

## The Life of A Billionaire's Wife chapter 41-50

### Chapter 41 Veronica's Identity Revealed

After leaving Twilight Club, Veronica heaved a sigh of relief as the matter of the hospital costs was finally settled.

Her next target—the Larson Family. Once she settled the matter about the Larsons, she could leave Bloomstead and get a proper job to provide for her adoptive parents. After all, she was most grateful to her adoptive parents for upbringing her.

Ring... Ring...

Just then, Veronica's phone rang. She took out the phone to see the caller ID on the screen—it was Tiffany. So, she lifted her brows and answered the call.

“Veronica, what the hell are you thinking? Do you wish to ruin the Larsons?”

The moment Veronica picked up the call, Tiffany's hysterical roar came forth from the other end of the line, and there was not even the slightest trace of the gentleness of a socialite.

Veronica moved the phone slightly away from her ear and only spoke up calmly after Tiffany stopped. “What? I don't get you.” She feigned an innocent look.

“Drop your act already! The pictures on Twitter are clearly taken at that time when you donated bone marrow to Randy in the hospital. Who else could be the one exposing the news besides you?!”

Tiffany was exasperated as her greatest fear actually became her reality. Then, she paused a while and continued before Veronica could say anything. “I've warned you not to expose your identity. Don't dig your own grave, Veronica Murphy!”

Tiffany's words were filled with ferocity as she threatened Veronica, and it was hard to imagine that such words would actually come out of her mouth as they were totally opposing her image.

“Dig my own grave? Are you thinking of staging a car accident again to kill me just like how you staged one to injure my parents?”

At this moment, Veronica directly brought up the incident where the Larsons staged a car accident against her parents.

Tiffany was stunned for a moment when she heard that, but she quickly snorted. “Since you already knew that, you better know your place. Otherwise, I'm afraid that you won't be able to attend your parents' funeral when they pass away.”

“My parents? Are you referring to Floch Larson or Rachel Zimmerman?”

“Shut up! I’m the only daughter of my parents. Who do you think you are? You’re just a piece of trash abandoned by our family!”

“If I’m a piece of trash, what are you then? Tiffany Larson, don’t forget that we share the same mother.”

“You—” Tiffany was so pissed off that she was at a loss for words.

Meanwhile, Veronica laughed in spite of herself. “Listen carefully, Tiffany Larson. I have the ability to expose the pictures, so I can reveal my identity as well. If you dare to lay a finger on my adoptive parents again, I’ll make sure to make the Larsons die with me!” The smile on Veronica’s face gradually disappeared as a brutal look replaced it.

Today, what was exposed on Twitter were merely two pictures. One of them captured a scene of Veronica standing beside Tiffany while the other was taken when the former donated blood marrow to Randy. Both pictures were screenshots taken from the CCTV footage.

Although the pictures were not in high definition, Veronica’s looks could be clearly seen.

After leaving the threatening message, Veronica hung up directly, and at the same time, the recording was automatically saved. Truth was, she provoked Tiffany just now to force her to say those words.

Veronica fidgeted her phone and smirked coldly as she reckoned Tiffany was throwing a fit at home now. And true enough, it was exactly what she had expected.

At Dragon’s Creek Villa, after hanging up the call, Tiffany was so crossed that she slammed her phone fiercely onto the table and flew into a rage.

Seeing her tremble in anger, Floch asked, “What happened?”

“What else could it be? That b\*tch Veronica actually threatened me, saying that if we dare lay a finger on her old, fool parents, she’ll reveal her identity.” Tiffany clenched her fists tightly as she had never been this furious before.

She was extremely prudent because she had finally become Matthew’s fiancée, and she was afraid of losing it. As chance would have it, the existence of Veronica was the greatest threat to Tiffany, but there was nothing they could do about her, so it made the situation tricky.

“You mean Veronica already knew we were behind that incident?” Floch was low-key flustered. Before this, although Veronica sent someone to investigate the incident, all

she could find was the driver who caused the accident. But who would've guessed that Veronica was actually able to find out the truth!

Fear flashed through Rachel's eyes as anxiety spread over her face. "Floch, what should we—"

"What do you mean, Mom?! Veronica is going to drive us to death if we let her live!"

After saying that, Tiffany pulled Floch's hand and sobbed with her eyes red-rimmed. "Dad, you have to help me think of a way."

"Tiffany's right. We can't let Veronica live!"

Holding Tiffany's hand tight, Floch narrowed his eyes, which were filled with coldness.

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Meanwhile, in the private condominium on the 38th floor of Twilight Club, Matthew stood in front of the French window with a cigarette between his fingers as he silently smoked it.

Just then, Thomas knocked on the door and walked in. "Young Master Matthew, we've investigated the matter you've asked for."

"Spit it," Matthew blurted without turning around as he stood in front of the window with one of his hands placed in his slack's pocket and the other one holding the cigarette.

Thomas glanced at the document that he was holding and hesitated for a moment before answering, "Not long ago, the Larson Family transferred 2 million to Veronica's account, thereafter Veronica transferred around 80 thousand to a private detective. Just a few hours ago, two well-known Twitter influencers each transferred 280 thousand to her account."

There was much information gathered, and even Matthew—who was always steady—was slightly surprised. Matthew then turned around and walked to Thomas to take over the bank account statement and transaction information from the latter.

"Why did the Larsons and the two Twitter influencers transfer money to her?" Matthew pointed at the document and questioned Thomas.

"Young Master Matthew, I guess you've seen the trending news about the Larsons today. The two Twitter influencers who transferred money to Veronica were exactly those two who posted the news. If my guess is correct, Veronica sold the news about the Larsons to the influencers."

This was the analysis that was closest to the truth. At once, Matthew tightened his grasp on the document and furrowed his dark brows as he contemplated. No wonder Veronica suddenly had 2.4 million today. So that's what happened. But what's going on in the Larson Family? And how is she related to the Larsons?

"Go and find out why the Larsons transferred 2 million to her out of the blue," Matthew ordered.

Upon hearing the order, Thomas hummed in response and left.

Being left alone, Matthew recalled the scene when Tiffany and Veronica first met. It seemed like it was Tiffany who initiated conversations with Veronica each time while the latter was not too keen to talk to the former.

Today, the news exposed on Twitter alleged that Tiffany had a younger twin sister from the same mother. For one second, Matthew even thought it was very likely that Veronica could be Tiffany's sister, but he completely dismissed his guess at the thought of Veronica's extremely ugly appearance.

"Interesting."

Matthew curled his lips as he became even more interested in Veronica.

## **Chapter 42 Saving Old Mrs Kings**

Veronica and Xavier—both of whom were in the public's eye—were currently enjoying skewers at an open-air food stall.

"Well, since your parents have gone back home, when are you planning to come work at my company? By the way, what do you do at your company?" Xavier asked as he chewed his mouthful of skewered lamb.

Even though Xavier, a young master from the Crawford Family, which was one of The Four Big Families of Bloomstead, had graced this humble stall with his presence, other patrons of the place could still easily tell that he was on a different level from them. He had a rare kind of elegant temperament that made it hard for others to approach him.

At his question, Veronica turned to look at him. Besides the pair of sunglasses that was gently tucked on the bridge of Xavier's nose, he also had on a floral shirt and a pair of similar-looking pants. Even though he looked frivolous with one arm propped up against the window while the other held onto the steering wheel, his eccentric appearance still failed terribly at diminishing his good looks. It was an undeniable fact that Xavier was a handsome man. With his devilishly attractive features, he was a bad boy to the bone.

After a few moments of silence from her, he said again, "Hey, I'm asking you a question here."

“I manage the marketing department,” she quickly answered after she was brought out of her reverie.

“Oh, just join the project department in my company, then,” he said. “Might as well learn something there.”

Her interest was obviously piqued at his nonchalant reply. “Can I really?” she asked just to make sure.

“I’m the boss. My word is the law.” His eyebrows were slightly raised as he replied with a pleased smile on his face.

Unbeknownst to him, Veronica wasn’t asking if Xavier would really take her in. She was, in fact, asking if she would be able to learn something worthwhile if she were to work in his company.

A smile then began to grow on her lips too. Making do with tea instead of wine, she raised her cup and lightly knocked it against Xavier’s. “Here’s to cheers for being my future boss then. I look forward to working under your guidance!”

And with that, their conversation for the rest of the night was filled with joyful laughter. It seemed as though being with Xavier was the only time she could let go of all inhibitions. After having their fill of skewers, they both eventually parted ways to go back to their individual homes.

It was an instant knockout for Veronica—who had been giving her all at work for the past few days. After stepping into her room, she made sure to lock her bedroom door before going to wash up and finally hitting the sack.

She woke up in the early hours of the next morning, and after changing into her workout attire, she headed out for a morning run.

Morning runs had always been a habit of hers, but ever since Tony had fallen into a coma, she had to spend her days focusing on earning money for both—to take care of her parents and pay off the hospital bills. Now that her parents were safe at their old home, a huge chunk of burden had been lifted off her shoulders. That was why she could afford to resume going out for morning runs.

Just as she was resting on a bench after running for more than 30 minutes at a park near the river, a crowd started to form not far from her. A few people walking past Veronica mumbled as they approached the crowd, and she managed to pick up a few words from them.

“Oh no, what is going on over there? I’ll go take a look.”

“A granny has passed out!”

“Gosh, how did this happen?”

A bunch of elderly men and women who were doing their morning exercises in the park began to circle themselves around the unconscious woman, and yet, no one, other than an old man who dialed emergency, made a move to help the woman.

Veronica stood on the tip of her toe to glance past the crowd, and she quickly saw a figure clad in a Tai Chi uniform sprawled out on the ground. Judging by how the older woman was foaming at the mouth, the situation was definitely more dire than the crowd made it seem.

Swiftly, Veronica took out her phone and started taking a video of the commotion as she squeezed her way in. “Make way, please. Coming through,” she repeated to the crowd.

She put her phone aside after she reached the unconscious woman, and as she flipped the woman over, she loudly instructed the crowd, “Please make space for us! She is foaming at the mouth. She needs air right now.” After saying that, she lowered her head to the woman, only to realize that she was...

Elizabeth!

“Madam?!” Veronica exclaimed in confusion. Who would have thought that they would meet under such circumstances? However, she knew she couldn’t afford to let her mind wander—she had to act fast!

To make it easier for Elizabeth to breathe, Veronica immediately turned Elizabeth’s head to one side as she unbuttoned the collar of Elizabeth’s Tai Chi uniform. She then started exerting force on two acupuncture points on Elizabeth’s back of the torso.

“Lady, do you know her?” someone from the crowd asked.

Another person, too, spoke as they looked on, “Be more careful, okay? She is already foaming at the mouth. It will be troublesome for you if anything happens to her.”

“Just do what you can to save her. I will be your witness if anything were to happen.”

“You are doing good, girl!”

The crowd was in the midst of showering Veronica with compliments when Elizabeth unexpectedly began to twitch.

Her convulsion was getting worse by the second, and yet Veronica was calm when she removed her hair tie from her hair. She then rolled the small piece of cloth and put it into Elizabeth’s mouth to prevent her from accidentally biting her tongue. The situation was so dire that she didn’t even have the time to worry about whether or not there was sweat on the hair tie.

Throughout the whole process, she never ceased her massage on Elizabeth's acupuncture points. Even though she was drenched in her own sweat, she managed to keep her heart calm as they waited for an ambulance to arrive.

Having nothing better to do, the crowd started making noise again.

"This is so scary."

"I know right? She is convulsing and foaming at the same time!"

"Lady, are you sure you know what you are doing? Why did she start twitching so much?"

"Don't do anything if you don't know what is wrong with her!"

Elizabeth showed no sign of recovery even after Veronica had been pressing on the acupuncture point for quite some time, and that gradually made the crowd doubt her credibility.

Despite the commotion and distrust from the onlookers, Veronica kept massaging Elizabeth at the same spots. It took another 10 minutes before an ambulance finally arrived and brought Elizabeth to the hospital. Veronica, too, followed along.

Elizabeth was rushed into the emergency room as soon as they arrived at the hospital. Veronica stood there pondering for a moment, and even though seeing Matthew was the last thing she would want to do, she decided that calling to inform him regarding his grandmother's situation would be the best course of action.

The call got through almost immediately after she dialed Matthew's number. "What is it?" came his curt question.

"I found Madam unconscious in the park. She was foaming at the mouth and convulsing. It was pretty bad. Come to Central Hospital as fast as you can," she informed without beating around the bush.

"Okay. I'll be there as soon as possible."

Matthew was suspicious as to why Veronica and his grandmother had been together, but he knew better than to ask questions now. Therefore, he immediately went to his car and drove straight to the hospital.

About half an hour later, he finally arrived outside the emergency room only to find Veronica sitting by herself in the corridor outside.

He stood in front of her and, without missing a beat, questioned, "What happened to Grandma?"

Her head popped up at the familiar voice, and she quickly noted the appearance of the man who seemingly had just woken up from his sleep. Donned in black silk pajamas, Matthew had a worried expression on his handsome face—even his usually-perfectly-styled hair was in an unkempt state as he stood there looking at her. Despite the mess, he still looked as beautiful as always.

“They are trying to save her,” she briefly said, referring to the medical personnel in the emergency room.

Unsatisfied with the lack of explanation, he let out a frown as he stared at her with cold, prying eyes. “Why were you with Grandma?” he asked again.

Her face fell the moment she caught the accusatory tone he was speaking to her in, and she glumly replied, “It was just a coincidence. Now that you are here, I will be taking my leave.”

In fact, she did not want to spend another minute longer with this man. However, just as she was about to turn around, Matthew grabbed her by her arm in one swift motion. “You want to leave? You will have to at least wait until Grandma regains her consciousness.”

He didn’t have to say the words out directly for her to know what he was implying. Him asking her to stay until Elizabeth was awake would mean that he was suspecting Veronica of having something to do with Elizabeth’s condition!

“You...!” she spat. She was so angry to the point where that was all she managed to say. At that moment, she was extremely grateful for the fact that she had recorded the video before she attempted to save Elizabeth.

Just as she was about to take her phone out to show him the recording, the doors of the emergency room were suddenly pushed open from the inside.

Matthew immediately let go of Veronica’s wrist and strode toward a doctor who had just come out of the room. “Doctor,” he called out. “How is my grandma?”

### **Chapter 43 To Be Her God-Granddaughter**

Equally concerned about Elizabeth’s well-being, Veronica followed behind Matthew toward the doctor.

“The patient suffered from an intracerebral hemorrhage, which means there has been bleeding in her brain tissue,” the doctor explained as she took off her surgical gown. “The symptoms are as she had displayed earlier. Good thing we got to her here just in time. It would have been bad if it was even a second later.”



Veronica could not help but let out a huge sigh of relief upon hearing the doctor's words. Intracerebral hemorrhage.

Those were the exact symptoms Tony had when he had the same condition two years ago. She remembered how panicked she was when Tony had gone to the fields to work only to end up foaming at the mouth while convulsing because a blood vessel in his head had ruptured.

She had immediately called for an emergency back then. She as-briefly-as-possible mentioned the symptoms, and the doctor patiently told her what she could do to help. Alas, she managed to bring Tony back from the brink of death as she did according to the doctor's instructions.

After that incident, Veronica, as a precaution, had made sure to teach Daniella what to do in case something like that were to happen again. After all, Daniella was the one who was staying by Tony's side.

"Is she awake?" Veronica asked with a concerned look.

The doctor nodded in response and reassured her, "Yes, she has regained consciousness."

As the doctor spoke, a nurse emerged with a hospital bed from the emergency room—in the middle of the bed lay Elizabeth.

The worried Matthew hurriedly stepped forward and caringly asked, "How are you feeling right now, Grandma?"

Even though Elizabeth had just gone through a life-threatening ordeal, she still managed to show her grandson a kind smile. "I'm fine. I was just—"

Her words came to an abrupt stop when she noticed that Matthew wasn't the only one there. "Veronica? What are you doing here?" she eventually asked.

Instead, it was the doctor who answered on Veronica's behalf. "This is the girl I told you about earlier! She is the young lady who saved your life! You have to give your thanks to her. It would have been bad if she wasn't there."

The doctor then turned to Veronica, and with her thumbs up, she asked, "Have you learned first aid or something before? You did pretty well!"

"No, I have never learned anything like that," Veronica answered with a polite smile on her face. "It is just that my father went through something similar 2 years ago." She then looked toward Elizabeth. "Madam, I'm glad to see that you are fine and awake now. I'll be taking my leave then."

Unexpectedly, Elizabeth reached out and held Veronica by her wrist. "Hold on. I would like to have a chat with you." She smiled.

The nurse then brought Elizabeth into a VIP room as Veronica and Matthew quietly followed along. After the nurse hung an IV drip for Elizabeth, she swiftly made her exit from the ward.

After that, Elizabeth threw a glance at Veronica as she waved the younger woman over. As soon as Veronica was standing by Elizabeth's bedside, her hand was caught in yet another grip. "Dearie," she cooed. "Thank you so much for saving me. If it wasn't for you, I would have died right there and then."

"Don't say that, madam. You will live a long, long life," Veronica quickly said with a smile.

She then continued asking, "Shouldn't you be at the Kings Residence, madam? What were you doing at Riverside Park?"

No matter how she thought about it, it didn't make sense for Elizabeth to be there early in the morning by herself. From what she was aware of, Kings Residence was nowhere near the park.

Hearing Veronica's question, Elizabeth could only let out a long sigh at that. "I have been staying at home ever since my husband passed away, and I tend to overthink when I am alone. So, I can only go to the park to meet with other people when I want to get myself out of my head. I get to practice Tai Chi and chat with the other old folks every morning this way."

Veronica had not expected Elizabeth to share her honest feelings with her, but when she did just that, Elizabeth seemed like any other elderly person who was equally susceptible to loneliness. In fact, she surprisingly sounded humble for a woman of her standing. Because of the position she was in, it was only natural for others to instinctively distance themselves from her. It was inevitable that she would somewhat feel lonely. Pretending to be a regular granny to hang out with others in the park could possibly be the best option for her.

"Madam, you should get someone to accompany you even if you are only going for an exercise," Veronica said apprehensively.

"I go to the park for my peace of mind. Wouldn't bringing someone along defeat that exact purpose?" She chuckled as she lovingly patted the back of Veronica's hand. "You saved me. Tell me, what can I do to repay you?"

Elizabeth was grateful for Veronica from the bottom of her heart as Veronica did save her life after all! At that moment, Veronica couldn't help but feel as though it was fate that brought them together again.

“It is fine, madam. I didn’t do it for a reward. I would have done the same even if it was someone else that needed my help,” Veronica kindly refused.

To her, being willing to lend a helping hand was what made people ‘human’. It wouldn’t have come from a sincere place if she had saved Elizabeth thinking she would get a reward in return.

“What a nice young woman you are.” Elizabeth sighed, and yet her eyes were glaring at Matthew the whole time. “It is a pity that we don’t have a lady like you at our home. Ah! How about this? Why don’t I make you my god-granddaughter?”

Elizabeth had always liked Veronica ever since they had first met. She strongly believed that it was fate that had brought them together.

Veronica could not find her words for a moment there, and when she finally did, she blankly repeated, “Huh? Make me your god-granddaughter?” That escalated rather quickly!

The proposal was so sudden that Veronica almost forgot to respond.

“Yes! I understand that you and Matthew couldn’t get married. It is a pity that the both of you could only cross paths and not get to the end of the road together. I still feel guilty for what happened to the child, too. But I know that you are a good girl, and I really do like you. So…” At that, she expectantly stared at Veronica, “Would it be alright for you to accept my request?”

Hesitantly, Veronica could only mumble, “This…”

Her saving Elizabeth had been a complete coincidence, and yet she found herself considering the older woman’s lucrative request. She was aware that she wouldn’t have to fear the Larsons anymore if she were to agree to it. And also, having Elizabeth to back her up would probably stop Matthew from further harassing her in the future.

As she pondered, Elizabeth sneakily slid the jade bracelet on her wrist onto Veronica’s without her realizing. “I have been wearing this bracelet my whole life, and I am giving it to you now. Treat it as the first present I am giving you as your god-grandmother,” she insisted.

A small frown gradually appeared on Veronica’s face. She was feeling all sorts of emotions as she looked at the bracelet.

Matthew, who had been standing quietly aside, was confused by his grandmother’s actions. He suddenly spoke up. “Please think about it again, Grandma.”

Elizabeth's grip on Veronica only got firmer as she threw Matthew a glance. "Think about what? I have decided on it. From now on, you have to treat her like an older brother would."

Older brother? His squinting eyes swept to glare at Veronica.

Veronica had not noticed the rage on Matthew's face at first, but she could almost feel the temperature around Matthew drop after hearing Elizabeth's words. The hairs on her back automatically stood as she felt the cold glare poking into the back of her torso.

"You and Tiffany are engaged. I'm sure I don't have to remind you about what you should and should not do in the future. I will break your legs if I were to find out that you haven't been treating Veronica right," Elizabeth sternly warned.

The listeners of the conversation immediately knew what she meant by her words. After all, Elizabeth was aware of what had transpired between Veronica and Matthew in the past. Her words now should serve as a warning for Matthew to back off from Veronica.

"Ha!" Matthew scoffed before asking in a ridiculing tone, "Grandma, are you sure she didn't approach you on purpose?"

Elizabeth didn't bother waiting for him to finish his sentence as she reached out and gave Matthew a hard pinch on his thigh. "I am someone who has lived a long life and literally just came back from the dead. I can't be wrong about this."

Truth be told, Elizabeth had fully expected Matthew to be against her idea. She had always known just how much her grandson disliked Veronica.

Matthew heaved a frustrated sigh, but still, he gave it another go. "She is not as simple as you think she is."

"I might as well look for an idiot or a fool if I was hoping for a simpleton!" Elizabeth impatiently roared, rendering Matthew silent almost immediately.

Upon hearing that, Veronica no longer held back her laughter as giggles erupted from her. She couldn't help but realize how adorable Elizabeth was.

Elizabeth then declared, "It is my birthday in two months. I will be inviting the business pioneers of Bloomstead to the celebration. Veronica, come for my birthday. I shall introduce you to them."

It was a well-known fact that Elizabeth enjoyed her peace by mostly keeping to herself and her family. The attendees of her birthday celebrations in the past, too, were only people from the Kings Family. Now that she was willing to invite the public to the celebration just to introduce Veronica to them, it was obvious how much she had put Veronica on a pedestal.

## Chapter 44 Don't Be Like That, Matthew

"Madam, let's talk about that another time, okay? You need to rest for now," Veronica urged. Despite feeling conflicted, she couldn't help but feel proud to be on the receiving end of such affections.

Upon hearing Veronica's words, she immediately corrected her, "Don't call me Madam anymore! Call me Grandma!"

Veronica let out a chuckle as she looked at the hard-headed Elizabeth. "Alright, Grandma," she said with a smile. "Please get some rest. I'll be leaving now."

Matthew, too, had an anxious look on his face as he reminded, "The doctor said you have to keep your talking to a minimum and rest as much as you can."

Unlike the gentleness Elizabeth had shown Veronica just seconds ago, she was impatiently waving Matthew off. "Okay, okay. I got it. Now get out."

Without saying another word, Matthew stepped out of the ward before closing the door behind him. As soon as he caught sight of Veronica waiting for the elevator in the corridor, he strode toward her and pulled her back before she could enter the elevator that had just arrived.

"What the hell are you doing, Matthew Kings?!" she growled as she struggled to loosen her arm from his grip.

He then quietly dragged her to the stairway and pinned her against the corner of the wall. "What do you want? Why did you approach Grandma?" he spat.

Seeing that she was being accused, she fumed, "What do you mean I approached her? You are delusional!"

She immediately brandished her phone and thrust it into Matthew's face. The video of her heroic actions was currently playing on the screen of her phone. "Take a proper look. This is a video I took when I saved her. I didn't even know that it was your grandmother before I flipped her on her back." Then, she continued sarcastically, "Am I a god or deity to you? Do you think I can foresee the future or something?"

He merely took a look at the screen before his eyes went back to staring at Veronica.

His long, elegant fingers firmly grabbed her chin and tilted her head up so that she was looking directly into his dark eyes. "Listen," he coldly warned. "Watch out for whatever line you can and cannot cross now that you are part of the family." He then inched closer to her. "If I were to find out that you are planning something behind Grandma's back, I'll make sure you live the rest of your life wishing you were dead."

Immediately, she forcefully pushed him away after hearing his threat. "You crazy prick!" she cried. "To you, everyone but Tiffany has something up their sleeves, don't they?"

Veronica couldn't understand how Matthew still couldn't see that Tiffany had been the mastermind behind all the incidents that had happened.

At the mention of Tiffany's name, Matthew suddenly recalled the details of the investigation Thomas had done on Veronica. Instead of answering Veronica's question, he interrogated her in return. "But I am curious about something. How did you manage to swindle two million from the Larsons?"

At once, that had caught Veronica by surprise. Does he know about the money? Baffled, she asked, "You had me investigated?"

"Of course I have to do that to someone who has ill intentions toward my grandma. How else would I know how evil you are?" he replied in a matter-of-fact tone.

"Ill intentions?" Veronica softly sneered at that as Matthew was getting more and more ridiculous by the minute. She didn't have it in her to continue the one-sided conversation that they were having. So, she started to move away from him.

However, he stopped her from walking away by unhurriedly grabbing her by the collar of her shirt, and then sternly said, "Just stay here since Grandma likes you so much."

"What? And what about my job?" she rebuked, perplexed by his suggestion that didn't make sense. "You are the one who suspected me of having bad intentions, and yet, you are now asking me to stay here and take care of Grandma. Matthew, stop contradicting yourself. This isn't the right way to live, you know?"

Ignoring the mockery in her words, he curtly answered, "Just do as I say."

"Nope." She wasn't backing down either. "I need to go to work. I need the money."

He then proposed a deal that Veronica couldn't say no to. "I will pay you 10 thousand a day."

"Deal," she immediately agreed to it. "But you have to pay me first."

"At the mention of money, you are showing your true colors already," he scoffed in disgust.

She rolled her eyes at him as though he was spewing nonsense. "Who would say no to money?"

It wasn't far-fetched to say that he was annoyed by her arrogant attitude, but he decided to keep mum this time.

As they walked out of the stairway, she informed him, "I'm going home for a bit. I'll be back here after I change into another outfit."

He only listened and silently agreed to that.

Veronica eventually came back to the hospital after an hour. With her hair in a ponytail, she was now wearing casual clothes. However, she soon realized that she wasn't alone in the ward. Tiffany and Rachel, too, were in the living room area of the VIP room.

The news about Tiffany having a younger sister had become a hot topic after Veronica had leaked the news to the public. As expected, the first thing the Larsons did was to remove the headlines from social media. However, they didn't appear anywhere to provide a statement of any sort to clarify the rumor.

"Veronica Murphy, what are you doing here?" Tiffany questioned. Her eyes looked at Veronica at first, and then Matthew, only to fall back onto Veronica. She had a suspicious look in her eyes as she stared at the woman standing before her.

Rachel, too, was looking at Veronica with that same gaze.

Veronica felt her heart skip a beat as she tried to come up with an answer. Saying that she was now working as Elizabeth's servant would probably be the most peaceful way out of this conversation. Meanwhile, she quickly explained, "Grandma hired me to—"

But before she managed to complete her sentence, Matthew interjected and told them, "She is Grandma's god-granddaughter."

"Matthew! Shut up!" Veronica panickedly bawled in an attempt to stop him, but the other two women had already heard the words that came out of Matthew's mouth.

Following the silence that ensued after Veronica's outburst, Tiffany widened her eyes unconsciously as she stammered through her shock. "God-granddaughter?"

"Haha, Matthew dear," Rachel let out an awkward and dry laugh amidst her anger. "What on earth is going on?"

The mother-and-daughter duo might have been fuming, but the person who was currently most irked was definitely Veronica. Her fists unconsciously clenched as she turned to glare at Matthew. She was so angry that she could probably tear into his flesh with her bare hands.

From physically assaulting Tiffany at the restaurant to her getting reported to the police by the Larsons and eventually revealing the fact that Tiffany has a younger sister—all that Veronica had done was for the purpose of agitating the Larson family.

And why did she have to do all that for? It was because she wanted them to do something to her in return! After all the trouble that she went through, she had hoped that they would attempt to kill her off.

She used herself as bait to get them to do something, and she had been planning to finally hand over whatever evidence of their wrongdoings she could collect on them—she wanted them to be punished by the law. With that, she could finally avenge Tony and Daniella.

Now that Matthew had revealed to them that she was Elizabeth's god-granddaughter, she doubted that they would plot anything under the table. Her meticulous plan had been completely ruined because of Matthew!

Instinctively, the first thing she did was reprimand Matthew. However, she immediately noticed his cold gaze on her when she had calmed down. Knowing better than to continue with her fit, she forced a smile while rubbing her forehead. "Stop it, Matthew. It hasn't been confirmed yet," she complained playfully.

Since the Larsons were already well aware that Elizabeth had adopted a god-granddaughter, Veronica figured it would probably be best for her to get on their good side. She could probably still get on with her plan!

Tiffany and Rachel, on the other hand, were infuriated by the affectionate tone Veronica was speaking in. If only Matthew weren't there, they would have cursed her out without restraint.

Tiffany promptly stood in front of her and held her by her hands. "Gosh, what a wonderful surprise!" Her voice was nauseatingly warm as she cheered, "Congratulations, Veronica! We will be living together from now on!"

With her back facing Matthew, she did not bother to hide the pure, unadulterated hatred on her face as she stared daggers at Veronica.

## **Chapter 45 Getting Rid of Veronica**

Her pretentiousness made Veronica feel sick to the core.

As she pursed her lips and had an emotionless face, she brushed her hand away. "You'll have to ask Matt..." After glancing at Matthew from an angle, she continued, "You'll have to ask my brother... when he will marry you."

At that moment, not only was Veronica disgusted by Tiffany, she also simultaneously was disgusted with herself for addressing Matthew as her brother.

It was evident those words had hurt Tiffany as her mesmerizingly beautiful face wore a terrifying expression.



Rachel, who was watching by the side, did not manifest her anger outwardly. With a look of a noble lady, she calmly stated, "The engagement was only recently decided, so there's no rush to get married."

"Yes, Mom's right," Tiffany gracefully retorted. At that moment, her facade was nearly broken under Veronica's constant cynicism. To maintain her image in front of Matthew, Tiffany could only say, "I'm going to visit Grandma with Mom now. We'll talk later." After that, she hinted at Rachel with her gaze before they both entered the ward.

Only Matthew and Veronica were left outside the small living room of the ward. Raising his eyebrow, he looked at her deeply while asking with a firm tone, "What happened between you two?"

While avoiding the question, she gave a slight smirk as she took out a note from her pocket and placed it in front of him. "Please pay for the bill first." After all, they had agreed on the prepaid wage of 10,000 per day.

Matthew reminded her, "Answer my question."

"I'm not obligated to answer you, nor do I need to satisfy your curiosity." Aside from being arrogant, Veronica also had a feeling that she couldn't care less about this.

Ring, ring, ring.

It was at this moment when her phone rang. As she took it out, she looked at the screen only to discover it was a call from Xavier. Then, she suddenly realized that this was supposed to be her first day of work at Xavier's company.

A frowning Veronica pouted in distress as she answered the call.

"Roni, where are you? I've been waiting for you at the company for two hours now," Xavier questioned her from the other side.

"Haha..." Veronica awkwardly laughed before she replied, "Xavier, about that... I'm sorry, but I suddenly ran into some issues."

"I could care less about your issues. Just come here immediately. If I don't see you present within half an hour, don't blame me if I come over to drag you from your house!"

"Erm, about that, I—"

Beep... Beep...

Before she could explain any further, Xavier had already hung up. Is this guy really angry? She silently chided herself as she actually forgot that today was the first day of

work at his company. That was the reason why she promised Matthew to accompany him to watch over his grandmother.

Keeping her phone away, Veronica glanced at the note with her bank account details before immediately bending over to retrieve it. "What I said earlier was a joke. I'll be taking this back then."

Leaning against the sofa, Matthew looked at her with a mysterious gaze. "Do you know what kind of animal comes and goes on command?"

"What?" His strange words threw her for a loop.

"Your actions are indistinguishable from a dog."

The man's insulting words absolutely humiliated her and even his gaze held certain amounts of scorn. She's ready to leave so eagerly just because Xavier has asked her to?

Folding the paper, Veronica had been listening to him until she stopped in her actions. As she slowly raised her head, under her luscious eyelashes was a dull gaze that gradually turned into fury. While tightly holding onto the note, she had a deep frown. "Matthew..."

In the end, although a blazing fire was burning inside her, she still managed to suppress her anger after nearly failing to control her emotions.

"The difference between me and a dog is that I have a human heart whereas dogs are just ungrateful creatures!" After saying that, she left without even turning back.

At that moment, Matthew felt more like he was being scolded by Veronica instead of him lecturing her.

Then, the pair of mother and daughter came out after visiting Elizabeth. Upon noticing Veronica's absence, Tiffany asked, "Matthew, where's Veronica?"

"She left." Lowering his head, the man was looking at his computer as he immersed himself in work. He did not even spare Tiffany a glance throughout the whole process of replying to her. It was as if his cold attitude was telling her that she was not worth it for him to show any interest toward.

"I've just discussed with Grandma and we've decided that I'll stay here with you these few days to take care of her together," Tiffany informed Matthew.

Her soft tone and gentle demeanor all pointed to her being a candidate for a wonderful wife. There were no men safe from her charms, yet it was Matthew who was immune to all this.

“Yes, yes, your grandma did say that.” Rachel quickly followed up on her words, “Tiffany is coincidentally quite free nowadays, so allowing her to come take care of Old Mrs. Kings would also be a good way to foster their relationship.”

“As long as Grandma agrees, I’ve no qualms about it,” he said bluntly.

However, in the midst of his words, Matthew shot a cold look at Tiffany before continuing with his work.

“Grandma did agree to it.”

As she smiled, she could finally set her nervousness aside. The appearance of Veronica earlier had made her feel a sense of great danger.

Elizabeth treated Veronica well in the past because she had been pregnant with Matthew’s child. Although Veronica eventually suffered from a miscarriage, Elizabeth actually wanted to adopt her as her god-granddaughter!

What methods did that wench use to make the entire Kings Family fall for her so badly? The most important thing was that it was that long since the engagement between Tiffany and Matthew. Will she interfere and ruin our marriage at that time?

“Okay, then.” Matthew gave a curt reply in agreement.

Tiffany was elated as she looked at Rachel from an angle. With a genuine smile, she could finally calm her racing heart.

“You should stay here and take good care of Old Mrs. Kings then. I’ll send someone over tonight to deliver some clothes to you.” Tapping on her shoulders, Rachel hinted at Tiffany to make full use of the time that she would be spending with Matthew alone.

“Thanks, Mom.”

“I’ll be leaving first.”

Carrying her bag, Rachel left in her heels after bidding her farewell. After exiting the hospital, she called Floch to ask him to hurry home as she drove. After half an hour, the couple arrived at Dragon’s Creek villa at the same time.

“What happened? Why did you call me back in such a hurry?” After getting out of the car, Floch walked to Rachel as he removed his coat.

“What else could happen? That little wench, Veronica, is up to no good again.”

“What did she do this time?”

“What did she do, you say? It would be easy if it were something that she did of her own accord. Now, she’s Elizabeth’s god-daughter, meaning that she’s considered part of the Kings Family now. Tell me, how is that brat so lucky?” At this point, Rachel, who was so livid, threw the bag at Floch and mumbled, “I should’ve killed her back then if I knew that she would be a pain in the \*ss.”

Casting aside that Veronica already knew that they were the ones who hired goons to run her parents over, the mere fact that Veronica was Elizabeth’s god-granddaughter meant that Tiffany would only suffer as soon as she married into the Kings Family.

## **Chapter 46 The Ambush on Veronica**

The news that Veronica was now Elizabeth’s god-granddaughter gave Floch and his wife an impending sense of doom.

To ensure that Tiffany had a stable life when she married into the Kings Family, they started to plan and scheme in their villa.

...

At the same time, Veronica arrived at the Glory Medical Equipment Company.

The company, which was one of the corporations that Xavier owned, was barely surviving even though it had the backing of the Crawford Family. However, it wasn’t bleeding any money either.

Standing in the CEO’s office, Veronica looked at Xavier fooling around and asked, “What work do you want me to take on here?”

After entering the company, she instantly lost all her fervor when she saw the state of the workplace.

The employees were all lazy, slow and inefficient. The company should be thanking God that they haven’t gone bankrupt yet with such a management.

No, the one they should be thanking is the Crawfords.

Xavier had a laid-back expression as he leaned on the executive chair in his suit. While he had crossed his legs on the office table, he had a cigarette in his mouth as he smoked lazily.

“You could be the manager of the warehouse, sales department, project department, supervisor of the accounting department or the head of the secretaries. It’s up to you.”

Looking at Xavier wasting his talents made Veronica feel extremely disappointed.

With a slight frown, she shook her head in resignation. "Xavier, are you going to just let your youth waste away like this?"

"To live unexamined while being supported is also a kind of enjoyment."

He felt the disappointment and feeling of loss in her smile, but merely smiled in response.

Then, he stood up and raised his hand to point around the extravagant office. "Do you know how many would dream to live a life like mine?"

His words spoke the truth.

And this truth was something that Veronica had no reason to rebuke him with.

After looking at each other for a few seconds, she broke the silence by saying, "My sincere thanks to you for looking after me, but I don't want to work here."

This was a company so mismanaged that it could close down at any moment.

Another thing that she was worried about was the kind of atmosphere in the company could influence her to become just as lazy and unmotivated as the employees.

Xavier stood there dazed after hearing her words as he looked at her unblinkingly without uttering a single word.

"I still have something to attend to, so goodbye."

After saying her farewell, Veronica turned around to leave.

Only when she reached the door of the office did she suddenly stop. Looking back at him, she asked, "Do you have someone whom you want to protect?"

Still staying silent, Xavier did not reply.

He had been holding a lighter in his hand earlier as he was ready to light up the cigarette in his mouth.

However, because of Veronica's words, he stopped in his actions and raised his head perplexedly.

"I've heard the rumors about you. However, if you keep wasting away like this, you'll only come to regret your own incompetence and lack of motivation when you can't even protect the one you love in the future."

The pressure from various strong oppositions had almost suffocated Veronica numerous times.

Yet, for the sake of her foster parents, she persevered with caution in each step.

The only reason why she had suffered so much was because she was a nobody. She didn't have any money or power to speak of.

So as an experienced individual, Veronica did not want Xavier to follow in her footsteps.

She then left the office and closed the door behind her.

Do you have someone that you want to protect? That was her question that he repeated in his mind while standing at the same spot. Yes, I do.

In his mind, the first person who was able to fit that description was none other than Veronica herself.

Clink—

Suddenly, the engraved lighter in his hand fell onto the ground.

In a state of utter helplessness, he sat on his chair again

Xavier had never felt ashamed or insulted from the amount of insults and ridicule he received all these years.

Yet, for some unknown reason, it only took just a look from Veronica for his heart to ache.

As if he was being defibrillated after suffocating, his sunken heart started to race.

Meanwhile, Veronica had already taken the elevator down to exit the company.

Just as she was heading toward the motorcycle parking area, a voice came from behind her.

“Roni?”

It was Xavier who called her.

When she turned her head, she saw him running toward her.

A curious Veronica asked, “What’s wrong?”

As he stood in front of her, Xavier took a slight breather before replying with a dim spark in his gaze, “Are you willing to stay and develop Glory Company into the giant that it can be with me?”

“What?”

She felt extremely astonished by his proposal.

“Do you really believe that I can manage this company properly?”

“Then, you’ll have to ask yourself whether you had ever seriously managed this company before.”

The Xavier that Veronica knew was smart and wise—unlike what the rumors suggested him to be, which was ‘a useless piece of trash’.

“I’m lacking a competent assistant now. So, are you willing to stay and fill that position?” Xavier asked again.

His gaze was stern without any hint of all this being a joke.

Nevertheless, Veronica agreed even though she was still a bit startled. “Of course I would.”

No matter how long he could maintain his current passion to manage the company, he was at least serious about it for the time being.

What he helped her with, she was going to repay him tenfold.

Veronica was more than willing to repay Xavier after he had helped her so many times before.

“Then, welcome to Glory Company.”

Seeing that she had agreed to join, the beaming Xavier reached out for a friendly handshake.

Looking at his extended arm, she purposely ignored it and instead informed him about this. “You haven’t told me about the type of work you want me to do, though.”

“What work do you want?”

“I want to be in sales.”

“Then, you can be the head of the sales department cum my personal secretary then. How does that sound?”

“Um...”

Veronica never expected that Xavier would allow her to be the head of the sales department just like that.

He already grabbed her hand to shake it just as she hesitated. “We’re a company that specializes in medical equipment, so the scope of our operations is not that wide. Whenever there’s a business deal, I come with you too. So, not being able to qualify as the head of sales is a needless worry for you.”

After that, Veronica did try to reject him, but Xavier’s stubbornness in this matter persuaded her to agree in the end.

As the two returned to the CEO’s office, he ordered his employees to allow Veronica to have a look at the company’s financial statement in the last two years and also introduced each and every head of department to her.

Veronica, who had studied marketing management, was moved by Xavier’s absolute trust in her.

She thought, If he really intends to manage the company seriously, then I’ll help him out while learning what I can at the same time.

The two were busy from midday till late afternoon until they had a simple dinner at 6:00PM.

After the meal, she was forcefully dragged to a club for drinks as Xavier wanted to congratulate her for joining the Glory Company.

The stuffy and hot Veronica felt strangely uncomfortable after a few rounds of drinking.

Stepping out of the private room, she wanted to take a breather outside when something felt off just after a brief moment outside.

As Veronica was about to head inside to look for Xavier, someone suddenly struck her head from behind with force.

She let out a painful gasp before falling onto the floor with her vision turning black..

The moment she collapsed, she knew that she was in danger, but she never had the chance to call out for help.

## **Chapter 47 Death by a Great Big Blaze**

Veronica suddenly woke up out of sheer will.



Opening her eyes in a state of semi-consciousness, she discovered herself being dragged to a Toyota Corolla that was parked in the underground carpark.

“Hahaha, boss. After this deal is done, we’ll be living a good life from then on.”

“The Larsons have already informed us that if we silently get rid of her, there’ll be one million waiting for us as our payment.”

“Shut up and just do as you’re told. Work more, talk less.”

...

The two men merely allowed her arms to hang from their shoulders and it was in this posture that they carried her forward. This way, they could just tell people that she was drunk.

What shocked Veronica the most was that she found the two men’s voices to be extremely familiar, which she found to be Jameson and Rio after looking through a slit of her eyes.

The two of them were brothers who shared a history with her. Why are they doing this?

As Veronica squinted, she glanced at the quiet underground space and knew that she could totally escape under the circumstances.

However, in the end, she still closed her eyes and pretended to be unconscious while she was carried into the car.

The car was being driven on the road after it had exited the underground parking lot.

Even with closed eyes, she intently listened to their conversation.

“Hey, bro, how should we kill her?”

“Floch’s orders were that we should do it so that no one could trace the matter back to us or them.”

“I’m afraid this doesn’t seem that easy since they gave us such a high price to deal with her.”

“You fool. We’ll just have to set her apartment on fire after leaving her in it.”

As she listened to their words, it made her mock them in her heart. Rather than going through all this trouble, why not just create a simple car accident? After all, isn’t this the Larson Family’s specialty?

After half an hour, Veronica was brought back to her apartment.

The door to the living room was opened with a key of unknown origin by the brothers.

She was placed on the couch after they closed the door.

“What should we do now, bro?” Rio asked.

Jameson took out a pair of gloves from his pockets. “Wear these and don’t leave any evidence behind.”

While saying that, he took out two bottles of highly concentrated liquor and a bunch of cigarette butts. “Throw these cigarette butts into the trash bins in her bedroom and toilet.”

“Why?”

“It’s obviously to create the impression that the fire was caused by her smoking in the house.”

“Oh, you’re so intelligent, bro. What if she wakes up in the middle of all this, though?”

“I have a sleeping agent that can be inhaled. This can eliminate the possibility of her waking up in the midst.”

Thinking that Veronica was still unconscious, the brothers started to arrange the scene meticulously.

One person was responsible for throwing the cigarette butts in each room’s trash can. On top of that, there was a cigarette pack that they used Veronica’s hand to crush a few times before carefully placing it at the predetermined spot.

The other person used a towel that was doused in the sleeping agent to cover both her nose and mouth for a whole thirty seconds before removing it.

After that, they lay her flat on the sofa. Her left hand, which was hanging from the couch, held the cigarette as they spilled the alcohol onto the carpet with the remaining alcohol in the bottle on the table.

“Bro, can a fire be created just like this?”

“The cigarette in her hand is already lit. Wait till it burns to the end; then, the sparks falling on the carpet will instantly start a fire.”

“Wow, you really are smart.”

After a brief conversation between the two, they then left the bedroom in a hurry.

The whole process from start to finish was within three minutes as they had done it with lightning speed.

Bang.

Hearing the living room close, Veronica slowly opened her eyes with a hint of iciness flashing across it.

Although their plan contained some flaws, all evidence would have been destroyed by the fire after.

As the brothers from the Dusk Family knew Veronica, they could lie about her being a compulsive smoker and even drank concentrated alcohol frequently.

In a short time, the police would be hard pressed to locate anything suspicious, especially with the Larson Family bribing their way out of this behind the scenes.

When that happens, her death would be ruled out as just an accident!

However, what these people were unaware of was that as someone who grew up in a village, there was a reservoir right by Veronica's house, which meant that she could swim and hold her breath extremely well.

So, when her mouth and nose had been covered earlier, she managed to not inhale any of the sleeping agent.

The important thing was...

She had already predicted that the Larson Family would make a move on her.

...

At the same time at the Twilight Club, it had been half an hour since Veronica said that she was heading out for a breather and was nowhere to be seen.

Xavier, who went out to search for her, failed to locate any signs of her anywhere.

Yet, her purse and phone were still inside the private room!

He knew about the fact that the Larsons would seek revenge on Veronica since she had offended them. So, her disappearance made him feel a sense of foreboding danger.

Immediately, he went to the surveillance room and asked to look at the recorded footage.

However, due to Xavier not having the authority to do so, his request was rejected.

Now that he was left with no choice, he could only phone Matthew. “Matthew, how did you teach your staff here at the club? Don’t I even have the power to look at the surveillance footage?”

Matthew, who was accompanying Elizabeth at the hospital at that moment, was surprised by Xavier’s sudden tirade.

This was the first time that Xavier called him as they had not contacted each other before.

“The club has all kinds of VIPs coming in and out. Without the proper authorization, your request would naturally be rejected.”

Not wanting to know about the specifics, Matthew flatly rejected his request.

The reason why the Twilight Club was the club of choice for the rich and famous of Bloomstead was because of the level of privacy it offered for its customers.

In Bloomstead, nobody could just simply check whether a particular individual had previously appeared at a club.

This was why the guards for the surveillance room rejected Xavier’s request to look at the footage.

“Veronica vanished in the club half an hour ago. Although her bag and phone are still in the private room, she herself is nowhere to be seen. I’m warning you, Matthew, if anything happens to her, I’ll raze this place!”

On the other side, an angry Xavier, who was in a panic, said those words.

As Matthew heard those words, he felt his heart skip a beat as it tightened. Veronica’s missing?

Now that he could feel the raging Xavier’s nervousness, Matthew knew Xavier was not pulling a prank on him.

After hesitating for a short while, he replied, “Pass the phone to the head of surveillance.”

The head of surveillance immediately granted Xavier’s request to watch the footage after Matthew’s orders over the phone.

In the footage, Veronica could be seen entering the camera’s blindspot. When she reappeared, two men had already held her by the shoulders.

“D\*mn it, sh\*t has hit the fan!”

Following the trail, Xavier discovered the car that the brothers from the Dusk Family drove from the club’s underground parking lot.

He instantly left the surveillance room and dashed to his car before leaving the premises.

While on the road, he had used his personal relations and provided the details of the car before tracing it to the Regalia Condominium.

At the same time, Matthew, who was looking at the information on his laptop in the small living room outside the ward, was growing restless.

In the end, he called the club manager and ordered him to inquire about the situation at the surveillance room.

“Sir, Veronica was not drunk at all. However, from the looks of the footage, she was carried out by two suspicious-looking fellows after reappearing from the camera’s blindspot.”

Hearing the manager’s words made Matthew’s expression darken as he probed, “What exactly happened?”

“Young master, judging from what you have said, I think that Veronica... might be in trouble.”

## **Chapter 48 Saving Veronica From the Fire (1)**

She’s in trouble? As Matthew slightly frowned, his handsome face showed signs of concern; it looked like he was in deep thought.

This change of emotion wasn’t only noticed by himself, though.

At that moment, Tiffany happened to walk out of the ward and saw at once that something seemed off with him, so she asked, “Matthew, is there something wrong?”

Just as Matthew received news about Veronica, the Larsons had already informed Tiffany about their plans.

Not even a few seconds after immersing herself in happiness, Tiffany overheard Matthew being on the phone with someone.

Although it was vague, she knew it was likely to be something concerning Veronica.

That was the reason why she had gone out. Since she had a restless mind, she wanted to ask about what happened.

Pacing around the living room, Matthew turned back and saw Tiffany before immediately hanging up on his call.

“Why are you still awake at this ungodly hour?”

Keeping his phone away, he cast a distant gaze on her.

As there was an extra bed in the ward, Matthew had arranged for Tiffany to sleep on it while he would spend the night on the living room’s couch.

“I...” After pursing her lips, she replied, “I could not sleep.”

“Oh.”

The moment he heard her answer, he only gave an uncaring response before staring into a random space in the living room to immerse himself in his own thoughts.

His strange demeanor made the perplexed Tiffany ask with a frown, “Matthew, is everything alright?”

Her words snapped Matthew back to reality as he looked at her at an angle. “There’s something at the company that I need to deal with. I’ll come back later.”

After saying that, he turned around and left.

Something at the company needs him? Tiffany, who did not believe an ounce of Matthew’s words, knew that he was obviously concerned about Veronica, which made her deeply agitated by the blatant lie.

To her knowledge, a man born with a golden spoon like Matthew never cared about lying to someone else and neither would he care about someone else than Elizabeth. Yet, is he actually going to find that wench and abandon the hospitalized Old Mrs. Kings now?

As Tiffany noticed that he was about to leave, she walked briskly and grabbed his wrists. “Matthew, please don’t go. I’m scared.”

Her sweet and gentle voice sounded like music to one’s ears.

With a slight raise of her eyebrow, she stepped forward and tightly embraced him with her head on Matthew’s sculpted chest. “Could you stay with me for a moment?”

Her lovely charms would make anyone pity her on the spot.

However, in Matthew's blindspot, Tiffany had a frosty gaze that emanated jealousy from within. Veronica, you b\*tch. You can give up on the thought that Matthew will be saving you! From today onward, the world will only know of me, Tiffany Larson, and you will cease to exist!

As the most beautiful person in Bloomstead, she had always received innumerable acclaims of praise and flattery on her talents in music, chess, arts and literature. All the compliments were the same—that apart from looking heavenly, she also had the brains to compliment her looks.

Yet, it was because of Veronica's appearance that she felt a great sense of danger now.

She would not allow some country bumpkin fresh from some village to look exactly like her. If Veronica became the center of attention by any chance and Tiffany's own dirty laundry was aired to the public, it would only serve to completely destroy Tiffany's image.

"I'll let Thomas come and accompany you."

Matthew did not like one bit that Tiffany hugged him of her accord to the point that the disgust in his eyes could not be hidden.

Reaching out, he wanted to push her away, but who could have known that she had hugged him with such force?

Shaking her head, Tiffany softly cajoled, "Matthew, I was reading about horror stories in a hospital two days ago, which is why I'm so scared now. Don't go, please?"

Her sweet tone was akin to a bell that rang into one's consciousness.

In her heart was a brewing pot of hatred instead.

Nobody knew whether this hate was directed at Veronica or Matthew. Let Thomas accompany me? You're letting Thomas stand in for you just because you want to look for Veronica, right?

Now that she was being constantly pestered by Veronica, Tiffany could no longer maintain her image of being wise and sensible in front of Matthew.

The annoyed man forcefully grabbed her arms and pushed her away. "I'll let Thomas send you back!"

His icy words carried with it an unmistakable displeasure.

After stating his piece, Matthew walked out without sparing even a glance at Tiffany.

As her arms still hurt from his earlier grip, she took in a deep breath before shouting at him as she watched him leaving, "Matthew? Matthew? Matthew!?"

However, no matter how she shouted, he still entered the elevator without even turning his head to acknowledge her. His actions had only served to anger her so much that she stomped her foot in response.

If it was at home, she could vent her anger without a care to her daddy and mommy, but now that she was at the hospital, the person in the ward was Old Mrs. Kings. So, she could only swallow this anger for now.

She had to swallow it for now.

After calming herself down for a few seconds, Tiffany took out her phone and went to the stairwell to tip her parents off about the fact that Matthew would have gone in search of Veronica.

At that time, Matthew, who had already left the hospital, was on the road while he tried to contact Veronica, but to no avail.

The only choice left was to call Xavier.

It took about only two beeps before the call connected.

"Where's Veronica?"

After the call went through, Matthew immediately questioned Xavier without any greeting.

A panicked Xavier was also driving in the direction of Regalia Condominium at the same time and worried sick about Veronica. Yet, upon hearing that Matthew was also concerned about her wellbeing, he began to feel a bit displeased.

Remembering the scene where Veronica nearly died after the miscarriage, Xavier could not hold himself back and retorted, "Who are you to care for Veronica? It's already eleven something now, so Mr. Kings, you should be hugging your lovely wife to sleep if there's nothing more to talk about."

This was also the first time that Matthew called Xavier.

Yet, Xavier was not one to flatter anybody, even if that person was Matthew.

"I'm asking you right now, where's Veronica!?"

Although Matthew had repeated the same question, his tone was much more severe than before.



“Hmph.” With a slight sneer, Xavier taunted him, “I’ve nothing to say about that!”

An unruly playboy that feared no one.

That was who Xavier was. So, why would he fear Matthew?

After that, the man disconnected the call.

On the other side, the livid Matthew could only keep on driving on Somerset Road while he called Thomas to ask him to investigate Veronica’s whereabouts.

The club manager had only told him earlier that the car that Veronica was in headed for Somerset Road after it left.

So, Matthew could drive in that general direction.

After ten minutes, a call from Thomas came. “Sir, the car has gone to Regalia Condominium.”

“Okay.”

With his foot on the throttle, Matthew drove at breakneck speed all the way to the condominium while ordering Thomas, “Go to the hospital and send Tiffany home.”

“Yes, sir.”

After hanging up, Thomas immediately went to carry out the orders.

Yet, not long after the call, Thomas received another call which made his heart skip a beat. Following that, he instantly called Matthew again.

“What’s up?” Matthew answered.

“Big trouble, sir. The condominium that Miss Murphy is in now is on fire and the location of the fire is on her floor.”

## **Chapter 49 Saving Veronica From the Fire (2)**

Thomas honestly told Matthew everything that he had knowledge of.

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Hearing Thomas’ words caused Matthew’s heart to palpitate as he felt his breathing slowing down. The strange feeling made him uncomfortable. “Immediately call the fire department!”

“I’ll do it now.”

After hanging up, Matthew put the pedal to the metal. As the car screeched, what followed thereafter was a vehicle that sped as fast as lightning, dodging and cutting off other drivers as they voiced their anger.

He couldn’t care less about this, though.

After ten minutes, he had finally arrived at Regalia Condominium.

It was the dead of night and everyone was asleep except for the community of the condominium where people had gathered under it.

The residents in the second block where Veronica lived were all woken up by the commotion as a lot of people fled down the stairs. Some even shouted, “There’s a fire. A fire has broken out. Quickly go and save the ones who are still trapped inside.”

“Call 911.”

“I’ve already called the emergency services, but since the people are on the eighth floor, there will be some difficulty in saving them.”

“If there’s anyone, please quickly head up to the eighth floor and evacuate any remaining residents.”

“Someone’s shouting.”

...

All the security guards in the community had rushed to the second block to evacuate the residents after activating the fire alarm.

Yet, there were still no signs of the fire truck after a long time.

Standing outside, Matthew looked at the blazing fire on the eighth floor as his heart started to race in nervousness.

Then, he dashed toward the second block.

However, the security guard stationed at the ground floor suddenly stopped him. “Sir, there’s a fire in there. You cannot go in right now.”

As he didn’t want to waste any words on the guard, Matthew pushed him aside and dashed up the stairwell.

The elevators had been shut down by the management due to the fire while the fire escape was full of the affected residents, who were all madly rushing down for safety.

This made Matthew's ascend a bit difficult.

"Escape now."

"The fire's too big. The eighth floor is bearing the worst of it."

"This is all too terrifying. Run, run!"

"Sob... Mommy. I'm scared. Sob..."

...

The blazing fire had terrified the residents as they were either screaming or crying as they ran down.

Squeezing through the crowd, Matthew finally reached the eighth floor after three long minutes.

Yet, the door to Veronica's home already had a big fire spreading as the flame licked at the edges of the door as it continued to burn.

Standing at the door, Xavier kicked the door with all of his might, but it still did not budge after two tries.

As the doorknob outside couldn't be turned and the door itself was burning hot, he could only repeatedly knock on the door while shouting. However, there was no response after he screamed for a long time, so he could only call the fire department, all the while trying to kick the front door down.

Seeing Matthew, Xavier removed his jacket as he walked toward him with a fierce glare. He suddenly took a heavy swing at Matthew!

"You f\*ck, if anything happens to Veronica, I won't let you off the hook that easily!"

Xavier, who knew why Veronica had fallen into her current predicament in the first place, only had an increasing hatred toward Matthew.

However, even though he had fast hands, he was no faster than Matthew.

A simple block from him was enough for him to easily catch Xavier's fist.

Peering at him, Matthew bellowed, "What are you doing right now?"

He was only worried about Veronica's safety at the moment and didn't have any time to waste on bickering with Xavier.

After pushing Xavier aside, Matthew then walked to the front door before removing his suit jacket and heavily stomped on the door.

Standing at the side, Xavier had his hands tied in anxiousness. "Stop kicking it; it's of no use."

Taking out a cigarette from his pocket, Xavier lit it before deeply inhaling it. "I've already informed the fire department. This door can only be opened once they have arrived."

"What do you mean?" Matthew coldly looked at Xavier.

"What do I mean? Hmph." Smiling in anger, Xavier took a shot at Matthew again while the cigarette was still in his mouth. "If it weren't for the goddamn incident regarding Veronica last time, why would I need to add a reinforced door for her? It was all because of you f\*cks!"

After Veronica's pregnancy was terminated, Matthew had guessed that she could have ingested the medicine that caused the miscarriage, which was why he rushed to the condominium with Thomas.

He had knocked on the door, but nobody came to open it. So, he then proceeded to kick the door down.

That was when he found Veronica lying in a pool of her own blood.

Everybody vacated the house after that incident. It was only the day after that fateful day when Xavier rushed over and noticed the broken door lock on Veronica's front door.

Thinking of her safety, he had people install a specially reinforced door.

However, who knew that this door now stood in their way of saving Veronica?

Beside his rage was endless self-blaming. So, now that Xavier faced Matthew, he could only vent all his emotions on Matthew.

His strike, although fast, still could not land on Matthew.

Catching the man's fist yet again, Matthew warned in a low tone, "I don't want to talk to you right now, so scram!"

Right as he said those words, the firefighters arrived at that exact moment.

"What's this?"

Now that they had their fire protective gears on them, the firefighters asked upon seeing the two men standing at the entrance.

“The door. It can’t be opened.”

The appearance of the firefighters stopped Xavier from further arguing with Matthew as saving a life was more important. “Do you guys have a chainsaw?”

“Riddick, bring these two downstairs first. I’ll save the person inside,” the team leader of the firefighters said to his subordinate behind.

Then, after being cued, that firefighter immediately approached Matthew and Xavier and advised, “Please leave quickly; it’s extremely dangerous here.”

The eighth floor was already in a precarious situation because of the blazing fire. So, the first thing was to evacuate both men to safety.

“No need!”

Refusing flatly, Matthew replied, “Saving the person inside comes first!”

Standing with a straight posture and a dignified appearance, he exuded a royal-like aura, which pressured everyone there.

Even though he was under the constant persuasion of the firefighters, not only did he completely ignore them, he even found an ax inside the cabinet of the fire extinguisher and wanted to force the door open with it.

Admitting defeat, the firefighters were being extra cautious even though they wanted to break the door in the shortest amount of time. They were afraid of the explosion that might occur once the fire came into contact with the oxygen.

After five minutes, the door to the living room was finally opened.

At that time, the hellfire from within rushed out with its fierce blaze reaching out like a claw, threatening to swallow everybody in its wake.

The heat from the flames surrounded them like a blanket and the melting temperature had reached an almost unbearable standard.

Inside the huge fire were only sounds of crackling, with no signs of Veronica.

The frowning Xavier could not stop his slumping body from leaning against the wall as he lost all control of his body. “Veronica, you fool!”

He did not know what else to do except to scold her because he clearly knew that she could not possibly survive in a fire of this scale!

“Please, you guys should quickly leave! The fire here is out of control!”

The firefighters ordered them again.

Yet, moments after those words were spoken, Matthew ran inside the adjacent room, only to appear drenched after ten seconds. After grabbing a safety helmet belonging to one of the firefighters standing by the door, he rushed into the midst of the blaze.

“You can’t go in there! It’s too dangerous!”

Reaching out, the firefighter wanted to stop Matthew, but only managed to catch the corner of his clothes.

Now that Matthew rushed in with a dripping wet suit and a safety helmet, he would be alright for a short period of time.

### **Chapter 50 Saving Veronica From the Fire (3)**

In the living room, Veronica was nowhere to be seen, so the first thing that Matthew did was rush into her bedroom.

However, she wasn’t in her bedroom as well, but in the end, he realized that the bathroom in her bedroom was deadlocked.

He screamed, “Veronica! Veronica!”

As he shouted, he lifted his feet and kicked open the bathroom door. Using the flashlight of his phone, he saw that Veronica was on the bathroom floor.

At that moment, he immediately rushed inside to protect her face with the suit that he used to cover his mouth and nose. Then, he carried her up and ran out.

Xavier, who was standing in the corridor, first thought that Veronica was already dead. However, when he saw Matthew running out with her in his arms, Xavier froze while his eyes widened as he stared at her in disbelief.

“Veronica? Veronica?” He approached her and called several times, but there was no response.

Matthew carried her all the way downstairs and took her to an ambulance, but Xavier was denied access by the medical staff.

While accompanying Veronica inside the ambulance, Matthew finally realized that her feet and arms were burned and had blisters when the bright lights shone on her. A huge portion of her long hair with ends that fell at her waist was also burned.

Due to an excessive amount of smoke inhalation, she was now in a coma.

When they arrived at the hospital, she was admitted straight to the emergency room for treatment.

Half an hour later, she finally woke up... but in her dream.

"Ah, save me!" she screamed and sat up in shock while her head was drenched in sweat. Due to her sudden movement, she tore her wound, which caused her to wince in pain.

"Are you awake?"

"Veronica, have you finally woken up?"

Two voices could be heard next to her. With a sideways glance, she saw Matthew and Xavier standing by her bedside.

Xavier was neatly clothed while Matthew's outfit was in a messy state and his face was even covered in ashes, giving him a wretched appearance which was completely different from his usual image.

Then, she remembered the screams she heard in the bathroom at that time. It... really is Matthew. I was right! Why did he suddenly appear, though?

Even though Veronica was doubtful, she pretended to know nothing. "Why are you here? Who saved me?" she asked weakly.

The moment she asked for the person who saved her, the joy on Xavier's face immediately faded away as his eyes subconsciously glanced at Matthew.

At that moment, his eyes were filled with mixed emotions.

There was a hint of gratitude, shock, admiration and jealousy...

As the various emotions surged within him, he suddenly fell into silence.

Everyone in Bloomstead knew that Matthew was a cold-hearted and ruthless man.

However, when Xavier witnessed Matthew rushing into the fire without any regard for his own life, he suddenly realized that... he cared for Veronica and was... actually in love with her.

Xavier always boasted that he liked Veronica, but he wasn't the first to rush in when facing the roaring flames.

Maybe he thought that Veronica had died in the fire; maybe he didn't dare to rush into the fire as he feared losing his life; or maybe there was another reason...

In short, he didn't rush into the fire.

However, when Xavier saw Matthew carrying her out of the flames like a fiery hero, his heart was instantly filled with mixed emotions.

It felt as though something was sucked out of his body, causing him a clear sense of pain.

"Who kidnapped you?" Without answering her question, Matthew went straight to the point.

While slowly lowering her head, she glanced at the special bracelet around her wrist.

The bracelet came with a recording and was highly waterproof.

Not only that, it also acted as a listening device and at the other end wasn't some stranger. It was Cody—someone whom she met at the nightclub.

After offending the Larson Family, Veronica had contacted Cody and two private detectives to monitor her every move around the clock.

Once in danger, they would immediately call the police to ensure her safety while gathering evidence.

"I-I don't know." She leaned on the head of the bed while tears continued to roll down her face.

In the meantime, her eyes involuntarily glanced at Xavier, as if she was hinting at him to keep Cody's existence a secret.

Therefore, Xavier remained silent.

As for Matthew, he stood up with a cold expression and said, "Since you are awake, you should rest well."

With that, he left.

During the whole process, he didn't reveal that he was the one who saved her, let alone asking her for anything in return.



And just like that, he left afterward without showing any concern for her.

Staring at his back, Veronica fell into a deep thought. Why did he come to save me?

When she heard his voice while hiding in the bathroom, she felt a sudden thump in her heart and a slight hint of security even began to surge.

While she was holding onto her last bit of consciousness and pretending to be unconscious, she felt a sense of security that she had never felt before when being held in Matthew's arms.

After that, her mind fell into an endless darkness as she actually went into a coma.

"Are... you alright?" When Xavier saw her staring at Matthew's back without blinking, he felt a little upset.

"Huh? Oh, I'm fine." Veronica shook her head and removed her blanket to see the burns on her feet and wrist. Then, she smiled and said, "No matter what, we have achieved our goal."

"Are you crazy?" Xavier reached out to fiercely poke her head. "Do you know how dangerous that situation was? You could have died inside!" He was actually a bit angry with her. "Why did you have to provoke the Larson Family to make a move on you?"

He knew that she was Tiffany's little sister, but he never understood why Veronica wanted to provoke her on purpose. Suddenly, a suspicion rose in his mind. "Are you saying that the Larson Family is behind your adoptive parents' car accident?"

Veronica had previously asked someone to look into her adoptive parents' car accident, but the driver involved in the accident then died for no reason.

Xavier only figured this out after looking into Veronica, so combined with the information from his investigation, he guessed that she had deliberately set all this up to force the Larson Family to kill her so that she could collect the evidence for the police and land a hard blow on the Larson Family.

"Hehe, it seems like I can't hide everything from you. You're too smart." Veronica gave a hearty smile without denying his suspicion.

"Are you stupid?" Xavier slapped the back of her head. "If you really suspected them, why didn't you tell me? I could have helped you."

"I've owed you too much. I don't want to bother you any longer."

Meanwhile, after leaving the hospital, Matthew immediately made a call to Thomas. “I realize that Young Master Xavier is quite free recently. Why don’t you find something for him to do?”

“Yes, Young Master Matthew.”

“Also, I want you to transfer Veronica to Saint Hospital.”

Since Elizabeth was now in Saint Hospital, it would be more convenient if Veronica had also been transferred to the same hospital.

When Xavier, who spent the night with Veronica in the hospital, received a phone call, his expression instantly changed. After saying his goodbyes to her, he immediately left.