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Matthew grabbed her by the arm and yanked her over to a small booth within the room. All the rooms on the third floor of the Twilight Club were VIP rooms, and each room had smaller booths inside them for the "convenience" of its customers.

Slam! The door to the booth slammed shut. Veronica was then mercilessly thrown onto the bed by Matthew. Her heart thumped. "Matthew, what are you doing? There's still the law. Try something funny and I'll call the cops."

She might be warning him, but Veronica still discreetly reached for her walkie-talkie. Before she could speak into it, her hand suddenly felt empty-Matthew had snatched her walkie-talkie away and hurled it to the ground. With a crash, it broke apart into bits and pieces.

Veronica became nervous at the chilly aura emanating from him. "W-W-What are you planning to do?"

The man was already pressing down on her just after she spoke. He preemptively grabbed her electric baton and tossed it aside. "Weren't you feeling lonely? I'll fulfill your wish."

The next moment, she heard a ripping sound. Her thin, black security guard uniform that was made for the summer was already destroyed by his wanton ripping.

Veronica wanted to cry, but the tears wouldn't come. This uniform... Why is the material so shoddy?

"H-Hey, Matthew... Calm down, will you?" She pointed at her own face. "Look at me. I'm so ugly; how are you going to bring yourself to do this to me? If you want to blow some steam off, I'll call some of the escorts over so you can get your fill. You can do whatever."

Matthew looked at her tanned face. Her eyebrows were thick and bushy, and freckles were dotted all over her skin. He couldn't help but frown. "You're ugly indeed."

Personally, he had seen countless gorgeous ladies in his life. Even if one was sent his way or willingly threw herself at him, he would remain unfazed. However, at the memory of Veronica and Xavier making eyes at each other, all that came to his mind was her sighs and moans that night on the upper floors. The urge to cruelly "punish" her came to him.

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"Yeah, that's right. I'm so ugly that even looking at me will just turn your stomach. I'll

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Go

+10 pearls

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just get the club's top ladies for you then." Veronica grinned at him as she sucked up to Matthew. She tried to get up, but then he flung the ripped material of her black uniform over her face.

"If I can't see it, then the contents of my stomach will stay down."

Veronica was speechless. What kind of weird logic was that?

"Hey... Matthew, don't do this..."

Veronica was about to go mad. She struggled endlessly, but unfortunately, she was no match for Matthew's strength. Despite her skills in combat, she didn't have the strength to fight back.

There was another ripping sound then. Her body went cold. Even as she struggled and protested, he still continued his assault on her.

Grief abruptly bubbled up inside her as she resisted. Hurt and upset, she wept as she yelled, "Matthew, you jerk, what right do you have to treat me like this... Ah... I haven't dated anyone before... or married... You b*stard, son of a b*tch... I hate your guts, Matthew..."

Veronica's struggles were fruitless. All she could do was yell and curse Matthew tearfully. Yet, her "scolding" just made his hormones sing. It made him enjoy this, and even fall into the pleasure. But this elating rush didn't make Matthew lose his head. He knew very well that Veronica was already two months along, so he didn't dare to be too rough with her.

After the deed was done, he leaned over and whispered huskily into her ear, "Remember this: even a woman that I do not want is not allowed to be tainted by another man!"

He then released her hand.

The next moment, Veronica whipped the rags off her face to glare at him with tears in her eyes. She swung her hand through the air to slap at him. "You're a f*cking b*stard!"

What right did that despicable man have to do this to her?

If he only did that to her last time because he was drugged, then what about today?

Veronica was, after all, someone trained in taekwondo. That slap landed hard on Matthew's face, and naturally, it hurt. His face swung to the side from the impact.

The messiness of the hair sticking to his forehead hid the chilliness nestled between his brows. Matthew's inky black eyes narrowed slightly then, his sharp gaze fixed upon Veronica. That moment, those icy eyes of his looked as though he was contemplating how to murder her.

Veronica had slapped him on impulse earlier, so she was startled by this frigid appearance of his. All her bravado vanished in an instant. She licked her lips. Perhaps it was due to nervousness, but her hands kept clenching at the thin covers on the bed. "... I... Why are you looking at me that way? You're the one in the wrong. Firstly, I'm not one of the escort girls. Secondly, I'm not your girlfriend. What right do you have to touch me?!"

When Matthew heard Veronica's words, the chilliness on his stony face mostly dissipated. He might be able to do as he pleased" in Bloomstead, but treating a girl like this...

For a second, a drop of regret bubbled up inside this cold-hearted man. The next moment though, Matthew couldn't stop himself from grabbing Veronica's ripped

uniform and covering her face with it as he looked at her ugly visage. "So, judging from your words, what kind of compensation are you looking for?"

"Who needs compensation from you!" Veronica yanked the rags off her face, furious and upset. Since he thought her ugly, why did he still do that to her? Even though he slept with her, he still found her repulsive.

How was she going to explain herself to anyone now?

Veronica wrapped the covers around herself. She just felt that Matthew was a jerk who wasn't picky about his targets. Yet, she couldn't afford to provoke him, because...

"I can forget about today's incident, but I hope that I can get a discount on my father's medical fees at Saint Hospital. Is that possible?"

Saint Hospital was a top class private hospital in Bloomstead. It was one of the Kingses' properties. Veronica no longer had any ties to the Kings Family. She should have gotten her parents out of Saint Hospital, but she heard from her adoptive mother that there were specialists treating her adoptive father there, and the results were visible. Thus, all Veronica could do was grit her teeth, accept the expensive hospital fees, and continue to let her adoptive father receive treatment at Saint Hospital.

At the same time, she also had her selfish motives—since her adoptive parents were staying at Saint Hospital, the Larsons wouldn't dare to do anything to her adoptive parents, owing to their fear of the Kingses.

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+10 pearls

That was how Veronica's thought process went anyway. And besides, Saint Hospital's eye—watering fees did indeed make her heart ache.

"A discount?" Matthew raised an eyebrow. An evil grin came to his lips. "If you perform well, I can consider waiving the fees entirely."

"You...!"

Thug. F*ckboy. What was this about staying away from women? Clearly trashy media reports are not to be trusted.

Matthew got up. After putting his clothes in order, he left the booth. "Someone will bring you a change of clothes later." After exiting the booth, Matthew immediately gave an order to Thomas, who was standing by the door. "Get someone to go to all the drugstores down the road by Regalia Gardens. Tell them to change Veronica's order to vitamins if they see her buying Plan B pills."

Veronica's studio apartment was at Regalia Gardens.

"Got it, Young Master Matthew. I'll get around to it this instant."

Thomas was still shocked. From the way his employer phrased it, could Matthew have just slept with Veronica again?

Having been by Matthew's side for over ten years, Thomas couldn't quite understand how Matthew could sleep with such an ugly girl. He clearly remembered that Matthew never laid with women.

His employer was being really strange lately,

Just as expected, Veronica went into a drugstore on the way home after her shift ended at midnight. Having already gotten Thomas' order, the pharmacist kept comparing Veronica with the picture on his computer. Once he ascertained that it was indeed her, the pharmacist then handed the "Plan B" pills with their changed packaging to Veronica.

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When she finally arrived home at night, Veronica washed up and poured herself a cup of hot water to drink her medicine with. Her previous accident had caused her to become pregnant. This time, she would never let the same mistake happen to her again.

However, that b*stard, Matthew, was not even human.

After she finished tidying up, Veronica lay on bed and went on her phone for a while before she succumbed to her exhaustion and fell asleep.

Early the next morning, she got up and made a bowl of porridge with some vegetables and packed them into a lunchbox before heading to Saint Hospital. Normally, she could only prepare and deliver her adoptive mother's meals during noon, but now that her work ended at midnight, she had a lot of free time, and could prepare her adoptive mother's meals in the morning as well.

With the lunchbox, Veronica took her scooter and headed for Saint Hospital.

Upon entering one of the wards at the inpatient department, she saw her adoptive mother, clad in a navy printed top and blue jeans, washing her adoptive father's face for him.

Her adoptive mother's hair was already turning white, and the years had mercilessly **left traces** on her wrinkled face.

"Sigh, Tony, why aren't you waking up yet? You're lucky enough to lie around in bed, but our daughter has to work and prepare three meals for me a day, come rain or shine. It pains me to look at her," Daniella muttered while wiping Tony's face.

Upon hearing that, Veronica felt her heart ache, but she walked in with a smile. "Mom, you don't have to worry. I'm free anyway. Come and eat." She put the insulated lunch box on the table, took the face towel from Daniella, and went to the bathroom with the basin.

"Veronica, you don't have to cook for me in the future. I'll just eat some bread in the morning."

Saint Hospital was a high-class private hospital, and the food was naturally expensive. In order to save money, Daniella basically only ate bread for every meal.

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Of course, Veronica couldn't bear to see her adoptive mother work so hard every day.

"Mom, hurry up and eat before the food gets cold." Veronica walked out from the bathroom with a huge smile as if nothing had happened and asked, "How's Dad doing these days?"

"He moves his fingers from time to time, but I don't know when he will wake up. Sigh..."
Daniella heaved a huge sigh, opened the lunch box, and started eating the porridge.

Veronica didn't just laze around either. Instead, she sat by the bed and gave Tony a massage.

"Look, your dad is somewhat responsive now. I've been thinking about it for a while, but I decided to take him back to our hometown in the next two days."

Halfway through her meal, Daniella looked at Veronica. "Look at your face. You used to be such a beautiful girl, but just because you had to treat me and your father, you had to compromise with the Larson Family and pretend to look ugly. I... I feel sorry for you."

Although they were transferred to Saint Hospital, Veronica's adoptive parents still thought that this hospital belonged to the Larson Family.

"If you make yourself look like this, how can you find someone to date?" Daniella added, her eyes reddening with tears.

"Gosh, Mom, why do you keep bringing that up? I've already said many times that the Larson Family doesn't want outsiders to know that I look like Tiffany. I pretend to look ugly because it's convenient for work. If I do that, it saves me plenty of time and effort. Hahaha..."

Veronica laughed cheekily.

"That isn't any better!" Daniella feigned anger. "Your dad lies around all day. I'm about to die from frustration here. In two days, I'm going to drag him home." How could she not want Tony to stay in the hospital and receive treatment? After all, he was already old, and all they had was each other. Besides, she was really afraid that he would not wake up this time. However, Daniella couldn't bear to watch her daughter **suffer**.

"Mom, you can go home and rest if you want to. As for Dad, I can look for a caregiver."

"Gosh, why are you so stubborn, you brat? Let's just settle on this."

"Mom..."

"Stop whining. If you have so much time, you should look for a boyfriend instead."

"Then, if I get a boyfriend, are you willing to continue letting Dad stay in the hospital?"

Suddenly, Veronica realized that Daniella was worried that if she was too busy and had a "hideous" face, she would not be able to find herself a boyfriend.

Compared to people from the city, elderly people from the countryside were less open-minded. Hence, Daniella hoped that Veronica could get a boyfriend sooner and find a good home.

"That's right. Aren't you single?"

"Who said that? I've been dating someone for a long time. I just haven't told you yet."

"You're trying to fool me again, aren't you? If even I can't stand to look at your face, who can?"

"Fine. I'll bring my boyfriend over tomorrow and let you meet him." As she smiled at Daniella, Veronica was inwardly troubled. How was she going to conjure a boyfriend out of nowhere for her adoptive mother?

After leaving the hospital, Veronica continued to deliver takeouts. At exactly five o'clock in the evening, she went to Twilight Club to work.

After changing into their security uniforms, the security team started patrolling their posts after a meeting with the security department.

Upon seeing Cody, Veronica nudged him and asked, "Hey, Cody, can I discuss something with you?"

"What's wrong, Big Ron?" Cody implored.

"Um... Are you free in two days? I need your help."

"Oops, I can't make it. I asked my manager for a leave because my godfather is hospitalized, and I'll be going home tomorrow."

"Oh, then it's fine."

Veronica curled her lips before looking for the two other colleagues whom she had a good relationship with. However, one of them had a daughter–in–law who had just given birth and was not available, while the other was in an argument with his

girlfriend and did not dare to agree to solve Veronica's dilemma.

She couldn't help but complain to the three of them, "If none of you are free, who else can pretend to be my boyfriend and visit my mother?"

As soon as she finished speaking, someone suddenly walked up to her and put an arm around her shoulder. "Pretend to be your boyfriend? A man like me is perfect for this job."

Xavier had emerged out of nowhere.

"Oh, Young Master Xavier is a good choice."

"That's right, Big Ron. Look at Young Master Xavier. Not only is he talented, but he's also handsome. If you bring someone like him to your mother, you would definitely look good."

"Young Master Xavier, please help Big Ron. All of us happen to have something to do these two days." The three security guards who had a good relationship with her implored Xavier.

Veronica knew that once she took her boyfriend to the hospital, she would have to bring him to meet her adoptive mother a few more times afterward, so they really couldn't get away easily.

Xavier glanced at Veronica with a frown before clicking his tongue. "Are you looking down on me? I am the best at pretending to be a boyfriend. However, what will I gain from this?"

Veronica really couldn't find a suitable candidate, so she could only agree to Xavier who had volunteered. After giving it some thought, she said, "I'll treat you to a barbecue afterward."

"Deal."

"All right, then. I'll give you a call tomorrow afternoon."

After she had achieved an agreement with Xavier, Veronica started to work, while Xavier and his loser friends booked a room to party as usual.

The next day, in the afternoon, once Veronica had finished preparing lunch for Daniella and was getting ready to leave, she gave Xavier a call. "I'm ready to leave now. I'll be waiting for you at Saint Hospital."

When Veronica arrived at the entrance of Saint Hospital half an hour later, she found Xavier, who was dressed in a suit, with slicked back hair and a pair of sunglasses. He was leaning against a sports car and smoking a cigarette, waiting for her.

She parked her scooter and walked toward Xavier, unable to resist making a jab at him. "If you dress up so flashily, my mom will be able to tell that you're a fake at a *glance*."

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"Oh, you're right."

Suddenly coming to a realization, Xavier took off his coat and sunglasses before restyling his short blow-dried hair into a more ordinary hairstyle in the rearview mirror of the car. Once he was done, he raised his eyebrows and looked at Veronica. "How's this?"

"It's not bad."

"Then, let's go." Saying that, Xavier opened the car door and took out four supplements from the inside.

"Why are you still bringing things?" Veronica was about to take him to the grocery store to buy a fruit basket. She had not expected him to come prepared.

"What kind of boyfriend visits his future mother—in—law without bringing any gifts?" Xavier raised his eyebrows at her with a smile.

"All right, I'll transfer the money to you later, then."

"It's fine."

The two entered Saint Hospital together. On the way, Xavier asked about Veronica's adoptive parents and took the opportunity to find out her birthday as well. Although he said it was to ensure he didn't slip up in front of her mother later, he actually just wanted to know more about her.

Even if everyone thought Veronica was a little ugly, Xavier felt that Veronica was genuine, calm, and did not try to butter up to him; she was unique in her own way.

After reaching the 21st floor of the inpatient department, Veronica took Xavier into the ward and announced, "Mom, I'm here with your food."

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Xavier walked in with Veronica. When he saw Daniella, he contained his playboy demeanor and naturally flashed a polite smile at Daniella. "Mrs. Murphy, I'm Roni's boyfriend, Xavier. I just came back from a business trip, so please forgive me for only being able to visit you now."

Daniella glanced at Xavier. He was dressed in a white shirt and slacks with short black hair and handsome features, and he looked like a capable and neat man.

"Oh, you could've just showed up without bringing anything. Come, leave your things there and have a seat." Daniella pointed to the sofa and asked Xavier to sit, while she took a seat next to him. "Your name is Xavier, right?"

"Yes, Mrs. Murphy."

In the past, Xavier always had the air of an unruly and cheeky delinquent. Whenever he sat on a sofa, he would habitually cross his legs and spread his arms on the back of the sofa, as though he were a gangster.

This time, however, in front of Daniella, he was sitting upright and had hidden away his usual rough expression. It was like he had become a new person.

"How did such a handsome and mannered boy start liking my daughter? You're here to pretend to be Veronica's boyfriend, aren't you?"

As expected of the woman who raised Veronica, she saw through their ruse at a glance.

Veronica's heart skipped a beat as she held her breath for Xavier, worried that he would spoil the act.

"Mrs. Murphy, I don't like it when people say things like that. I've never been the type of person who judges people by their appearance. Though Roni's looks aren't extraordinary, I like her for her kind heart."

"Really?"

"Of course."

"Then, have you two thought about when you want to get married?"

All of a sudden, Daniella jumped to conclusions. Veronica wasn't sure if Daniella was truly worried that she would not be able to get married, or if she was trying to take Xavier by surprise and find out his true identity.

"Oh, Mom, how can you ask Xavier this question at your first meeting?" Veronica was speechless.

"Be quiet, I'm talking to Xavier," Daniella scolded.

Xavier glanced at Veronica and subconsciously rubbed his hands, feeling a little nervous; he had not felt this way in many years. He smiled politely. "Mrs. Murphy, marriage is something I need to discuss with Veronica. We don't need to hurry."

"Okay, stop acting." Daniella patted Xavier on the shoulder and said, "I already know that my daughter with her 'ugly' face is not worthy of you." This guy in front of me, he's a talented man. Although he's dressed in simple clothes, he naturally emanates a strong aura. It's obvious that he's not an ordinary person.

"Mom..." Veronica felt like she was about to cry. She didn't expect Daniella to see through their lie so quickly.

"All right." Xavier shrugged helplessly before he sighed. "Since Mrs. Murphy already knows, I won't pretend anymore." He stood up and walked toward Veronica.

Just as Veronica was about to scold Xavier, he suddenly stopped in front of her and said, "Since Mrs. Murphy is here today, I'll confess to you again. Veronica, I've liked you for a long time. Can you be my girlfriend? Although I look unreliable, I'll use my actions to prove to you that I am worthy of your trust."

Veronica's eyes widened; she was stunned by the sudden reversal. *Damn it, what's Xavier doing now?*

Just as she was dumbfounded, Xavier squinted his eyes and signaled a look at her. It was only then that she understood he was "acting"!

"Huh? ... I..." Wittily, Veronica went along with him. "Xavier, I just asked you to pretend to be my boyfriend. Don't do this. We really aren't a good match for each other."

SO

"We'll find out once we start dating. I'm really not a person who judges people by their appearance. For Mrs. Murphy's sake today, I hope you can give me a chance."

"Forget it. We can only be friends. I'm not good enough for you."

Suddenly, Xavier grabbed her hand and knelt down on one knee, taking out a square box from his pocket. "I've seen enough beautiful girls, but you are different. Although you're not

pretty enough, you're kind-hearted, hardworking, and motivated. Someone like you is hard to come by. Roni, can you please be my girlfriend?"

His abrupt move was paired with a velvet box, where a beautiful and delicate necklace with a four–leaf clover pendant lay inside. Every word that he uttered seemed to come from the bottom of his heart, and even his gaze was sincere.

If Xavier had not signaled at Veronica with his eyes earlier, she almost would have thought that he was really confessing to her.

His acting skills could get him into Hollywood.

"Wow, a hot guy is confessing."

"He's so handsome. If someone like him likes such a mediocre girl, it must be true love."

"I'm so jealous. I want a boyfriend like that too."

Because the ward door wasn't closed, several nurses who came back from lunch happened to run into this scene. They stopped in front of the ward and even held up their phones to record the moment. The nurses were also familiar with Veronica as they met every day after all.

"Veronica, hurry up and say yes."

"He's so kind to you. Just say yes already."

"That's right. Once you miss this chance, you'll never get another opportunity like this again."

The nurses who stopped to watch jumped around excitedly, looking more thrilled than Veronica.

Seeing that, Daniella, who was sitting on the sofa, put on a cordial smile and said, "Veronica, I think that Xavier truly loves you. Why don't you... try to date him?"

Daniella thought that Xavier was not a bad person from the way that he didn't feel disgusted by such an "ugly" face. Perhaps Veronica could try dating him, and when the time came to meet his parents, she and Tony should have already been discharged from the hospital.

Then, Veronica would no longer have to pretend to be ugly in front of the Larson Family, and she could also use her real face to meet Xavier's parents and secure a marriage.

"Mom, I..." It was only then that Veronica understood Daniella was truly worried for her that she wouldn't be able to find a boyfriend with an ugly face, and was in a hurry to pair her with a man.

With a pout, she looked at Xavier helplessly and asked, "Then... should we try dating?"

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"Sure." Daniella nodded. "So, does this mean you said yes?"

With a cheeky smile on his face, Xavier stood up and took out the necklace from the brocade box. "Come here. I'll put it on for you."

As he stood up in front of Veronica, she frowned and opened her mouth to say in a low voice, "Hey, don't cross the line—it'll be too much if we take this act a step further."

Xavier raised his eyebrows at her. "We have to act properly so they'll believe us."

He undid the pendant necklace, approached her, and put the necklace on her in the fashion of a hug. Even though it was just an act, Veronica still blushed because of how intimate the move was.

The nurses at the door cheered in excitement.

"Aw. How touching!"

"Oh, my God. If I wasn't a nurse, I might have the time to fall in love and be in a relationship myself." |

"Kiss, kiss, kiss!"

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"Yes, yes! Kiss!"

"Hahaha...."

More nurses joined in on the fun and even tried to make it a big deal. Not only that, they were even standing aside while filming videos and cheering.

Immediately, Veronica was speechless. She felt helpless at the nurses outside her room.

Easy peasy.

Xavier tilted his head to look at the female nurses at the door. His beautiful lips

curled into an upward are before he planted them on Veronica's check.

"Damn, public display of affection right in my face!"

"I'm so jealous!"

"I could have a dozen boyfriends if they were all like this!"

"Come on. We should get back to work. Let's go, or the head nurse will chew us out again."

The nurses grinned at Veronica and left.

Veronica, on the other hand, stood there with a slightly stiff body, staring at Xavier with angry eyes. That look seemed to be saying, Xavier Crawford, you jerk! Didn't you say that this was all just acting? You're just taking advantage of me!

Xavier merely smiled.

On the contrary, Daniella was in a very good mood, and she repeatedly told her, "Veronica, Xavier is so kind to you–you have to be nice to him too."

"Okay, Mom. I know..."

Veronica nodded. Immediately after, she turned her head to look at Xavier and said in a voice that only the two of them could hear, "Xavier Crawford, I'll kill you."

Although the two of them were just acting, Daniella remained in a very good mood till noon that day, and she even finished the lunch that Veronica brought. After the lunch, she never mentioned wanting to discharge from the hospital again. Once she finished eating, Veronica and Xavier left the ward.

Daniella sent the two of them to the elevator. "Xavier, take care on your way back."

"Sure thing, Mrs. Murphy," Xavier put his arms around Veronica's shoulders and replied very politely.

"Don't buy me any more things when you come next time, okay?"

"Understood, Mrs. Murphy. You should go back and rest."

"Well, then I will go visit Mr. Murphy for a bit." As she said that, Daniella turned around and left.

Veronica was speechless. Was that it? My existence is nothing to them already? That quickly?Ding. The elevator doors closed.

In an instant, Veronica's expression changed. Immediately, she brushed away Xavier's hand and kicked him in the shin. "Xavier Crawford, are you out of your mind? I told you to act—not take advantage of me!"

"Ouch..." Xavier rubbed his leg in pain. "If I become a cripple because of this, you'll have to support me for the rest of your life. Besides, it was just a show; why are you so serious?"

"Then why did you kiss me?"

"The 'plot' called for it. What else could I do but play along?"

"You! A*shole!"

Veronica's head began to hurt the more she quarreled with Xavier. At that point, she found it pointless to talk to him and proceeded to take off the necklace, but was stopped by Xavier. "If you take the necklace off now, your mother will be suspicious tomorrow."

"Nevertheless, I can't have this, it is too expensive."

"I bought it at a roadside stall for 23 bucks. If you still think it's expensive, you can buy me more mutton skewers when we have dinner tonight."

"Well, I guess that's fine." Veronica bought what Xavier said, so she didn't think much about it.

The two walked out of the elevator and passed through the lobby of the inpatient department. Right at that moment, a group of doctors and nurses in white coats approached, and in front of them were Matthew and Thomas, looking as if they were some sort of celebrities.

When Veronica saw Matthew, Matthew was also looking at her, then his eyes finally fell on Xavier. At that exact moment, Xavier had his arms around Veronica's shoulders, and the two of them chatted and laughed like good friends. Immediately, Matthew's calm face burst into stormy waves, but he still managed to perfectly conceal all of his emotions within a split second.

It was just that the two passed each other this time, and neither spoke to the other. Xavier only looked at Veronica and chatted with her the whole time, so he didn't notice Matthew passing by.

They then exited the hospital, and Xavier left. When Veronica was riding her motorcycle and was about to drive away, the phone in her pocket rang. When she took it out, she saw that the call was from Matthew. She frowned in annoyance. "Hi, Young Master Matthew. How can I help?" Like bullets, her words escaped her lips with an obviously nasty attitude.

"Come to your father's ward in five minutes. Otherwise, I will let the experts leave immediately."

"What? Okay, okay. I'll be there right now."

As soon as she heard that there were experts with him, Veronica suddenly remembered the group of 'angels in white' who were following closely behind Matthew, and she immediately ran back with her phone in hand.

At that time, the medical experts were discussing Tony's condition in the office. Matthew walked out of the office as he was bored and walked toward Tony's ward. When he passed by the nurses' station, several nurses were still chatting about the scene with Veronica and Xavier just now.

"Hey, girls. Why do you think Veronica Murphy has such a good life? She only looks average, yet such a handsome guy confessed to her."

"Huh? That's impossible. She is so ugly—it would be nice if someone even liked her to begin with. How could she get such a handsome guy on top of that?"

"It's real! Why would I lie to you? We saw it with our own eyes and even recorded a video."

"Let me take a look."

Matthew overheard the conversations of those nurses and slowed down on purpose, only to hear their gossip. Immediately, he thought of Xavier, who was with Veronica just now, and he already understood the situation.

"My God. This guy is so handsome."

"I know, right? He even kneeled down on one knee to confess and gave her a necklace. My boyfriend has to propose to me like this in the future."

"Damn, I'm going crazy over his looks."

The nurses only kept gossiping—they obviously didn't notice Matthew, who was passing by. Originally, he found a team of experts for Veronica's father, but now it

seemed that it was no longer necessary. With that in mind, Matthew walked into the elevator with a gloomy face and called Thomas. "There is no need for the expert team to treat Tony Murphy anymore."

"Young Master Matthew, what's the matter?" But before Thomas could get an answer, the call was hung up from the other end of the line.

Matthew's face was as black as the bottom of a burned pot, and he took the elevator down to the first floor. When the elevator door opened, Veronica was standing outside the elevator—she seemed out of breath.

"W-Why did you come down? Didn't you say that you hired a team of experts for my dad? Are they in his ward already?" Veronica asked Matthew. She then said, "I'll go up and have a look first."

The man stood upright, his hands in the pockets of his trousers. He then glanced coldly at the new necklace on Veronica's neck. The jewel glimmered under the light of the elevator, making it exceptionally dazzling in his eyes.

"No need. I already told them to leave." He brushed past Veronica and walked away.

In an obvious state of confusion, Veronica immediately looked at the time on her watch. "Hold on. I only took two minutes, which is obviously faster than the five minutes you gave me. How can you break your promise?"

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Matthew agreed to give Veronica five minutes, but he broke his promise.

This is too much!

When Veronica saw Matthew simply walk past her, she grabbed onto his arm. "Matthew Kings, I even let the thing about you sleeping with me go, so can you ask the expert team to treat my dad? I will pay you the surgery fee! I have money!"

Originally, she wanted to ask Matthew to give her a discount on the hospital processing fee, but that jerk was being so mean, so she had to give up on that thought for the time being

Just three minutes ago, she even felt moved by Matthew's words when he said that he had gotten her a team of medical experts to treat her dad. At that time, she even thought that he was not too much of a sc*mbag and at least still had some conscience left in him.

Now it seemed that she had thought too highly of him.

As he was grabbed by Veronica, he stopped and turned around while staring at her with narrow and sharp eyes. Finally, his gaze fell on her neck, only to find that the necklace was too dazzling for its own good.

"You have money?" His handsome face was filled with a mocking smile. "Are you planning to sleep with Xavier Crawford? How much is he paying you for a night?"

For more than two months, he had arranged for someone to secretly supervise *Ver*onica and her mobile phone, so he was very sure that she had never slept with Xavier.

But the conversations among the nurses in the hospital just now and the necklace on Veronica's neck were enough to show that she was in a relationship with Xavier.

"You!"

Veronica didn't expect Matthew's thoughts to be so dirty, so she snorted coldly and said, "You're right! Xavier gave me that money."

No one could tell where the anger came from, but she raised her neck to lift the beautiful necklace on her collarbone, and said to him casually, "This is the necklace Xavier gave me, I am in a relationship with him. So, Young Master Matthew, please

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stay away from me. Otherwise, my boyfriend won't let you go."

She immediately regretted her 'showing off the moment after she said it.

Although admitting that her boyfriend was Xavier could make Matthew stop bugging her in the future, she knew that once she angered the man, she could kiss the chances of the group of experts treating her father goodbye.

A hint of coldness appeared in Matthew's cold eyes. He raised his hand to lift her chin, rubbing his thumb against her skin. "I'm warning you: Stay away from Xavier Crawford. Otherwise, don't blame me for being rude to you."

"Wow, Young Master Matthew, you are so used to controlling everything in Bloomstead, so you think you can be unscrupulous just because you have money and power? You tell me to stay away from him, but I won't."

After all, she was not a girl who was willing to give in so easily and would only be more stubborn when met with someone as tough as herself. Therefore, her temperament was destined to clash violently with Matthew's.

"Try me!"

The man leaned over and approached her. She could feel his faint breath on her face, which caused her to be a little uncomfortable from his forwardness. Looking from an outsider's perspective, the way they stood so closely to each other seemed very ambiguous.

But the next moment, the man said, "If you let me find out again, I will break your leg."

"You're insane." Veronica immediately felt that there was something wrong with Matthew. "If you don't cure my dad, that's fine. I can always transfer him to another hospital." As she felt completely fed up with Matthew's ridiculous threats, Veronica hated him to the core. "I'll transfer him now."

"Do you think you can escape from me?"

As Veronica listened to his words, she frowned. "Hmph, these are my legs. I can leave whenever I want and do whatever I want."

Veronica's behavior was completely out of Matthew's control.

This out-of-control situation angered him.

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He stepped forward, grabbed her by the collar, and said lightly, "You are pregnant with my child-do you think you can do whatever you want?"

Although Veronica didn't know anything, it had already been a month since Matthew decided to put a test on her.

Not only did she not take the initiative to find him, she even actively rejected his existence.

Matthew was sure that Veronica had zero interest in him, and that she had been working part-time for a month without any miscarriage.

At that point, he felt that it would be good for Veronica to give him a child.

After the child was born, he figured it'd be a good idea to give her a sum of money to leave so that she would not bother him.

Matthew made up his mind and planned to tell her the truth in the next two days who knew that he would run into Xavier and her in the hospital.

He would never allow her to be with such trash like Xavier while she was pregnant with his child.

"What? Pregnant with your child? If you have problems with your head, go see a psychiatrist," she reprimanded in exasperation. "Even if I was out of my mind, Matthew Kings, I would never be pregnant with your family's child in my life."

Damn, does this woman really think that I can't sense the sarcasm in her words?

"Oh, is that so?" Instead of being angry, the man laughed. "Did you feel anything after the last miscarriage? Did your period come?"

He reminded her.

Veronica was at a loss for words, and she looked at the man in front of her inexplicably, his questions echoing in her mind.

It was true that she really didn't feel anything from the last miscarriage.

Though she heard that miscarriage would hurt, why did she not feel a thing?

Moreover, she really didn't seem to get her period recently.

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A few days ago, Veronica only thought that the abortion operation caused her menstrual cycle to be irregular, but as she heard what Matthew said...

Did she not undergo the operation at all that day?!

"Impossible. I took birth control pills yesterday."

"Is the medicine white and oval, and has a slightly sour taste?"

"H-How did you know?"

"Because I ordered everyone from the Twilight Club to the Brocade Gardens."

Matthew wasn't hiding it. His handsome face carried a faint smile, as if he was mocking Veronica's innocence.

Veronica shook her head like a rattle. "That's impossible... That's impossible! I-I don't have your child!"

"This is the hospital. We can always go for a check-up to know whether you're pregnant."

"I don't believe you. This is the Saint Hospital opened by your family. Can't you just fabricate the results the way you see fit?"

"Well, it's not difficult to confirm anyway. Go to the clinic to buy some test strips, and you'll know after taking a test."

"Impossible! You liar..."

Veronica muttered.

Though she said she didn't believe it, her mind was in shambles.

She said that she was going to transfer her parents to another hospital, but at that moment, she could only walk past Matthew and out of the hospital.

Soon, she rode on her motorcycle and went home.

On the way home, she saw a pharmacy and was going to buy some pregnancy test strips, but she began to wonder if Matthew had warned this pharmacy.

After all, she often used this route.

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With that in mind, she simply turned the motorcycle around and went to a road she seldom traveled to, where she bought a few boxes of test strips from the two pharmacies there.

Immediately, she started the test when she got home.

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Ten minutes later, a scream broke out from the toilet. "Matthew Kings, you beast... Sob, sob."

She looked at the five to six test strips placed in front of her; each of them had two bars on them, showing a positive result, indicating that she was indeed pregnant.

She cursed Matthew angrily.

However, she was still not reconciled with the result, so she went to a Chinese medicine clinic again and asked an old Chinese medicine doctor to help her diagnose, but the result came back as... pregnant.

With that, she walked out of the Chinese medicine clinic, walked down the street in despair, then sat on a bench and stared blankly ahead, as if she was frozen in time.

After she sat for some time, a car stopped in front of her. The door opened, and Matthew walked toward her step by step.