

Be Gentle 1051

Chapter 1051

Percy placed both his arms in front of his chest and sighed. "We've finally arrived at our destination."

Luke's face appeared dark when he came down from the helicopter. He glanced at the abandoned land before him. Indeed, it was previously bombed till this state back during war times. After taking a glance around, no buildings were seen. It was just an inhabited and ordinary island.

Ray frowned and looked at the empty land surrounding him. He could not believe that Bianca would be in such a place. "Can a person even survive here?"

Luke was not willing to let go of even the slightest hope and just gave a simple statement to express his determination, "Begin the search."

Percy and Ray exchanged looks with each other. "Alright, we'll start searching."

Ray retrieved a box from the helicopter. He opened it to reveal a bunch of weapons. "I wasn't sure whether there'd be anyone here but this is just a precaution."

Percy chose a submachine gun and held it in his hands, fiddling with it. He felt rather comfortable holding it. "You have the most weapons."

Luke chose a modern pistol and opened the map of the Island of Despair. It was a map he made back when he was held here.

"We'll be going to these three places to look for her." He pointed at the map and marked three areas.

Ray distributed the walkie-talkies and flare guns to each of them. "If you guys spot anything, communicate with the walkie-talkies and flare guns."

"Alright." Luke got up and glanced at the wide ocean. They were currently in the middle of the island. With just a glance, they were able to make out the situation that was happening on the ocean.

*Let's go." Percy brought along the walkie-talkie and flare gun. He spun around and walked away.

Luke and Ray also spun around and left as well.

...

In the underground building.

spotted strangers trespassing the island through the hidden surveillance cameras and immediately reported to Abel. "Boss, three men have shown up on the

got up and smirked. "Let's go meet our

expression did not have many changes and he was still fiddling with the few needles in his hands. "Are you going to get rid of

for that. Given their abilities, they won't be able to find their way here." Abel spun around to leave. He was able to guess who were the ones trespassing before even looking at the surveillance footage. One of them was

were in the past, he would not let such a good opportunity slip away. After all, the funds and bullets Robert had left behind were more than enough for him to go to battle

wanted Luke to suffer for a very long time. Hence, he would not easily make

into the surveillance room and looked at the surveillance footage on the computer. He recognized Luke's outline and laughed evilly. "He's quick to make his way

took out a pistol and asked, "Boss, do you want me to head over and finish them

for that. Everyone will remain here." Abel shook his head and sat on the chair. He placed both his legs on the table and was staring at the surveillance footage while smoking, trying to understand these three

found the way to the nearest entrance leading to the underground building. A few mercenaries started becoming drenched in a cold sweat when they saw him getting closer

Abel glanced at the screen, his expression composed.

He had just hired someone to fix up the place yesterday and adjust the surrounding soil. Hence, the soil in that area disguised the opening, and Percy would not be able to spot it.

In no time, Percy started getting farther and farther away. The mercenaries let out a breath of relief when they *saw this*.

Abel lit a cigar and took a drag of it. "Hmph, they won't find out anything from their trip here *this time*."

After all, this was an underground building and it was the result of Robert's hard work over the years. Even if Luke were to stay on this island for a few years, he would not be able to find out about this building.

On the other hand...

Shanks placed the needles in his hand down as there was nothing else to do. He walked along the long corridor to the room where Bianca was *confined*.

Bianca was sitting on the bed, daydreaming. Seeing him walk in made her feel anxious. She had never seen this man before. His unfamiliar yet handsome face made him seem more gentle under the dim lights. He looked stunning, to the point he might be prettier than a *woman*.

"Doctor Shanks." Eler got up and was anxious, her face turning scarlet without her realizing it. She did not have much contact with him but could feel that Shanks was different from the others on the Island of **Despair**.

Bianca heard that and instantly knew he was a doctor on this *island*.

Yesterday, after drinking that bowl of tonic, the stomach ache she had been suffering from for a few days got much better. The signs of being pregnant were being suppressed and *not aggravated*.

Shanks ignored Eler, staring straight at the woman on the bed.

After Bianca had tidied herself up, she looked much cleaner than when she just arrived on the island. Her facial features were gorgeous and she gave off a **prestigious aura**.

different from other women who used to be on this island. Suddenly, Eler came to understand why Kassy was not able to capture Luke's

a wife, other pretty women would be worth nothing to

your hand." Shanks walked to the side of the bed and ordered as he lowered his

did not budge

saw this and quickly said to Bianca, "Miss, Doctor Shanks is going to take

lay back down and closed her eyes. "No need for that. I'm

weren't for the bowl of tonic from yesterday, the life of the baby in your womb would still be uncertain." Shanks' hand was still in mid-air, waiting for Bianca to stretch out her

dumbfounded. 'So that was something to stabilize the

advised her, "Miss, he's just going to take your pulse. So please just listen to

opened her eyes and looked at Shanks' blue eyes. He was a good-looking man with eyes the color of the deep sea. He seemed different

was puzzled. 'Why would he work under

glanced at him with a critical gaze and this made Shanks feel irritated. He immediately grabbed her hand and took her

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Shanks threw the cigar on the floor and left the scene without turning around.

"Pfft." Abel turned around and ordered Eler, "Bring her to the control room."

"Yes, Boss." Eler went over to lift Bianca.

After these few days of torture, Bianca had yet to recover her energy. She allowed Eler to lift her.

"What are you doing?" She glared at Abel, her eyes glistening with hatred. She was unable to control her limbs and was being supported down the bed by Eler.

"Luke has arrived." Abel chuckled in a crazed manner and pointed above him. "He's just right up here."

Bianca felt her legs become wobbly. 'Luke's here!' She glared at Abel. 'Is he planning to bring me up and threaten Luke?'

"Luke will not be threatened by you." She exerted much force and freed herself from Eler.

Deep down, Eler thought that if Abel did that, Bianca would just smash her head against the wall. She would definitely express her determination.

Abel snorted and squinted his eyes. Eler was afraid of being blamed. She grabbed onto Bianca's arm tightly.

She did not expect a lady who had not eaten anything for the past two days to still have so much strength.

"You're still useful so I'll not bring you over to meet him, rest assured." For the time being, Abel was not interested in exposing himself. He was not powerful enough in this area. If Luke found out there was still an underground building, there was a high chance he would contact the Russian government to bomb this entire area.

Bianca bit her lip and looked at him.

at her eyes that were slowly turning red. It gave him the urge to see her have an emotional breakdown. He ordered, "Bring her along and pick up

the time being, Bianca was still holding herself together. He was looking forward to seeing her have a breakdown the moment she

supported Bianca as they followed the

was not willing to walk. She only took each step after

whispered in her ear, "Miss, we shouldn't disobey the boss' instructions. It's better to just

unwilling Bianca was, she was still being brought over to the control

were more than 20 monitors in the control room. Subconsciously, Bianca was looking for Luke's figure on the

Abel asked, "Have they finished searching?"

mercenary nodded. "They've searched every corner and found nothing. They're now heading back. I think they're going to gather

faced Bianca and pouted. "Bianca, I'm being very lenient to you. Have a seat and take a good look at Luke. Perhaps after this farewell, you'll have to wait a few years before being able to see

he spoke, the wider his smile grew. He was not at all feeling sorry for separating

at one of the monitors and saw

She wanted to call out and ask for help, to let Luke know that she was in here. However, this underground building was very sturdy and each wall was constructed using two layers of soundproof material. Regardless of how much she screamed, no one above ground could **hear her**.

Bianca was disappointed and just stared at Luke, who was walking straight ahead. Soon after, he met up with Percy **and Ray**.

Above ground, the three men headed back to the *helicopter*.

Ray and Percy both shook their heads at the same time. Meanwhile, Luke's eyes had grown *dimmer*.

Percy tapped his shoulder. "Do you still want to **continue searching?**"

"No." Luke looked at the island. The sky was already dark as if it was going to pour.

The weather here on the Island of Despair was unpredictable, especially during the rainy season. There would be strong winds, which would make it tougher to fly **the helicopter**.

"Let's go." Luke was the first to board **the helicopter**.

Percy and Ray looked at each other before going into the helicopter *as well*.

Bianca was pinned onto the chair by Abel. The moment she saw Luke boarding the helicopter, she was unable to stop her tears from flowing down.

"Luke..." she muttered.

"*He won't hear you,*" Abel cruelly said when he saw her crying. His rough fingertip brushed away a crystal teardrop as he burst into laughter.

This was the very first time Bianca was revealing her weakness in front of him. Being able to torture her made him feel **utmost satisfied**.

standing aside, not daring to make a sound. She was silently feeling sorry for Bianca as sorrow surged within

were both unable to escape from this island. No matter how much they struggled, they would still end up being

was younger, she had heard of rumors regarding the Island of Despair. The village beside her hometown was destroyed by the men from the Island of Despair. Anyone who was deemed useful was captured and those who they deemed useless would be slaughtered

government could not control the men from the Island of Despair because they would show up out of nowhere. Besides, they were unable to track the location of

long time, the corpses of old men from the neighboring village started to rot and bacteria filled the place, causing an endemic in the village. Eler's younger sister passed away after getting

hated Abel and the men from the Island of Despair. However, despite hating them, she was unable to was just like the fragile Bianca. They both could only helplessly endure all the

helicopter slowly rose. When Bianca saw the helicopter leaving from the monitors of the control room, she slumped into the

you feeling now?" Abel clenched her chin and tilted her to face him. She was staring at him with a hateful

did not doubt that if Bianca were holding a knife right now, she would stab him without a second thought. Her eyes were gleaming in a way that showed she was prepared to die alongside

in the future, I'll be sure to kill you!" Bianca said through gritted teeth. How she wished for every word that she blurted out to be stained with poison so that the man before her could drop

was laughing away, and he exerted more strength into gripping Bianca's chin as though he wanted to crush

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The mercenary aside was fast to react and immediately caught hold of Bianca. He shook her, only to realize that she had passed out.

"Miss!" Eler was so scared that she had broken out in a cold sweat. She quickly moved forward to check on Bianca. Fortunately, Bianca did not hit her head after falling.

Abel turned around and saw Bianca, who had passed out. He frowned and lectured them, "Why are you still daydreaming here? Hurry and carry her back."

"Yes, Boss." The mercenary quickly carried Bianca and walked out at a fast pace.

Eler trailed behind the mercenary and softly reminded him, "Please be a little more gentle, don't hurt the miss."

Abel snorted. He had thought highly of Bianca but never expected her to pass out after a small fright.

He walked to Shanks' research lab and was leaning against the side of the door. The smell of medication came from inside the lab. He despised this smell and did not step a foot into the lab.

"What's wrong?" Shanks was researching a new drug and did not lift his head as he asked. His attitude was still cold.

"Bianca passed out just now," said Abel, who was already used to this man's coldness. Apart from that woman, no one was able to make him show a sincere smile.

Shanks poured a liquid into a test tube and gently shook it while observing the color changes. "What did you do to her?"

"It's just a little violence." Abel shrugged his shoulders. "I didn't know she wouldn't be able to take it."

"She's a pregnant woman." Shanks twisted the cap onto the test tube to prevent the liquid from reacting with the air and oxidizing. Then, he got up and walked toward the room where Bianca was being confined.

from behind, disagreeing with Shanks' words earlier. Bianca was a pregnant woman but he could not look at her that way. He said in a deep voice, "She's just a woman who doesn't know her position here. Just don't let her die, that's

speaking, he spun around to leave. He had wasted too much time on Bianca today and had yet to inspect the progress of his military force that was currently

footsteps came to a halt. He spun around to look at Abel before heading into the

saw Shanks walking in and immediately pleaded for help. "Mr. Shanks, please save

not promise her and just looked at the woman in the bed. He took her pulse and noticed that her pulse was stable. She had just passed out, and her life was not in

she eaten?" Shanks asked while examining Bianca's

and he knew that the bruise on her chin was a result of Abel's violent act. Fortunately, there was no bone fracture and everything was still in

been a day since she last ate," said Eler helplessly. No matter how much she advised Bianca, she constantly refused to eat and kept acting as though she would go on a hunger

Shanks turned around to leave. She would not die for now, so he did not need to do anything

Eler quickly caught up to him.

some supplements to Bianca and passed them to Eler. "Let her have them once she's

Eler took them with much gratitude. Then, she said again, "Mr. Shanks, how about her *chin*?"

"She won't die because of that. It'll heal itself after a few days." Shanks sat on the chair and continued researching *drugs*.

Eler was relieved. Seeing him doing his research seriously made her heart start beating fast. On this island, apart from those in captivity, Shanks was the only one who never took anyone's *life away*.

On usual days, he would always be in his laboratory where he conducted his medical research. He was unbothered about the issues happening outside.

"Thank you, Mr. Shanks." Eler was blushing, and she could not help but express her gratitude.

Shanks shook the liquid in the test tube, still not lifting his head. He said coldly, "I didn't help you **with anything**."

Eler's face became redder as she quickly explained, "I'm thanking you on behalf of the *miss*."

Shanks heard her shaky tone and found it amusing. If it were Bianca, she would not thank him for saving her **life**.

As long as Bianca was alive, she would be under Abel's control. One could imagine how badly she wished to be dead and get rid of all of *these problems*.

"Compared to being alive, Bianca wishes that she's dead." Shanks picked up a glass slide and dripped some liquid which he had mixed earlier onto it, making it into a sample. He then placed it under the *microscope*.

Eler's face was as red as a cooked prawn. She realized she had said so many stupid *comments*.

"I saved her all so she could suffer more." Shanks was not bothered even if the young woman in front of him would change her perspective of him. Apart from that person he held in his heart, he was not bothered about how others thought of **him**.

was astonished. She had no idea why Shanks hated Bianca this much. 'Was it because of the previous incident that occurred on the Island

this man, who's so cold and heartless, shouldn't be in any way attached to the Island

did not know what else she should say and just bowed to him in a rush before spinning around, promptly leaving the lab. She closed the door as she

to the room where Bianca was being held. She got a spoon and started feeding Bianca the supplements bit by bit without waiting for Bianca to wake

hour, Eler successfully fed Bianca a whole bottle

off the sweat on her forehead and waited for the woman on the bed to

waiting another half an hour, Bianca gradually regained consciousness. She looked at the ceiling and was staring at it blankly. "Am I

was unable to comprehend the words she said. She got up and said with concern, "What did you just say,

was not scared despite looking at the familiar face. Instead, she was disappointed. When she passed out, she had thought that she would not be a burden to Luke if she

knowing she was pregnant, she could no longer muster up the courage to harm herself. However, she still had the thought of ending her

Bianca not moving an inch made Eler worried as she asked, "Are you alright,

Chapter 1054

In A City.

After getting to the airport in Moscow, Luke and Percy flew back home since they did not gain any information from their search on the Island of Despair. It was already midnight when they got down from the plane.

Percy knew Luke was having a hard time and tapped on his shoulder while saying, "Ray will constantly keep his eye on the Island of Despair. He'll notify us once there's news. While on my end, my underlings will continue the search."

"Alright." Luke showed a cold expression. Regardless of everything, he would not give up the search. He carried his luggage, and along with Percy, they left the airport but through different exits.

Luke turned on his phone and noticed he had tens of missed calls. They were all from Gordon. He called Gordon back.

The call went through and Gordon asked, "You finally called me back."

"What's up?" Luke dragged his luggage and headed out of the airport's exit.

"I know you're busy looking for Bianca but we have some new progress on the investigation regarding the issue here. I've also caught the person who trespassed the manor. Do you want to settle this issue first? I can bring this person to your villa." Gordon glanced at Jon, who was tied up on a chair. He had exerted a lot of strength to find him and capture him back. After just ten minutes, Jon ended up giving in to Gordon's intense interrogation and blurted out the entire incident.

"I'll head over there now," said Luke determinedly. He did not expect Gordon to find the culprit. 'This incident should come to an end now. I have to use all the time I can spare to look for Bianca.'

Sean drove the car to his front and got down from it. He took the luggage and said politely, "Please enter the car, sir."

Luke said, "Let me drive. You can take a cab back home."

"Yes, sir." Sean handed the car key to Luke with both his hands.

the car to the hotel. He could not head up to the room as he did not have the room key. Vivian was waiting for him downstairs. Seeing him made her ask, "Brother, any news

was worried about Bianca but Gordon had told her she was not allowed to disturb Luke during this period. Hence, she could only seize this opportunity to ask

shook his head with a

her mouth and noticed that bringing up this topic would only make Luke sad. "I'm sorry,

Luke knew she only asked about it because she was worried about

them headed upstairs and opened the door of the room, only to see Gordon sitting on the sofa. He was playing with a knife in his hand and waving it at Jon, who was tied up on

was playing with the knife with his agile fingers, terrifying Jon. He was afraid that the next second, the knife would end up in his

smirked when he heard the sound of the door opening and brought the knife closer to Jon's face, tapping it. "Repeat whatever you said earlier to my brother

as he glanced at Luke's cold expression, obediently recounting the

heard that Allison was the mastermind, his face did not reveal too big of an expression. He said coldly, "Hand her to

going to handle it privately?" Gordon got up and asked. After all, even though Allison was the mastermind of this incident, she was Luke's

*It would be chaotic if the police exposed it to the **public**.*

'Family members stealing from their own? Others will find it hilarious if the news is leaked. If Luke wants to, he can surely find a better way to deal with this matter.'

*"I have no time to handle this incident. Let the police deal with it formally," Luke repeated once **again**.*

After Allison made up her mind to steal the old master's antiques, she should have known about the consequences and thought about getting arrested by the police. Luke would not hesitate to make a move just because she was his biological *mother*.

Gordon snorted. 'Just how bad is the relationship between this pair of mother and son that he's this *cold-blooded*?'

"Call the police, Faceless," he ordered.

Vivian did not agree with this decision, but seeing that they had made up their mind, she did not express her opinion and took out her phone to make a report to the **police**.

While listening to her conversing with the police, Gordon voiced out, "You look rather tired. Do you want to head back to get **some rest?**"

"*I'll wait* here for the police." Luke sat on the sofa and looked at Jon.

Jon was panicking from being stared at. His eyes kept shifting about, and he looked as though he had ill intentions.

Gordon kicked the chair and warned him, "Don't think of pulling a trick on us. Or else, you'll end up dead without realizing **how.**"

suspecting that Allison was the mastermind of the robbery, he had been constantly keeping an eye on her and keeping track

was being very cautious. She almost never stepped foot out of her villa. The more she acted like this, the more suspicious she

Gordon received a call from the security guard one day, saying that Allison had driven her car and left the

immediately started his car and followed her. Much earlier on, when he was replacing the dashcam, he had installed a tracking device on the car as well. He then managed to follow her all the way to the neighboring city, where he saw Allison meeting up

height and silhouette were very similar to the man in the surveillance footage. Gordon's instinct told him that this man was the one who intruded the house to steal the

waited until Allison left before heading over to catch that man. Looking at the cash in the house, Gordon used his own way of doing things to make Jon spit out the entire

his phone to record everything that Jon said. Then, he tied him up and brought him back to A

for 20 minutes, the head of the police department brought his men to the

the culprit and recordings over to the police. Then, he took out a huge stack of cash from his pocket.

"The culprit and evidence have been handed to

are?" The head of the police department looked at the huge stack of cash and was dumbfounded.

'Didn't Old Master Crawford lose his antiques? Why is this man giving me a stack of

encryptions are all in series. You just have to bring this to the bank and you'll know the bills were withdrawn by Mrs. Tanner,"

Chapter 1055

Luke shook his head and was able to understand his intentions. "I'll book flight tickets for tomorrow for all of you."

"Bro..." Gordon put on a serious look. He sincerely wanted to stay back to help look for Bianca.

"You guys have been here for too long. We can't just ignore the issues in Russia," said Luke. Gordon had ditched all his work to come here just to repay the debt. If he did not return even after such a long time, things on the other side would have to be delayed."

Besides, Ray was still worried about Vivian.

"Let Faceless go back," said Gordon in a determined tone. Vivian was not a weak woman. After all, with a younger brother like Ray, she certainly had the ability to carry out her job well.

"No, I want to keep you company." Vivian immediately rejected him as she wanted to be wherever he was.

Gordon frowned and looked at her. Just when he was about to lecture her for being immature, Luke said, "The two of you should go back."

"Bianca's case is much more urgent." Gordon disagreed with the plan.

"Even though we didn't find anything even after searching the entire island, I still think that Bea's kidnapping incident is related to the people from the Island of Despair. You'll get more insider information back in Russia, so you can also investigate this case when you're back there," Luke said.

That island was uninhabited, but that did not mean the Island of Despair would be forgotten just like that.

Gordon could only give in after hearing it. "Alright, then."

Luke tapped his shoulder, his cold face showing no emotion. With such a close friendship, no words were needed between the two.

Luke off, Vivian headed into Gordon's bedroom when she thought about their flight back to Russia the next day. She planned to help him pack his

in and saw her busying herself in front of the closet. He frowned and asked, "What are you doing dumbfounded, and she was holding his white shirt in her hands. "I'm packing your

Gordon ordered while suppressing

had previously agreed that Vivian was not allowed to enter his room. On their last day here, she breached the agreement and came into his room. The thought of her touching his clothes made him feel a strong sense

I'm sorry." Vivian hung the white shirt in her hands back into the closet. She was feeling depressed as she did not expect Gordon to have such a huge

flight here, she was the one who had packed his luggage as well. It was just that he had no

to the door and cautiously passed by him. She turned sideways so that she would not touch him, lest Gordon felt

scent wafted into her nose. Suddenly, she could not hold back the urge and almost let her tears come streaming

unwilling to let him see her tears because Gordon had once said that other pretty women would look pitiful if they cried, but with her looks, it would be a

hurried back to her bedroom and locked the

Gordon's fists that were clenched slowly loosened. Earlier, he seemed to have heard Vivian sniffing.

'Was she crying?'

The thought of her crying made Gordon suddenly feel depressed. He was feeling remorseful, yet he was irritated at the same *time*.

After hearing the door closing, he walked into his bedroom and shut the door behind him **forcefully**.

Bang! The sound traveled into Vivian's ears. She leaned against the door and squatted. She covered her face, tears silently dripping *down*.

She had been trying her very best to get on good terms with Gordon, yet every time, he would be disgusted at the sight of *her*.

What everyone was not aware of was that whenever Gordon spoke to her without looking disgusted, her heart would start to thump erratically as though fireworks were erupting *from within*.

However, Gordon still spoke to her coldly most of the time. As time went by, it made her feel more pressured. She was gradually unable to control her **emotions**.

Vivian leaned against the back of the door for half an hour. After releasing all the negative emotions within her, she stood up and started packing her *luggage*.

On the other hand...

Luke drove his car and left the hotel. While he was rushing to T Corporation, he received a call from the *manor*.

"*Luke, please* make a trip back," Old Master **Crowford ordered**.

Luke ended the call and took a U-turn at the traffic light ahead. He rushed back to Crawford Manor. He was not at all surprised that the old man was not sleeping despite it being so late at night, even ordering him to

that perhaps it was the police officers who had come to look for the old

Luke drove back to the manor.

lights of the triple-story manor were on. He parked his car and walked into the manor. Old Master Crawford was sitting on the sofa in the hall with Louis as they waited for

Louis got up and was feeling anxious when he saw Luke

back," said Luke as he sat on the other

three of them were sitting on three different sofas, forming a triangular shape between

just showed up, claiming that they've found the robber." Old Master Crawford was holding onto a pipe and took a puff. For the sake of his health, he had quit smoking for many years. However, tonight's issue made him unable to remain calm. Hence, he had the butler take out his pipe and light some tobacco. He wanted to

Luke took out his phone with a pair of squinted almond eyes that did not reveal too

captured the mastermind. What are your thoughts?" Old Master Crawford asked. He was dumbfounded when the police told him about it. He had asked the police not to reveal it to the public as he wanted to listen to Luke's opinion

police claimed that it was Luke who wanted it to be dealt

Chapter 1056

"What do you mean by that? I think dealing with it according to the standard procedure will be for the best. At least, no one will talk crap about it." Susan had been standing at the stairs for quite some time. She had overheard the conversation between the three people. She could not help but interrupt when she heard her son saying that.

"Mom..." Louis turned around to look. 'Why did she come downstairs?'

After the previous incident, Thea grew paranoid and could no longer sleep on her own. She had to cling to Susan or Yuri before she could fall asleep. Tonight, it was supposed to be Susan's turn to accompany Thea to sleep.

"You shut your mouth!" Susan looked at him, disgruntled. If she had not heard Louis speaking up for Allison herself, she would not believe that her son would side with that woman.

Louis obediently kept quiet, afraid she might cause havoc if she got mad.

Susan walked over with wobbly steps. She had been feeling like she was on cloud nine when she learned that Allison was locked up by the police. It was almost like she had a permanent smile on her face. After coaxing Thea to sleep, she started paying attention to the situation downstairs.

She was worried that Luke would talk the old man into letting Allison off the hook. Hence, she deliberately headed downstairs, just so that Old Master Crawford would not listen to Luke.

Never would she expect that it was her son who was siding Allison, and the person who insisted to have her locked up was Luke.

Susan elegantly sat on the sofa and glanced at Louis. Clearing her throat, she said, "Dad, I'm Thea's grandmother and she was a victim of this incident. I have the right to speak my mind, right?"

She knew that the old man despised women who were ill-mannered. Earlier, she had no choice but to interfere. Now, she needed to seek the old man's approval to talk, or else, she would be viewed as being impolite.

"Don't go rubbing salt in wounds," Old Master Crawford said with a deep tone. Even though Susan had not said her piece, he knew what she was about to say.

no choice but to keep quiet. She had a dark expression on her face and kept inwardly cursing about this injustice. 'Even now, he's still thinking of protecting a woman

advised, "Mom, you should head upstairs first. If Thea sees that you're not by her side later, she'll be

don't you take a proper look and see who was the one who brought all this harm upon Thea? Her father is clueless and doesn't know how to protect her. In that case, I, her grandmother, have to protect her!" Susan nagged and shifted her gaze to look

had always held a grudge against the Crawford family and Allison. God knew how she wished for all of them to be imprisoned. She even wished that they would spend the rest of their lives in prison without the chance to ever walk free again. That was the only way she would be the true madam of the Crawford family.

vibrated. He clicked into the message and saw that it was news from

just let the authorities handle this incident." Once again, Luke expressed his opinion and

when she heard it and was very satisfied with his

biological mother," Louis could not help but

hire a lawyer for her if I have to. I'll take good care of the Crawford family's reputation." Luke headed upstairs without turning around. This was his way of carrying out his responsibility as

Crawford snorted. He knew his grandson's attitude very well. He would not change his mind after having decided. He did not say another word and headed back to his bedroom with

against the sofa and looked at Louis. She recalled the things he just said and could not help but nag.

"Louis, what the hell are you thinking? How dare you say you want to let that woman off

"Mom, this is a disgraceful thing for the family." Louis did not approve of the way his mother wanted to do **things**.

"*Allison should* receive her punishment for the wrong deeds she did. It has nothing to do with whether it'll disgrace the family. Back then, your dad didn't even consider whether it would be a disgrace to the family when he decided to be with this woman." Susan still bore this grudge till now. It was because she gave birth to her son much later that Allison gained **that opportunity**.

Louis felt that he could not outwit his mother and showed a cold expression. "I'll head upstairs to have a look at *Thea*."

"**Thea** is sleeping soundly after taking her medication." Susan also got up and headed *upstairs*.

She was mean to Allison not just because of the grudge she held but also to help Louis gain more opportunities.

If she could make Old Master Crawford feel utterly disappointed in Luke, Louis would be able to gain more. However, her son was not bothered by any of this. Hence, she had to be the one to make the effort.

It was as if Louis did not hear what she just said. He headed straight into Thea's bedroom. He saw her quietly sleeping and sat at the side of the bed, tucking in her *blanket*.

Susan walked into the room and softly chased him out. "If you have the time to be here, go spend it with Yuri. Thea is already a big girl now. You guys should plan to have a *second child*."

This was not the first time she was bringing this up. Louis was well aware of why his mother wanted him to have a second child. It was so that he would gain more benefits.

He was not at all interested in that. He was satisfied having only Thea. Hence, he got up and ignored Susan's pestering.

After exiting Thea's room, he walked toward the balcony and coincidentally bumped *into Luke*.

walked over to him and did not bring Allison up. He asked, "Have you gotten any clues about that Luke had made up an excuse to go look for Bianca. The atmosphere earlier was too tense and he did not have the chance to ask

Luke looked into the night sky. Gale called earlier, claiming that he had news about Robert's foster son. He said that the latter was shot to death in the Middle East one year ago after being deemed as a was no corpse, no tomb, and only a recording in the military's

clue in regards to the Island of Despair was a

can help," said Louis seriously. They were both siblings, so it was only reasonable to help each at him, and his almond eyes did not show

'In this world, perhaps only Bianca can give my brother the warmth

not think what would happen to his brother if something misfortunate were to happen to

for that. You should focus on your work," said Luke. He did not allow Louis to

enough people helping him and enough men were looking for Bianca. It was just that Bianca seemed to have poofed into thin air and

Chapter 1057

On the next day in T Corporation.

Luke was handling some issues at work when Jason knocked on the door and entered. He said, "Boss, Miss Douglas is in the lobby downstairs. She said she needs to meet up with you regarding a very important issue."

"Which Miss Douglas are you referring to?" Luke did not lift his head and was in the middle of a conversation with the people from the Middle East to clarify the death of Robert's foster son.

Jason replied, "It's Madam's niece, the young lady from the capital."

Luke knew who she was. He continued to type on the keyboard. He did not think much about it and immediately rejected it. "I'm not going to see her without an appointment."

"Yes, sir." Jason knew what to do and left the office, closing the door behind him.

The atmosphere in T Corporation was currently very tense because Luke was in a foul mood. No one dared to offend him.

Upon returning to his office, Jason called the front desk and relayed Luke's message.

Maxine was sitting on the sofa, waiting for a response. The front desk employee came over and showed a sweet smile. She relayed Jason's reply to her. "Miss Douglas, I'm sorry to make you wait for so long. Mr. Crawford's schedule is a little tight today, hence he can't spare any time to meet those without an appointment."

Maxine got up, her sweet expression immediately changing for the worse. "Did you guys get something wrong when passing him the message?"

"What?" The employee was dumbfounded and unable to comprehend why she would say that.

"The Crawford family is facing such a huge crisis now and I'm here to help. Forget it, it's fruitless talking to you. I'll just head upstairs." Maxine spun around and headed for the elevator.

employee knew her own status and dared not stop her. She just trailed behind her. "Miss Douglas, this is Mr. Crawford's order. Please don't put us in a

you guys bear the responsibility if you delay this issue?" Maxine pressed the button for

employee was anxious. "Miss Douglas, why don't you tell me the situation and I'll go relay it to Mr. Crawford? Will that be alright with

for that." Maxine saw that the elevator had arrived on the first floor and

employee gritted her teeth while thinking to herself, 'Why do I have to deal with this troublesome visitor?' She was afraid she would be scolded and fired. Hence, she had no choice but to enter the elevator as

ignored her. She took out her lipstick and put on makeup in

glanced at her meticulous actions. 'Those who are unaware would think that she's going to seduce

news of Bianca being kidnapped had spread like wildfire long ago. Everyone in T Corporation was horrified and worried that they would offend Luke. They did not want to be

had put on thick makeup and was eager to meet Luke. This scene would be easily misunderstood

arrived at the top floor. Maxine kept her lipstick and walked out of the elevator with a

quickly followed her, and when they passed by Jason's office, the employee knocked on the door. Upon entering, she pleaded

can't stop Miss Douglas, Mr. Doyle." The employee put on a teary

Jason saw an outline passing by his office. The clicking sound from her high heels made him have a bad feeling. He immediately tossed all the work in his hands aside and walked out.

At that moment, he saw Miss Douglas walking to Luke's office. He was very worried that he might lose his job.

He caught hold of Maxine. "Miss Douglas, the boss is very busy. He has no time to meet anyone."

Maxine's footsteps came to a halt. She looked at him. "Mr. Doyle, I have an important issue to talk about with Luke. If you're not going to inform him, then I'll just look for **him myself**."

When she was downstairs, she still respectfully addressed him as Mr. Crawford. Now that she was upstairs, she was referring to him in an intimate manner.

Jason was not at all stunned by her shamelessness. He stood before her. "Miss Douglas, if you enter right now and offend Mr. Crawford, both you and I will not have it good."

If it were not because the elevators of T Corporation were undergoing daily maintenance, Maxine would not have been able to come upstairs.

"Are you trying to scare me?" Maxine did not intend to continue putting on a show. She placed both her hands in front of her and looked at him disdainfully. "You're just an assistant. Be careful, or I'll ask Luke to *fire you*."

Jason was not easily frightened off and still stood in front of her, *determined*.

Maxine noticed that there was nothing else she could do but she could not afford to give up now. She saw that Luke's office was right in front of her. She shouted, "Oh, Luke, it's me, Maxine. I have a very important thing to tell *you*. *Luke!*"

Jason's expression went pale as he gave the employee a signal. "Go get security."

The employee picked up her phone and

dare you!" Maxine did not expect them to have the guts to do such a thing. Since she was young, she had always been pampered. No one ever had the guts to treat her rudely—except for the last time when she was brought to the police station and this time in T

voice grew louder as she attempted to capture everyone's attention.

the commotion outside but did not stop typing on the keyboard. 'Maxine has yet to intrude, which means that Jason has already stopped her.' Hence, he continued his talk with the

the security guards received the employee's call, they immediately came up.

Miss Douglas down." Jason put on a dark expression. He did not expect the almighty young lady from the capital to discard her reputation and cause havoc

you guys dare to touch me, I'll have all of you fired." Maxine glanced at the two burly security guards and used her purse to shield

mercilessly, "Miss Douglas, if you want to fire someone, please return to the capital to do so. This is T was so mad that her face went scarlet. She turned around and pointed at Jason. She was stunned and unable to say another

position of Luke's wife will certainly be hers. These people should just wait till she became Luke's wife! The first thing she would do was fire this assistant of

guards were not fazed by her words. After all, they all worked for the company and had no reason to listen to an outsider. Hence, they escorted Maxine downstairs in a clean-cut manner. They were actually carrying her with one person on each side.

peace was restored on the top

Chapter 1058

"Yes, Boss, understood," Jason replied quickly, relieved that his boss was not angry at him.

Luke frowned hard and did not say anything after that. His fingers tapped swiftly on the keyboard.

Jason glanced at the time and said, "Boss, we have a quarterly work meeting in ten minutes."

"Mm," Luke grunted his acknowledgment. The Middle Eastern military was not very cooperative, and they were not willing to divulge any more information on Robert's godson.

He was still communicating with them, hoping that they would tell him more.

After sending the email, Luke frowned and clasped his hands together, waiting for a reply.

Jason knew that he was still searching for Bianca and did not want to disturb him. He walked out of the office and closed the door gently behind him.

Meanwhile, two security guards brought Maxine out of T Corporation. Before she could straighten her clothes, she saw several news vans parked at the roadside.

The logos on the vehicles showed that they were from A City's most prominent media outlets.

Maxine frowned. She quickly went to her car in case they saw her, but she did not drive away. Instead, she looked out of the window and saw several reporters coming out of the vans and standing outside the entrance to T Corporation.

Her car window was open, and she could hear the reporters' conversation. They were there to look for Luke to find out more about Allison.

gripped the steering wheel tightly. After Abel abducted Bianca, she dared not look for Luke in case he would not have come to look for him if not that Allison asked her for

the security guards keeping the reporters out of the building, Maxine clenched her fists and slammed down on the steering wheel. She accidentally hit the horn, which attracted the attention of all

quickly let go, fastened her seatbelt, and quickly drove away from the

lingered at the entrance, hoping that they could catch a glimpse of Luke and obtain information

wore her Bluetooth headset and gave Hera

you?" Her sour mood was

at the hospital. What's up?" Hera was not expecting Maxine to contact her after the deed

going to give her more money? Hera was strapped for cash at

are you at the hospital? Are you doing another cosmetic surgery procedure again?" Maxine asked. She could guess what Hera

"How did you know?" Hera was lying on the bed at the moment. She had just finished the consultation session, and the procedure would be done the *next day*.

With the money from the job, she could afford to stay in a private ward. It was much more comfortable than the *three-bedder*.

"I'll go and look for you." Maxine ended the call after saying that. She considered that Luke was Hera's senior in high school, so Hera should know some way to win **Luke's heart**.

Maxine entered Hera's ward twenty minutes later and sat on the couch without saying anything.

Hera sat cross-legged on the bed, looking at Maxine's dark expression and wondering if someone had offended *her*.

"**What's** wrong, Ms. Douglas? Are you in a bad mood?" Hera **asked**.

"I went to look for Luke today," Maxine said. She did not tell Hera what happened to her at T Corporation.

Hera frowned. She got off the bed, put on her slippers, and poured a glass of warm water for Maxine. "Didn't you say that you weren't going to look for him?"

When she received the call from Abel saying that the deed was done, Maxine had told her to lay low for a while in case Luke suspected anything.

Why would Maxine look for Luke mere days after the **incident**?

"It's because of his mother!" Maxine pushed all the blame to Allison, forgetting that Maxine had gone to look for Luke on her own accord after Allison asked her *for help*.

mother?" Hera was confused. "What did his mother

her eyes huffily. "Is cosmetic surgery the only thing you have in your mind, Hera Sanchez? Or have you been living under

unhappy that Maxine was deriding her, though she did not show it on her face because she still wanted to get money from Maxine. She took out her phone and said, "You should know that I've been busy recently. After dealing with Bianca, Leia is now looking for me. What a

had asked Hera to help her kill Wayne, but Hera did not know

had been stalling for time while looking for another

opened the browser. Before she could type Luke's name in the search bar, she saw the latest quickly browsed through the news and found out that Allison had been arrested for being an accomplice in a major theft. "Isn't she Luke's mother? Why did she steal from her family?" She also thought of the same question when she first found out about are you helping her to persuade Luke?" Hera finally understood why Maxine wanted to look my distant aunt, and I'll need her help if I want to marry Luke in the future. That's why I thought..." Maxine was furious when she remembered the treatment she received at T Corporation. "If she goes to prison, that's one less person on my

Chapter 1059

"Actually, I have a suggestion." Hera could tell what Maxine was thinking and could not help but find it amusing.

Despite studying abroad for most of her life, why would Maxine be so oblivious when it came to relationships? Luke would not be so easily swayed by Maxine's persistence.

Hera thought that it would be easier if she did something to gain Luke's attention.

"Say it." Maxine was unhappy because of what Hera said, but she could also tell that it was the truth.

"To win a man's heart, you should start from looking the part. Look at you, you're charming and beautiful, and men usually fall for that, but look at Bianca Rayne. She's so plain that she's almost tasteless, but Luke loves her. Doesn't that tell you that Luke likes women of that type?" Hera analyzed.

Maxine thought for a few seconds. She thought that what Hera said made sense, but she needed more data points to confirm that it was indeed the case. "Other than Bianca, has Luke ever had any other relationships?" She asked.

"I'm not sure about what happened before high school, and I didn't keep in contact with him after we entered college, but I remember reading some gossip in the tabloids. Of course, you should know that the paparazzi is fond of making up stories, and it's later proven that Luke doesn't have any interest in those actresses."

"What type of actresses are they?" Maxine asked.

"They're all beautiful, just like you. Later on, there was Leia Norman. She looked quite pure, and she almost got married to Luke, but it turned out that she blackmailed Luke with some dirt. Before that, Luke had almost married that Bianca b*tch." Hera sounded jealous when she said that.

She wondered why Bianca was so lucky.

for Leia's photos after she heard that. Leia indeed had a pure face, but she was plagued with scandals, which made her a poor

think you should stay away from Luke for now, Ms. Douglas. You might look perfect, but you'll have to put in some more effort to win the heart of the man you love. How about joining me in a makeover?"

agreed to it, she would ask the doctor to put half of her expenses on

"You're asking me to change

was quite proud of her looks, so she thought that it was quite ridiculous for her to change her face or even her personality just to go

her parents would not agree to it

you don't have to change your entire face. I mean, you can do something subtle. Your features are delicate, but they're quite seductive. I think that you can make some minor adjustments, then complement it with make-up so you'll have a pure face. I believe that you can win Luke's heart after that," Hera said. She was quite knowledgeable about cosmetic

thought that Maxine could make herself look more like Bianca, but Maxine might not accept

could not tell. After all, Maxine was conceited and arrogant. She would not want to look like

Maxine touched her face. Indeed, her features were on the sultry side, which was not quite the pure type that Luke liked.

"Are minor adjustments really going to work?" She asked, thinking that she did not mind doing the occasional nip **and tuck**.

In any case, she was quite open to **the idea**.

"Of course. How about I bring you to see my doctor? He's the senior doctor here, and he's very experienced. It's only a consultation session, and we'll see what he says." Hera stood up and could not wait to lead her to the **doctor's office**.

"Mm." *Maxine* was quite tempted. She did not mind trying if it meant that it increased her chances of winning **Luke's heart**.

She stood up and left the ward **with Hera**.

...

Meanwhile, Luke did not receive any reply from the Middle Eastern **military**.

He was in a bad mood for the entire afternoon because of that.

work, Luke received a call from the

Crawford, when I was going through the documents, I found out that your wife had called the police dispatcher on the morning she disappeared," the superintendent said. The police had been combing through every auxiliary detail just to find some leads on

she call the police?" Luke instantly sat up. Sean had told him that Bianca seemed to have sensed something on that day. She had requested Sean to bring more

the culprit got the better

called to report that someone was harassing her at her mansion. According to the records, the man had already left when the police arrived. The case was closed because the other party did not have any criminal records, and your wife was unharmed," the superintendent said. They were following the standard operating procedure, so he was not afraid that Luke would blame

have a record of that person's name?" Luke clenched his fists. His intuition told him that the incident was related to her

His name is Xavier Tanner," the superintendent

know him. It's very possible that Xavier abducted my wife. You can issue a warrant of arrest," Luke reminded

superintendent hesitated for a few seconds. Now that Bianca had gone missing, Xavier was indeed the biggest suspect. "Alright, we'll issue the

Chapter 1060

The Island of Despair.

Bianca lay in her bed weakly. She had not eaten well for the past few days, and she was showing signs of miscarriage.

Dr. Shanks instantly treated her.

It took him a lot of effort, but he managed to stabilize Bianca's condition.

Looking at Bianca's pale face, Shanks realized that his supplements could only sustain Bianca's life but could not promise that the baby in her womb would be safe.

He told Abel, "No matter what, you'll have to let her eat something. The baby can't survive on the supplements alone."

Abel frowned hard. He looked at Bianca, half-dead on the bed, and could not help but curse, "How troublesome. Can't you invent a supplement that can nourish the baby?"

"Even if I could, it'll take time," Shanks said. His supplements were developed for the League of Shadows's agents. Sometimes, the agents would have to stay in less-than-ideal conditions to complete their mission, so the supplements would provide them enough nutrients to carry out their tasks effectively.

That was why he had been very confident about his supplements, but he did not expect that the supplements could not nourish the baby.

Abel frowned even harder as he roared at Eler, "Why are you standing there like an idiot? Go and get some food from the kitchen. I don't believe that she won't eat."

Eler came to her senses. She nodded and quickly ran to the kitchen. It was already past lunchtime, and there was only some leftover spaghetti in the kitchen. She got the cook to heat it up before bringing it over.

silently closed her eyes as she listened to

fully feel the effects of starvation on her, but she continued to bear with it because she wanted to resist him wherever

time her hunger caused her pain, she could only mouth a silent apology to the child in

she thought that she was going to die, Shanks managed to save her and

resented the doctor for that, but there was nothing she could do about

Shanks, the prodigious doctor, continued to be on Abel's side, he would eventually invent a supplement for the baby

that happened, there was no use

the ordeal, Bianca realized that there was no point in giving up on herself. What she should do is ensure that she was in the peak condition so that she could find a way

not give up on herself, not for Luke or the child in

the spaghetti over, and the fragrance instantly filled up the entire room. Bianca was hungry again. She could also tell that the child in her womb was also

"Give it to me." Abel wanted to force-feed Bianca.

Eler was shocked when she saw Abel's calloused hand. If those hands were to force-feed Bianca, she might be half-dead by the end of the meal. "Let me do it, Boss," she quickly *said*.

"Stop wasting my time." Abel grabbed the plate from her **hands**.

Bianca opened her eyes, sat up, and looked at Abel *impassively*.

"Hm?" Abel thought that Bianca would continue to passively resist him.

"I'll eat the spaghetti, but you'll have to promise me something," Bianca said.

"**You're** now my captive. What makes you think that you can negotiate with me?" Abel smiled mockingly. He towered over her while holding the plate in one *hand*.

He wondered if Luke had spoiled her. Did she not know that he hated negotiating the most?

Usually, he would kill the other party before they reached the point of negotiation. Bianca was the first woman that tried to negotiate *with him*.

Bianca touched her relatively flat stomach with the one-month-old baby. "My baby is my best bargaining chip. You want to use the baby to hold me hostage so that I'll do whatever you say," she said.

raised his eyebrow, quite impressed by

a mother would not want their child to be placed in that situation. Other than crying and begging him to spare their lives, they would not be able to say

you can agree to my terms, I'll make sure that I eat every meal. You won't need to feed me supplements, and I'll deliver the baby when it's time." Bianca glared

then. What do you want?" Abel's interest was piqued. To him, the delivery of the baby was fully under his control because he had

Eler's younger brother. I want both of them to serve me," Bianca said, "Don't say that I'm only a prisoner and I don't deserve anyone to serve me. Didn't you ask Eler to

that all?" Abel raised an eyebrow. That seemed too

never considered Eler's younger brother a threat. He was the weakest among the captives, and he had almost zero combat

would have killed that boy if not that Eler was still useful

all," Bianca said as she touched her stomach. In her heart, she was apologizing to

rather not use the child as a bargaining chip, but she had nothing else to