

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 216

Chapter 216 A Barefoot Veronica

“You’ve dislocated your knee cap. Hold the phone.”

The man gently touched the wound and made a basic analysis based on how the bone was slightly protruding out of place.

Under these conditions, Veronica did not argue with Matthew as she obediently took the phone and shone the light on her knee.

She then saw the man lift her leg up gently before he tilted his head a bit to look at her and say, “It might be a bit painful. I’ll count to three and then join it back.”

“Alright.”

Taking a deep breath, Veronica gripped her hands tightly while her heart was beating all over the place.

She feared feeling pain very much, so she was afraid that she might trash around in pain when Matthew set her bones back.

“One...”

“Two...”

“Argh! F*ck! Matthew, didn’t you say you would count to three?! Why did you do it at two?!”

Shouting in pain, Veronica slapped Matthew’s shoulder and pinched it tightly as the sensation made her breathe in deeply.

“Try moving it and see if everything is fine.”

Matthew, who was facing the woman’s sudden outburst, did not seem to mind her screaming as he was more concerned about her wound.

Lifting her leg, Veronica moved it a bit to find it was working just fine, so she immediately stood up and walked around. Except for the pain from the torn skin hurting a bit, she found that everything was functioning normally.

“I can walk just fine now. Thanks.”

She smiled at Matthew before focusing her attention on the dark basement they were in, making her smile vanish and replaced with a sigh. “What kind of place is this? There isn’t even a signal. We’ll have to find a way out, otherwise we’ll soon be... Ah!”

Spinning the phone around the basement, Veronica saw a skeleton in a corner, causing her to scream out loud.

Even though she was a brave woman, in this basement with unknown dangers ahead of them, she had not fully prepared herself and was frightened by the sight.

“What’s wrong?”

Then, Matthew ran to her before looking toward the direction where her flashlight was pointing only to find a body lying in the corner.

“The bones lay flat on the floor with no signs of people touching them. There are also black stains all around the skeleton, which look to be the remains of the body when it decomposed.”

Matthew closed in and analyzed the body.

As soon as he said that, Veronica added, “That means that this person didn’t die a long time ago, seeing how their clothes are still intact. It looks like the women’s uniform which the servants in your house wear.”

“I heard from Grandma around a year ago that a female servant went missing from the house. Back then, we all thought that she had escaped. Because she was an orphan, we had no relatives of hers that we could contact. Even though we made a police report, we still couldn’t find her, so we forgot about it as time went on.”

“She’s an orphan? That is too pitiful.”

Veronica, who recomposed herself, only felt pity for such a girl to disappear without a trace.

Standing in front of the body, she bowed three times. “Don’t worry. When we get out eventually, we will be sure to bring you out too.”

Although this was just a small act, it made Matthew feel that Veronica was a truly kind woman.

She really is pure, honest, and kind.

Holding her hand, he said, “Let’s go and find the exit as quickly as we can. Otherwise, we would die here too. You should switch your phone off for now to preserve its batteries for emergency use.”

Veronica felt a surge of warmth travel through her cold hands as a sudden reassurance calmed her nervous heart.

She did not resist him holding her, knowing that they could meet with danger or activate some trap at any moment. That was why it was the safest choice to keep holding hands and continue forward.

“Alright.”

Nodding, she then switched her phone off.

Walking in the hallway of the basement, they observed the basement made out of smoothed stone walls that had carvings of divine beasts on them.

Suddenly, Veronica pointed toward a wall that had a candle with a goddess carving on it. "There's a candle there. Let's see if it lights up."

They both saw the candle at the same time.

Then, the man took out a lighter and tried lighting the wick. Even though the wick had become a solid black substance, it was still miraculously lit.

"Whew. That's great. If we have a light source, at least we don't have to walk around in total darkness."

Veronica breathed a sigh of relief as her nerves calmed slightly.

If there was a light, that meant that there had to be an exit.

Otherwise, the only thing waiting for them in this secret basement without any light would be death.

While keeping the phone, Matthew saw Veronica when he lowered his head. He then promptly took off his leather shoes and stood barefoot. "Wear my shoes."

Because she was here to attend a banquet today, Matthew had her change into a dress, which Veronica chose to match by wearing nine-centimeter-high heels.

When they fell down just now, Matthew only focused on saving Veronica and had forgotten about the shoes.

Besides, even if they still had them, high heels were not fit for exploring a secret basement.

Veronica looked at the shoes before pouting. "Are you sure that my size 37 would fit your size 42 shoes?"

She immediately stated an obvious problem.

The man's feet were indeed size 42.

"It's better than nothing," he replied.

"How am I to walk in these? Besides, we aren't even sure how big this place is. It will be exhausting for me to walk using your shoes, and you might even get hurt."

Veronica analyzed this calmly.

Even though Matthew meant well by giving her his shoes to wear, not only did bigger shoes increase the burden of walking, they might even irritate the skin of her heel.

Also, she did not wear socks since she had to wear high heels.

Her words made sense.

With a solemn look, Matthew pondered for a while before looking at her. "It's not as if we don't have another way. Maybe you can try..."

He stopped halfway.

Tacitly, with Matthew, Veronica, who was smart enough to know what he was about to say, turned to the skeleton.

"It's just a body. It won't harm you. You don't have to be that scared either. I'm here. You..."

"You're such a nag!"

Although Veronica knew that Matthew was just building her courage, she was not as cowardly as Matthew thought she was.

Nevertheless, no matter what, she was still a bit scared as she pointed at his feet. "Give me your socks."

Matthew was a bit shocked at Veronica's reaction. Looking at her doubtfully, he then handed her the socks.

The white socks were already covered in a light layer of dust due to him stepping on the ground.

After he handed them over, Veronica immediately wore them while saying, "Could you go get her shoes?"

"Okay."

The man agreed and went to get them.

Soon enough, he reappeared with a pair of pumps and gave them to Veronica.

He had thought Veronica would reject his suggestion with disgust...

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Chapter 217 Trapped in a Maze

Nonetheless, he had never guessed Veronica would take those brown shoes and wear them without a shred of hesitation.

Stepping on the ground, she mumbled, "It actually fits me quite nicely."

She then wore the other shoe.

With both shoes worn, she hopped around. "It's not bad. They're quite comfortable." While saying that, she continued to walk ahead.

It was only after she took a few steps that she noticed total silence behind her. Turning around, she found Matthew standing in the same spot.

"What are you standing around for? Are you waiting to die here?" Pouting, she was a bit displeased.

Matthew replied, "Wow, Roni, you're very brave."

Even though people were not as superstitious and old-fashioned as before, a lot of people still feared the deceased's possessions, as some would avoid them completely.

Some would even wish they would not touch the deceased's belongings in their lives. On the other hand, Veronica did not reject this notion with disgust, as she accepted the reality of the situation they were in.

The man only felt more admiration toward her.

Upon understanding his words, Veronica looked down at the pair of shoes before saying, "I'm only lending them for now. When we get out, I'll still return these to the girl. Besides, we still don't know how deep and big the basement stretches or if the terrain is all smooth like now. We're basically going in blind. If I were to walk barefoot and hurt my leg, it would only slow us down even more. The more time we spend here, the more danger we will be in. I, for one, do not want to die here."

Even though Veronica was self-admittedly tough, she was still a bit hesitant when it came to wearing the shoes. This was why she wanted Matthew to go take them.

She wanted to use Matthew to boost her own courage, as she thought that if he dared to touch it, why would she not dare to wear it?

She braced herself and decided to wear the shoes.

No matter how afraid she was, she did not want to show it in front of Matthew.

This was because Veronica knew that she had no choice left. If she really walked barefooted, she would get hurt eventually. If her wounds got infected or she had no way to continue on, this would land them in an even more dangerous disposition.

"I've already wanted to ask what kind of person your master is. Why does he know how to use a gun?"

Matthew finally asked the question he had been curious about for a long time.

Smiling, Veronica raised her eyebrows smugly. "Of course he knows how to use it. My master knows everything. Not only does he know taekwondo, he also knows kickboxing. His forefathers were all soldiers. According to Crayson, his father was an expert marksman and personally taught him how to shoot. That was how he had quite an aim when he was young. After that, he became a soldier before leaving the army and became a hunter when he returned. I even heard from Crayson that he became a grave robber. But, he later quit doing that because it was illegal."

The mention of Crayson made Veronica babble on, and she looked a lot more relaxed.

"Interesting. Too bad he had such a stupid disciple," commented Matthew as he approached her and held her hand. To that, Veronica only rebuked, "Matthew, are you looking for trouble? Do you want to see how my master will deal with you when I tell him about this?"

"Shh."

The man held her hand tightly while making a quiet gesture with the other. "We don't know if there's a drinkable water source in this place yet. So, we should talk less and preserve our stamina."

His words seemed to make sense as Veronica considered the situation they were in and chose not to argue with him anymore.

She then handed the phone to Matthew to let him keep it.

Taking the candle, Matthew stood in the middle of the hallway. "Don't move. Let's see which way the wind blows."

They had a lit candle inside the basement, where they could use it to determine the direction of the wind and, from there, if there was an exit.

As expected, the fire flickered.

Seeing this, the two soldiered on.

As the time slowly passed, the two people walked around for a long time in the basement only to find themselves right where they fell down.

Frowning, Matthew said in a low tone, "We've been walking for over an hour, yet we're actually back at the same point. If I'm not wrong, we should be stuck inside a squared shaped maze."

Veronica, who did not reply to him, only stood there with a troubled expression as she slowly closed her eyes and retraced the path they took.

"If so, we'll have to walk again. But this time, we need to mark the path we walked."

"I have the same thought as well."

The two then held hands and began walking again.

Fortunately, there were oil lamps situated throughout the basement, ensuring that they had a proper view of where they were going.

At every corner, Matthew would use the lamp to burn the walls a little until there was a little black spot on them.

Taking off her earrings, Veronica used the sharp piercings to mark the spot with '1'.

In the second corner, she marked '2'.

"That's very smart of you."

Matthew praised her outright as he thought more and more about this woman, who was a diamond in the rough and was full of wisdom as well as secrets, that he had found, causing his curiosity to grow and making him expectant as to what she would do next.

At the same time.

In the Kings Residence, they had noticed the disappearance of Veronica and Matthew. Even though they had called them, they could not reach them.

By this point, Elizabeth and Thomas were sure that both of them were in danger, so they immediately watched the surveillance footage to look for them.

Unfortunately, only the front porch and the backyard's surveillance were switched on while the others were not.

In the footage, they only managed to see Veronica and Matthew exit the living room.

After that...

No further sightings of them could be found.

"Find them. Send out our people in secret immediately. Find Matthew and Veronica no matter the cost."

Elizabeth sat on the throne chair as she slammed the desk with a worried expression. "Thomas, buy a plane ticket flying to a destination abroad under Matthew's name. Just say that he went abroad for business and would not return so soon, so as to prevent this from leaking and making the employees waver."

"Understood, Old Mrs. Kings."

Nodding, Thomas immediately left to handle the matter.

Matthew, as the president of Spinfluence Group, needed to deal with a countless number of things daily.

His busy workload, paired with the incident that happened at his wedding and the appearance of Tiffany, who exposed herself at Elizabeth's birthday banquet, attracted a lot of attention.

Even though this did not cause too much harm to the Kings Family financially, it did attract a lot of news agencies that all reported on this and also wanted to interview Matthew.

If even a rumor of Matthew going missing were to be spread now, the reporters would only embellish this, causing a chain of irreversible consequences.

It was not until Thomas had left that Elizabeth asked, "Conrad, how about you be the company's temporary president for these few days?"

Conrad, with a sad expression, sighed. "Since Matthew is now missing, I can only step up temporarily. After all, we're family. It's only something that I should do."

He lowered his head subtly, but one could see a hint of ploy flash across his eyes.

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Chapter 218 The Labyrinth Has No Treasure

"Mom, you need to rest more as you're not in good health. I'll look for Matthew and Veronica."

When he saw Elizabeth's sad expression, he comforted her by saying, "Anyway, Matthew is someone who has experienced a lot of ups and downs. He is very skilled, intelligent, and courageous. I'm sure he'll be fine."

"Oh, I'm hoping so."

She sighed in disappointment, waved her hand, and motioned for Conrad to leave.

Conrad nodded and walked out of the living room.

He led a group of people around the courtyard of Kings Residence and kept searching until he reached the bamboo forest in the back garden. Conrad cast a cold glance at the massive rock that Veronica had created before giving everyone an instruction, "Examine the area carefully to see if there are any clues. Take a few people to the bamboo forest to look around, Santiago."

"Okay, Sir Conrad."

The servant took the order and beckoned to several people before entering the bamboo forest in a circle.

Even though Santiago stepped on the spot where Veronica and Matthew had fallen, he noticed nothing out of the ordinary. The night was getting

dark and the people who were looking for Veronica and Matthew were still searching everywhere.

Thomas also contacted Caleb, who was the captain of the criminal investigation. As a police officer attached to the criminal division, he was naturally more sensitive than ordinary people.

Furthermore, since he was Matthew's brother, Thomas naturally thought of him as trustworthy.

Matthew and Veronica were marking as they searched for the correct path inside the secret room.

"Let's take a break," Veronica, who was tired from walking, said at that moment. We won't be able to find the exit for quite some time, so there's no need to rush."

"Let's rest in this room."

Matthew pointed to a room diagonally across from them. There was a wooden door, which was rotten.

He kicked the door open and led Veronica inside.

After they lit the night light on the wall with the candle they were holding, the entire room became extraordinarily bright under the illumination of the two night lights.

"This appears to be a study room." There are a plethora of books on the shelves. Could it be some kind of ancient martial art? Tsk... If there were any treasure maps or something, wouldn't I make a fortune?"

Veronica casually cracked a joke, walked over to the bookshelf, reached out and touched the well-preserved bookshelf, "Could it be made of Phoebe zhennan? Otherwise, how could it be still intact after so many years?"

When the two were looking for the exit, they came across a number of rooms.

There was a large secret room hall surrounded by mythical beast statues and bronze statues, as well as bedrooms, pharmaceutical secret rooms, and so on.

When Veronica reached out to take a book to read, she noticed a purple sandalwood box beneath a thick layer of dust from the corner of her eyes.

"What is this?" she muttered as she opened the box.

However, before her fingers touched the box, she withdrew her hand.

"Matthew, come and take a look. The dust falling on the box is of different shades, and there are even a few fingerprints with a thin layer of dust on them. Doesn't this imply that someone knows about and has visited this location?"

Matthew approached her, his gaze fixed on the purple sandalwood box. The box was carved with a dragon pattern totem.

There were obvious fingerprints in the dust on the totem, but there was a thin layer of dust on the fingerprints.

"Based on the thickness and spacing of the fingers, they clearly belonged to a man."

Then, Matthew extended his hand to open the purple sandalwood box. He was taken aback to discover two pistols and a dozen bullets inside.

When Matthew and Veronica saw that, they had a repressed expression on their faces. They exchanged sidelong glances before locking gazes on the box.

Matthew picked up the pistol and examined it. "This is a 9.1mm Magnum Eagle, commonly known as the 'Desert Eagle'."

He took another bullet and scrutinized it carefully. "Judging from the age and the fingerprints on the box, this person should have been around for no more than two years."

"They must be from your family since they can enter your secret room."

Veronica didn't understand these things, so she couldn't analyze them. However, judging from the thickness of the dust on the fingerprints on the box, it was clear that the trespasser had arrived not long ago.

"This still needs to be investigated."

Matthew couldn't say for sure that someone from the Kings Family had entered the secret room, but he was sure that when the two of them fell from above, they must have touched the gear. That was why they fell.

"Hey, I had an unexpected thought." Veronica snatched Matthew's pistol, held it in her hand, and tilted her head before asking, "We discovered this secret room together. Look at the bronze statues right now; they're all ancient. Shouldn't we split the money from their sale?"

They were alive after falling from above, which was enough to be regarded as a blessing.

Those who survived a disaster were bound to have good fortune in the future.

Veronica was desperate to get out of there quickly so she could sell the bronze statues for a good price and become a wealthy woman.

"That will have to wait until you're able to leave this place alive." Matthew raised his brows, and a small smile spread across his handsome face. He then raised his hand before pressing the muzzle of the gun with his right index finger. "Be careful. With that gun in your hand, you could accidentally shoot me. You won't be able to leave if I die."

“I...”

For the first time, she was at a loss for words and didn't know how to respond. She had no choice but to admit that what he said was correct.

If something happened to him, it would be difficult for her to escape.

“Okay, I'll return the gun to you. I'll take a look at the books on the shelf then. Let's find out which years they are from. Perhaps I can find 'Classic of Mountains and Seas', 'Compendium of Materia Medica', or the painting collections of those ancient writers. I will make a fortune if I sell them at a high price.”

She fantasized about digging up gold and silver treasures, sitting on a golden mountain in the future, and becoming a rich woman. With that thought, her face lit up with an unmistakable smile.

“If these good things can be sold for billions, we can still make a lot of money after taxes.”

“I have already thought about it. When I have enough money, I plan to take care of several men. Tsk, life will be good, and this will be a worthwhile journey.”

Veronica reached out her hand and brushed the thick dust from the bookshelf before pulling out a book, daydreaming about a better life in the future.

As soon as she finished speaking, Matthew drew her into his arms and wrapped his arms around her waist, looking up at her solemnly and saying, “Why? Do I not satisfy you on my own?”

“You...” Veronica wanted to ask him whether he was out of his mind. Did she promise to be with him? She changed her mind with a plan in her heart and answered, “The point isn't whether or not I'm satisfied. I am a naturally flirtatious woman who adores handsome men. My childhood ambition has been to become wealthy and open a harem. We are not suitable at all. People of different aspirations cannot get along, you know.”

Although this sentence was not entirely appropriate, it did convey what she intended.

When Matthew heard that, his face darkened and he stared at her for a long time, unsure of how to respond. “Are you confident you'll be able to handle it?” He reached out and punitively pinched her waist, expressing his helplessness.

Right then, she pushed him away and took a step back. “Beautiful men are visually appealing. If I get tired of them, I can just get rid of them with no consequences. After all, I am not a woman of lasting affection, and I will not commit to a man.”

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Chapter 219 A Strange Jar

She continued to self-deprecate, hoping that Matthew would notice and therefore avoid her.

“So, how many men do you have in addition to me?”

Matthew's large hand gripped her wrist and held it tightly, as if he wanted to crush Veronica's bones with his strength.

Ouch!

She winced in pain but continued to endure it. She then tilted her head to ponder for a moment before casually saying, “Let me think about it. I slept with a guy when I was in high school. However, he was terrified and fled, even though it had not yet begun. When I was in college, I fell in love with a man who was my first love, and we frequently slept together.”

“Later, I discovered that the first love wasn't really good in bed, so I dumped him and found a new boyfriend. I found a tall and mighty boy who was athletic and 'played' with him until we graduated. He's now out of the country, so we're no longer in contact.”

The word 'play' was used appropriately.

Veronica almost described herself as a bad girl. She self-deprecated to make men think she was a sloppy and flirty girl.

“You're lying. The first time you stumbled into Twilight Condominium, you were still a virgin!”

“Well, that is just a layer of film. Every time I have a new partner, I will go to the hospital to replace them. It's just a thrill to play. Hey, you have no idea about this, do you? You're no fun.”

She swatted his hand away and moved her gaze to the bookshelf, pretending to look for a book.

In fact, she sighed with relief as the corners of her mouth twitched slightly.

She had already smeared herself, displaying no self-love or self-respect, so this jerk should no longer be interested in her.

“Flirty! Extravagant!”

Matthew's low voice came from behind her just as Veronica was secretly guessing in her heart.

Despite the fact that the sound was not loud, she could clearly hear it.

She then took out a blue book, casually opened a page, and looked back at Matthew with a contemptuous shake of her head. “This is due to your

lack of avant-garde. Think about it. What era are we in? It's the twenty-first century, and men can no longer have three wives and four concubines. Isn't it possible for women to have three husbands and four concubines instead? Even if the traditional concept does not allow it, it is not illegal. Am I right?"

As Veronica finished her words, she closed the book in her hand, tilted her head, and looked him up and down with her moist and clear eyes.

"Actually, you're quite attractive. I would like to stay with you if you're not too domineering. As long as you promise me that it doesn't matter if I look for another handsome man."

"Okay."

Matthew raised one eyebrow, raising his hand to lift her chin, "If you dare to find one, I will kill one."

"Tsk... You're filled with rage."

Veronica shook her head, an indifferent expression on her face, as if she didn't care about Matthew's threat at all. She then sighed and said, "Unfortunately, life is too short to not have fun. I like money and attractive men. We are not meant to be together if you cannot accept it. However, Xavier is unique. He is aware of my flirtatious nature, so he can accept me finding another man. Speaking of which, Matthew, your love is still too controlling."

What a jumble of logic! Such a moral deterioration.

She felt guilty after some remarks, but she persisted in bragging until the bitter end.

The more she adhered to the idea of making Matthew believe that she was a b*tch, the more reckless she became.

"Do you think I'll believe you?"

"It is up to you whether you believe it or not. If you really don't believe it, you can look into it after we leave. My first love is the one I often sleep with. His name is Larry Freeman."

To be convincing, she actually told him the name of her ex-boyfriend.

"Larry Freeman..."

Matthew murmured Larry's name. His eyes narrowed slightly as he was skeptical of her words.

"Unofficial History of Qinghui, Three Character Classic, Secret History of Qing Palace, Secret Affair of the Hidden Clan..."

Veronica casually flipped through a few books and couldn't help but mutter, "What are these... I have never heard of these books. I suppose they're all ancient books."

She opened a page of the book, Secrets of the Hidden Clan. Before she could read, Matthew said, "It's getting late. Let's go."

"Okay."

She then placed the book back on the bookshelf, and the two exited the study room.

They had only taken a few steps when Matthew abruptly stopped and said, "Wait."

"What's wrong?"

Veronica's heart raced and she became nervous when she saw his sudden reaction with a serious face.

"Did you hear it? There's water nearby."

Matthew let go of her and turned around, peering into the vast study room. Finally, his gaze was drawn to a black-sealed jar resting on an offering table against the wall.

He walked over, and Veronica followed. However, as the two approached, the sound of the water in the jar became increasingly louder.

It was the kind of water that was stirred by external forces, making a gushing sound. The sound was loud and clear, and it was obvious that there was something in the jar.

After all, Veronica was a girl, so she nervously pulled Matthew's sleeve and whispered, "Sh*t. Could it possibly be ghosts? Nobody has been here for so long, and the jar is perfectly sealed. If there is something in it, we will die."

No matter how brave a person was, they would be terrified in the face of the unknown.

"Stay behind me."

He pushed her behind him, making her take a few steps back. On the other hand, he reached out and untied the rope that had sealed the jar, revealing a layer of mud beneath the faded cloth.

Mud was effective at keeping air out.

He pulled a dagger from his pocket, which he had found in another room. He then dug up the dirt and unraveled several layers of cloth. He discovered that the bottom had been sealed with kraft paper.

The seal was complicated and cumbersome, but it had a high level of confidentiality.

The sound of the water inside became louder as the jar's mouth was about to be opened.

When Matthew was ready to peel off the final layer of the oiled paper, he turned to Veronica and said, "Stay away."

"Uh... Let's not open it; it's frightening."

She said not to open it, but curiosity got the best of her, and she was desperate to see what was in the jar.

She took a few steps back in response to Matthew's instruction, and the sound of water in the jar gradually faded, eventually returning to silence.

He kept peeling the paper away. However, instead of leaning over to look directly at it, he turned on the flash on his phone, leaned over, and took a photo. He avoided making direct contact with the face and coming into contact with unknown dangers.

Snap, snap...

After taking a few photos in a row, he walked to Veronica's side. The two took out their phones and zoomed in on the photos. They discovered that the jar contained only clear water, and the lines of the black jar were clearly visible.

The two secretly breathed a sigh of relief. When their eyes met, they quickly shifted their gaze to the jar again and walked over tacitly.

The sound was clearly coming from the jar, but why was there nothing in the photo?

"Wait a minute, there's a bowl over there, I'll pour the water out to find out," Matthew stated.

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Chapter 220 Veronica's Fainting Spell

He waved his hand once again to signal to Veronica not to step forward as he intended to face the danger by himself.

"Maybe... we should just give up looking. What if there's something that could harm both of us?" Veronica hesitated for quite some time as she was concerned that curiosity would kill the cat. Well, we're the cats in this case.

"We're stuck in a chamber right now and if there are any dangers lurking around that we don't know of, then that would be even more dangerous."

They were still unable to exit the chamber even at this moment.

Inside the chamber, they had discovered more than a set of skeletal remains. Although it was quite likely that these people had died from starvation or dehydration due to the lack of food and water here, they could not exactly rule out the possibility that other external factors were involved too.

If there was indeed some living creature in the jar that could potentially harm them, it would be better for them to know their enemies first before building a defense system.

"You're right." Veronica nodded and stood still in her original spot.

Matthew took a few steps forward toward the jar before he took a large bowl from the side. On the bottom of the bowl were three white circles, which gave off an aura of an antique porcelain bowl.

He placed two bowls on the table and he tilted his head slightly while holding onto the jar; subsequently, he put it down after slowly pouring the water out into the bowls.

The water in the two bowls bobbed slightly under the flickering candlelight before reverting to a calm state.

The water was as clear as crystal with some sparking bits seen in the water under the candlelight. The patterns at the bottom of the bowl were evidently seen and without any impurities.

Veronica tilted her head and stared intently at the two bowls from a distance, but nothing happened at all. At that point, her brows were tightly knitted. "What the heck. This is so strange! The water's too clear and it doesn't make sense at all. More importantly, there is nothing in the water, so what was it that made such a huge commotion earlier?"

As the situation created more mysteries and looser threads, the air was starting to feel eerie as chills ran down their spines.

Matthew approached the bowls gradually, but he continued to maintain a fair distance as he studied the water intently. However, nothing seemed weird or out of place. As the water barely moved, it felt that danger had completely dissipated.

As for Veronica, she was no longer as frightened as before; she walked forward to stand next to Matthew while muttering under her breath and staring at the two bowls of water. "They look like two regular bowls of water. The only strange thing is that the water is crystal clear with no impurities, seeing how it's been here for such a long time."

As she spoke, she took away the little knife in Matthew's hand and stirred the water with the tip of the blade.

"Ahhh!"

Suddenly, she screamed and threw the knife aside. Her left hand was rubbing the back of her right hand, which was holding onto the knife earlier, as if there was something stuck on her hand.

"Roni, what's wrong?"

Matthew instantly grabbed her and pulled her backward while keeping a tight grip onto her wrist. Immediately, he held her wrist up to study her right hand, only to then witness a terrifying sight. Unknown, pinkie-sized creatures were bulging out from the back of her hand and moving inside it!

“The knife! Knife! Matthew, hurry up and hand me the knife!” Veronica reacted almost instantaneously with the intent to pierce her skin open to remove the creatures within her.

“Okay!”

She turned around and quickly grabbed the knife by the side.

“Give me your hand,” Matthew spoke while holding on to her hand. Just as he was about to pierce her skin open to remove the creatures, the back of her hand suddenly returned to its usual state and there was nothing protruding on the back of her hand anymore.

Everything happened so quickly that it felt like a dream they just woke up from.

Veronica was dumbfounded as she remained stunned in place for quite some time. She reached out to touch the bulge from earlier but she no longer felt anything out of ordinary.

“Hey... M-Matthew... Am I... about to die?” She pursed her lips as she was about to go hysterical. “What is that thing—Ahh... It hurts—”

Before she could even finish her sentence, she suddenly reached out and clutched her head tightly. “It hurts! My head... My head hurts so badly, Matthew! I’m in so much pain...”

All of a sudden, the pain hit her whole body and her head felt as if it was about to break from the pain. She felt quite weak as she fell to the ground and curled up in pain. Initially, she clutched at her head with both hands but subsequently, she started to slap her head repetitively with both hands.

“It hurts... Help me... It hurts so much... Ugh... It’s painful...”

Veronica, who usually had a strong level of tolerance for everything, suddenly rolled on the floor in agony. The splitting pain in her head was unbearable for her; she ended up taking the drastic measure of banging her head onto the ground. Thud, thud, thud...

It felt as if eternity had gone by but in fact, this had merely occurred moments ago.

As Matthew saw her banging her head against the ground continuously, he instantly pulled her into his arms. “Roni, what’s wrong? Stop doing that. Here, you can bite on me!”

Intense pain could numb the brain and it was easy for one to accidentally bite on their tongue or, perhaps, injure themselves too.

An anxious Matthew was at a loss while watching everything unfolding so quickly and horribly before him. Without thinking much, he stuck his hand in front of Veronica’s mouth to let her bite on it to guarantee her safety.

“It hurts... Ugh... Ugh...” She could not stop the tears from rolling off her eyes. Within split seconds, her eyes reddened while her face looked no different to a possessed soul. It was horrific yet excruciating to watch.

Her legs thrashed uncontrollably as she continued to bang her head with one hand while holding Matthew’s hand with the other; the pain did not seem to subside even when she was biting him.

“Ouch!” The ripping pain spread to his arms and legs as Matthew clenched his teeth in pain, but he continued to stifle the pain and comforted her. “You can bite on my hand. It’s alright... Just... don’t... harm yourself...”

Judging from the way Veronica bit his hand so forcefully that his skin nearly ripped off, it was definite to say that she was in tremendous agony and pain that no one could ever imagine.

Although Veronica was in great torture, she had yet to completely lose her senses.

As soon as a metallic taste of blood filled her mouth, her brain—previously completely befuddled from the pain—was instantly reset, causing her to immediately release Matthew’s hand and push him aside. “Get away from me, now...”

Before Matthew could even get a word in edgewise, he realized that the body of the woman in his arms had gone limp as she collapsed subsequently. “Roni? Roni?”

The sudden situation shocked Matthew badly. Though he was normally composed and calm when faced with any situation, it was understandable that this time, he had lost his way of functioning; anxiety, torment and terror had completely taken over him.

At that moment, he reached out his finger under her nostrils before touching her neck to make sure her heart was still beating. Finally, he breathed a sigh of relief after getting a positive response.

He helped her into a supine position on the ground before heading in the direction of the jar to figure out the situation. He stood in front of the table and hesitated for a moment as his cold eyes scanned his bloody hands—his thenar muscles were badly bitten and there were two distinct rows of bite marks, allowing his raw flesh to expose.

Matthew could no longer resist his trembling hand as he stared at the blood trickling down endlessly. He lifted his hand and let droplets of blood drip into the two bowls. If you freaking creatures can hide under crystal-clear conditions, then I’m sure you’ll show up in no time when I contaminate it.

His blood trickled bit by bit into the bowl.

The water that had remained still earlier suddenly moved as it spluttered and splashed vigorously everywhere. It felt as if there were fishes in the bowls struggling for their life.

However, the situation did not only apply to the water in the bowls, but the water in the jar too! With that being said, the splashes did not feel the same as the splash of boiling water.

Matthew could not help but gasp as he turned around to look at Veronica lying on the ground. He remained silent for a moment before stretching his hand out to the bowls. If it's the water that hurt my Roni this way, then I have no choice but to figure out what's in it.

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 221

Chapter 221 The Creature's Dead

Matthew originally thought that by stretching his hand out, he would experience the same thing as Veronica—unknown creatures crawling under his skin. However, he reached out and nothing happened at all.

The crystal clear water became tinged in red due to his blood and the water continued to splash all over the place as if there was a torrential rain going on.

He placed his hand by the side of the bowl and waited for quite some time; still, nothing happened. After some hesitation, he placed his hand into the bowl directly.

Water's cold.

It turned out that the cold water was the only thing that stood out, leaving it to be the same as any other plain water.

He waited for quite some time and not only did he fail to experience the pain that he was expecting, the water in both the bowls and jar also stopped splashing around. The noise gradually died down and so did the ripple on the surface before it gradually returned to a calm state.

At that point, Matthew's expression turned somber as he frowned deeply because the situation had made him perplexed. What the heck is going on?

Veronica had merely touched the edge of the bowl with her hand, after which some creatures immediately latched onto her skin and burrowed themselves into her body.

So, Roni touched it and she got hurt, but when I do it, nothing happens? Or did I just accidentally kill off all these creatures with my blood? Blood that destroyed their ecosystem of living.

Everything was merely a guess and before it could be confirmed, no one would know the exact reason.

He removed the necktie from his neck and wrapped it around the place where his thenar muscles were heavily bitten by Veronica.

He turned around and went back to her side but she remained unconscious on the ground.

"Roni? Roni?"

Matthew gently patted Veronica on her cheeks but she gave no response at all.

Worried that this would continue, he took a seat on the ground and gently placed her head on his lap before reaching out to press on her philtrum.

He counted the seconds. One... Two... Six seconds went by before the unconscious woman showed signs of regaining consciousness. Her eyes twitched and her eyelashes fluttered as she slowly came to her senses.

While still feeling befuddled, Veronica leaned on his lap weakly and opened her eyes to look at him intently. "Where am I..."

"We are trapped in a chamber and you fell unconscious before this."

Matthew knew that Veronica was momentarily dazed due to the intense pain in her head from before.

The weakened lady considered the situation for a moment before she finally recalled everything that had occurred prior to this.

She reached out and touched her head while lamenting, "Goodness. I'm so lucky to be alive. I thought that I was gonna die here."

"Villains always live on. I think it would take more than this to kill you," he teased her in hope to ease the tension and provide some comfort to her.

However, as soon as he noticed that the wound on her head—from the excessive banging—was now bleeding, he felt uneasy for her. "Does your head still hurt?"

"It's fine; it doesn't hurt. I just feel stripped of energy."

Veronica held onto his hand and sat upright. Her head was hung low as she tried to get back into her usual state.

After quite some time, she finally stood up from the ground, but perhaps it was because of the earlier ordeal that she stumbled slightly. Matthew reacted fast enough and quickly went forward to assist her. "How do you feel?"

"I'm fine, I'm alright."

Veronica waved to brush him off as she headed toward the side of the table.

However, before she could even get close to the table, Matthew dragged her back. "Don't go near that. It's too dangerous."

"Let go of me," she warned as she flung his hands off. "I wanna have a good f*cking look at what really f*cked me up so bad earlier."

After the unknown creatures burrowed into her body, it first started off as a tingle; then, the tingle turned into hell. It was so excruciating that perhaps death was even more relaxed than this.

Bang!

She had only gently waved her hand, but suddenly there was a loud noise behind her.

Veronica turned around, only to find that Matthew was thrown far back into the distance. His body landed against the bookshelves with a thud and each row toppled over as all the books were strewn on the ground; the place was a mess.

"You... I..." She frowned with a confused look. "I didn't even exert any force. Y-You better not blame this on me!"

Though Veronica said that, she remained quite confused as she lowered her head to look at her hands. She was very certain that she had not exerted any force at all earlier on.

Meanwhile, the battered man stood up amongst the pile of books while covered in dust, looking rather roughed up.

Matthew reached out his hand to his chest as he looked at Veronica searchingly. He could somewhat sense that something was different with her, but he shook his head in consolation. "It's alright. I just lost my balance earlier. It had nothing to do with you."

Does it really have nothing to do with me? Earlier on, she had only gestured by moving her hands, but he could clearly sense that her force had suddenly increased.

This reaction felt slightly odd. No... To be specific, it feels very strange.

"You're too weak." Veronica snorted coldly without giving much thought to the incident earlier. She turned around to look at the two bowls and all of a sudden, she decided to reach out to them once again like a mad woman.

"Stop messing around!"

He quickly stepped forward and grabbed her hand. "You were in an extremely dangerous state earlier on!"

"Gosh! I realize that. Let go of me."

Veronica pushed his hand once again, but the same force that she exerted this time did not have the same effect on Matthew as before.

She glared at him furiously. "I just want to find out what's inside. That creature, which sneaked into my body earlier, could have easily poisoned me by now and I might be on the brink of death! I wanna know how I'll die before I actually die!"

No one realized the extent of Veronica's feelings and complicated thoughts at that time. She pursed her lips and muttered, "I need more time with my parents. If anything happens to me today, they will be left all alone. Do you have any idea how terrible that'd be?"

"Enough!" Matthew angrily retorted, "I won't let anything happen to you!"

As he spoke, he pointed to the two bowls. "I've tried it earlier. The creatures inside didn't react at all. Since you're injured, you shouldn't touch them anymore. Once we get out of this place safely, I'll send my men to bring these to be analyzed at a laboratory. With how advanced the world is right now, you don't have to worry because I will definitely find a solution to treat you."

He vowed, She's my woman and I will stop at nothing to keep her safe.

"I..."

Veronica frowned and glanced at the two bowls tinged red. "Why is it tinged red inside? Did you drip blood into it?"

"Yeah. I was hurt earlier, so I came over to try adding blood into it to see if the creatures would react to me. In the end, nothing odd happened up till now."

"Are you out of your mind?! How could you put yourself in danger after seeing what has happened to me?! Are you alright?"

Never in a thousand years did she expect that Matthew would actually resort to such a crazy move. She could not believe that he would land himself in such ultimate danger despite witnessing the torment she just went through.

Is he unafraid of death?! She was shocked and completely stunned. But mostly, she was touched by his actions.

Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 222

Chapter 222 Matthew's Infected Wound

As soon as Matthew mentioned that, the previously unaware Veronica instantly realized that he had a necktie wrapped around his hand while his wound was bandaged half-heartedly.

"What happened to your hand?"

She was full of doubt as she headed to stand in front of him and pulled his hand toward her to take a closer look. "Did I bite on your hand earlier?"

"I'm alright."

He withdrew his hand to prevent her from further worrying and he did not want her to feel guilty or blame herself either. However, he seemed to have been presumptuous.

"You deserve it!" she snorted coldly. "This is just a minor bite wound. In the past, I was forced to the point of mis..."

The incident of her miscarriage popped into her mind and she could not help feeling annoyed all of a sudden.

Veronica experienced a bad hemorrhage during that miscarriage and nearly lost her life. If it was not for her luck, she would quite likely have died ages ago at this point. Nonetheless, this was all in the past, so she no longer wanted to bring up unnecessary matters.

She looked at the two bowls of water tinged with blood and suggested, "Let's make a mark here and once we leave this place, get someone to analyze it to figure out what's exactly inside."

"I was just about to do that." Matthew's voice sounded exceptionally tender.

Perhaps it was because there were some feelings of guilt and self-blame that arose within him after hearing Veronica's unfinished sentence.

"Let's go." She turned around and walked out of the study room while Matthew trailed closely behind her.

They made their way around the massive chamber. In fact, it was better described as a maze than a chamber.

There were many rooms inside; there was a huge clubhouse, a study room, a bedroom and a room for producing pharmaceuticals. Furthermore, after exploring the place further, they found an armory too.

However, the weapons stored inside the armory were mostly from the ancient days. They seemed meaningful but due to their age, it was pretty much worthless even if they were auctioned.

They continued to explore the place for quite some time until Veronica finally ended up exhausted. She waved before she could proceed further. "I can't keep going. I'm knackered! I need a rest."

As they did not have any water to drink or food to eat and she had also used up a lot of her energy, she was quite exhausted and stumbled weakly before sitting on the ground. She lay down to rest without a care of the dusty ground.

"This place is too dirty. I'll find you a room to take a rest instead." Matthew squatted by her side and spoke tenderly.

"No, I'm tired. I don't want to move."

She shut her eyes and waved her hands at him. Right now, all she wanted was to take a long nap.

When Matthew saw her in such a weak and worn-out state, he patted her shoulders out of empathy. "Come on, get up. I'll give you a piggyback ride." He had his back facing her when he turned around to invite her.

The exhausted Veronica finally opened her eyes lazily and asked with anticipation, "Are you really going to give me a piggyback?"

"Yeah."

He then signaled to her to hop on by using his eyes.

She looked at his wide shoulders and a cunning look flashed across her eyes just then. She sat up and immediately clung to his back. "Since you're keen on giving me a piggyback, then I'll be nice and give you the chance to do so. I have to remind you, though. You're the one who offered, so don't blame me if you end up hurt."

Regardless of whether Matthew's kindness was genuine or half-hearted, Veronica would never let go of the chance to take a break.

Although they could not contact the outside world with their cell phones at the moment, their watches were functioning normally.

It was now 3.00AM and they had been walking around in the chamber for twelve hours straight. They were in a dehydrated state and could no longer find the energy in them to continue moving.

Veronica clung to his back as he slowly rose to his feet. Not only did he not find her heavy, he actually felt that she could gain more weight. He found that she was gaunt and reckoned that she really needed some nourishment.

Matthew supported her body by placing his hands on her backside as she clung to him like a koala with one hand around his neck while she used the other hand to hold the lamp.

Inside the chamber, which was now a maze, they searched the place carefully several times and finally found some candles that came with a candle holder. As such, the candlelight would not easily be extinguished due to the slight breeze produced by their movements.

Veronica leaned on his strong back and shut her eyes comfortably. "I really don't know when we'll be able to leave this place. If we get out of here, I swear that I'll live a decent life from now on and maintain doing good deeds."

“Villains live on forever, remember? That’s the perfect description of you, so you don’t have to worry about dying anytime soon.”

“Hahaha! I guess so. I agree with that.” Her spirits were lifted as she heard his banter.

However, it did not take too long for her to fall asleep on Matthews’ back as they had been walking for the past ten hours!

She hung the lamp on her hand, causing the lamp shade to bump against his body and he could somehow still make do with the dim surroundings and move along ahead.

The woman on his back nodded off as her head bobbed up and down; at times, she nearly fell off his back too.

At last, Matthew found a bedroom with a bare stone bed which he could use to gently lay Veronica down. He gingerly supported her to prevent her from bumping into anything.

The stone bed was full of dust; as bad as the condition there was, they were still faced with a dire situation right now, so they had to make do with what they had. He quickly placed the coat he was wearing over her to ensure that she was comfortably resting.

As Matthew looked at Veronica deep asleep, he left the lamp by her bedside before lighting another lamp to search for a source of water and the way out.

He was worried that she would wake up lost without his presence, so he clicked into the note function on his phone and wrote, ‘I’ve gone to look for a water source. Don’t leave this place when you’ve woken up.’

After that, he changed his phone settings to remove the password option. Subsequently, he opened the page to his note function, so that she could easily see the note given.

She remained in deep sleep for eight hours in total.

During this period, Matthew attempted to wake Veronica up but despite his efforts, she remained deep asleep. He was worried that something would go wrong with her health, so he felt her forehead from time to time and checked her breathing regularly. He was distressed that things might suddenly go south.

They were located underground and it was late at night, so the temperature dropped significantly.

He searched around the area and finally found a water source, after which he took some containers to fill it with some water before bringing it back into the room. Once that was done, he placed it by her bedside.

As time passed, Matthew waited for Veronica to wake up, but she remained asleep. He noticed her curling into a fetal position due to the cold, so he lay by her side and took her into his arms.

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The next time she woke up, it was about 12.00PM the following day.

She opened her eyes to instantly see Matthew’s enlarged face by her side. However, his previously handsome looks were now slightly pale.

He held her in his arms and she could clearly sense the heat radiating from his body.

“Matthew?” she called out his name, but he did not respond.

At that moment, her heart skipped a beat, knowing that something did not feel right.

She reached out to feel his forehead and indeed, he was running a fever.

Veronica swiftly checked the injury on his palm from the bite that she had given him and noticed that the area was still bleeding. There was no sign of blood clots being formed or the wound recovering.

“Darn it.”

She realized that Matthews’ wound had likely been infected, hence his fever.

She sat up on the stone bed and looked at the unconscious Matthew while her heart thudded frantically; she was anxious.

He would not be able to survive for more than a few days if they remained stuck here. If his infection persisted, then it would be a nightmare.

Then, Veronica reached out to clutch her hair anxiously as helplessness and despair washed across her.

They had already explored the place for such a long time and yet, they had not managed to find the way out.

Perhaps it was likely that they had already found the spot to get out, but a specific mechanism was needed to be unlocked first. Therefore, even if they were standing right next to the entrance, there was no way that they could get out.