

Be Gentle 1141

Chapter 1141

Luca chuckled softly when she noticed how uncomfortable he was. He had referred to her as 'Miss' for three years and was not used to calling her by her name. She served him two pieces of beef and said, "Okay, let's eat."

"Thank you..." Amur smiled shyly. "Thank you."

After the meal, Amur took the initiative to wash the dishes while Luca helped him clean up the room where he would sleep in. She put all the books back in the bookcase and took out a new bed sheet from the closet. She wanted to make sure that he felt at home.

"Thank you, Miss." Amur finished washing the dishes and saw her running around to prepare the room for him. He stepped forward to thank her.

"Stop calling me 'Miss'." Luca shook her head helplessly, pointed to the trash bag on the floor, and said, "You can take this out for me. I haven't had the chance to clean it up after I experimented two days ago."

"Okay." Amur took the garbage bag and walked out.

After Luca made the bed, she took the initiative to wipe all the surfaces in the room.

Amur came back after throwing the garbage. His heart was warm when he saw that she was still cleaning.

When they were on the Island of Despair, Luca was cold to everyone. The only time she would have a warm smile on her face was when she saw Nyla. Now that she was not on the island, she looked much more comfortable and showed her warm personality.

Only after she left the Island of Despair could she be who she truly was—someone beautiful and warm.

After Luca cleaned everything, she said softly, "Okay, it's clean! You can sleep more comfortably now."

looked at the cleaned room. Although it did not look like a proper bedroom, it was warmer than the environment he was used to

took the towel and walked out of the bedroom. She looked at the time and said, "Amur, I need to prepare for work tomorrow. There's a TV and a computer in the room. Feel free to use them to kill

You can do what you need to do. Don't worry about me." Amur

looked at his shy smile and thought that he looked like a typical boy next door. No one would believe that he was an

Amur and Eler should not have been able to survive on the Island of Despair. If Abel had been cruel enough, the siblings would not be

smiled and went back to

sat on the bed and thought of Amur's first mission. At that time, he was already good enough and completed the mission that involved taking someone's life. After returning to the island, he had nightmares every night for half a month.

not know about this, but she and

assassin, there was no turning back after the first kill. This was Amur's third mission. He still had the warm smile of a young boy on his face, but as time passed, his attitude would gradually

sat on the sofa and sighed. She hoped she could leave the Island of Despair as soon as possible and help the siblings move on with

She took out her phone to look at the photos Amur sent her. As she stared at Nyla's cute face, she thought to herself that she must go back soon and leave the island with Nyla.

After she thought about it for a while, Luca turned on her computer and began to look through the documents that Shanks had previously **worked on**.

Abel wanted her to continue the research based on what Shanks had found and use it to benefit T Corporation's new pharmaceutical division.

Luca was not sure why he wanted to do this, but she was certain that Abel was not trying to benefit Luke. He had something else planned when he instructed her to do this.

By the time she sorted out all the documents, it was already evening. When she walked out of the bedroom, she found that Amur had prepared dinner.

"Amur, what are you..." Luca looked at the Russian food on the table that smelled wonderful. "I didn't know you **could cook**."

"When I was young, Eler and I used to cook on alternate days. But it's been years since I cooked. I only know how to cook Russian food. If you don't like it, I'll cook other dishes for you." Amur was worried that she was not a fan of Russian cuisine.

"You don't need to cook anything else. These are wonderful, and they smell great." Luca walked over and sat down. The aroma of the food whetted her *appetite*.

Amur was a little overwhelmed by her praise. He smiled, sat opposite her, and looked at *her nervously*.

Luca picked up a fork and took a bite. The flavors of Russian food was not the same as what she was used to, but she had grown accustomed to the taste after so many years on the Island of Despair. After taking a few bites, she smiled and said, "It's delicious, even better than the cooks on the island."

glad you like it." Amur heaved a sigh of relief when she said that she liked his

dinner, Amur took the liberty to do the

that there was nothing she could do to help, Luca put her coat on and said to Amur, "Amur, I'll go for a walk

leaned half of his body out from the kitchen and said with a smile,

worry, not many people can hurt me." Luca smiled and opened the door to were lively at night. There were many small food stalls around and the crowd was was not considered a wealthy area in A City, but it was a depiction of slowly on the side of the road, enjoying the feeling of peace in barbecue stall, a fat man squinted his eyes and watched as Luca walked over. He nudged a thin man with his elbow and said, "Boss, is this the woman who beat us up the last The thin man narrowed his eyes. After the woman easily took them out, they all had to go to the

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The thin man took a sip of beer and looked at him. "What do you have in mind?"

The fat man got close to his ears and shared his evil plans.

After he heard the fat man's plans, the thin man smiled grimly, picked up his fork, and got himself a piece of popcorn chicken. "That's a good plan. We'll make this woman kneel in front of our brothers and beg for mercy!"

"That's right, Brother. A wise man does not fight when the odds are against him. It's just a matter of time before this woman begs for your mercy." The fat man smiled wryly. The layers of fat on his face were squished together. As his smile was too big, his fat face was jiggling.

Luca did not notice them and continued to walk forward.

When she was tired, she sat at a food stall where she ordered two dishes and a bottle of beer.

On the other hand in Crawford Manor.

Bianca sat on the sofa in the bedroom. She looked at the photo on the phone and tightened the grip on her phone. Her veins were nearly bursting.

She received an anonymous email that contained photos of Luke and a woman. A bank account number was mentioned, along with the message to transfer 500,000 dollars if she did not want these photos to appear in the newspaper.

Bianca did not care about the money. What she cared about was the woman in the photo. It was Ivana!

That morning, Luke went to an event held by Brilliant Architectural Design LLC. The event had nothing to do with Ivana, so why was she with Luke?

Rage flowed through her like lava as she stared at the two people in the photo. She wanted nothing more than to tear the photos to pieces.

a knock on the door and Bianca immediately hid her jealousy. She lowered her head and said,

opened the door gently and reminded her, "Madam, Old Master Crawford is asking you to go downstairs

I'll go down in a minute." Bianca lowered her head, squinted her eyes, and looked at the photos on the screen. Suddenly, she had an

to be more involved with Luke? She would not let the other party do what that her mood was not the best, the caretaker did not dare say another word and closed her eyes until they were red to make it look as if she had been crying before was out with her friends, while Louis had taken his wife and child out to socialize. Hence, there were only Old Master Crawford, Luke, and the three children in the living They were almost done with desserts.

Crawford was annoyed that Bianca was late. He snorted and said, "If you don't want to the words of Old Master Crawford, Bianca appeared more aggrieved and sat on the sofa. "Grandpa, I didn't do it on

caretaker brought out a portion of the dessert and handed it to her. "Madam, this is it and put it on the coffee table. She stared straight at Luke, saying, "Luke, I have something to

Luke put down his plate and looked at her. "What's the *matter*?"

His voice was as calm as ever, which made Bianca feel chills. She glanced at the old man and the kids, thinking that since he could do such a thing to her, she did not need to care much about his dignity.

She took out her phone and opened the photos. "Today, I received an email. The other party is asking me for 500,000 dollars for **these photos**."

"**What** photos?" Luke asked, his tone **was neutral**.

"*Photos* of you and Ivana." Bianca put her phone on the coffee **table**.

"Who's Ivana?" Old Master Crawford frowned and looked *at them*.

"*Luke's* employee," Bianca replied before Luke could. "They were sitting in the car together and were secretly photographed by a **reporter**."

Luke frowned and picked up the *phone*.

The photos were secretly taken earlier that day.

"**Let me** see," Old Master Crawford said in a low voice.

Luke handed the phone to the old man. He had not done anything wrong, so he was not afraid to have Old Master Crawford involved.

what's the deal with this?" Old Master Crawford asked. There was nothing ambiguous about the photos. Putting their identities aside, it just looked like a man and a woman were getting in the car

was not an ordinary man. Apart from Bianca, the old master had never seen him personally send anyone into her. She couldn't get a taxi, so I sent her back," Luke explained briefly in front of not think he did anything

even if you value her as an employee, you could've asked any of your other subordinates to send her back. Why did you drive her yourself? Even if your intentions are pure, how can you be sure that the other party has pure intentions as well? Maybe she plotted with the reporter so that she could blackmail us." Bianca thought that Old Master Crawford was on her side, so she

frowned. Except for Allison, no one had been so aggressive toward him. He stared at

felt a little flustered and began to reflect on her words. She thought about it and decided that she had done

I not allowed to say anything even after seeing my husband being in close contact with

sat there and listened to what the adults were saying. He lay on Old Master Crawford and looked at the photo shown on

It captured Luca's side profile.

recognized the woman at a glance and

Old Master Crawford looked at him.

Chapter 1143

"Even if I already have a godmother, I can still have a few more." Tommy was puzzled.

"Don't you think that you're being too reckless about this? She's your father's employee. If she becomes your godmother, the hierarchy will be messed up." Bianca resolutely refused, the hostility in her heart growing more intense.

Ivana was picking a fight with her. It seemed that she was going to take away not only Luke but also the children.

She would never let this happen. If she failed the mission, she would be dead within minutes upon returning to the Island of Despair!

Tommy pouted and said in a dissatisfied tone, "Why does it matter? Aunt Nina is my godmother and she's also Dad's employee."

Luke noticed Bianca's resistance and said, "She has to agree to be your godmother before we can do that. We'll talk about it later."

Tommy pouted and glanced at the photo. He then sat back and replied, "Okay, I'll ask Aunt Luca when the time comes. I'm sure she'll agree."

Bianca was furious when she heard Tommy's reply. She shook her head, stood up, and took her phone. Her face was pale as she said, "I'm feeling a little sick, I'm going upstairs."

Luke watched Bianca go upstairs and had no intention to accompany her. He just sat there.

"Great-grandpa, Dad, we're going upstairs too." Lanie noticed that the atmosphere was awkward, so he jumped off the sofa and left with his siblings.

Old Master Crawford and Luke were the only ones left in the living room.

Old Master Crawford picked up his teacup and sighed. "Luke, except for Bianca, you've never been so concerned about any other woman before."

Crawford knew his grandson well. He was certain that Luke would not make an exception to send this woman home just because the woman had once

know what I'm doing," Luke said with a

that Luke was not avoiding the topic, Old Master Crawford said, "I believe that. However, I've mentioned to you before that I hope you won't follow in your father's footsteps. The Crawford family had to go through so much for the peace that we have today. I don't want anything to happen again. You haven't made me worry about anything for so many years. I believe you'll handle it well this time

don't need to worry about anything," Luke

Master Crawford heard his reply, he nodded, grabbed his cane, and wanted to go back to the bedroom to rest. Before he left, he thought about it for a second and then said, "By the way, you don't need to transfer money to the reporter for

Luke nodded. He had not done anything wrong, so he would not transfer money to the reporter to cover up this

he tried to hide things, the more others would think that there was something to it. The reporter would pay more attention to this matter and it would eventually lead to unnecessary

even if the reporter made the photos public, he still had a set of arguments to shut the public

Master Crawford returned to his bedroom, Luke did not continue to sit in the living room and went glanced at the closed bedroom door. Instead of knocking on it, he turned around and went into Tommy's

sitting at his desk, reading a

He heard footsteps and looked back at

Luke nodded and closed the bedroom door. He walked over to him before *sitting down*.

Tommy had been back for a few days and the tension between them had *eased*.

"Tommy, tell me what happened that day," *Luke asked*.

"Are you talking about Aunt Luca?" Tommy closed his book and looked at him.

Luke nodded.

Tommy had not told him about the events that happened after he ran away from home. He only blurted it out because of what had happened. Seeing that things were out in the open, Tommy told Luke everything.

After he shared the full story, he said, "Aunt Luca is a good person and she's a great cook! Dad, can I go to her place for dinner in the *future*?"

"If she doesn't mind, you can," *Luke said.*

Tommy clapped his hands happily. Before this, he did not dare to tell Luke who took him in for fear that he would object to them meeting again. Now that he agreed, Tommy **was overjoyed**.

"*That's great!* I'll bring Lanie and Rainie too!" Tommy thought of what Bianca said in the living room and asked, "Dad, does she work in your **company?**"

"Yes, it's her first day tomorrow." Luke touched his *head*.

blinked and said excitedly, "Then, can I ask for a leave of absence tomorrow to go to your company to play

rejected him. He knew what Tommy was thinking. "She doesn't work in the headquarters. It's best if you go to school

and said, "It's a

thought he would get to see Luca

his head, glanced at the time, and said, "It's getting late, get

Tommy nodded and jumped off the chair. He thought of something else and said, "By the way, Dad, don't investigate Aunt Luca. She's a good person who doesn't want to

you know about that?" Luke looked at his

she sent me downstairs, she stood in the distance and watched me walk to the security guard. She didn't personally send me over. She's a good person and doesn't want to be harassed," Tommy explained, "I knew that Great-grandpa would scold you if I didn't say anything just now. If it weren't for that, I wouldn't have told you that Aunt Luca is my

"Savior?" Luke raised an eyebrow.

was hungry, Aunt Luca fed me." Tommy immediately changed his story. He almost broke out in a cold found out that he was in danger previously, he would never be left

came back, two bodyguards had been assigned to follow him whenever he left the house. If Luke found out that he was in danger before bumping into Aunt Luca, he would be followed by a dozen bodyguards in the future instead of

Chapter 1144

"It's so late. Why haven't you slept?" Luke crossed his arms and sat in the chair. His expression was calm.

"I can't sleep." Bianca played with her fingers anxiously. Before he could say anything, she said, "Luke, I overreacted today. I didn't mean anything else. But if you're interested in her, I'll leave. Since Tommy likes her too, you can be one happy family."

As Luke listened to her sorrowful words, his expression was flat. Bianca could not see any joy, anger, sorrow, or happiness.

Bianca waited for his answer by the door. Seeing how calm he was, she turned from confident to anxious.

"Don't think too much of it. Go to sleep," Luke said after he did not move for some time.

He did not comfort her nor comment further...

Bianca was dissatisfied but calmed down a little. At the very least, he was not going to divorce her for Ivana.

She nodded. When she was about to turn around and leave, she heard Luke say, "Don't worry about the reporter."

"Aren't you going to pay him off?" Bianca was taken aback. She thought that he would pay up to bury the matter.

"Nothing happened, so there's no need to do such things." After he said that, Luke turned on his computer. His gaze was fixed on his screen as he started working.

Bianca was taken aback. After a while, she understood what he meant.

If he paid the reporter, it meant that he had something to hide and was involved with Ivana. The reporter would never let go of it.

afraid that they'll make up a story with those photos." Bianca expressed her concern, not realizing how stupid her words made her

how to deal with it," Luke said. He took a look at the time and realized that it was almost

the sound of his constant typing on the keyboard, Bianca nodded and left. She closed the door on her way

that Luke would not sleep in their bedroom

at the closed door and clenched her fists. In this home and Luke's heart, she was starting to matter less and less as time went by. She knew that something needed to be done for her to hold onto

Early the next morning.

up early, made breakfast for Amur, and freshened up before

stood at the gate of the community and waited for a taxi. It was rush hour now, so all the taxis that came by

Luca waited patiently.

fat man was hiding at the corner of the community. He secretly took photos of her with his

sensed something. She looked over and saw the corner of the fat man's clothes. Her lips curled up into a smile. She was not

wanted to take a photo of her, she would let them. These gangsters did not pose a threat

After five minutes, Luca finally got an empty taxi. She got in and *left*.

After seeing her leave, the fat man walked out of the corner and called the thin man. "Boss, I got the photos you wanted."

"**Very** well, send them to me," the thin man said happily.

The fat man left without knowing that Luca had spotted him.

The taxi driver followed the GPS and drove her to the **destination**.

After she paid, Luca got out of the car and looked up at the new building that had a sign that read 'Watson **Biopharmaceuticals**'.

This was the building where T Corporation's pharmaceutical company was located.

Luca was surprised that Luke built a building for this pharmaceutical company. It seemed that he had full confidence in entering the pharmaceutical industry.

She walked inside and thought about Abel's possible plans.

However, Abel was too unpredictable. She secretly made up her mind to make as much money as possible for Luke before Abel plotted his next step.

Luca walked into the pharmaceutical building and went through security with her badge.

After that, an employee was registering fingerprints and pupil recognition for the new employees.

was the first day of work, so there were a lot of people. Luca followed the crowd and joined the

front of her was a young and lively woman. She looked back at Luca, smiled sweetly, and stretched out her hand as she said, "Hello, my name is Talia. What's your

with the woman's enthusiasm, Luca had no choice but to shake her hand. She looked a little

party was enthusiastic, but Luca had no intention of making friends. She just wanted to complete Abel's mission and return to the Island of Despair so that she could buy time to plan

her abruptness and smiled as she withdrew her hand. However, she did not give up talking to Luca. "By the way, I'm an administrative assistant. Which department do you belong

Luca said. She kept her

eyes were opened wide as she said enviously, "Are you a research assistant? Oh my goodness, I envy you

Luca kept quiet.

not realize that the other party did not want to continue the conversation and went on with her chatter.

"I wanted to enter the technical department but the requirements there are so high and they're picky with researchers. So in the end, the company said that they would place me in the administration department. I agreed. After all, if I perform well, there's a chance that I can change departments. Let me tell you, working in the technical department is great! You have a high salary and can learn relevant professional knowledge. You have to appreciate this chance that you're given. I'm so envious of you! I don't know when I can be transferred to the technical

do you want to join the technical department?"

majored in biopharmaceuticals, but I don't have the experience, so I can only go along with the company's arrangements." Talia

can choose another pharmaceutical company," Luca said. If Talia could not enter the department she wanted to enter, she had the choice of working for another

Chapter 1145

"Dr. Craw?" Talia was surprised. She could not help herself from talking to Luca again as she walked over. "You're not an assistant? You're a professor?"

"Yeah." Luca did not hide anything from her. Her expression remained neutral as she walked to the elevator with her ID in her hand.

"You look so young..." Talia could not help but utter what was in her heart. Realizing that she had said something wrong, she immediately covered her mouth and explained, "I'm not questioning your ability, it's just..."

"It's okay." Luca did not take her words to heart.

It was normal for a young person like her who had just entered the corporate world to be straightforward. It was a great thing that she had yet to be tainted by office politics.

Luca thought of the days when she had just returned to the country. Suddenly, she felt a little sad because she realized that it was all in the past. It was difficult for her to live a normal life now.

Seeing that Luca did not seem to mind her words, Talia breathed a sigh of relief. As the elevator slowly arrived on their floor, she immediately stepped forward.

"Dr. Craw, can I ask you a question?" she asked in a soft voice.

"Okay," Luca lowered her head and pinned her ID to her shirt.

"How old are you?" Talia asked. Luca looked young, that was why she thought that they were about the same age and that Luca must be an assistant.

That was until she found out that Luca was a researcher...

"I have children." Luca did not answer her directly but mentioned their age difference.

Talia calculated with her fingers. 'To be a researcher, she must at least obtain a master's degree or even a doctorate... She also gave birth... Woah, our age gap must be huge!'

sighed in her heart and glanced at Luca again. Although they had an age gap, Luca's face and skin made her

envious. There were a lot of people in the elevator, so she leaned over to Luca and asked in a soft voice, "Dr. Craw, do you have any skincare tips? Your skin is

"Drink plenty of water," Luca said.

Talia was speechless.

technical department was on the 15th floor, and the other departments were below the 15th floor. After some people got off the elevator, the elevator was more spacious. Luca stood in the corner of the elevator and glanced at the other person standing in the

was a middle-aged man with glasses. He seemed gentle and looked like someone with a likely that he was

sneaked a look and then retracted her gaze. The elevator soon reached the 15th floor. She walked out of the elevator and looked at the two employees standing there. One was male and one was female. She glanced at their

They were assistant researchers.

that they had arrived, the female employee welcomed them. "Professors, welcome to Watson Biopharmaceuticals. Mr. Crawford has prepared a welcome party for everyone, please come

two led the way. Luca was not sure whether she should follow

not expect that Luke, who never paid attention to things like this, had prepared a

Luca stood still, the female assistant smiled and invited her once again, "Dr. Craw, please come with

Luca bit the bullet and followed them.

The welcome party was held in a conference room on the 15th floor. The space was large enough. When the assistant opened the door, he said, "Dr. Cole and Dr. Craw are here."

Luca walked in, looked at the people inside, and was stunned.

In addition to the professors she met during the interview, Luke and Jason were also here.

She sighed in her heart. She thought that Luke would not be here but it seemed that she was being naive.

Luke valued them, so how could he not show up for this welcome *party*?

"Hello everyone, I'm Dr. Cole Kidman. I'm excited to work alongside all of you." The man who came in with her introduced **himself first**.

After he was done, Luca knew that it was her turn. She had no choice but to say, "I'm Luca Craw. I'm looking forward to learning from all of *you*."

She was the only female researcher, and those present were all middle-aged men. There was nothing wrong with her saying that she wanted to learn *from them*.

Luca stood there with a glass of champagne. His thin lips curled up slightly as he raised his glass and said, "Welcome to Watson **Biopharmaceuticals**."

The female assistant immediately handed them two glasses **of champagne**.

Luca took one of them, raised it in Luke's direction, and took a sip.

Her actions were casual, but in the eyes of others, they were amorous. The eyes of many researchers were drawn to **her**.

noticed that and was upset but did not show it. He put down his wine glass and said, "The wine and snacks here are for everyone. You can eat and drink as you wish. Today, I'll not talk about work. I just hope that everyone here will

Mr. Crawford." Several people snapped out of it and

Luke walked to Luca.

the urge to escape when she realized that he was coming toward her. Although the man had a smile on his mouth, his gaze was

did not want to confront this unfathomable man for fear that she would give

in front of so many people, escaping was not an

up to her and said, "Dr. Craw, please come with

those present heard what Luke said and were taken aback. 'He wants to talk to her in

Jason, who was not far behind him, heard this, he immediately stopped. He turned around, picked up the champagne glass, and chatted with the

wanted to have a private chat with Luca, so he would not be stupid enough to

knew about Luca taking in Tommy and could not help but sigh. The two

no choice since she was personally called out by Luke. Hence, she placed the champagne glass somewhere and followed him

walked out of the conference room one after

Chapter 1146

Luca noticed that her heartbeat was accelerating. Luke, who used to be aloft, rarely looked at others like this.

He did not care about others. Engaging in simple conversations would already be a test of his patience.

He had always been someone others looked up to. He never lowered his gaze for anyone.

Luke frowned. 'She thinks she would be disturbed by sending Tommy back?'

Luca knew him well.

In the past, he would launch a thorough investigation into her life, but now, he had no such intentions.

"What are you hiding?" Luke put his hands in his pockets, his deep-set eyes staring straight at her.

"I'm sure Mr. Crawford has had me investigated." Luca's expression was calm. Luke did not suspect a thing.

"I didn't ask anyone to investigate you," Luke said.

Luca was a little surprised, but it was not because she was afraid that he would find out anything about her. After all, Abel got a group of people to work meticulously to make sure that there was nothing about her that would raise suspicion.

She was just surprised that he did not investigate her.

taken back. 'Maybe he didn't launch an investigation because he regards me as an

she hoped that Luke would discover something during his investigation and dig further. Maybe he could don't you want to be disturbed?"

put on a smile that did not reach her eyes. "Does this question have to

that he had asked a stupid question, but whenever he came into contact with her, he would get a strange feeling. He just knew he wanted to continue talking with

not matter what they were talking about as long as he could listen to her

"No," Luke said.

answer, Luca's expression became serious as she said, "I didn't take your son in to get anything in return, so I didn't show my face. Since you've found out, just know that I do what I want to do. Helping your son was something that I wanted to do. I have no

had been around Luke for many years and knew him well. If she could not provide a logical explanation, she was afraid it would be even harder to explain in the

Luca was inexplicably upset when he heard

wanted to help? She has

"Also, Mr. Crawford, let's reduce the number of such private conversations in the future. I don't want to be the topic of gossip," Luca said. Luke's actions had indirectly pushed her into **the abyss**.

Others would start making up stories in their *heads*.

She just wanted to work in peace and did not want to be looked at by others with *ambiguous stares*.

Luca was annoyed seeing that she wanted to draw a line between them. He squinted at the woman in front of him and said coldly, "There's nothing between us to be gossiped about."

When Luca heard that, she took a *deep breath*.

The air conditioner in the corridor was strong, and the man in front of her overwhelmed her. She felt as if she had difficulty breathing and was unwilling to stay any longer, so she asked, "Mr. Crawford, can I go in now?"

"Yeah," Luke said.

Luca nodded slightly at him and walked back to the *conference room*.

The welcome party in the conference room went on. Luca stood in the corner with a glass of champagne. She had no intention of talking to the other **researchers**.

They were all much older than her. If she initiated a chat, they might think she was deliberately flattering them. Besides, she was not bothered to build *workplace relationships*.

Luca thought that it was best if she **stayed low-key**.

she walked in, Jason walked out of the conference room and Luke never came in

later, the welcome party ended. Everyone had something to drink today, so they would not be working. The two assistants brought them around to familiarize themselves with the company's various departments and then handed them the

Luca received the card, she walked back to the office. The professor behind her was still discussing having lunch together. She had no intention of

Cole Kidman was the head of the research department. Looking at Luca, he frowned unhappily. Although she was good-looking, her attitude was not the

called out by the boss just now but the boss did not talk to the rest of

Cole guessed that Luca was just another pretty face who came in through the backdoor. Thinking of this, he despised her

who was talking to him diverted his

walked back to the office and closed the door, not wanting to be

sat on the sofa to sober up. Even after three years, she was not much of a

later, there was a knock on her office door. Luca did not stand up and asked, "Who is

I'm Mo Stone. I'm here to inform you that we'll be having lunch together at noon. Dr. Cole arranged it."
A woman's voice

Chapter 1147

Rhett blushed and retorted, "Stop it with your nonsense. If Dr. Craw hears it, she might misunderstand."

"Look at you blushing! Sigh, Rhett, I'm so disappointed in you. However, our company looks at capabilities, not appearance," Mo said. From the moment Luca stepped into the conference room, she noticed that Luke paid more attention to Luca than others.

The private conversation they had made her think more of the situation as well.

Rhett was reluctant to continue discussing this topic with her. "Let's stop talking about it. It won't be good if others hear it. I've already asked for someone to come to clean up the room. I'll head off now."

After he said that, he turned around and left.

Mo crossed her hands in front of her chest and watched as he left. She muttered in her heart that all men were the same. When they saw beautiful women, they instinctively wanted to side with them.

After Luca dismissed Mo, she closed the door and sat on the sofa again.

She held her forehead, sighed, and glanced at the time. Her phone happened to ring.

Luca looked at the unfamiliar numbers on the screen. When she finally picked up, it had been ringing for a while.

The call was from the Island of Despair. "What's the matter?"

"Have you entered Watson Biopharmaceuticals?" Shanks' voice came from the phone.

"I'm in." Luca held her breath, wanting to hear what was happening on his side.

Shanks would sometimes keep Nyla by his side to take care of her.

Luca heard nothing except for Shanks' voice and the sound of typing on the some research materials to you. You can just continue with the research," Shanks this, Luca approached her computer and opened her inbox. She saw a bunch of garbled was an exclusive passcode from the Island of

lowered her gaze and said, "This is your medical research, why are you giving it one of his medical research was valuable. If he completed them, he would gain asked me to hand it to you." Shanks' words were crisp and clear. He did not explain speechless. He was not Abel's subordinate, so there was no need for him to follow Abel's

was more, Abel also had a pharmaceutical company. Shanks' research would bring huge benefits to the company, so why would he do

there any shortcoming that's hard to solve in this research? Are they asking me to continue with the research and production just to cause trouble for Watson

"What is he up to?"

don't know." Shanks' answer was still

Luca's heart sank. Shanks continued talking, "Just follow Abel's instructions."

"I'll accept this, but I'll conduct the research on my own without you being involved." Luca ended the call after she said **that**.

Her gaze was gloomy as she looked at the garbled code on the computer screen.

It could be that Abel wanted her to climb up the food chain of Watson Biopharmaceuticals, but she could not afford to take it lightly.

Luca opened the software on the phone and entered the garbled codes. Soon enough, a document appeared in front of **her**.

After she saved the document, she walked out of the office with her **magnetic card**.

It was lunchtime, so Luca walked toward the elevator, planning to go to the company cafeteria for a **bite**.

While waiting for the elevator, Rhett happened to come over. "Dr. Craw, are you feeling **better**?"

"I'm feeling much better." Luca nodded, believing that her rejection of Dr. Cole's invitation had spread throughout the department.

"That's good to hear." Rhett looked at her beautiful face and held his hands in front of him somewhat awkwardly. Luca was the only female researcher in the entire department and was a rare beauty. It was unfortunate that she appeared arrogant and cold, making it seem like she was difficult to get along with.

The elevator was still on the lower floors. Seeing that Luca was keeping quiet, Rhett asked, "Dr. Craw, where are you heading **to**?"

"Cafeteria," Luca said. After drinking some wine earlier in the day, she wanted to eat something to feel better.

"Dr. Craw, I'm also going to the cafeteria. If you don't mind, I can order food and bring it up for you," Rhett said. He was on the organizing committee for the welcoming party, so it was natural that he would want to help Luca in any way that he **could**.

I'll do it myself." Luca did not have a second thought before turning him down. She was unwilling to let people do things for

elevator reached their floor, she walked in. Rhett was still standing at the elevator door as if he

"Come in," Luca said.

walked in, and pressed the second

went all the way down. When they reached the second floor, she walked out on her own while ignoring

looked at her and sighed. Luca appeared to be a cold boss. Although she seemed a little unkind, it did not seem too bad to work under

kind of boss was

popped up in Rhett's mind. He wanted to be

lunch, Luca found a corner with fewer people to

who had just walked into the cafeteria, saw her at a glance. She walked to the opposite side of her with her lunch and asked politely, "Dr. Craw, is anyone

Luca lowered her gaze, took a sip of soup, and did not

heard her reply, she put down her food and sat opposite her. "The food in the company cafeteria looks

Chapter 1148

Talia smiled and nodded. "Alright."

Luca returned the tray and left the cafeteria.

Talia watched as she left and thought to herself, 'Dr. Craw doesn't seem very approachable.'

She thought that she would get on her good side so she would have someone to rely on when she changed departments. Judging from the interaction earlier, she realized that it would be difficult to be Luca's friend.

She would have to find other connections to get into the Technical Department.

Back at the office, Luca switched on her computer and studied Shanks's formulae.

It was a new type of antibiotic. If the research succeeded, it would be a blessing to many people. Research on the antibiotic was eighty percent done, so she would only have to complete the last part before they proceeded with the clinical trial phase.

Luca dared not run any experiments yet in case there were certain risks. Instead, she decided that she would do the research again.

After deciding on that, Luca printed out the formulae and prepared to start working on them.

Then, she took the printouts and headed out from the office toward the research laboratory. All the technical equipment was located there.

At the research laboratory, Luca saw that Rhett was fiddling with a piece of equipment inside.

"Dr. Craw?" Rhett smiled at her and noticed the printouts in her hand. "Are you here to do research?"

found a corner spot and said, "Can I sit

you can." Rhett nodded, feeling quite

found her nameplate and placed it at her table. Tables in the laboratory were first come, first served. Even though she was the first to arrive at the research laboratory, she chose the worst position

glanced at the nameplate. She placed some of the printouts on the table, then prepared to collect some materials she needed for her

do you need any help?"

materials for me." Luca gave him a piece of paper. On it was printed the list of apparatus she

"Yes, no problem." Rhett nodded.

two people worked busily in the research

taking her lunch, Mo returned to the Technical Department and heard some activity in the research laboratory. She curiously pushed the door open and went inside. Luca was sitting in a corner observing something with a microscope while Rhett was assisting

not help but chuckle derisively, thinking that Rhett was foolish to suck up to Luca so

Bianca sat in a private room of a cafe, waiting for the reporter

the time the reporter came in through the door, he was already half an hour

Bianca never had to wait for other people before. She was angry that the reporter had made her wait for half an hour, but she dared not say *anything*.

She did not lose her temper because she had to rely on the reporter to do something **she wanted**.

"Nice to meet you, Mrs. Crawford." The reporter smiled at her. One could tell that he was plotting **something**.

Bianca stirred her coffee and lifted her chin slightly. "Do you want a drink?" She said coldly.

"One Blue Mountain, please." The reporter ordered the most expensive item on the menu.

"Yes, Sir. One Blue Mountain coffee coming right up." The waiter nodded and left the private room.

The reporter put his camera aside and asked Bianca, "You wanted to meet me today, Mrs. Crawford. Are you planning to pay **up?**"

"*There's* no rush." Bianca wagged her hand. "We'll talk about it over coffee."

The reporter understood what she meant. After the waiter brought him the coffee and left the room, Bianca said, "Tell me how much *you want*."

The reporter chuckled. He knew that the Crawford family was incredibly wealthy, but he dared not ask for too much in case he offended *them*.

"*I'm* not very greedy. I've already stated the price in the email," he said.

'You're not greedy? I've never seen someone as greedy as you!' Bianca **thought**.

can give you another one hundred thousand dollars on top of that," she

eyes opened wide. "Another one hundred

Do you want it?" Bianca

have my ethics, Mrs. Crawford. I'm guessing that you want me to do something." The reporter could tell that there was no free lunch. If Bianca was willing to give him more money, it meant that he needed to do something

want you to report on it and blow it up as much as you can." Bianca said and sipped her

gain Luke's attention, she had been learning etiquette so that she could be a match for

had never paid any attention to

want to blow up the scandal?" The reporter was quite surprised. Why would the woman want to implicate her husband in a

other hand, he was aware of his limits. The photos themselves did not prove anything, though most wealthy individuals would rather pay up to stay away

I want it to blow up. Why, you already have the photos. It's not hard to write a short article, isn't it?" Bianca

reporter felt pressured. The rumors that Mrs. Crawford's personality changed drastically after she lost her memories

can write the article, but if I'm taking your money, I don't know how to explain it to Mr. Crawford,"

Chapter 1149

The next day, news about Luke's scandal appeared on all major papers in A City.

There were only two photos, but the reporter had whipped up a fancy story, so the entire A City was talking about it.

Old Master Crawford read about the news. His face was ashen and grim as he read the article in the newspaper.

He knew that Luke had no relation to the woman in the article, but he was unhappy to see the reporter deliberately tarnishing his grandson's reputation of being a loyal husband.

"Mr. Griffin." The old man slammed the newspaper angrily on the table. "Do something for me."

"Yes, Old Master Crawford," the butler said courteously.

"Find the reporter of this article for me. You know what to do next." Old Master Crawford narrowed his gaze. There was a hint of viciousness in his clouded eyes.

He had retired many years ago, but he was still as merciless and assertive as ever.

"Yes." The butler nodded and left.

Bianca happened to be walking down the stairs when the butler was talking over the phone. She stood there to listen and found out that he was talking about the scandal.

'Oh no...'

Bianca was surprised that Old Master Crawford wanted to hunt the reporter down.

She felt a little flustered.

the butler ended the call, he turned around and noticed Bianca standing there. He was quite surprised that Bianca woke up so early, but he soon composed himself and smiled at her. "You're up early today, Madam. Would you like to have

heard you making a phone call earlier. Did something happen?" Bianca asked. She had woken up early today because the reporter had promised her that the article would be published in the newspapers

"Yes, something happened." The butler hesitated.

"What is it?" Bianca asked.

major. Don't worry, Madam, Old Master Crawford will take care of it." The butler did not tell her because he did not want her

"Does it have something to do with Luke

photo was published in the papers today, and the article was filled with lies. Don't worry. Old Master Crawford will take care of it." The butler thought that he would not be able to hide the news from her forever, so he might as well tell

even harder. She picked up her phone and pretended to search for the

The butler was worried that the shock might cause her to

Bianca pretended to hold her breath as she read from her

became increasingly worried as he noticed that Bianca's face was turning

sat down on the couch. She had read the article when she got out of bed, but she pretended to read it carefully in case the butler suspected

After reading the article, she asked, "What does Grandpa plan to do?"

"Old Master Crawford wants to search for the reporter's whereabouts," the **butler replied**.

Bianca held her forehead with one hand. "Mm, I see. Lies like these will affect Luke's reputation. You should act on it faster."

"Yes." The butler nodded and went to the dining hall.

She watched the butler disappear from view and quickly stood up once more, holding her phone tightly. There was something else she had to do so that Old Master Crawford could not find *the reporter*.

The reporter might have signed a contract with her, but she had expected that someone as untrustworthy as him would spill the beans when **interrogated**.

She went up the stairs with a pale face. On the second floor, she bumped into Luke, who had come out of the study.

"**You're** awake, Luke." Bianca composed herself and smiled *at him*.

"*Mm.*" Luke noticed that her face was pale. "Why are you awake so early?" He had never shown such concern to *her before*.

"*I slept* early last night, so I woke up early today." Bianca smoothened her long hair. It was a good opportunity to talk to Luke, but she had more important things to do. She did not want Old Master Crawford's subordinates to find the reporter before she did.

Old Master Crawford might be elderly, but he was the one who founded T Corporation, and he was as sharp **as ever**.

"Have you had breakfast?" Luke asked.

yet. I don't think I'm eating now. I feel a little sleepy, so I might want to nap for a little longer," Bianca said, hurriedly walked past Luke, went into the bedroom, and closed

shot a glance at her. He did not think that she was

went into the bedroom, she placed her ear behind the door. After making sure that Luke was gone, she locked the door and made a phone

"Do something for me," she said.

is it?" A man spoke on the other end of the

me hide some. I don't want the Crawfords to find him," Bianca said. She was talking to another person from the Island of Despair who was stationed in A City. If she needed help with anything regarding Luke, she could always

"Reason?" the man asked.

have to eliminate a rival. Once that woman stays clear of Luke, he'll pay attention to me," Bianca said

Give me his information," the man

don't tell Boss about this. It'll be hard for both of us to explain to him if he finds out about it,"

not sure if Ivana was Abel's minion, so she would rather hide that from Abel for

Ivana were really from the Island of Despair, Bianca would be in serious trouble if Abel found out that Ivana was getting closer to

Chapter 1150

Luke took the newspaper. Before he read the article, he saw the photo in which Luca stepped into his car.

He frowned but soon composed himself.

"You don't have to worry about it. I've already gotten someone to handle this," Old Master Crawford said.

"Let me handle this, Grandfather." Luke did not want to trouble Old Master Crawford.

"No. I've already sent someone to hunt the reporter down." Old Master Crawford stroked his beard. Other than what happened to Bianca two years ago, the Crawford family had been relatively peaceful for the past two years. Now, someone was challenging their authority once more.

The butler came into the dining hall and reported to them, "Old Master Crawford, Sir, we have found that the five major media outlets in A City are increasing their circulation to report on this issue. Also, online versions of the article have been read at least three million times."

The news was only published an hour ago, but it had already received three million views. Clearly, many people were paying attention to it.

Old Master Crawford's expression darkened. He wished that good news would receive so much attention too.

Luke sipped his coffee calmly and waited for his grandfather's arrangements.

"Go and pressure those websites to take the article down," Old Master Crawford said.

There were too many websites sharing the article. If they could halt the spread on the major news websites, they would be able to cut the exposure by half. As for the smaller websites, they would be caught up in some other scandal in a few days.

Luke took a bite of his toast and stood up. "Are there many reporters outside?" He asked the butler.

"After the article was published, many reporters from the major media outlets have camped outside the front gate," the butler said worriedly.

the bodyguards to drive them away, and get Mr. Zander to bring the children to school,"

Hearing that Luke was about to leave the house, he went to make

bodyguards drove the reporters away, Luke left in his car, and the driver brought the children

did not go to T Corporation but instead went to Watson Biopharmaceuticals. An important meeting was scheduled there today. He had planned to attend the meeting via teleconferencing, but he changed his mind after reading the

if Luca was affected by the

did not specifically mention Luca's identity, and the photo only showed her side profile, but he expected that the media outlets would be able to pinpoint Luca's identity anytime

his car at an intersection. He rubbed his chin as he stared at the traffic lights. Perhaps he should warn Luca about

Amur had already prepared breakfast by the time Luca

a lot of food!" She exclaimed after she had dressed up in office wear and came out of her bedroom. "It's just the two of us, Amur. We won't be able to finish

fine. I'll store the leftovers in the fridge." Amur grinned. If Luca had not told him, he would not have realized that he had bought too much

shrugged. She quickly wolfed down a slice of bread and a glass of milk before preparing to leave the said, "Um... Mr. Crawford is in the news

"Luke Crawford?" Luca stopped wiping her mouth. She took out her phone and opened **the browser**.

She was dumbfounded when she saw the photo in the article.

"The woman in the photo seems familiar..." Amur *commented*.

He lifted his head and looked at Luca. Their side profiles looked **very similar**.

"That's me..." Luca did not expect that a reporter would take her photo. Worse yet, the reporter had made up a scandalous story based on the photo **alone**.

She sighed and realized that she had been careless.

The photo did not show any intimacy between the two subjects, but one of the subjects happened to be Luke Crawford, and that had given the photo incredible gossip value.

"Luca, are you still going to work today?" Amur breathed a sigh of relief after reading the article. The article did not include any personal information *on Luca*.

"Yes." Luca remembered that Rhett had told her that the meeting today was very important. If she wanted to receive grants for the two research projects on hand, she would have to attend the **meeting**.

"But..." Amur was worried that someone might recognize **her**.

"It's fine," Luca shook her head and said. She removed the hair band that kept her hair together, then picked out a baseball cap from the **closet**.

The outfit was quite mismatched, but that would differentiate her from the woman in *the photo*.

"This should do it."

hope so." Amur smiled and sent her

a cab to Watson

walked past the lobby, she overheard several employees talking about the

not been involved in a relationship scandal for a long time. Everyone was surprised to see him in the limelight

lowered the brim of her

Talia noticed her, she went up to talk to her. "Dr. Craw, have you read the

not interested in reading the news," Luca said as she walked toward

noded and continued, "There's an announcement in the HR department today. Some researchers in the Technical Department are looking for assistants. I'd like to

pressed a button and said, "You should

will be making the final decision. I'm still inexperienced, so I don't think the researchers would want to recruit me." Talia seemed frustrated. No one would want to recruit an intern as their

don't know if you don't try." The elevator doors slowly opened, and Luca stepped