man wasn't just any regular friend.

Veronica gave Larry a solid nudge to his chest. "Are you blind? What makes you think he's my boyfriend?" She pouted and shot Matthew a dissatisfied glare before introducing him to the rest. "Let me introduce you guys to each other. This is Matthew, the future heir of the Kings Corporation. He's also my godbrother."

"Woah. He's your godbrother?" Larry seemed to sense something fishy as he let out a whistle while raising his eyebrows suspiciously. "What are you thinking about? Old Mrs. Kings took me as her god-granddaughter, so he's my godbrother. Anyway, he has a girlfriend, so you should stop overanalyzing the situation." Veronica emphasized the fact that he was taken.

Larry let out a rather bashful smile after hearing her explanation. "Oh, I see. Sorry about that." He took a step forward and reached his hand out in front of Matthew. "So, you're Young Master Matthew, huh? I've heard a lot about you. You're really good-looking! I'm Demoness' good friend, Larry."

Matthew kept the same calm and icy expression on his face, but there was a glint in his dark pupils as he looked at the person in front of him. "Hello," he greeted while reaching to shake Larry's hand. Matthew didn't say anything else after that—he was a man of few words, after all.

"Hello, Young Master Matthew. Do you still remember me?" Stephen stepped forward to shake Matthew's hand before striking a conversation. "We met in the production team in Castron last year," he explained.

"Of course." Matthew spread his lips into a faint smile. "It's been a year since we last met. You're looking better than ever."

“Hahaha. Thank you!” Stephen threw his head back as he laughed. Veronica hadn’t expected Stephen and Matthew to have met each other in the past. What a small world, she thought to herself. “Alright. Let’s head up the hill. There’s a nice spot where we can have a picnic. How about this? The guys can carry all the heavy stuff while the girls can take the lighter ones.” Veronica took charge of the situation, and everyone began to make a move.

Skyler idolized Stephen a lot, so he kept tagging along behind Stephen. Caleb and Abby walked as a pair—Abby couldn’t use any sign language if she were carrying things in her hands, so Caleb made sure that she didn’t have anything to hold. Shirley and Monica were a little shy, so they kept to themselves as they walked side-by-side. Larry, Veronica, and Matthew were the remaining three.

Veronica opened the trunk of the car to pull out the barbeque grill. When Larry saw this, he hurried forward to offer help. “Let me do it, Demoness. Step aside.” He held onto Veronica’s arm before tugging her to one side. She allowed him to do the hard work as she crossed her arms in front of her chest and stared at him. “Alright, alright. Since you’re so good at this, you can do everything.”

“Sure thing, Ma’am,” Larry replied with a light-hearted laugh. Matthew simply stood by the side as he watched both of them interact with one another. At that moment, he felt utterly invisible—both of them had completely ignored his presence. The expression on his face was so dark that it seemed that black ink would drip down from his chin at any moment. With his fists tightly clenched in the pockets of his slacks, Matthew pressed his thin lips into a straight line as he tried his best to contain his emotions.

Suddenly, he was reminded of what Veronica had said earlier. “With my good looks, I’d have no shortage of handsome men pursuing me!” She’s right. There is no shortage. Even our country’s well-known Oscar-winning actor is willing to treat her like a queen. So how could she have a lack of pursuers?

Even though he seemed calm and collected on the outside, Matthew was going through a state of emotional turmoil. It was psychological torture—he felt like he would lose his mind at any moment. The same question popped up in his head once more. I used to think that I could cut ties with her, then secretly build my capabilities so that I could help her to pave her future pathway and give her a good foundation to work from. But will this plan really work out? Is it too late to regret my decisions?

Matthew had never been an indecisive man, but he simply couldn’t seem to come to a conclusion on this matter. On one end, he was telling himself to keep himself calm and in control; on the other end, he couldn’t stop the jealousy brewing in him as he watched Veronica and the other man flirting with one another. This psychological torture made him feel like he was about to go crazy.

“You can take these and make a move first, Young Master Matthew.” Larry handed Matthew a few items before telling Matthew to leave. He was trying to send Matthew away, and Matthew could clearly tell what Larry’s intentions were. “What’s this? Is my presence a nuisance to you guys?” Matthew spread a faint smile across his handsome face. He looked breathtakingly handsome as he raised his chin a little to reveal his sharp jawline.

Then, he gave Veronica a fond glance before speaking carefully. “Are you interested in my godsister?” Matthew was talking to Larry while playing the role of a ‘godbrother’. Right then, Veronica shot him an irate glare as she felt that Matthew was acting like a madman.

In the end, Larry handed Matthew a large bag of frozen skewers before tugging his lips to form a wide, sunny grin. "It's been a while since I've been interested in your godsister, you know. Unfortunately, she's a Demoness who refuses to give me a chance. I guess we have no choice but to treat each other as good friends for now."

### **Chapter 465 He's Worried**

Veronica flung her arm over Larry's shoulder after he finished speaking. "We know each other too well; I don't have feelings for you anymore. I prefer the sort of guy who can make my heart thump when I first see him. By the way, you've been in the entertainment industry for a while now, so I'm sure you know many handsome guys.

Why don't you introduce a few to me soon?" She was clearly saying this for Matthew's ears. Hmph! Does he think I don't have better options? If he can have Sasha, I can also date other handsome men. It's all a game! If he wants to play, then I'll play with him!

Matthew could feel his temples throbbing when he heard Veronica's words ringing in his ear. However, he had no choice but to hold himself back.

"If you ever guide Roni down the wrong path, I will never forgive you for it," he said in the end. Since Larry saw Matthew as Veronica's godbrother, he figured that he would have to speak to Larry with that 'godbrother' role in mind.

When Larry heard what Matthew said, he turned around and grinned at Matthew. "I wouldn't dare to do so. Nevertheless, I can't stop other men from throwing themselves toward her," he said. Larry was indeed a good friend—he played along with Veronica by using his words to trigger Matthew.

Veronica gave Larry a look to indicate that he had made a smart move. "Well, of course. I have way too many pursuers coming after me now," Veronica added. She might have sounded rather conceited, but she didn't sound like she was exaggerating it.

"Hey, aren't you guys coming?" The rest of the people were already a distance away, and Skyler soon realized that there were three people who hadn't caught up with them. So, he waved his arms in the air and told them to hurry. Veronica carried some bags in one hand and rested her other hand on Larry's shoulder.

"Hurry up, Crazy. I remember how your parents used to host barbeques and how great you were at preparing the food. I'll have to try some of your cooking today! Hahaha..." Veronica and Larry chit-chatted as they walked, leaving Matthew all to himself.

Matthew, accustomed to being treated like a VIP, couldn't bear to be left on his own. His face turned hot with rage, and the veins in his arms protruded out of his skin—he was evidently infuriated by the situation.

Hold it in. I have to hold it in! He kept telling himself to calm down, and he eventually walked behind them after he managed to soothe his anger a little. He walked at a quick pace, and he soon caught up with Larry and Veronica.

With about 10 feet between him and the duo, Matthew walked behind them and listened to their conversation. Veronica had an arm around Larry's shoulder, and they were chatting and laughing as they walked.

Sometimes, Veronica would throw her head back as she let out a hearty laugh. She didn't seem to care about her image at all. Meanwhile, Larry didn't seem like he was trying to keep his image as a celebrity, either—they interacted casually and comfortably.

Matthew tried to strike a conversation with them, but they completely ignored him. "Hey, Demoness, do you remember how you climbed over the school walls to go to the cyber cafe? I thought you would guide me in gaming, but all you did was get me punished," Larry said.

"That's because you're dumb. We wouldn't have gotten caught if you had managed to win the game earlier! What nonsense," Veronica replied. They continued talking about games for a while, and Matthew finally found a chance to interrupt them midway. "Did you guys skip high school and climb out to play computer games?" he asked.

Larry frowned and glanced at Veronica before looking at Matthew. "Yes..." he started with a nod. But before Larry could say anything else, Veronica interrupted him by patting him on the shoulder.

"Now that we're talking about this, I just recalled something. I heard the others say that you were caught skipping school once and were forced to stand on the stage in front of everyone else. Hahaha..." Veronica let out a cheerful giggle as she thought about this funny incident.

Laughing was contagious—Larry started laughing along as well. Matthew had never been a part of Veronica's past, so he felt a mixture of interest and regret as he heard both of them talking about their younger days. He regretted having known her a little too late.

Regardless, that was only 20% of what he felt—most of his emotions were related to jealousy and anger. That d\*mned woman. We only broke up for less than three months. How dare she put her arm around another man's shoulder while ignoring me? She's... too much!

Once they got up the hill, the guys began to set up the grill for barbequing while the girls prepared tables and cutleries for the meal. They delegated the tasks clearly between the guys and girls, so they efficiently got things done.

Since Larry's parents used to have a barbeque stall, and since he used to follow his parents to work, he was especially good at preparing the food. Naturally, he was tasked with handling the skewers at the grill.

Stephen helped Larry out with the grill, and Skyler, a long-time fan of Stephen, stuck to him like gum everywhere he went. The few girls didn't have much to do, so they sat on the mat and pulled out a deck of cards to play.

Abby dragged Shirley and Monica along to play cards with her. Caleb was worried that they'd have trouble communicating since Abby couldn't speak, so he stuck by her side the whole time.

As the three girls sat on the mat and played their card games, Veronica and Matthew looked somewhat out of place while sitting beside them. Veronica ignored Matthew, who was staring at the view in the distance. So, she got to her feet and walked to the nearby trees, where she wanted to stroll around and feel the breeze.

This part of the hill was relatively flat, and the grounds were mostly rocky, so there wasn't a lot of overgrown grass around them. Furthermore, the place was blocked from strong winds, so it wasn't likely for them to have a fire emergency.

Veronica had done her research online before picking this place. While she was doing her research, she found out that there was a mining cave nearby that the miners had abandoned in the past. In the cave was a mining pit that had salamanders in them.

Since she didn't have much to do, she figured that she would take a stroll down the hills instead of standing around awkwardly. Their barbecue spot wasn't far from the depths of the hills, so she only had to walk through the forest for a few minutes before she got there. She followed the instructions on the website and searched around to find the abandoned mining pit.

As she stood around the area, a cool breeze greeted her. The wind was refreshing, especially under the sweltering summer heat. She was just about to walk back when she heard some rustling sounds behind her. When she turned around, she realized that the person standing behind her was... Matthew. "Why did you follow me here?" Veronica wasn't too pleased to see him there.

Matthew stood a distance away from her with both his hands stuck in his pockets. He maintained his cool demeanor as he spoke. "This is an abandoned mining pit, and it's probably really deep. It's dangerous to be here," he said.

"That's none of your business." Veronica let out a scoff. She felt like he was a busybody. Of course, I know that it gets deep inside. How else can the salamanders survive there, right?

I'm a grown-up, so of course, I can take care of myself. Anyway, we've already broken up, so why is he faking his care for me? Who is he faking it for?

She turned around and walked carefully over to the cave. Matthew parted his lips as if he were about to say something, but he simply followed behind her when he saw her walking in. "Ah!"

Even though Veronica was wearing flats, there were too many rocks under her feet, so she accidentally tripped a little. She instinctively let out a cry when she nearly fell. But soon after that, she steadied herself before she continued walking.

She was perfectly fine, but Matthew, who was following behind her, felt excessively worried for her. "Stop right there!" he shouted. When he saw her making her way further into the cave, and when he saw how dark it was inside, he worried that an accident might happen there.