

## **Be Gentle 1021**

### **Chapter 1021**

Crawford Mansion was in chaos.

Since the thief had yet to be caught, Susan clamored in front of Old Master Crawford every day to complain about Luke. She said that Luke was not taking it seriously and he only cared about his own happiness, not caring about Thea's injury at all.

Old Master Crawford was upset by her never-ending rambling, so he summoned the family and invited them to the mansion for dinner.

Luke went back with Bianca and the kids. They walked into the living room and noticed Susan, who was alone in the living room.

Bianca sighed and prepared herself for another storm.

"Lanie, Rainie, go upstairs to do your homework. If there's something that you don't understand, make a note of it and I'll come up to help you with it later." Bianca handed the school bags to the twins. There were certain matters that she did not want to involve the kids in.

Blanche and Rainie nodded and carried their school bags upstairs.

Tommy eagerly called out to Susan, "Grandma Susan!"

Susan responded with a stern expression and looked at Luke closely.

Their family was so harmonious that it made her jealous. Everyone was under the same roof on the day of the incident but Thea was the one who got hurt.

Thea's condition had stabilized and she was getting better day by day, Susan could not find peace until the thief had been

did your level of efficiency become so bad?" Susan went straight into questioning him, ignoring the presence of the

expression remained neutral as he said to Bianca, "My love, please take

more than willing to deal with matters as such alone. He did not need Bianca to be by

was aware of his intentions and did not want to add to his stress. She said to Tommy, "Tommy, let's go upstairs to watch cartoons,

to say that there was also a TV downstairs and they could watch cartoons here, but upon seeing Susan's gloomy expression, he nodded and followed

Bianca and the kids went upstairs, Luke sat opposite Susan and said, "Susan, the matter is

been procrastinating? It's been so long since the break-in and Thea has been suffering in the hospital yet you haven't found anything useful. Are you trying to drag it out? Could it be that you're in cahoots with the thief?" Susan was filled with wrath and started making wild guesses because she had not heard anything

turned gloomy in

you have doubts about my ability, you can wait for the police to finish their investigation. I'm running a separate investigation alongside the police. Both sides are working on it at the same time," he explained as patiently as

*Susan* was triggered by his response and pointed at him while shouting, "You're finally willing to tell the truth! You're deliberately dragging out the investigation to buy time for the thief! Are you happy that Thea is hurt? You and the thief are partners in *crime!*"

**Her tone** changed from questioning to *affirmative*.

**Luke** was running out of patience and did not care about what she thought. When he stood up and wanted to leave, Old Master Crawford came downstairs.

He had overheard the entire conversation. Old Master Crawford was exasperated that Susan said such things. She was acting like a child rather than a respectful adult. He scolded her with a sullen expression, "What nonsense are you talking about?"

"Dad, did you hear what he said just now? He told me to wait for the police! This is your 'good' grandson, the one you have high hopes for! If the police are useful, why do we need him to investigate the matter?!" Susan was arrogant and unreasonable. All she wanted was for Luke to fall from grace in front of Old Master Crawford.

Old Master Crawford had heard what Luke just said as well. Although Luke had not shown Susan any respect, it was not as bad as she made it out to be. He stared at Susan and said, "Are you done causing trouble?"

Susan thought that she finally had something on Luke and refused to let go of it. "Dad, I'm not trying to cause trouble. Maybe... he worked with outsiders to steal your antiques. Crawford Manor had a break-in the same day he came back. How could there be such a *coincidence?*"

It was a coincidence, and thankfully, Old Master Crawford was not swayed by her. He knocked on the floor with his cane and shouted, "Shut **up!**"

**Susan** felt wronged. Old Master Crawford was partial to Luke no matter **what**.

Luke steal things from the manor? Do you think that he needs the money? The cash that he has on him now is more than what you have in your bank account. Thea is Louis' child and Luke loves Louis. Do you think he would do anything to harm Leia?" Old Master Crawford was annoyed

was a troublemaker. She would pick a fight whenever she saw Allison

Crawford was so tired that he had even considered dividing the family properties after the matter was

the tears from the corner of her eyes and went on to talk about Thea. "Dad, Thea is still in the hospital. I can't bear to watch her suffer. She's a sweet child and might have to live the rest of her life with a scar on her head. How can I feel at ease when the thief is still out

police are not able to find him either." Although Old Master Crawford felt bad for Thea, he was well aware of the situation. If the police could not find anything, Luke would need some time to investigate the matter

dares to steal from Crawford Manor won't be someone simple. Give it some time, and I don't ever want to hear you spewing nonsense again. Luke will get to the bottom of it." Old Master Crawford warned her in case she went on

that the thief had yet been caught, the Crawford family was the center of attention in A City. No one felt safe with the thief still out

aggrieved. Luke had given her hope when he asked someone to assist in the investigation. However, she had waited for so long and the case was still open. Hence, she lost her patience and thought he had no intention

the status of the investigation?" Old Master Crawford stopped looking at her and turned his focus to Luke

under investigation." Luke did not share any details of the investigation. There were a lot of people in the Crawford family and if something was revealed prematurely, it may affect the

## **Chapter 1022**

"I'm not struggling!" Rainie made a face at Blanche as she slowly did her homework.

Blanche shook his head indifferently and played with the trinkets on the table.

Luke watched by the side as his daughter finished the last question. She then handed her workbook to Bianca. "Mom, I'm done."

Bianca checked and found that there was no problem with it. She then signed her name at the bottom of the page.

"Mommy, Daddy, can I go play?" Rainie asked while blinking her big round eyes.

"Go for it, but don't go out of control." Bianca agreed and helped them put their workbooks in their school bags.

Rainie and Blanche walked out of the study.

Bianca put the school bags aside. She only felt comfortable talking about the break-in after the children left.

"Did Grandpa blame you?" She put her hand on the back of his hand and asked with concern.

Luke grabbed her hand and rubbed her fingers lightly as he replied, "No."

Bianca knew that Old Master Crawford was a reasonable man. However, this was not a trivial matter and she was worried that the old man would blame Luke.

Only she, who was always by his side, knew that Luke had invested a lot of time on the Crawford family and T Corporation. Sometimes, he would accompany her to bed and after she fell asleep, he would

quietly go to the study to work overtime. He only went back to the bedroom to sleep for two hours before the break of dawn.

distressed for him but could not say anything. 'Heavy is the head that wears the

working so hard and being so exhausted, she only had one thought. She would match his footsteps and help him in

caretaker knocked on the door and walked in. She said respectfully, "Master, Madam, Old Master Crawford has asked me to inform you that dinner

Luke took Bianca's hand, stood up, and

at the dining table was tense. Susan wanted to act out but dared not with Old Master Crawford

Yuri were taking care of Thea in the hospital. They were not eating nor sleeping well. Susan was frustrated at the thought, and after having two bites, she put down her utensils and said,

Master Crawford ignored her. Susan left the dining room with her blood

got some greens for Tommy and watched him enjoy the food. He was the happiest out of everyone at the

I have some meat?" Tommy said, not satisfied that she only took vegetables for

placed two pieces of fish on

Tommy continued to eat.

Crawford took a sip of whisky and found it tasteless. He put down his utensils and asked, "Luke, what has your mother been up

*Luke paused*, his expression remaining neutral as he asked, "What's **wrong?**"

"**I asked** the butler to invite her for dinner today but the call didn't go through. Is she busy lately?" Old Master Crawford asked. He was furious that Allison did not answer a call from the **manor**.

'**Allison** is rich and thinks that she can disrespect me like **that?!'**

"I don't know." Luke took a sip of the soup. He and Gordan Norton had gotten someone to monitor Allison while the investigation was going **on**.

The person told them that Allison had been in the villa for the past few days, not going out at **all**.

This was out of the ordinary.

Allison would hang out with other socialites whenever she had the time. It was rare for her to stay home for several days in a *row*.

Old Master Crawford knew that Luke had his hands full with work but he still said to him earnestly, "She's your mother. Check-in on her when you have the time. Else, people *may gossip*."

"I will, Grandpa." Luke agreed to his *request*.

**After dinner**, Old Master Crawford skipped watching the news and went back to his bedroom after walking around the living room for a while. He said that he **was tired**.

Bianca sat beside Luke and watched cartoons with the children.

her head on his broad shoulder. She thought of what Old Master Crawford said at the dinner table and asked, "What do you think Grandpa was

rare for Old Master Crawford to mention Allison's name since she moved

didn't answer the phone so Grandpa is angry." Luke took out his phone and called

rang five times before it was connected. "What can I do for

leaned on his shoulder and heard Allison's voice on the other end of the phone. If it had been in the past, Allison would be enthusiastic upon receiving Luke's call. Her voice was different now, and Bianca could tell that she

much. We had a family dinner tonight and Grandpa asked why you didn't answer the phone." Luke glanced at Bianca and held

paused. It turned out that the butler had called her about this. When her phone rang earlier in the day, she thought it was because they had found evidence against

was relieved that it was not the case and replied, "So what? In your eyes, I'm not a member of the Crawford family anyway. Is there anything else that you want to talk about? Else, I'll hang

the butler called, she had been in a constant state of worry. She feared that the police would come over and cause her

that she had received a call from Luke, she was relieved to find out the

stopped talking, and Allison just hung

was on the side, was massaging her shoulders. "Madam, did your

## **Chapter 1023**

The next day, which happened to be Saturday, Bianca went to pick up a fancy fruit basket. After returning to the manor, she set off to Allison's residence with Luke.

In the car, Tommy muttered, "Daddy, Mommy, you promised to take me to the amusement park. Why are we going to Grandma's house?"

The plan to take the kids to the amusement park was put on hold for a while because of Luke and Bianca's busy schedules.

Fortunately, Tommy was an understanding and considerate child. He was just a little emotional because he had been waiting for so long.

Bianca and Luke looked at each other and discussed in a low voice, "Are you going to work tomorrow?"

"No," Luke replied.

"Should we go to the amusement park tomorrow?" Bianca discussed it with him.

"Sounds good." Luke agreed. It was worth taking a day off to spend it with his family.

Bianca looked at Tommy, who was puffing out his cheeks. He was grumpy from being woken up earlier and at them for not keeping their promise. She smiled and coaxed him, saying, "Tommy, let's go tomorrow, okay?"

"Mommy, really? You're not lying to me?" Tommy opened his eyes and grinned. It was easy to coax kids out of their bad moods.

"I'm not lying. We'll go to the amusement park tomorrow," Bianca said. Although it was not the best timing, Luke and Bianca did not want their children to wait too long.

As parents, they had to lead by example.

Tommy clapped his hands happily and said, "You're the best parents ever!"

turned her head and glanced at the side of the road. They were five minutes away from the mansion where

see Grandma later, please greet her and don't touch anything, okay?" Bianca told

obsessive-compulsive traits and was very sensitive about others touching her belongings without

Mom." Blanche and Rainie agreed to her

the car arrived in front of Allison's mansion, Luke got out of the car and pressed

Elsa who answered the door. Her heart was beating like a drum when she saw Luke standing at the entrance. "Mr. Crawford, are you here to see Madam

she here?" Luke took a step back and looked at Elsa with a calm

was a little surprised that Allison would hire such a young woman to serve her. She had always been reluctant to admit the fact that she was getting old, so the people she hired were all middle-aged people as they made her seem younger in

she's here. Come in!" Elsa looked at Luke fanatically and thought that he looked much more handsome in

the gate so that his car could get

sat in the driver's seat, drove into the mansion, and stopped in the parking

the kids out of the car. Only then did Elsa realize that Luke's wife had come along with

*Elsa* felt jealous when she saw Bianca's delicate and elegant features. 'This woman is living a good life. She's good-looking and married such an astonishing **man**.'

"*Sir, Madam*, Madam Allison is having breakfast now. Please follow me." Elsa put away her emotions, took the gifts they were holding, and walked in front to lead the way.

Tommy hopped around while holding Bianca's hand. When he saw more of the luxurious mansion, he said, "Mommy, Grandma lives in such a big mansion by herself. Isn't she afraid?"

"Shhh." Bianca made a gesture to Tommy to signal him to keep quiet.

This was her first time in Allison's mansion, which was larger and more luxurious than the one where the family lived.

When everyone thought that Luke had an accident, Allison took the money that Luke allocated for her and bought this mansion. Bianca also heard rumors that Allison went into a bidding war for this mansion and ended up spending a lot of money.

Bianca knew that it was not her place to say anything. After all, the money did belong to Allison.

Tommy took the hint and stopped talking.

Elsa walked into the dining room, smiled, and said, "Madam, your son and daughter-in-law have come to visit you."

Allison panicked the instant she heard that Luke and Bianca were here. She asked, "Why are they here?"

Elsa saw her panicked look and was confused. She replied, "They're in the living room now. Madam, your grandchildren are so beautiful."

She was telling the truth. She rarely saw children as adorable.

was upset and overwhelmed with guilt. When Luke visited in the past without prompt, she used to be overjoyed. However, considering that there were a lot of antiques hidden in her mansion at that moment, she wanted the family to stay as far away as

waved her hand and said, "Put these

Madam." Elsa immediately put away the plates on the

to the living room and looked at Luke and Bianca with a blank expression. Her tone was sharp as she said, "Aren't you busy? Why are you free to drop

explained with a smile, "Mother-in-law, Luke bought you a fruit basket. It has your favorite

need it." Allison was still expressionless, but she was extremely flustered on the inside. She was forcing herself to hold

surprised at this change in attitude from

and Blanche looked at each other. They said sweetly, "Grandma, we missed you so

looked at the children's cute faces, she was still thinking about the antiques. Although they were locked in a safe and Luke was probably not aware of it, she just could not calm herself down. Hence, she covered her forehead with her hand and pretended to be sick. "I'm not feeling well today. If you have nothing else to talk about,

Allison was not willing to back down, Bianca looked at Luke helplessly. This was possibly the angriest Bianca had ever

had put in the effort to get Luke to come over and make peace, but Allison's attitude was

his hands in his pockets and looked at Allison who was acting abnormally. He asked, "You took the box that Dad left,

## **Chapter 1024**

Bianca touched Rainie's head and did not answer her question. Instead, she asked, "Rainie, do you want to go to class later?"

Rainie and Lanie had extracurricular classes planned for the day, but to make Allison happy, Bianca took a leave of absence for them and brought them to Allison's place instead.

However, Allison was pulling a long face and was not welcoming, so she planned to leave after Luke took the box.

Rainie did not think too much about it and nodded, saying, "Okay, Mommy."

"I'm going too," Blanche said. If it were not for his mother's request, he would already be in his extracurricular class.

Elsa brought out a pot of tea and walked to the living room. She saw Bianca still standing there and greeted her, "Madam, take a seat and have a cup of tea."

Bianca shook her head and replied, "No, we're leaving soon."

When Bianca said that, Elsa glanced at the children with a smile while saying, "Okay, I'll go back to the kitchen first. If there's anything you need, let me know."

Bianca nodded and watched her walk away with coquetry. She wondered in her heart whether Elsa was really a caretaker.

Upstairs.

Luke's legs were longer than Allison's, so he quickly arrived at the second floor. He had not been here before and tried to open the doors of each room.

He saw Allison's bedroom, the guest room, and her vanity room. Even though he opened the doors, he did not go in. He was just looking for the study.

Finally, in the penultimate room at the end of the corridor, he stopped and twisted the doorknob. He found that the door of this room was locked.

arrived angrily and looked at him with her hands on her waist. "Luke, what are you doing? This is not the Crawford Manor nor

at her with a chilly expression and said, "This is the study,

was familiar with the layout of a mansion like this. The last room would usually be a common bathroom. Allison's mansion had only two floors, and none of the rooms he visited earlier were the study. Hence, he was sure this was

bit her red lip, her expression a



did you lock the study? Is there something important inside?" Luke asked. Of all the rooms in her mansion, this was the only room that was locked. It was indeed

you think can be inside? I want to have collectibles too, but unfortunately, you're an unfilial son. Even if I want to collect something, I don't have the money for it," Allison said with a stubborn expression, her tone filled with complaints about

to take my father's box." Luke stood aside and waited for her to open the

did not move as if she had not heard what he

raised his eyebrows, put his big palm on the doorknob, and

The doorknob made a 'click' sound.

startled. Luke wanted to use brute force and break the door lock. Passive resistance was useless, so she slapped his hand and said, "Don't break

she took a key from her pocket and opened the door to the

only one key for this door, and she kept it on her to prevent Elsa and Elsie from entering the study. If Luke broke the lock and she could not lock the door after, it would cause even more trouble

**Although no** one knew that there were antiques worth hundreds of millions of dollars hidden in the safe inside the study, Allison was still cautious.

**These antiques** were valuable. They were *her lifeline!*

**Allison** walked in, took out a box from the drawer of the desk, and handed it to Luke. "This is the box your dad left you. I haven't touched the contents inside. Take it and leave *quickly.*"

She expressed her hostility.

**Luke picked** up the sandalwood box and glanced at the study. The bookshelves were full of books, but they were all bought by Allison for appearance's sake. The books were all brand new as though they had never been flipped *through.*

*Apart from* that, there were no other luxurious furnishings. He glanced at the huge safe in the corner and then walked out of the **study.**

*Allison walked* out and locked the door of the *study.*

Luke glanced back.

**She was** frightened by his gaze and put the key back in her pocket. She asked, "What are you looking *at?*"

"Your safe is a new product that was developed earlier this year. It's imported from Germany." Luke finished speaking and turned around to leave.

Allison was stunned.

*The safe* in the study was one of the most advanced in the world. Without a password, there was no other way to open it except *with explosives*.

addition, there were infrared detectors and alarms on the four corners of the safe. If someone touched it and did not enter the password within five seconds, the alarm would sound. If the correct password was not keyed in within five minutes, the alarm would automatically make a report to the nearest police

normal circumstances, such advanced products were not used

dizzy as she watched Luke leave. She did not go downstairs but returned to her bedroom while rubbing thought that having a kid meant her future would be secured, but she failed to raise a son who could provide for her. Not only did she have to earn her own money but she also had to be alert around

a splitting headache and lay on the

downstairs, walked to Bianca's side, and said,

noded. Looking at the sandalwood box in his hand, she wondered why he had not mentioned this box when he had been back a long time

seemed to her that the box was just an excuse for him to come

Luke drove Blanche and Rainie to their extracurricular classes, he drove

murmured that he was sleepy. Bianca sat in the backseat, placed Tommy in her arms, and let him fall asleep in

car drove for a while, Luke broke the silence. "There's an imported safe in her study. It was just launched earlier this

a security company had recommended it to him before, but Luke did not have much of an interest in collecting precious goods, so he did not buy it. However, he was well aware of what this safe

and expressed her suspicion, "Are you saying that the antiques are in her

## **Chapter 1025**

Bianca watched Luke drive away and closed the door of the villa.

She had a hunch that the truth behind the break-in of Crawford Manor would soon be revealed.

"Mommy?" Tommy woke up in her arms.

Seeing that Tommy had woken up, Bianca put him on the ground and touched his little head as she said, "You're up? Do you want to have some fruit?"

"Yeah!" Tommy looked around and did not see Luke, so he asked, "Where's Daddy?"

"He has something to attend to and has to go back to the company." Bianca took his hand and walked into the living room.

When he heard that, Tommy became nervous and asked, "Will Daddy be busy tomorrow?"

Bianca took out an apple from the refrigerator. She smiled and promised Tommy. "Don't worry, no matter how busy we are tomorrow, we're taking you to the amusement park."

Tommy clapped his hands happily. He stood by the side while waiting for Bianca to peel and cut the apples into slices. He picked up a slice and said as he ate, "Thank you, Mommy."

Seeing Tommy's lively and cute appearance, Bianca felt grateful that Tommy had not left his bedroom in the middle of the night on the day of the incident.

She sat on the sofa and felt a sense of warmth as she looked at Tommy eating an apple. Suddenly, her phone rang.

Bianca glanced at it and saw that it was a string of unfamiliar numbers. She answered the call. "Hello, who's calling?"

"Sister, this is Leia!" Leia's voice came from the other end of the phone.

stunned that Leia was

smart and did not use her phone to make this call because she was worried that Bianca would not answer it if she saw her name. Instead, she used Brody's

Bianca asked in a calm tone, "What's

never reach out if she did not need something. Even if she needed something, it would take a lot for her to reach out to

straightforwardly, "Sister, can you accompany me to try on wedding dresses

frowned. She did not expect that Leia would actually want her to get involved. Leia did not seem like the forgiving

Monday. I can't deal with the weekend crowd, so I plan to go on Monday, but all of my friends have to work. Bea, please go with me and share your opinions. You've been married before so you'd know what kind of wedding dress is the most comfortable to wear. I have faith in you." Leia did not give her a chance to refuse and blurted everything out in one breath. "So, it's decided. Monday, Mishal Bridal Shop. I'll see you

Bianca could reply, the call was

She massaged her forehead and sighed.

happened? Are you feeling unwell?" Tommy leaned against her when he saw her react as such and asked with

her head and handed him a slice of apple as she said, "I'm okay. Here, have another slice of  
took it and continued

...

The other side.

Luke drove to T Corporation. It was a weekend, so there were no other employees there except the security guards.

*Gordan* was sitting on the sofa in the lobby of the company with his legs crossed. He was waiting for Luke. When he saw Luke walking over, Gordan stood up and said, "Ugh. You asked me to come over as soon as possible, but you're late! What did you find out?"

"*Let's talk upstairs.*" Luke walked to the exclusive elevator and pressed the *button*.

*Although there* was no one in the lobby, there were security guards patrolling the building all the time. Before they could confirm the details of what had happened, he did not want others to be **involved**.

**Gordan stood** up, yawned, and followed him.

In the office.

**Gordan sat** on the sofa and sighed, "You sure know how to enjoy life. This leather sofa that's imported from Italy is so *comfortable*."

"When this is done and dusted, I'll get you one." Luke turned on the computer.

Gordan gave a thumbs up and replied, "What a great friend! I'll make sure I cover all grounds with this investigation. I won't accuse a good person, but I won't let a bad **person go!**"

"*Let's talk business.*" Luke sat on the executive chair and looked at his friend. "I went to her mansion today."

did you find?" Gordan became more alert. He was sure that Luke summoned him over because he had discovered

one suspicious place—the study of the mansion, which contains a safe imported from Germany. It's the latest product,"

raised his eyebrows. He knew about safes like that. These high-tech products were challenging to even world-renowned thieves, who would not be able to crack the safes before the alarm went

price of a product like this matched its top-notch

rubbed his hands and said, "Even if I sneak in, I won't be able to crack the code. Can't I get explosives to blow up the

at him with a cold

and realized that he was being silly. He said cheekily, "Of course not. I'll continue to figure out how to get her dashcam

and said, "Have you thought about how we're going to find the

antiques have not appeared on the black market. If... If this matter has something to do with your mother and we want to find the thief, I'm afraid you'll have to start with the cash that she took. We need to get our hands on her dashcam, but it's a bit difficult considering that she doesn't go out," Gordan frowned and

never seen a rich lady staying at home all

was typing on the keyboard, writing some emails. Hearing the distress in Gordan's voice, Luke said, "You can figure it out

me jump through hoops for this leather sofa. She's your mother, do you have any ideas? I would prefer it if I didn't have to sneak it. The security system in her villa is quite good, I can't do it without backup," Gordan said with his legs crossed in front

## **Chapter 1026**

Hearing that, Gordan did not tease him any further. He glanced at the time, stood up, and said, "Send me the address of the workshop, I'll head there now."

Luke sent him a location on Whatsapp and said, "Let me know as soon as you hear anything."

"You have my word," Gordan assured.

Gordan arrived at the workshop and successfully found Allison's car. While the staff was not paying attention, he removed the dashcam. In order not to alert Allison, he installed another one in her car.

After everything was done, Gordan left without any of the staff noticing.

After he returned to the hotel, he ignored Vivian, who was waiting for him on the sofa, and went straight back to the room. He closed the door, connected the dashcam to the computer, and started working on it.

After importing all the data, Gordan sent Luke a text: [The dashcam has been obtained and we'll find out more tomorrow.]

When he was done sending the text, there was a knock on the door.

Gordan was happy with the progress, but the moment he heard the knock on the door, his expression immediately became stern. He did not intend to pay any attention to it.

Vivian continued to knock on the door.

Gordan had no choice but to open the door. He looked at her ugly face indifferently and felt even worse. "What are you doing?!"

Vivian still had a smile on her face as she looked at the man who just yelled at her. She reminded him, "Gordan, the hotel sent lunch over."

hungry." Gordan closed the door and planned to

anxious and stretched her feet out to block the doorway. Tears welled up in her eyes when the door slammed her

lowered his head and saw her foot swelling up at a speed visible to the naked eye. He did not expect her to block the door with her foot. He had slammed the door with all his might, so she was probably in a lot of

you stupid?" An unexplainable feeling suddenly rose in his heart and Gordan could not help but yell at her

fought to hold back the tears. Gordan had once told her that other women looked pitiful when they were crying but she looked like

put on a small smile and looked at him, saying, "Gordan, I ordered your favorite filet steak. I heard that the filet steak here is cooked by a chef from Brazil. It's delicious and authentic. It's not going to taste nice if it's

Vivian finished speaking, Gordan interrupted her, "I'll eat it, bring

at the delicately arranged table and felt sad. Gordan had not been eating in the hotel for the past few days. Even if he ate in the hotel, he would not sit at the same table

seemed to be punishing her for secretly following

looked at him pleadingly as she said, "It's on the table. Do you want to go over there

saw through her intentions and said mercilessly, "I won't have the appetite if I have to eat with you. Bring it here. Else, you can forget

her head immediately and replied, "I'll get it for

Compared to Gordan's health, her wishes were not important at all.

**Vivian walked** over and looked at the steak with **mixed feelings**.

She knew his taste, so she picked up the sauce on the side, poured it on the steak, and put it on the tray. She poured him a glass of red wine *as well*.

**Vivian** carefully handed the food **to him**.

Gordan took it with one hand and closed the door without saying **thank you**.

Vivian looked at the closed door with a bitter feeling in her heart. She thought that they could live happily ever after if she persisted, but now it seemed that no matter how hard she tried, she would never be in **Gordan's heart**.

...

**Luke** was eating, and when he heard a notification alert on his phone, he put down his utensils. He read the text and replied: [Okay.]

**Bianca brought** the soup to the dinner table and happened to see his conversation with Gordan. Everything was about to come to light. The Crawford family could no longer maintain this forced calmness.

**She** glanced at the three children who were eating quietly. No matter how big the Crawford family's issue might be, she would protect them from the stormy weather.

The next day.

their family to the largest amusement park in

not buy tickets but went in through a special VIP entrance. When Bianca was wondering about it, Luke said, "This is Jim's

loved Simon, so he had built this amusement park to please him. He did not intend to make a profit out of it, but he accidentally made it into the largest amusement park in the city. Many foreign tourists would come here and spend the whole day in the amusement

"Ah, that's why." Bianca nodded.

the family of five entered through the special entrance, the kids screamed with joy as they looked at the various rides and

was the weekend, so there were many people here. Bianca was afraid that the children would get lost, so she squatted down and said to them, "If you want to go somewhere, you have to tell me and Daddy. You can't go and play by yourself,

three children and only two adults. She was afraid that the children may get too excited and lose control of themselves. She and Luke would not be able to take care of

Mommy," Rainie said obediently while holding Tommy tightly with

is that you?" A child's voice sounded from the side. Bianca and Rainie looked up at the same time and saw Simon, who was wearing sunglasses. He ran over excitedly as three bodyguards followed closely

that the person he saw was Rainie, Simon took off his sunglasses and said, "Rainie, it's

Simon standing in front of his sister. When he was about to get close, he squeezed forward and protected Rainie by positioning her behind him. "Simon, why are

angry that Blanche was blocking him from seeing the girl he liked. He stared at Blanche and said, "This is my second home, why can't I

## **Chapter 1027**

Simon could not keep his eyes off Rainie. Luke said in a cold tone, "I'm not responsible if you get lost."

"Uncle Luke, I'll follow you closely and make sure I don't get lost." Simon gave a thumbs up.

There were many people around. Tommy was small and might get separated if they did not pay close attention. Hence, Luke picked up Tommy. As for Simon, Luke was not interested in babysitting other people's children.

When Luke would not grant him permission, Simon looked at Bianca with pursed lips. "Aunt Bianca, my life is so miserable. Since getting a younger sister, my dad doesn't care about me anymore. I'm a poor orphan."

The three bodyguards broke out in a cold sweat when they heard what their young master said. If his father heard this, they would be punished.

Seeing Simon acting sad, Bianca softened up and said, "Okay, but don't run around. You have to be obedient."

"Okay, Aunt Bianca. I'll listen to every word you say. I'll protect Rainie!" As soon as he got permission from Bianca, Simon smiled, patted his chest, and promised.

Blanche despised him and thought that Simon was a good-for-nothing who acted pitifully and pretended to be miserable to make his mother sympathize with him.

"Mommy, Daddy, I want to ride the Ferris wheel." Tommy ignored their conversation and pointed to the Ferris wheel not far away. To him, having fun was the most important thing.

Bianca touched the child's head. "Okay."

The group of them walked to the Ferris wheel. Simon being a part of their group meant that they were given priority to get on the Ferris wheel.

They did not have to line up and went on almost all the rides.

After playing for the entire day, they found a restaurant and sat down.

breathed a sigh of relief. She could not keep up with her children. Their energy was never-ending, and they did not feel tired after walking around the entire

juice for the four children and a cup of coffee for Luke. She sat down and said, "I'm glad we had the bodyguards with us today. Else, I wouldn't have known what

his phone back in his pocket, his expression looking

noticed it and knew instinctively that something had happened. She put her hand on the back of his hand and asked, "What's

the address," Luke said

you want to go now?" Bianca's heart tightened. When she looked at him, she knew that something bad was about to

want to spend time with the kids today," Luke said as he put his arm around

to the conversation between the two. As the eldest among his siblings, he said sensibly, "Daddy, Mommy, we had a great time today and there are no suitable rides left for us. Why don't we

Luke and Bianca looked at them.

chimed in, "Yes, I'm so tired. Let's go

looked at his brother and sister. He had enough fun and agreed with them. "Go home! Go

the children had the same thoughts, Bianca looked at Luke and said, "The kids and I will take a taxi home. You can take the

Gordan was in a hurry, but Luke decided to let them drive the car back. "I'll take a taxi, and you drive them back."



"Okay." Bianca nodded.

*Luke* looked at the bodyguard at the side and said, "Send this kid back, and tell your boss to take care of his son on his own."

**The bodyguard** nodded and left with *Simon*.

**As** he walked away, Simon kept turning his head to look at Rainie. He said, "Rainie, see you in **school!**"

"**Hmph.**" Blanche snorted coldly. He knew that Simon just wanted to take advantage of his **sister**.

*Bianca* and the children said goodbye to Luke at the entrance of the amusement park. Then, she drove them back.

Blanche sat in the passenger seat. He thought about it for a while and asked, "Mommy, is Daddy going to settle the issue of the break-in at Crawford *Manor*?"

**Bianca told** him the truth, "Yes, the bad guys will be caught *soon*."

There was a look of concern in Blanche's eyes. "Mommy, ask Daddy to **be careful**."

"**Your** dad will take care of himself, don't worry. He won't get hurt. He'll protect all of you," Bianca said. Luke was the protector of their family and he always ensured **their safety**.

"*Yeah.*" Blanche nodded and looked out the car window.

The other side of town.

a taxi and arrived at the address given by

complained as Luke walked over. "What took you

talking nonsense. Where?" Luke said with a stern

have to find it. This is where the car stopped last." Gordan put out his cigarette. "Based on the timestamp, she was here for a full half

alleys don't have any surveillance cameras," Luke said. The car would not stop here for no reason. It must be because it could not get

go in and have a look," Gordan said, "Leave this to

of them walked into a narrow alley one after the other and looked at the dilapidated buildings around them. It was an area for those with lower

women heard the footsteps and walked out. The moment they saw Luke and Gordon, their eyes lit up as they shouted, "Handsome! Do you want to come in

frowned as he could tell that these women were involved in shady business. If they dared to approach him, they would die the

understood his friend's temperament. However, these women were their source of information and they could not afford to offend

me talk to them," he said hurriedly and stepped forward while holding a stack of cash in his hand. "Beauties, I have some questions for

women's eyes brightened when they saw the cash in his hand. "Ask us anything! We'll tell you everything

## **Chapter 1028**

Gordan looked around and knocked on the door, which caused the caked dust on the door to fall off. His hands were covered with dust.

"Looks like there's no one inside," he said as he dusted his hands. He did not know how long it had been since the door was last cleaned. Even though he was not a clean freak, he was reluctant to touch it.

Luke glanced around at the dilapidated houses. "Ask around. I'll make a trip to the police station."

"Leave this to me." Gordan gestured an "OK" and promised that he would complete the mission. He would go around and collect information about Jon.

...

At ten o'clock, after Bianca coaxed Tommy to sleep, she went to the living room and made herself a cup of tea.

Ever since they left the amusement park, she had not received any news from Luke.

She did not disturb him because she knew that he was busy investigating.

She sat on a cushion, turned on her laptop, and began to design.

At eleven o'clock, she could hear a car stopping outside. Bianca stood up, but she had been sitting in the position for too long, so she could only support herself with the couch while she waited for the blood to flow into her legs.

Luke came into the house and noticed that Bianca was standing next to the couch while bent over. He walked over quickly and he sounded concerned. "What's wrong, Bea? Are you feeling unwell?"

Bianca looked at him and smiled helplessly. "My leg fell asleep."

Luke glanced at the laptop on the coffee table and could tell that she had been working in the living room. "You should work in the study next time," he reprimanded her.

clung to his arm. "I wanted to wait for you to come home, but I was too engrossed in my work, so I didn't pay attention to how I was

Let me massage it." Luke took her hand and sat her down on

rested her legs on the couch. His warm palms gently laid on them, brought them onto his lap, and began to

feel the smooth and fair skin in his palms, which made him give extra care

movements were gentle, and the strength was just right. As the numb sensation dissipated, Bianca could not help but moan

at her face. He could never resist her adorable

didn't mean to do it." Bianca covered her face in embarrassment when she realized that the sound was his head and continued to massage her

a while, Bianca could feel that her legs had returned to normal. She laid her hands on his and said, "I'm fine now. Are you hungry? I've prepared supper for

had stayed in the police station for the entire afternoon to find more information about that man named

was too common, and the police officers had to look through all the profiles named Jon one

hungry." Luke kissed her lips. He had not had his

"I'll go heat it up. You can eat soon." Bianca put on her slippers and headed to the *kitchen*.

Luke leaned on the couch and looked at her design. Several parts were undone, so he took the laptop and finished it for *her*.

**When** Bianca came out with the supper, she saw that he was messing with something on her laptop. "What are you doing?"

"I've found some data mistakes on your design. I'm correcting them for you." Luke did not raise his head. He was **calculating something**.

Bianca placed the food on the coffee table and said, "It's already late. You should eat something, but not too much. Otherwise, you might find it hard to fall asleep **later**."

**"Mm."** Luke appreciated her care. After changing the last data field, he put the laptop down. The hot food on the coffee table whetted his appetite. He picked up a bowl and ate some *soup*.

*Bianca sat* next to him. She took her laptop and noticed that the problematic data fields had *been corrected*.

**She saved** the project, turned off the laptop, and looked at him obsessively.

*After Luke ate*, Bianca was not in a rush to clean up. She looked at him and said, "You must *be tired*."

"*I'm not*." He shook his head and told her **his findings**.

*Bianca sighed* after hearing that. The more he investigated, the more that Allison seemed suspicious.

**She** stacked up the bowls and plates. At the kitchen, uke pinned her waist to the kitchen counter and breathed over her. It was an intimate **scene**.

her head and was dazzled by the bright fluorescent light on the ceiling. "It's already very late. You should take a shower

you recently, Bea. I'll accompany you tonight." Luke hugged her waist. After the intimate massage, Luke

pushed him away by his chest and shook her head. "Nah, I have something going to rub her waist as though massaging it. The pulses aroused her sensations in each of her cells. "What me to go to the bridal boutique with her," Bianca said go," Luke said without hesitation when he heard nothing but trouble. It was best to stay away at her. "I couldn't decline. I'll go and meet her, then find some excuse Leia were Queenie's daughters. If she did not go, Queenie might think that she was not a good elder sister troublesome woman," Luke cursed. Before Bianca reunited with Queenie, Luke should have been more ruthless and made Leia disappear from the in the past had led to smiled. "Don't worry, what could possibly

## **Chapter 1029**

The next morning, Luke sent the children to school because Bianca had to go to the bridal boutique. After seeing Luke's car drive away, she sent the design to Sue's mailbox and gave her several pointers. A while later, Leia called her, saying that she was leaving for the bridal boutique. Bianca hastily packed up and left the house. She had promised Luke that she would let Sean drive her there, but Sean stayed a half-hour's drive from her mansion. Instead, she told Sean to wait for her at the bridal boutique. Bianca drove the car out of the mansion. She waited for the front gate to close. Suddenly, a man rushed out and stopped in front of her car. Bianca abruptly took her foot away from the gas pedal. Bianca looked closely at the man. He was Xavier Tanner, who had been missing in the past few months. Ever since Riley's incident, Xavier was nowhere to be found. In the end, Melissa was not punished. Riley had told the police that she had accidentally fallen by herself. The police were wary about the Lerche family's influence, and the victim had retracted her earlier statement, so the case was considered closed. Riley moved in to live with the Tanners, but Xavier had not been seen. Xavier saw that Bianca was sitting in the car. He walked over and knocked on the window. Bianca did not wind down the window. Instead, she looked at him warily. Seeing that Bianca did not get out of the car, Xavier leaned over and slammed on the car window impatiently. "I have something to tell you, Bianca."

Xavier saw that Bianca was being wary of him. He went in front of the car, sat on it to stop her from leaving, took out his phone, and dialed her number.

phone started ringing. She could see an unfamiliar string of numbers on her phone and could tell that Xavier was calling

not pick up the call, but Xavier did not give up

the third time, Bianca had no other choice. Xavier was sitting on the hood, so Bianca could not move forward or

at his phone to indicate that she should answer

answered the call. "What's gotten

could hear the disgust and hatred in her voice. If not for Luke, the woman would have already belonged

the door. I have something to tell you." His voice became hoarse as his

had been laying low in the outskirts of A City, trying to dig up some dirt about Luke. He did not want to go abroad, but he did not want to go to prison

not find any dirt on Luke but managed to find something

Tanner, if you don't move away now, I'm going to call the police!" Bianca was not going to open the door because she knew what Xavier could do to

Xavier thought as he saw how guarded

that Bianca was a stubborn woman. Once she said that she would not open the door, she would not open the door unless something threatened

into her eyes. "Open

*"Stop wasting my time, Xavier Tanner. You won't get away with this if you don't run away now," Bianca warned.*

*Luke had* told her that Xavier had committed some serious crimes, which was why he had been **laying low**.

Xavier chuckled. Did she think that he was afraid of Xavier? He would not have done this if not that he wanted to escape from Luke's **clutches**!

*"Bianca, you'll regret it if you don't get out of the car," he warned.*

**Bianca furrowed** his brows. She felt an inexplicable sense of unease when she saw how confident he was. At that time, she received an incoming call **notification**.

**She** glanced at her screen. It was from Leia. She did not answer it but instead continued her standoff *with Xavier*.

Five minutes later. Xavier gave up after seeing that she had no intention of getting out of the car. "You're heading to the bridal boutique, **right?**"

**Bianca frowned** even harder. How did he know?

"Don't go if you want to live," Xavier warned. He wanted to threaten her to stay if she had gotten out of the car, but his threats did not affect her.

"**You're** being ridiculous!" Bianca was flustered by what he said. She wanted to end *the call*.

"**I'm serious**, Bianca. You can't go there," Xavier said sternly. "Someone wants to *kill you*."

"**Who?**" **Bianca** asked. Many people wanted to harm or kill her, and she could not do anything other than being cautious.

"I can't say." Xavier's eyelids drooped.

at the man sitting on her hood nervously. He could not

fooling around with me, Xavier. If someone wants to harm me, I wouldn't be safe anywhere anyway." She did not think that Xavier was lying, but she could not be cautious without knowing who was going to

Could it be Leia?

not be that stupid to invite her and

silent. In the next minute, Bianca waited for him to speak while racking her brain for

go," he said but still did not tell who

was frustrated. "If you're not telling, then get lost! I'm calling

wanted to stall her, but she was in

Xavier remained sitting there.

ended the call with him and dialed the police hotline. She turned on the speaker and pointed the screen at him so that he could see that she had called the

Bianca saying something to the phone. Soon, he could hear the police sirens. He cursed under his breath and left the

could not be caught by the police now. Knowing Luke, he would send him to

Too bad for him.

## **Chapter 1030**

"Where are you now?" After the call was answered, Bianca returned to her car, closed the door, and locked it. Xavier's words earlier had unnerved her. She was worried that someone might jump out of the bushes and harm her.

Sean replied, "I'm on the way to the bridal boutique now, Madam. I'll be there in ten minutes."

"Bring a few more bodyguards there," Bianca said. According to Xavier, someone must be ambushing her at the bridal boutique.

If she went there prepared, she might be able to find out who was behind that, and she might be able to set up precautions.

Even if she evaded danger today, she would have to live uneasily in the future.

Sean was surprised. He instantly sounded worried. "Did something happen, Madam?"

"It's nothing. Just do as I say." Bianca fastened her seatbelt and prepared to leave.

"Understood. Should I tell Boss?" Sean asked. From Bianca's stern tone, he could sense that something would happen.

Bianca remembered that Luke was busy with the investigation and the upcoming annual shareholders' meeting. She did not want to bother him, not to mention that Xavier might be trying to deceive her.

"Don't let him know. I'll go to the bridal boutique now." Bianca started the car.

"Alright, Madam."

the call, Sean instantly contacted several bodyguards and told them that they needed to be at the destination in half

later, while Bianca was still driving, Leia called

the call impassively.

you? I'm going to try on the gowns soon." Leia glanced at the bridal boutique. Brody had booked the entire boutique, so there was no one else other than her and the sales

uneasy when it was almost the appointed time and Bianca was

go and try it yourself first. I'm still driving," Bianca replied coldly. If what Xavier said was true, the ploy might be related

bitterly disappointed. She had never done anything to Leia, but Leia had tried to harm

on the steering wheel became tighter when she thought

under her breath when she heard the busy tone from her phone. She looked to her left and right but did not see Hera's

she pranking me?" She dialed Hera's number. If she missed the opportunity, it would be very hard for her to ask Bianca out

Hera answered the call quickly.

"*Where are your men?*" Leia asked nervously. She spoke very softly because she did not want anyone to *hear her*.

**Hera** sounded much calmer. "Why are you worried? They're **already there**."

"I don't see anyone." Leia looked around.

"*They* won't be professionals if you can spot them," Hera said derisively, wondering why that malicious woman would be so restless despite committing so many evil deeds. "You'd better behave normally and don't give away anything. Bianca will definitely die. If you don't want any trouble, you'd better pretend that you don't **know anything**."

Leia took a deep breath after Hera's reminder. After she calmed down, she said, "I know. When your men come in, don't *hurt me*."

"Don't worry. Just hide in a corner. No one will hurt you," Hera said impatiently and ended the call.

**Leia's hand** that was holding the phone was shaking.

Seeing that Leia's face was pale and she was flustered, the sales clerk brought her a glass of warm water. "Are you alright, Ms. Norman?" **She asked.**

"*I'm fine*." Leia put her phone into her handbag and looked around the bridal boutique, trying to find a safe spot when Hera's men would **come in**.

*The sales* clerk handed the glass to her. "You look pale, Ms. Norman. Do you want to sit down and rest for a while? I'll bring you some **catalogs**."

*Leia held* the glass. The water warmed her icy palms.

an hour later, Bianca arrived at the bridal boutique. She found a roadside parking spot and parked

did not immediately get out of the car but instead called Sean. Soon, Sean came with three bodyguards and surrounded

the car door, stepped out, and closed the car door in one fluid

looked around. The four people that were surrounding her were very eye-catching. Everyone that walked past her looked at

are you looking at, Madam?" Sean was nervous. From Bianca's expression, he could tell that something bad was about

shook her head. "Let's go

that his employer did not say anything, He raised his guard. The four men stood on both sides and escorted

bodyguards were former soldiers. They were there to ensure Bianca's

staff of the bridal boutique was shocked by that formation. It took them a while before they reacted.

"Good morning, Madam. A guest has booked the entire boutique

Leia Norman's elder sister. Is she here yet?"

way, please." The sales clerk led her away. Leia had already told them that her elder sister would be coming, so the sales clerk did not