

Be Gentle 1091

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After he finished speaking, the baby cried even louder. Her face was red.

Bianca's heart wrenched, but her eyes remained closed. She did not want to look at the baby.

"Tsk tsk." Abel shook his head at the crying baby. "I didn't expect that you could be so heartless, Bianca. I'll be bringing the baby away with me. You can come to me any time you feel like seeing her."

After that, he left the room with the baby.

The baby continued crying. Bianca could hear her wails as she disappeared down the corridor.

Bianca slowly opened her teary eyes. She looked as though she was going to cry at any time.

Eler immediately wiped her eyes with a napkin. "You shouldn't cry, Miss. It'll be troublesome if your wounds are infected."

Bianca blinked and looked upward.

From Bianca's expression, Eler could see that she was not as heartless as Abel said she was. "Miss, if you miss your baby, I'll let Boss know. He seems like he wants you to take care of the baby."

Bianca shook her head. "I can't take care of the baby."

Seeing that tears were oozing out of the corners of Bianca's eyes again, Eler carefully wiped them away. She thought that it was very cruel of Bianca to neglect her child, but she understood that Bianca must have her reasons for doing so.

"If I show the least bit of love toward the child, Abel will definitely use the child as a hostage and order me to do horrific things," Bianca explained. "I want to love and take care of my baby, but as much as I want to, I cannot. She'll hate me after she grows up."

silent when she heard

be a prisoner just like them, but she had

Bianca was much more useful than the two

be too sad, Miss. Your child will understand what you're doing." Eler could only comfort Bianca with words. She could tell that Bianca was doing that for the child's

and smiled wryly. She accidentally stretched her wound, which made her furrow her brows in

supposed to be innocent. She could envision that Abel would be teaching her daughter all the bad things, and her daughter would lose her innocence at a young age. How would her daughter understand what she had to

Bianca thought about it, the more she regretted it. Perhaps she should not have given birth to the

did not know what to say when she saw Bianca like that. She could only sit next to Bianca and

days later, Shanks removed the stitches from
needlework of the plastic surgery procedure was meticulously done, and there were no
the bandages on the floor and looked at her. "Do you want to
"Mm." Bianca nodded.

Shanks handed her a mirror. "Behold the new you."

Bianca's pure looks were now seductive and charming. Even though her face had not fully healed,
Shanks was very satisfied with his handiwork.

Bianca's hands that were holding the mirror were shaking.

She looked completely different.

She was no longer her former self. Even though her face remained swollen from the procedure, she
could tell that her face was supposed to be *seductive*.

With his scalpel, Shanks had turned her face into something charming and sexy, like a movie star in **the
magazines**.

"You've turned another woman into me and turned me into another woman. I have to admit that you're
very skilled," Bianca mumbled as she looked at herself in the mirror. Her voice was suffused
with *despair*.

She wished that she was looking at someone else. However, when she opened her mouth, the reflection
in the mirror also opened her mouth. When she closed it, the reflection closed her mouth too.

Shanks felt something peculiar when he heard her say that. He did not answer her question but instead
said, "You can see the effects even when your face is swollen. After the swelling subsides, you can let
me know if you're not satisfied with anything. I'll change it for you."

Bianca put the mirror away in despair. She had been steeped in misery ever since the procedure. When
she heard what Shanks told her, she wanted to slam her head into *the wall*.

"Rest well. Your training will resume in a week," Shanks said decisively.

did not give her a confinement period after delivering the baby. He only gave her some time to rest
because she was weak after

did not pay attention to what Shanks said. Her mind was occupied with her face that did not look like
herself. Slowly, she slumped on the bed. Her gaze was

after Shanks left, the kitchen lady came into the room with
up," the kitchen lady said brusquely

looked at the middle-aged lady suspiciously. "Is there something, Madam? Miss isn't

kitchen lady rolled her eyes. "Boss told me to extract some breast milk from her. If she's not taking care
of the baby, what should the

and looked at Bianca worriedly. "Can you sit up,

that the baby needed to be fed, Bianca nodded. She had to sit up even though it was painful. She could not take care of her baby personally, so that was all she could do

"Help me up," Bianca said.

her lips together and carefully helped Bianca

felt pain shoot up her stomach when she sat up, and her body uncontrollably arched. It had been seven days since the delivery, but the pain

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"It's not painful. It's better to feed the baby breast milk," Bianca said softly. She knew that breast milk was better than baby formula.

Seeing Bianca's determination, Eler did not try to convince her otherwise. She saw that it was already noon and said, "I'll go and get lunch from the kitchen, Miss. Please rest for a while."

"Alright." Bianca closed her eyes.

Meanwhile, in A City.

Luke was standing in the corridor. He frowned hard when he heard the hysterical screams coming from inside.

Unable to alleviate his frustration otherwise, he took out a pack of cigarettes and lit one.

The person screaming hysterically in the ward was Bianca Rayne. He had made arrangements to transport her back to A City after finding her.

According to the diagnosis, Bianca had many serious psychological problems caused by repeated trauma.

As for her body...

Luke dragged his cigarette out of frustration.

Johann had asked a female doctor to conduct a full examination on Bianca's body, who found many signs of abuse. According to the condition of her wounds, the last time Bianca was violated was three months ago.

Wanda walked over hurriedly when she saw Luke. "Luke, we heard that Bianca is back. Is it true?"

"Yes," Luke replied as he listened to those hysterical screams. Bianca was in a horrible condition. She would not let any stranger go near her, and she would react violently whenever she saw a male.

she?" Wanda and her father had gone back to their hometown and stayed there for a while. They only returned to A City after receiving the news that Bianca was

not realize that the person screaming hysterically in the ward was

she..." Luke stubbed out the cigarette and took a deep breath before continuing, "She's

do you mean?" Wanda's heart skipped a beat and asked
glanced at the door and said, "The doctors are
eyes opened wide in disbelief. "She's injured? Does the voice belong to
nodded, feeling agony in his
shook her head. "No. That's not Bea's voice. She would not make that kind of noise even if she's
suffering from a
Bianca's aunt and had watched her grow up. She knew what Bianca's voice was
through some things, Aunt Wanda. Her voice is different now because of the trauma," Luke said. From
the scar on Bianca's neck, he could tell that her vocal cords were
vision turned black all of a sudden, and she supported herself with the wall. "How could this... did Bea
lose her
did not reply. He did not know if Bianca had lost her mind, and Johann could not give him an answer.
Occasionally, Bianca would behave
She would only become hysterical when he or other men appeared in front of her.
"Bea *wouldn't* lose her mind. She's a strong girl..." Wanda could not believe **it**.
"Don't worry, Aunt Wanda. She'll eventually recover," Luke comforted her.
"I still don't believe that the person inside is Bea. Can I go in and take a look, please?" Wanda said.
"**You can** go in later," Luke said. "Bea is emotionally unstable now, and the nurse is administering a
tranquilizer shot."
Bianca tended to behave recklessly, such as stripping her clothes or injuring herself and **others**.
"**Okay.**" **Wanda** nodded and clasped her hands together. They were cold, just like her *heart*.
The sounds in the ward subsided a little, indicating that the tranquilizer was taking effect. Luke brought
her to the door and said, "You can go in now, *Aunt Wanda*."
"*Aren't you* going in?" Wanda looked **at him**.
"*Bea* hasn't recovered yet, and she will react violently when she sees any male. I don't want to agitate
her," Luke explained that Bianca did not recognize him.
Wanda pressed her lips together and went *inside*.
A woman laid on the bed. Wanda could see that her fingers were still moving; the tranquilizer had not
taken full effect.
"**Bea?**" **Wanda** called out with a **trembling voice**.
on the bed gave

really you, Bea?" Wanda walked over slowly and looked at the patient on the bed. She had the same face

It was indeed Bianca.

Wanda stared at the woman, her expression slowly dulled. She could not believe that the person in front of her was indeed Bianca. Tears gushed out of her eyes when she saw the bandages around the

"What happened to you, Bea?"

woman on the bed did not respond. Instead, she slowly closed her

The tranquilizer was taking effect.

nurse standing by the side said, "She's not very responsive to people now. She would ignore anyone who speaks

not believe it. She covered her mouth and began to sob. "Will she get

is very uncooperative now, and the doctor can't promise anything, so we don't really know. Don't worry, we'll take good care of her nonetheless," the nurse promised. Bianca seemed to have retreated into her own world, and she never acknowledged the conversations that happened around

said that Bianca was displaying signs of post-traumatic stress disorder. That was how she could cope with what happened

her head. "This isn't

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Luke was silent.

Just like Wanda, he had the same unfamiliar feeling with the woman in the ward. He had been telling himself that Bianca had changed a lot after the trauma she had experienced.

Wanda was silent when she saw that Luke did not say anything. "I understand that you have reasonable doubts, Luke. I might be Bianca's aunt, but I won't say anything if you decide to investigate."

Luke nodded slightly. "I'll go in and take a look at Bianca."

Wanda nodded. "I'll go home first. Bea's grandfather is still waiting. I hope you can give some consideration to what I said."

"I'll consider it carefully," Luke said thoughtfully.

After Wanda left, Luke went into the ward.

The nurse taking care of Bianca nodded toward him, then left the ward to give the married couple some personal space.

Luke moved close to the bed and looked at Bianca, who was sleeping soundly.

Ever since she was admitted to the hospital, she had been either behaving hysterically or sitting there in a daze. She responded to no one, had to be sedated through medication, and barely ate or drank anything. In just a week, she was visibly thinner.

The children at home wanted to meet their mother very much, but Bianca was in a terrible state. Luke could only find excuses to stall them.

The media outlets found that Bianca was found and even caught wind of what happened in D City. They staked out at Crawford Manor, T Corporation, and the hospital, hoping to get the latest scoop.

return caused a sensation in A

are you really back?" Luke

Bianca did not respond.

at Bianca's hair. His gaze wavered when he thought of what Wanda told

Eventually, he did not touch her.

in this mental state because of her trauma. He still believed that the woman was

pulled his hand back, sat down next to her, and covered her with

that Bianca was found soon spread to the

furious when she heard about it. She immediately went to her bedroom and called

call went through, Maxine started yelling into the phone. "What's the meaning of this, Abel? I've already forgiven you for not killing Bianca, but why did you set her free? What should

frowned and moved the phone away from his ear when he heard that voice. He said, "I say, Ms. Douglas, why are you so agitated? Our deal was to deal with Bianca. I've never promised that I'll help you court

Maxine became even angrier when he mentioned that. "So what's the meaning of setting **Bianca free**?"

"**Are you** sure that the woman is Bianca?" Abel smiled sinisterly and looked at the baby cot next to him. Bianca's daughter had fallen asleep after **drinking milk**.

The sleeping baby was like an angel. That only made Abel want to destroy the baby even more.

Maxine was shocked. "What do you mean? Are you saying that the woman Luke found is **an impostor**?"

"**Indeed**. I've arranged it." Abel reached out and poked the baby's **cheek**.

The baby pouted to show her dissatisfaction to the person who disturbed her, but she did not **wake up**.

Maxine lost her temper at that instant. "Why do you do that? How am I going to win Luke's heart after *this*?"

Ever since the drugging incident, her father had kept a strict eye on her and did not let her step out of the **house**.

Even so, she could not stop thinking about Luke. She sank into despair when she found out that Bianca was back.

"I've told you that whether you manage to court Luke is none of my business. I don't provide any after-sales service. Also, I have my reasons why I arranged an impostor Bianca. How can you blame me when you can't court him after nine months?" Abel's voice was suffused with impatience.

He made it clear that he did not promise to help Maxine win Luke's heart. Even if he did, he would break his promise, just like what *Capital Corp* did.

The breach of contract dealt a huge blow to his plans. He had to dig into the funds that Robert left for him to finance the pharmaceutical company. That was why he arranged for an impostor Bianca despite knowing that Maxine was still trying to court Luke.

bit her lip. Abel sounded calm, but she could hear the mockery in
implying that Maxine was not

into a corner, Maxine said hatefully, "Aren't you afraid that I'll tell Luke that the woman is an impostor? He'll find out everything if he sends her DNA

his gaze, not threatened by what Maxine said. "Go and tell him if you wish. I'll have to remind you that we're on the same boat now. If you ruin my plans, I won't let you off that

gone too far, Abel!" Maxine hung

was not in a hurry to call back. He knew that Maxine was not

would not spoil his plans just because of an

Maxine's words reminded him of something: He could fake Bianca's appearance but not

dialed a number on his phone and said, "Help me

Bianca ate her meal, prepared her baby's dinner, and put on her clothes. Shanks came into

shocked. After seeing that it was Shanks, she handed the flask to Eler and said, "Please help me deliver this to the kitchen lady,

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Bianca lifted her head in shock and saw Shanks placing her hair in the sealing bag. "What are you doing?"

"Preventing Luke Crawford from discovering that the person is a fake Bianca Rayne." Shanks did not hide the truth from her. Now that she had delivered her baby and her health was recovering, he was not afraid that she might kill herself.

He expected that Bianca would be angry after hearing that. However, she smiled mockingly instead.

"How meticulous. How else do you plan to torment me?" She asked.

As Shanks looked at her mocking expression, his heart stung as though there was a tiny needle pricking it.

He picked up his things on the bed and left the room.

Bianca's mocking smile faded as she watched Shanks leave the room. She expected that Luke would suspect that the woman was only an impostor and get her DNA analyzed, but she did not expect that Abel and Shanks would think of that too.

If Luke performed a DNA test on that woman, they would be swapping her blood and hair samples.

Once they managed to fool Luke with the DNA samples, the lie would become the truth.

Luke would believe that the woman who looked like her was really her. When she would eventually appear in front of him with a different face, he would not even look at her.

That was the truth. No matter how intelligent she and Luke were, Abel in the shadows was always a step ahead of them.

Shanks returned to his laboratory. He still felt the slight pain in his heart, as though a heart attack was coming.

out a bottle of heart pills, took one out, and swallowed it

in with Bianca's baby and noticed that Abel was swallowing a pill. "Hey, what happened to you? Why are you taking pills?" He

nothing." Shanks's face turned ashen when Abel caught him in the act of taking medicine. He put the bottle of pills away and turned around. When he saw the unprofessional way Abel was carrying the baby, he frowned and took the baby from

could not help but chuckle when he saw how nervous Shanks was. "You seem to care for the baby a lot. Why don't you take care of her? That'll save me some

was very young, but her personality was exactly like

was adorable when she was quiet, but once she started throwing a tantrum, Abel had the urge to toss her on the floor to

rejected the idea immediately. Abel could have given the baby back to Bianca if he did not want to take care of her, but he did not do so, as though he was deliberately tormenting

didn't expect you to refuse so quickly." Abel was quite

wrong with her?" Shanks asked. He knew that Abel was not the kind of person who would carry a baby around just for the fun of it. Abel must have a reason for bringing the baby to look

threw up after she drank milk. The kitchen lady said that she's been having the runs too. Can you check on her?" Usually, Abel could not be bothered dealing with such petty matters, but the baby was frail and dependent on him. If he neglected her, she might die at

heard that, he stuffed the baby back into

"You..." Before Abel could let his dissatisfaction known, Shanks began running his *tests*.

Soon, he announced his conclusion. "She has the stomach flu."

"**What should** we do?" Abel asked. He had no experience in childcare, and he was not interested in taking care of children.

"*Reduce* her food and liquids. If she doesn't recover, I'll have to hook her to a drip," *Shanks said*.

"*That's so* troublesome," Abel said in frustration when he heard that. He stuffed the baby into Shanks's arms. "You'll take care of her while she's sick. Don't worry, I'll get the kitchen lady to help you too."

Before Shanks could protest, Abel had already turned around. Suddenly, Abel seemed to have remembered something and turned around again. "Right, where are the things I **want?**"

Shanks looked at several objects on the table.

When Abel saw where Shanks was looking, he went over and picked up all the items from the table. Then, he patted Shanks's shoulder and said, "Thanks."

After that, he left the laboratory.

Shanks lowered his head and looked at the baby. The baby had already woken up after being shoved around. She was looking at him.

The baby was too young to recognize faces, so she was not afraid of strangers. Shanks's gaze turned gentle when the baby smiled sweetly at him. He could feel a corner of his *heart melt*.

sighed. He would have to deal with the little menace

got his minions to send over the baby cot and all sorts of supplies to Shanks's

not used to so much clutter in his laboratory. The baby had already fallen asleep again, so he gently put her in

kitchen lady came in. She was behaving courteously toward Shanks. "Mr. Shanks, Boss asked me to come here to take care of

the only doctor on the island, and he was irreplaceable. Everyone on the island had to respect

glanced coldly at the person who had just come through the door and said, "I don't like being interrupted when I'm conducting experiments. If I don't need you, you can wait

kitchen lady dared not retort because she knew that Shanks had an eccentric

glanced at the sleeping baby and said, "I don't need you now. Go outside and wait. I'll call you if I need

kitchen lady glanced at the sleeping baby and could not help but wonder how Shanks managed to calm her

baby was under Abel's care, she did not stop crying and wailing. The kitchen lady would have to carry her to sleep. After the baby was placed in the cot, she would usually start

you still standing there?"

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"It's not serious. Don't you trust in Mr. Shanks's skills?" The kitchen lady chuckled when she saw how anxious Eler was. Then, she continued, "It's strange though. The baby has been very difficult, but I've never heard her cry in the lab. Mr. Shanks is either very good with kids, or..."

The kitchen lady stopped speaking. Eler did not understand what she was trying to say, so she asked, "Or what, Madam?"

"Silly girl! What if Mr. Shanks calmed the baby down with drugs?" The kitchen lady whispered.

Shanks was not short on drugs. Surely at least one of them could be used to calm a baby down.

Eler was shocked. "Mr. Shanks will never do that!" She said in disbelief.

"What do you mean? None of the men on this island would have the patience to take care of a baby!" The kitchen lady said.

Eler became even more anxious when she heard that. She was about to rush into the laboratory to check on the baby when Shanks came out while carrying the baby.

"Give it to me." He glanced at the flask in the kitchen lady's hand.

The kitchen lady gave him the flask immediately.

Eler stole a glance at the baby in Shanks's arms. She had a smile on her fair and cute face, and her eyes were animated and lively.

The baby did not look like she was drugged.

Shanks glanced at Eler. "Is there anything?" He asked.

Eler shook her head and replied, "Nothing. I'll go and take care of Miss. Bye, Mr. Shanks."

turned around, and

turned his head to look at the kitchen lady. The middle-aged woman bowed her head subserviently, as though waiting for

like people who talk behind my back. You can go back to the kitchen," Shanks

lady was shocked when she heard that. Kitchen duty was tiring and dirty while taking care of the child was relatively easier. She tried to explain herself, "I didn't mean that,

me repeat myself." Shanks closed the

lady watched the door close and could only turn around and walk away while cursing Eler under her

the room, Eler smiled and told Bianca, "I have news for you,

the book away and looked at her. "What is

is taking care of the baby now. He's quite easy-going, and he won't tell tales. If you miss your daughter, you can visit her at his lab," Eler

Shanks was much gentler than Abel. She believed that Shanks would be able to take care of the

Bianca was surprised. "Did something happen to

serious, she only caught the stomach flu. Don't worry, Mr. Shanks is a very skilled doctor, and your daughter will surely be fine. I saw her earlier, she doesn't look like

'Stomach flu...'

Bianca felt slightly more relieved. She knew that it was common for newborn children to be down with the stomach flu because of their weak immune systems. Tommy had been down with the stomach flu several times before he turned one.

The baby would be fine as long as someone took good care of **her**.

"Do you want to visit her, Miss?" Eler **asked**.

"It's fine. Mr. Shanks will take good care of her, and she doesn't need me." Bianca decided to be heartless. Shanks might not have harmed her on his own accord, but she treated him as her *enemy*.

She dared not visit the child in case it would result in some unwanted incidents. She was happy as long as the child was safe.

Bianca knew that she could not protect the child. What was most important now was to keep her distance from the child and not get too involved with her upbringing. In the future, when she was strong enough to leave the Island of Despair, she would bring the child along with her.

"**Alright.**" Eler sighed. She knew that Bianca would not be able to stay strong if she visited her child.

Seven days later.

The swelling on Bianca's face had subsided. The adjustments on her face looked more natural and charming than **ever**.

She would be resuming her training today.

She did not undergo any strength training when she was pregnant, so Abel had arranged a series of intensive strength training programs *for her*.

"**Can** you take it, Miss?" Eler was worried when she found out what Bianca had to do.

to become stronger." Bianca pinched her stomach and put on her jacket. She was too weak now, and if she followed her previous routine, it would take a very long time for her to

she wanted to escape from her current situation, she had no one else to rely on

do it, Miss!" Eler cheered her on. She and her brother had also been training, but they did not improve as fast as Bianca

for yourself and Amur." Bianca wrapped a rubber band

replied and followed behind

felt emotional when she looked at Bianca's seemingly frail back. Bianca always had a way to cheer the

had to work harder so that they could escape from Abel's

mercenary was already waiting for Bianca at the training grounds. His beady eyes flashed with interest when he saw her petite and

"You're late," he said.

at the training grounds was met with punishment. Bianca glanced at her watch and said coldly, "I still have one

mercenary looked at his watch and saw that it was indeed the case. He

opposite him and counted down. When the time was up, she said, "Let's

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With the mercenary's hand on her throat, Eler struggled to breathe. She slapped the mercenary's hand to free herself, but he did not loosen his grip.

"I'll spar with you," Bianca said.

The mercenary let go of Eler when he heard that. He smiled viciously at Bianca and said, "Alright, let's do it."

Eler took two steps back. While she caught her breath, she looked at Bianca worriedly. All the mercenaries on the island had blood on their hands. How would Bianca remain unhurt?

Bianca looked warily at the man that would pounce at her at any time. He was like a wolf, while she was nothing more than food.

She was not going to be defeated.

"Coward," the mercenary muttered. Seeing that Bianca did not take the initiative to attack him, he pounced at her again. He had a complete advantage in terms of size and strength.

Bianca nimbly dodged the attack.

"Amateur!" The mercenary grunted coldly. He steadied himself before launching at her again.

When the opponent got close, Bianca remembered what Shanks had taught her and stared intently at a certain spot on the opponent's arm. Just when their bodies were about to touch, she pinched that spot on his arm.

"Ahh!" The man roared in pain and held his arm.

Bianca let go and looked at him calmly.

"What did you do to me?" The mercenary glared at her.

"Shall we continue?" Bianca asked. She had learned a lot about human anatomy from Shanks when she was pregnant, and she was familiar with the body's weak points.

mercenary might be a skilled fighter, but he was not as well-learned in anatomy. Bianca knew that she could not beat him in brute force, so she had to fight him with

mercenary was not going to admit defeat yet. He tried to charge at him again, but he could not lift his arm at

you do to me?" The pain in his arm was causing him to tear

You'll be back to normal in twelve hours. Just make sure that you don't overwork your arm in this period,"

Just you wait!" The mercenary wanted to throw a punch at Bianca, but he could not clench his fist. It was as though his arm was

He could only leave pathetically.

looked at Eler. "Are

Miss." Eler smiled so that Bianca did not have to worry about

looked at the red mark on Eler's neck

at Bianca respectfully and asked her, "What was that move earlier, Miss? That looked

gripped a horizontal bar and began to do pull-ups. "I knew where his weak

was different depending on how hard Bianca pinched his weak point. She had used her full strength earlier, so his arm was temporarily

did not pinch so hard, he would have felt pain in the arm for a while, but he would be able to use it immediately

She did not show mercy to the mercenary. After all, he had tried to take advantage of **her earlier**.

"*Weak points?* That's amazing, Miss!" Eler's admiration toward Bianca grew even more.

"**It's** all thanks to Shanks." There was no hint of admiration in Bianca's voice when she said those words.

Indeed, she had to thank Shanks for teaching her anatomy. Otherwise, she would be dead or at least seriously injured by the end of the session.

The mercenary went to complain to Abel. "Trash!" Abel yelled at the mercenary when he heard that Bianca had disabled the mercenary's arm with one pinch.

The mercenary was angry, but he dared not talk back. He had indeed underestimated Bianca, but calling him trash was too much.

Abel stepped out with a savage expression on his face. "I'd like to see her trick for *myself*."

He did not believe that Bianca could incapacitate a mercenary that easily.

Bianca was still doing pull-ups while Abel came to the training grounds. She grinned when she saw Abel and the mercenary walk in. The routine was quite physically demanding, so she was panting when she hopped off the bar.

"What did you do?" Abel asked.

"I found his weak point," Bianca replied while looking contemptuously at the mercenary behind Abel. She did not expect him to tattle **on her**.

Abel raised an eyebrow. He could not help but be impressed by Shanks's knowledge as he admired the charming face. "Was *that* wrestling?"

"**It's not** wrestling, but he wasn't trying to wrestle me either. He wanted to kill me!" Bianca *said*.

"**Nonsense!** I was teaching you how to wrestle!" The mercenary retorted. Abel had told them that none of them could attempt to kill *Bianca*.

would be punished if Abel found out about what he was trying

tried to cop a feel when you threw me,"

Do you think that you're that desirable? You're nothing but used goods!" The mercenary

"Shut up!" Abel yelled at him.

The mercenary shut his mouth sheepishly.

see that the mercenary was indeed trying to

mercenary felt uneasy being stared at like that. He tried to deny it again. "That woman is lying,

to his weak defense and chuckled coldly. "Am

you are! How can I possibly be interested in you?" The

not speak further. Abel was not blind, and there was no point in her

turned around and faced

mercenary wanted to explain further when Abel kicked him to

The mercenary tried to speak while clutching his

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Abel chuckled, stood up, and looked at Bianca.

She remained impassive, even though he had ended someone's life in front of her.

"I'll get you another trainer." Abel turned around and walked away.

Eler could not stop shaking as she looked at the dead mercenary. "What do we do, Miss?"

"That's just how Abel is, Eler. Try to steer clear of him." Bianca stared at the dead mercenary, whose eyes were still open. She showed no fear even after Abel left.

She turned around, went back to the horizontal bar, and continued doing pull-ups.

Eler took two steps back and said in a daze, "What about that man..."

Bianca struggled to pull herself up the bar while saying, "Abel will take care of that."

The mercenary's eyes were wide open, though there was no light in them. He looked at them as though hoping that they would help him.

Eler was unnerved. She went toward a corner of the wall.

Soon, two well-built men came into the training grounds. They did not say a word as they carried the dead mercenary away by his arms and legs.

"Wait, what are you going to do with the body?" Eler asked them.

"Throw him into the wolf pen. Boss's orders," one of the men replied.

reared several wolves, and that man had become their food. Eler's stomach churned when she imagined how the wolves would tear through that

two men left the training grounds with the

walked up next to Bianca and saw that she was drenched in sweat. "Please rest for a while, Miss," she

Bianca remained determined. She did her

a few more reps, she felt that she was at her physical limit, so she jumped off the

her a towel and a bottle of water. She took them, drank two sips of water, and wiped her

had to train harder so that she would be

mercenary came in through the door and said to Bianca impassively. "I'll be

and stood at the position of

spread around the island that Abel had dispatched an insubordinate mercenary. The rest of the people dared not go against Abel's

mercenary walked in front of the two women, took off his jacket, and gave them an introduction to the fundamentals of

listened to the explanation attentively. When it came to putting the theory into practice, Bianca was lacking in physical strength, but she managed to put up a

noded in satisfaction. "Very good, you've mastered the basics. You'll improve greatly if you can complement your technique with

"*Thank you.*" Bianca nodded. She looked at the time; it was the end of the training **session**.

After the mercenary left, Eler looked at Bianca while panting. "Miss, are you **tired?**"

"I'm not tired." Bianca wiped the sweat off her body with a towel. She could see that Eler was worn out.

"Let's go back," she said.

"*Alright.*" Eler stood up, picked up the water bottle and the towel, and followed behind **her**.

As they were walking toward their room, they met Shanks, who was pushing a baby **stroller**.

Bianca's heart skipped a beat. She immediately turned around so she did not have to face *Shanks*.

Shanks stopped walking when he saw Bianca behave like that. He lowered his head to look at the sleeping baby and said, "Don't you want to see your daughter?"

"**I don't**," Bianca lied and acted tough. Tears had already welled up in her eyes as she turned over.

Shanks carried the baby in his arms. "You haven't given a name to your **daughter, Bianca.**"

"Do I have the right to?" Bianca lowered her head. She could not control her tears. She had been thinking of a name before she gave birth to **the child.**

"*You* are her mother." Shanks went closer to her with the baby.

"*Nyla. Nyla Crawford,*" Bianca said softly. Her shoulders trembled **uncontrollably.**

Shanks repeated the name as he carried the baby in his arms. "You haven't looked at Nyla yet, Bianca. The girl is docile and obedient. She looks like you, especially your

on the verge of a breakdown after hearing Shanks's words. She clenched her fists and punched the wall. "I don't want to look at her. Take her

loud voice caused the sleeping baby girl to wake up and

heart wrenched as the baby girl's cries entered

rocked the baby while saying, "Do you think that you can hide from her forever? You'll still have to face her when she grows up. Wouldn't it be a pity if you missed out on her

body shook. Of course, it would be a great

had missed out on the first few years of Lanie and Rainie's lives, and she had always felt guilty about it. She tried to make it up to them whenever

look at your daughter, Miss," Eler also tried to convince

her eyes and let the tears flow. A long while later, she slowly turned

The baby was still crying.

looked at the baby in Shanks's arms and reached out. "Give her to

Shanks handed the baby to Bianca.

experienced in carrying babies. She immediately put the baby in a

Chapter 1099

"I hate you," Shanks said candidly. He hated Luke Crawford and his family, but that seemed to have changed after he took care of Nyla.

He could not get himself to hate that baby at all, even though the baby carried Luke and Bianca's blood.

"Why would you grant me my wish then?" Bianca asked. Ever since she carried the baby in her arms, she could not hide her true emotions.

"I have no interest in taking care of your baby for you," Shanks said while putting his hands into his pockets. He turned to Eler and said, "She's almost recovered from her stomach flu now, but you'll have to be careful. Also, the baby's necessities are in my lab. Come over and take them away."

After that, he turned around and left.

Bianca felt a complicated mix of emotions as she watched Shanks leave.

If Shanks did not want to take care of the baby, he could have handed it to the kitchen lady or even Abel.

Why would he hand the baby to her?

Bianca was confused.

Eler was delighted. She touched the baby's hand and said, "This is great news, Miss. From now on, you can personally take care of Nyla."

Bianca laughed dryly. "I don't have the time for that."

Her only free time was at night...

Abel would not grant her the luxury of taking care of her baby. Also, she was not willing to sacrifice her training time.

wanted to leave the Island of Despair, so she wanted to grow strong as soon as possible. Having to take care of the baby would interfere with her

planned to go along with Bianca. As she watched Shanks leave, she said thoughtfully, "I think Mr. Shanks will think of a way to

chuckled and started to walk back to her room. "He won't

isn't as bad as you think, Miss," Eler said. She had focused her attention on Bianca and her baby, so she did not have the time to process her affection for Shanks. Now that she had calmed down, her face began to

her head. "Bring the

went and pushed Nyla's stroller toward

night, the kitchen lady went to

something, Madam?" Eler and Bianca were playing with

says that I'll take care of Ms. Kathryn when you're away at training," the kitchen lady said quite rudely. She thought that Eler had set her up so that Shanks got angry

"Kathryn?" Bianca looked at the baby.

Boss gave the baby a name, and it's Kathryn!" The kitchen

I know." Bianca did not expect that Abel would do that. Perhaps Shanks had a part

She was relieved that the kitchen lady would be able to take care of Nyla while she and Eler were away at training.

Eler held Bianca's hands excitedly. "This is good news, Miss. I knew that Mr. Shanks would think of something. We won't have to worry about Nyla while we're away **at training.**"

The kitchen lady glanced at Bianca and Eler coldly before leaving without saying a word. She decided to let go of the grudge against Eler.

Now that she was tasked to take care of the baby again, she could stay away from the tiring and dirty work of **the kitchen.**

"Mm." *Bianca* looked at Nyla and gently poked her little nose. "You are not Kathryn. You are Nyla. Nyla Crawford. **Understand?**"

No matter what Abel thought of the baby, she was a *Crawford.*

Little Nyla smiled at Bianca.

Eler's heart warmed when she saw that. "Nyla really looks like you, Miss."

Bianca touched her face, wondering if that was true. "She doesn't look like the current me."

"**I'm** sorry, Miss..." Eler realized that she had misspoken and apologized immediately. Even though Shanks had done a fine job, Bianca still could not accept the fact that she looked like a different person *now.*

"**It's** nothing." Bianca shook her head and carried Nyla. "Help me close the door. I want to feed **Nyla.**"

"*Alright.*" *Eler* nodded and closed the door. The door had no lock, so Eler had to lean against the door so that no one could **come in.**

night, Bianca could not sleep. She sat up and looked at Nyla in

Nyla was sleeping soundly.

your mother, Nyla. Your father is Luke Crawford. Can you remember that?" Bianca mumbled while leaning on the

not wake up, but her hand moved as though replying to her

and covered her with

her father, and she was

...

A City.

in a meeting at T Corporation, but he was interrupted by a phone

the call, he whispered something into Jason's ear, then left the

managers in the conference room looked at each other. It was not the first time that this happened. They could tell that the interruption had something to do with

it that Mrs. Crawford had lost her mind. There was no concrete proof, but it was not entirely made up either. They could tell that there was some truth behind the rumors every time Luke abruptly stepped out of the meeting or changed his

Chapter 1100

"I'll go and attend to these," Wanda said helplessly and glanced at the patient inside the ward.

The nurse had administered a tranquilizer shot to Bianca. Bianca lay there like a wooden puppet while the nurse dressed her wounds.

Luke nodded and went inside.

"Where is she hurt?" He asked the nurse.

The nurse answered Luke's question while dressing Bianca's injuries with a bandage. "Most of the wounds are on the wrists. I've already cleaned them, and she's fine now."

Luke felt a dull ache in his heart when he saw the layers of bandages on her wrists.

"Right, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Osmond asks you to go to her office," the nurse relayed the information from Bianca's doctor.

"Alright, I'll go over now." Luke left the ward and went to Dr. Osmond's office.

"You're here, Mr. Crawford," Dr. Osmond said as soon as she saw him come in.

Luke sat down opposite her. They had been discussing Bianca's condition like that for some time now.

said that you were looking for me," he

want to see you because of what happened earlier today." Dr. Osmond placed a lot of attention on Bianca's case, not only because of Bianca's elevated status but also because her circumstances were rather

the security feed, and everything was normal until your wife saw the painting. She became emotionally disturbed and had self-harm tendencies. I think that she hasn't calmed down enough yet. In my opinion, you shouldn't rush her into remembering her past. After all, her biggest obstacle to recovery is her psychological trauma. We should tend to her trauma first before letting her recollect her past," Dr.

normal for a patient's family members to be impatient. Wanda did not do much, and no one had expected Bianca to react

is because of her experiences, right?"

be the case." Dr. Osmond nodded. Bianca did not want to talk to anyone. The doctor had used many methods and could only conclude that Bianca was very afraid of certain

she was afraid of men. The doctor had also just found out that she was afraid of certain things in

have any way to make her forget what happened in the past nine months?"

"Well..." Dr. Osmond hesitated.

"Yes or no?" Luke asked. His tone of voice turned cold.

Luke's imposing demeanor managed to make Dr. Osmond lower her head, even though she was a psychologist. "There is a way, but it's practically very difficult," she said.

"Continue." Luke was listening.

"*We can* suppress a patient's deepest fears by using hypnosis. The memories would not be triggered unless the patient is faced with another major traumatic incident. Many case studies have shown that hypnosis helps in helping a patient overcome their fears. However, it's not a foolproof method. After all, its efficiency greatly relies on the patient's willpower. Some people cannot let go of their past traumas, and the memories would resurface very quickly even after successful hypnosis," Dr. Osmond **said**.

"What are the chances of success?"

"**According** to research, there's a sixty percent chance of success, and many people can live uninterrupted lives for five years or more. However, there are certain risks to hypnosis. For example, some people's memories might be buried together with their trauma, and they would wake up to a world that is wholly unfamiliar to them. Also, if the procedure fails, the patient would suffer double the trauma," Dr. Osmond **answered truthfully**.

"*What* do you suggest?" Luke wanted to hear her opinion.

Dr. Osmond smiled and said, "I would suggest that we keep observing her. If her situation doesn't improve in a month, it's not too late to explore other treatment *methods*."

Luke did not want to wait without knowing the results. He asked again, "Who is the most famous hypnotist in *the world*?"

suffered, he would

worst-case scenario, Bianca would have to forget her

as I know, the best hypnotist is Professor Tia. She has her unique set of methods, and she rarely fails. However, she has her own research lab, and not many people get to hire her. Also, Mrs. Crawford shouldn't travel long distances for the time being," Dr. Osmond

Luke stood up. "I'll

Luke needed was the name. If there were no other options than hypnosis, Luke would hire her no matter what it

Dr. Osmond's office, Luke went to

browsing through some medical records when he heard the sound of footsteps. He lifted his head and nodded at his visitor. "I've heard all about

want to hire a hypnotist so that she can forget what happened to her in the past months," Luke said as he sat down on

frowned. He knew some psychology, but he was not a professional psychologist. "What did Dr. Osmond