

## **Be Gentle 1181**

### **Chapter 1181**

Johann had been treating Queenie's illness for some time, but it took him so long to find the root cause. He thought that it was not easy.

The typical checkup would not include a toxicology test. If Queenie had not received the mysterious package, her body would continue to weaken, and she might have died without anyone knowing any better.

The mysterious package had saved her life.

"Do you mean that you wouldn't have known that I was poisoned until you saw the package?" Queenie exclaimed.

She realized that the young woman had discovered the root cause of her illness just by taking her pulse, and she had delivered the package to her.

"Yes. I've studied the package, and it indeed contains the antidote, and the dosage is correct. If you take the medication regularly, your body will expel the poison very quickly. Also, the medicine includes several components that will strengthen your constitution," Johann said.

Queenie's tears fell when she heard that.

She did not understand why the young woman would want to save her life. All she did was invite her for a slice of apple pie.

Queenie looked at Jack. "Jack, please find that woman. She is my savior."

nodded. "Don't worry, leave it to

might have retired from the political scene, but he still had many connections in A City. It was not hard to search for that woman if he wanted

frowned as he listened to the conversation between his in-laws. "How were you

and said, "I've been thinking about it too. If she had taken a large dose of the poison, the effects would be instantaneous, but I've never seen Mrs. Norman exhibiting any signs of poisoning. I can conclude that the poison must have been administered in very small doses, and it has been accumulating in her body over a long time. The poison has taken a toll on her body, but seeing that her condition did not continue to decline, I guess that the last dose of poison she ingested was over a year

listened to Johann's analysis and frowned. "Dr. Park, do you mean that the poison is ingested through

"That is correct." Johann nodded.

and I have been eating the same food every day, so how was she poisoned while I don't feel anything at all?" Jack

Queenie's condition, if she had been poisoned over a prolonged period, Jack should have felt something too, but he was just as healthy

Luke thought for a moment and asked, "Mom, is there something that you've been eating but Dad **hasn't?**"

Queenie nodded. "I've been taking health supplements since five years ago. Jack doesn't take **that.**"

"*Health supplements?*" Jack frowned. "You mean the ones that Leia bought **for you?**"

"Yes. Leia usually buys a year's worth of health supplements for me. After she went overseas and I finished up the remaining supplies, I switched to another brand. After that, you know that I stopped taking the supplements ever since my health declined." Suddenly, Queenie understood Jack's suspicions. "Are you suspecting that Leia *did it?*"

"I guess we'll never find out," Jack frowned and said. He knew Leia's true character. He knew Leia's true character, and although she had been behaving for the past few years, he was disappointed when he heard what Queenie told *her*.

"**Leia** won't do that." Queenie shook her head. "I'm her mother. Why would she do that to me?"

*She* could not believe that her daughter would **poison her**.

"*Forget it* then. It doesn't matter if she's the one who did it. You've already finished the supplements. We don't have any evidence that she did it, and there's no way for us to investigate it. We're lucky that the poison has a cure." Jack did not insist that Leia was the culprit in case Queenie became **too agitated**.

Queenie had already received a huge mental blow from Bianca's disappearance. If he tried to convince her that Leia had poisoned her, it would be another huge blow to *her*.

personality, it was not too farfetched to imagine that she would poison her mother. After all, he was fine because he did not take the supplements, while Queenie was

remembered that Leia used to buy liquor and cigarettes for him, but he did not take them because of health concerns. He considered

around and asked Johann, "She'll be fine as long as she takes the herbs from the package,

Boil the concoction in three cups of water and reduce it to one," Johann nodded and said. "How many portions did you receive in the package? I think Mrs. Norman will need to take the medicine consecutively for a month before we can see if she gets

said in the letter that they'll be sending more packages,"

she forgets?" Luke commented, then turned to ask Johann, "Can you create the

I'm not that well-versed in herbology, so my prescriptions might only be half as

"..."

## Chapter 1182

Jack pushed the wheelchair out of the office while Luke followed behind them.

They waited for the elevator at the elevator lobby.

Jack asked, "Luke, how is the situation with the scandal?"

"Don't worry. I've already found the reporter behind the article." Luke did not tell him the situation in detail because he did not want his in-laws to worry.

Jack nodded and said, "Now that you've caught him, you shouldn't let him off so easily. Bring him to court if you need to. It might not be a bad thing for you and Bea if you decided to blow up the incident even more."

He only suggested that because he believed that Luke would not deliberately ruin his own reputation.

"Mm." Luke nodded. He wondered if his in-laws would say that if they knew that Bianca was the mastermind behind the incident.

They would not understand why Bianca would do that.

The elevator arrived, and the doors slowly opened. It was not the peak visiting hour, so there was only one woman in the cabin.

Luca's heart skipped a beat when she saw the three people who were waiting for the elevator. She reflexively lowered her head.

'What a coincidence...'

The three people outside the elevator were Luke, Jack, and Queenie.

pushed the wheelchair into the elevator while Luke held the door

watched the scene with the corner of her eye. She was relieved when she saw Luke taking good care of her parents. Even if she could not reunite with them, she believed that she could entrust them to

three people went inside, the elevator doors slowly

sitting in the wheelchair, turned her head to look

lowered her head even more when she realized that Queenie was looking at her. Fortunately, she was wearing a cap and a mask because she did not want to be recognized as the woman in the scandal. Jack and Queenie should not be able to

elevator arrived at her floor, Luca rushed out as fast as

aside to make way for her. He frowned when Luca walked past her, thinking that the scent was

did not stop walking toward Amur's ward after she got out of the elevator. She wanted to bring some broth for him while checking on his condition. If he was well enough, he could be discharged from the

did not know when Queenie would be discharged, and she was afraid that they might eventually recognize her. After all, it was quite a big coincidence to meet Queenie two days in

did not want Queenie or Luke to know that she was the person who had sent Queenie the

doctor and the nurse were in Amur's ward when she arrived

**The nurse** had just replaced Amur's bandages, and Amur had not put on his clothes yet. When Amur saw Luca walking in, he hastily covered himself with the clothes in **embarrassment**.

*Luca* did not pay too much attention to that. Amur was like a little brother *to her*.

**She** placed the flask of broth on the bedside cabinet and asked the doctor, "How is my younger brother doing?"

"**There are** no signs of infection on his wounds, and his rate of recovery is much faster than anyone else I've seen. Has his body always been like this?" The doctor was surprised that Amur was recovering amazingly **fast**.

Anyone else with the same type of injury would still be bedridden on the third day, and they would not be able to move about in case they aggravated their wounds. However, Amur had already stopped bleeding and could freely *move about*.

"Are you talking about how fast his wounds heal?" Luca smiled. "My younger brother has always been healthy. Even when he catches the flu, he'd recover faster than anyone else. There shouldn't be any major problems with his **body, right?**"

"*He* looks as though he has been recuperating for a week, so there won't be any problems. I've been wondering if there was something weird, but if you say that he's always been like that, then it's nothing out of the ordinary," the doctor said. He knew that some people have a better physical constitution than others.

"*Can he* be discharged today?" Luca asked.

"*Of course*. You can go to the nurses' station in half an hour." The doctor nodded and said to the nurse, "Go and get the paperwork done."

"**Yes, Doc.**" The nurse left *the ward*.

"Thank you." Luca smiled and nodded. After seeing the doctor leave, she paid the caretaker for her *services*.

the caretaker left, she went to the bedside cabinet and opened the flask. "I boiled some broth for you. You'll have to

fine now." Amur frowned slightly. The herbal broths that Luca made for him helped him in his recovery, but they were

fully recovered yet. One scratch and you'll be bleeding again." Luca poured the broth into a bowl and handed it to Amur. "It's either you finish the broth and I'll get you discharged, or you can stay in the hospital for two

took the bowl, indicating his decision. "I'll finish

at him gently and said, "Can I bother you with

formalities. You saved my life." Amur took a big gulp of the broth and

me hack into the hospital system once more. I want to see if Queenie has received her medical report," Luca

problem." Amur finished the rest of the broth in another two gulps and started to work on his

poured the rest of the soup into the bowl while watching Amur's fingers fly on the keyboard. She sat on the couch and did not

meantime, she sent a message to Rhett, telling him that she would be taking the rest of the morning very quickly, saying that Cole had approved of

### **Chapter 1183**

"Alright." Amur thought that what she said made sense. Luca was the person who had given him a new life, so he would stand by her side no matter what.

Luca went to the nurses' station to settle the paperwork, then went downstairs to pay the bill.

Meanwhile, after Bianca had received the call from the Island of Despair, she rushed over to the outskirts of A City. In case she was discovered, she removed the dashcam when she was halfway there.

When she arrived at her destination, she exited the car and saw a luxury car parked outside a dilapidated house. The Island of Despair must have sent an important figure over.

Bianca felt an inexplicable sense of panic. The phone call did not say whom she was meeting.

She walked to the entrance, looked around to see that no one was following her, then knocked on the door.

After a single knock, dust from the door fell on her hand. Her fair hand was instantly dirty.

The door creaked open, and before Bianca could react, a masculine hand pulled her into the house.

"What are you doing?" As the door closed, Bianca could recognize that the person in front of her was the man that Abel had sent to help her. She lost her temper instantly.

That made the man even angrier. He would not have fallen for her deception if he had not trusted her. "Boss is waiting for you inside," he said coldly.

"Boss is here?" Bianca's voice trembled subconsciously. The fear in her heart became greater.

The man walked away.

asked curiously, "What happened to the man I asked you

When the man heard that, he turned around and glared

was shocked by that terrifying gaze, and she subconsciously took two steps back. "What does that grunted coldly and continued to

feeling in Bianca's heart grew, though she had no choice other than to follow the man down the corridor and arrive at a hall. She saw Abel sitting on a rattan chair with a cigar in

'It's him...'

trembled uncontrollably. The memories from the Island of Despair replayed in her

a captive brought to the Island of Despair. She had undergone physical training and was an excellent fighter, but she had suffered greatly on the island because there were more men than

proved herself in combat, Abel tasked her with a long-term mission. She was to disguise as Bianca

to undergo plastic surgery to change her face, then she was sent to a red-light district in A City and was repeatedly violated. Eventually, Luke found her and brought her

had been going according to plan, but only she was privy to the

*She had* suffered a lot just to become Luke Crawford's wife. Luke and the rest of the Crawford family had treated her well, which caused her to stray from her mission and have feelings for Luke.

**She thought** that she would be performing the mission for the rest of her life, but at the moment she saw Abel, she realized that it was Abel and not Luke that had given her the comfortable life she **was enjoying**.

It was not impossible for Abel to take all of that away from her **either**.

That was why Bianca was so afraid. Her unease grew when she thought that he had found out what she had done behind his *back*.

Abel narrowed his gaze and regarded the woman in front of him.

*Her appearance* did not change in the two years she left the island, but her allegiance seemed to have changed.

**"Good morning, Boss,"** Bianca greeted Abel while trying to remain calm.

*"Would you* care to explain what I'm reading on the Internet?" Abel did not beat around the bush. He was not convinced by her meek attitude. To him, he only cared about **results**.

*The woman* had failed to win Luke's heart for two years, and he was *greatly disappointed*.

**He would** have replaced her with another woman if not that it was very troublesome to do so.

Abel knew about it. Bianca shuddered and fell to her knees. "I admit that I'm the one behind the scandal, Boss, but there's a reason for that. Please listen to my explanation."

*Abel looked* at her shaking body. The woman had the same face as the real Bianca, but her demeanor and courage were totally different.

Luke did not buy into her act. She was an impostor after

took a drag from his cigar. The extra drugs inside it stimulated his nerves. He slammed the table and said, "You didn't tell me before you

no one important..." Bianca started on her

same as you!" Abel felt calm after slamming the table. He narrowed his gaze and glared

felt as though Abel could see through her lies. "I didn't know told you that you have to report to me before you do anything." Abel stubbed out the cigar with his fingers as though he did not feel any pain at wrong, Boss." Bianca lowered her head and admitted behind her also knelt down and said clapped his hands, and several burly men in black suits came out from a room by the side. They stood in a row and greeted nodded and glared at Bianca coldly. "You've nearly ruined my plan, and you deserve to be when she saw the whips in the burly men's hands. She knew that there was no use begging for mercy, but she hoped that they would take pity on her. "I have a request, Boss," she

## **Chapter 1184**

Luca heard the wretched screams from the clip. She took off the earbuds and frowned hard. "What's wrong?" Amur asked her out of concern. "Abel is in A City," Luca said. She could tell that it was the impostor Bianca's voice. Abel must have been in town because he knew about the scandal. Luca was quite surprised, but at the same time, she also felt slightly uneasy. She was worried about Abel's presence in the city, and she had the impulse to inform Luke about it. "He's here?" Amur was surprised too. "Is he here to deal with the scandal?" "There should be something else," Luca guessed. She noticed a vacant cab and flagged it down. The cab stopped in front of them. Luca opened the car door and handed a bag to Amur. "I'll have to return to the company. You should go home first." "Yes." Amur nodded and went into the cab. Luca flagged down another cab and returned to Watson Biopharmaceuticals. She was occupied with her experiments until the evening, and she only relaxed after she prepared to go off work. already so late!" Luca looked around the empty laboratory and said to Rhett next glanced at his wristwatch. "It's half an hour past didn't notice the time..." Luca was too engrossed in her experiment. She tidied up her documents and said, "You can go said, "Let me help you pack

glanced at the documents scattered all over the table. She did not stop him from helping him, and they packed up the documents

the stack of documents in her hands and asked him, "Did Mr. Crawford come

didn't. Is there anything?" Rhett

You can leave now." Luca shook her head and returned to

"Alright." Rhett nodded and left.

keeping the documents in the safe, she left the building through the side entrance in the parking lot. She glanced at the main entrance and noticed that the reporters were

leave because it was already past office

her head and flagged down

**She stopped** by the supermarket to buy some ingredients before returning to the apartment. Amur had just been discharged, and she would rather cook for him than get delivery **food**.

**Even though** the wounds were not life-threatening anymore, he would still need the *nutrition*.

**With** a shopping bag in her hand, she pushed the door of the apartment open and smelled **cigar smoke**.

There was something harsh and bitter in the smoke. She remained calm as she put the shopping bag down, took two steps, and saw Abel sitting on the couch.

"You're here." Unlike other people, Luca did not greet him as "Boss." To her, Abel was an enemy who had ripped her away from her family and threatened her to do *his bidding*.

"*You don't* look too surprised, just like him." Abel raised his eyebrows and pointed at **Amur**.

Luca shot a glance at Amur and saw that he was relatively calm. She breathed a sigh of relief and said, "I knew that you're in A City when you sent me that voice message. Why, did you beat the impostor Binca to death?"

"I couldn't have possibly done so." Abel grinned, not feeling any guilt for the blood on **his hands**.

**He hated** his minions doing something behind his back, but the impostor Bianca had been irreplaceable in **his plan**.

That was why he had gotten his minion to punish Bianca and not **kill her**.

"*Too bad*." There was a hint of pity in Luca's voice. "I didn't expect that you could tolerate someone who goes against your wishes and let her live. You must've gotten soft."

know that you want to see her dead. If she dies, you won't be able to get away with it either," Abel

know." Luca knew that she would not be able to reunite with Luke even if Bianca died. To her, the impostor Bianca had never been a

didn't expect that you're still aware of that fact." Abel clapped his hands, and ashes fell from the cigar between his fingers onto the



remained impassive. "So, are you here just to tell me that you beat up the impostor Bianca and resolved worry. I'll remember everyone who goes against my orders. Once the mission is over, no one will be able to escape their punishment," Abel said. He was talking about the impostor Bianca as well as giving Luca and Amur a

Luca shrugged nonchalantly. "And?"

your job." Abel's gaze turned profound. "She won't give you any trouble anymore. Also, Amur, why did you fail

target has someone powerful protecting him. I've underestimated them," Amur

"What's your plan?" Abel asked.

returned to the Island of Despair now, he would have to be punished according to the rules.

Alternatively, he could attempt the mission

mission would be more difficult the second time. The target would have been warned that someone had placed a hit on them, and they would be more

the Island of Despair would not send more people to help the assassin, so most people would rather quit and receive

## **Chapter 1185**

Amur shook his head and said, "Boss sat on the couch and waited for you after he came into the apartment. He didn't say anything."

Luca nodded, and her expression became serious.

"Don't worry. It'll be fine," Amur tried to comfort her.

"He must have something that he wants to do," Luca said as she picked up the shopping bag.

"I'll keep an eye on him." Amur felt uneasy when he saw Luca so worried. He knew that she was worried that Abel might act on her husband.

Luca might not be able to reunite with her husband, but her love for him had never diminished.

Amur continued to look at Luca as she walked into the kitchen. He knew that it was not easy to be caught in that dilemma.

Luca suddenly turned around and told him, "I'll cook dinner now. If you're hungry, there are some snacks in the cabinet."

"Alright." Amur nodded. He only looked away after Luca walked into the kitchen.

He sat on the couch and stared blankly at the cigar ashes on the floor while thinking of what Abel had told him before Luca returned.

Even though Abel was far away on the Island of Despair, he knew the real reason why Abel failed his mission. Furthermore, he had promised Amur that he would let him stay in A City and accompany Luca if Amur did something else for him.

Underestimating his target's bodyguard was a minor reason for his failure. The other reason was that he was worried about Luca. He wanted to stay with her in case something happened to her, so he deliberately failed his mission and was heavily injured.

Amur thought that his plan was perfect, but Abel had figured it out.

He wondered how vast Abel's influence could be for him to know that he had deliberately failed the mission.

as he heard Luca slicing vegetables in the kitchen. He wanted to stay beside  
might seem peaceful on the surface, but the undercurrents were chaotic thanks to Abel's  
hour later, dinner was served on the dining table. "Let's eat, Amur,"

Amur walked over. His heart warmed when he smelled the food on the table. Hospital food had been tasteless, and he could not wait to dig into that delicious

eat more. I'm also boiling some broth for you," Luca said as she handed the cutlery to  
that broth?" Amur was taken aback as he looked at the vegetable broth on

for me. Your broth is still boiling on the stove," Luca said with a smile. She could tell what he was thinking. "Don't worry. It won't be as bitter as

Amur began to eat. He did not mind eating anything Luca cooked for him, even if it

dinner, Luca brought out Amur's broth from the kitchen in a bowl and placed it in front of him. "Try it. It shouldn't be as

carefully sniffed it. The stench of herbs was indeed not as strong. He picked up the bowl and carefully sipped the

looked at Amur, she was reminded of Eler, who was back at the Island of Despair. She must be worried about Amur right

there were no phones on the island, so she could not  
you going to do about your mission?"

"I'll deal with it." Amur's expression stiffened a little. It would be hard for him to continue the mission.

"I can help you." Luca knew that the mission would not be easy, especially when Amur's first attempt ended in *his injury*.

**Amur shook** his head and said, "This is my mission."

He was unwilling to let Luca shed any more *blood*.

Luca ate a spoonful of her broth and shook her head. "I know that you're more capable than *that*, Amur."

Amur looked at her, confused.

"**I've** investigated your target on the day of your mission, and I know that you shouldn't have failed. You failed the mission deliberately so that you can stay here, right?" Luca said.

"No. I was careless that day." Amur knew that Luca was not so easily deceived, but he insisted on his story. He was not willing to admit his true reason for failing the *mission*.

*Luca sighed.* She finished her broth and cleaned up *the table*.

"Are you angry?" Amur asked when she said *nothing*.

"No." Luca shook her head and looked at him. "Eler will be worried about you. No matter what you might do in the future, please don't risk *your life*."

**Amur felt** emotional when he heard that. He took the rag from Luca's hand and said, "Let me do *it*."

"*Mm.*" Luca did not insist on cleaning the table. She let go of the rag in her hand and watched Amur do **it**.

the bowls and spoons to the

doing the dishes, Luca was already back in her

outside her bedroom. It was very quiet inside, and Amur could not hear any

and returned to his

though he had been away for the past three days, his bedroom was kept spotless. He was surprised to find that Luca had added a table light and a potted plant in

on the table light, and the room was lit up by a dim glow. It made him feel at

was as gentle as

the door, sat on the bed, and stared at the table light for a

...

Bianca was whipped, she put on her clothes and returned to Crawford

home in the late afternoon. No one was in the living room, so no one realized that there was something wrong with

to lie on her bed as night fell. Her body was sore all

no signs of injury on her face and limbs. All the wounds were on her back, her abdomen, and between

## **Chapter 1186**

Rainie nodded and did not ask any further questions.

After Luke sent Jack and Queenie back to their residence, he went to the apartment.

Liam was eating a boxed dinner that the bodyguards bought him. He stood up immediately and instinctively straightened his clothes when he saw Luke walk in. "Mr. Crawford, can I go home now?"

"Not yet," he said sullenly.

"Why not? You're detaining me illegally," Liam said agitatedly when he heard that he could not go home yet.

The bodyguards treated him well, but he was not free to come and go as he pleased.

"Do one last thing for me," Luke said. His gaze was unfathomably profound.

Liam shuddered when he looked at the man who was one head taller than him. "What do you want me to do?"

"Write another article and confess that you have slandered Mr. Crawford because you were paid to do so," Jason, who was standing behind Luke, said.

He had sent the recording in for analysis earlier and found that it was authentic.

"Paid to do so?" Liam's eyes widened in disbelief. "Are you sure you want me to say that your wife paid me to do it?"

Luke's expression sank.

Liam realized that he had misspoken. He shuddered and said, "I know what to do."

that they wanted him to confess that he had taken money to do the job, but at the same time, they did not want him to expose the fact that Bianca was the one who had

him the laptop." Luke turned around and sat down on the

noded and handed the reporter the laptop that he had prepared. "Go on and write the article. You can go home after you've

not protest. He took the laptop, logged into his account, and began to write

many years of journalistic experience, he quickly finished the article and let Luke read it. Luke nodded after browsing through

"Publish it," Jason said.

took two deep breaths and pressed the button to publish the

article also meant the end of his career. At the very least, no media outlet in A City would want to

browsed the forum and saw Liam's announcement. He nodded and said, "It's done,

"Let him go," Luke said.

can go now." Jason took the laptop and shut

stood up but did not move. He was thinking of

the reporter remained on the spot, Jason asked him, "Is there anything

Liam rubbed his palms together. Now that his career was ruined, he might as well ask Luke. "Mr. Crawford, now that I've posted the announcement, I won't be able to find a job in A City anymore. Can you at least give me some money so that I can return to my **hometown?**"

*Luke stood up and left the apartment.*

*Liam watched in shock as Luke walked away. "Mr. Crawford?" He tried to give chase.*

"Don't bother." Jason stretched out his arm and **blocked him.**

**Liam tried** to go around Jason's arm, but Luke had already left the apartment, and the bodyguard closed the door. Liam felt the despair **creeping in.**

**Jason shook** his head and told him, "You should've known better than to offend Mr. Crawford. Perhaps you should have refused the job, but it's too late now."

**Liam** sighed regretfully, but indeed, it was too late to regret what he did.

*He looked at Jason helplessly and asked him, "What should I **do?**"*

*"Didn't Mrs. Crawford give you money?" Jason said.*

**"She hasn't..."** Liam sighed. "I don't think she'll give me money even if I ask her **now.**"

*"You shouldn't have offended Mr. Crawford in the first place." Jason did not show the reporter any pity at all. Now that Liam had published his confession, there was nothing that he could do to *save himself.**

*Of course, he could not possibly get back at Luke as well.*

Liam heard that, he instantly sank

Bianca's offer and offending Luke was the biggest mistake in his professional life. Now, his career was ruined, and he did not receive his

bodyguard returned his phone to him and urged, "You should leave before Mr. Crawford changes

took the phone and slowly walked out of

stepped out of the neighborhood and stood at the side of the road. The night wind was especially cold accessed the forum on his phone. In only a few minutes, his announcement received a barrage of negative

some people would ask him why he would suddenly make the announcement, and if Luke was holding him hostage. However, those comments were quickly buried by a slew of angry

Liam stuffed his phone into his pocket. The incident was considered over, and he was utterly about nine o'clock when Luke returned to

Crawford had already retired to his bedroom. Luke walked into the living room and looked at

lived under the same roof, though the people seemed to have slowly drifted apart. Even his wife was like a stranger to

came over and asked him, "I've saved some soup in the kitchen for you, Sir. Do you

glanced at the butler. Mr. Griffin had been working in the household for more than a decade. Luke wondered what he thought about the changes that happened to the

## **Chapter 1187**

Luke could hear the weakness in her tired voice. His hand twisted the doorknob but found that she had already locked the door.

Bianca instantly became wary when she heard Luke twisting the doorknob. She was afraid that Luke might ask the butler to unlock the door.

"I'm really tired, Luke." Her voice became weaker as she clutched the bedsheets. If he was in such a hurry to talk to him, she thought that he wanted to ask her about Ivana.

Bianca was bitter when she was reminded about Ivana.

Because of Ivana, Abel had nearly crippled her, and Luke was going to confront her.

She bit her lower lip, swearing that she would take her revenge!

Luke drew his hand away from the doorknob when he heard her tired voice. "Alright, rest well then."

There was not a hint of warmth in his voice. In the darkness, Bianca's expressions slowly became vicious. 'It's all because of that Ivana...'

"Mm." Bianca did not hear Luke's footsteps and did not know if he had left. She could only reply weakly.

Luke returned to his study and saw Tommy sitting on the couch while reading a children's book.

"You're back, Daddy!" When Tommy saw him walking over, he put the book away, hopped off the couch, and waddled over. "Why did you come home so late?"

"I had some business to take care of." Luke could tell that his son had something to tell him.

"Is it about Ms. Luca?" Tommy asked. He thought for a while and added, "It's already been so long, Daddy. You should've taken care of it long ago. Otherwise, Ms. Luca would be really bothered."

It's all done now." Luke patted Tommy's head. The little boy cared for Luca a lot, and someone might even mistake Luca for

to know. I can tell that Ms. Luca has been troubled by the scandal. Our video calls have been very short, and she barely spoke anything today before she had to hang up." Tommy was still not very satisfied with his

listened to Tommy air his complaints, Luke went over and sat down on his executive chair. "You've been calling

I have a video call with Ms. Luca every day!" Tommy nodded and said, "I love Ms. Luca a lot. I don't think I can sleep well if I don't see her every day. Can I take the day off from school tomorrow? I want to go and visit

Luke was not going to allow his son to neglect his studies, and his decision was not up for

like that, Daddy." Tommy walked toward him and tried to reason with him. "You've caused Ms. Luca a lot of trouble, and it's up to me to appease her. Don't you

even the least bit moved by his son's "sacrifice," Luke flicked Tommy's forehead with his finger and said, "Don't even think about it. Go to bed

Tommy was still trying to get a

Luke stood up and took his

do you want, Daddy?" Tommy shuddered. Was Luke going to spank

as he could remember, Luke had never laid a finger on him, but he knew that his naughty classmates were often spanked by their parents. Was it his turn to finally experience

sleep now." Luke brought him to his bedroom, lifted him up, and placed him on the bed. "It's already past

"*But what* about Ms. Luca..." Tommy breathed a sigh of relief when he found out that he was not going to **be spanked**.

"I'll arrange for it," Luke **said perfunctorily**.

Convinced that his father was going to arrange a meet-up, Tommy clapped his hands *happily*. "Yay!"

*After* Tommy settled down and Luke tucked him in, Luke went out of **the bedroom**.

**He looked** at Tommy's bedroom door and shook his head. Tommy was not someone who would like another person so easily, but he somehow shared an affinity *with Luca*.

Was it because of her voice?

Luca's voice was quite similar to Bianca's in *the past*.

**Luke** shook his head. He returned to the study to continue his *work*.

When he woke up the next morning, he realized that he had woken up earlier than usual. He lay on the sofa bed while staring at the ceiling. He was not in a rush to get up.

He rarely dreamed, but he vividly remembered what he had dreamed the night *before*.

*He* dreamed of being on the beach with the Bianca in the past, leaning against each other and basking in the sun. Her voice was soft *and gentle*.

As they gazed into each other's eyes, Bianca's face gradually morphed into *Luca*.

was the same, but the person

was startled awake by the

was sure that the woman in his dreams was Bianca, but her transformation had caught him by

the dream, he gazed at Luca's face with

was not what he

up and ruffled his hair. Looking at the clock, it was half an hour before his usual waking time. That was not what he would

had locked the door to the master bedroom, and his work clothes were still inside. He had to go into the twisted the doorknob, and the door

was sitting on the bed. She smiled as she looked at him. "Why are you awake so early, Luke? Didn't you some work in the office," Luke said. He did not think too much of her pale and haggard face; he thought that she looked like that because she had not put

been quite busy recently." Bianca frowned when she

to the closet and took out a suit and

## **Chapter 1188**

Bianca remained uneasy. She gently tugged Luke's shirt sleeve and said, "I know that I'm at fault, Luke. I can explain."

Luke pulled his arm away and said, "I've already dealt with the aftermath. You'd better not contact that reporter again."

"Yes." Bianca suddenly had the urge to grab onto something, but Luke had already left.

He did not ask her why she had contacted the reporter or why someone was harboring the reporter. It was as though the incident was not related to her at all.

Even so, Bianca could clearly feel that Luke's attitude toward her had become more distant.

She knew that if she listened to what he said and did nothing, Luke would only grow more distant from her.

She closed the door, took off her clothes, and looked at her back in the mirror. After one night, her wounds were already healing, even though it was still quite painful.

Using a cotton swab, she slowly applied the medication to her wounds. After that, she changed into a fresh set of clothes and went downstairs to find that Luke and the children had already left.

"Good morning, Madam. Do you want breakfast?" The butler was quite surprised to see Bianca rise so early.

"Mm." She nodded and sat down at the dining table.

After breakfast, Bianca left Crawford Manor in her car.



Master Crawford sat in the living room and listened to the butler read the reporter's announcement to gaze narrowed after the butler finished reading. "Did the announcement say who was the mastermind behind the

shook his head. "I don't think so. It seems like the reporter took great pains not to mention the identity of

wonder if Luke has become soft?" Old Master Crawford might be asking a question, but the accusatory implications were

was silent. Luke told him that he had dealt with the incident, but he did not explain much about what he did, and the announcement did not mention anything about

Luke trying to harbor the

Master Crawford chuckled. There was a hint of lucidity in his laughter, as though he knew what was going on. "Did

left after breakfast." The butler put the tablet away and massaged Old Master

Master Crawford narrowed his gaze. "Did she say where she

The butler shook his head. He was only a worker in the household, and he had no right to ask his employer about

Master Crawford saw that the kettle was boiling on the portable stove. He raised his hand, and the butler stopped massaging

**The elderly** man leaned forward and poured the boiling water into the teapot. In a few seconds, the invigorating fragrance of the tea filled the entire *living room*.

He poured a cup of tea and continued, "I've heard that Queenie has been poisoned, and that's why her health has been *poor*."

*It* was hard to keep secrets in the upper circles of society. Even if Luke did not tell him about Queenie, he somehow knew about **it**.

"*Yes. Allegedly*, her adopted daughter was the one who had poisoned her," the butler replied.

"*Who would* have guessed?" Old Master Crawford picked up the teacup and gently blew on it, creating ripples on the surface. "Is there any evidence that she did *it*?"

"**Unfortunately, no.**" The butler shook his head and continued, "It seems like the Normans aren't interested in pursuing the matter *either*."

"**Even if** there's no evidence, it doesn't mean that she didn't do it. I'm sure that Jack just doesn't want her daughter to come back." Old Master Crawford understood that the Normans' adoptive daughter was notorious in the upper circles. Even if she did not do it, they would certainly pin it on her.

The butler nodded and refilled Old Master Crawford's teacup. "You're absolutely right."

Old Master Crawford narrowed his gaze. "Jack's wife is quite lucky, too. She somehow met a stranger who correctly diagnosed her problem. Do you think that I'll be **as lucky?**"

The butler was taken aback. "You're still healthy, Old Master Crawford. You'll definitely live up to a hundred years **old.**"

you're ever the charmer." Old Master Crawford chuckled and finished the cup

Bianca drove her car to Watson

had announced that the scandal was fabricated, so Luca instantly lost all newsworthiness. No reporters were staking outside the

not have an access card. She could only park her car at

wanted to go into the building, but a barrier stood in her way. She could only go and look for the

to go upstairs,"

in this form." The security guard handed her a blank form and

about to lose her temper. She was the wife of the CEO, so why did she have to register to enter the

she stopped herself. It was normal that the security guard did not recognize her because she was not at T Corporation. Luke did not have a good impression of her now, so she should not make him hate her even

took the pen and filled up her name, phone number, and time

okay?" She handed the form back to the

## **Chapter 1189**

Luca smirked when Mo told her that someone was waiting for her in the guest lounge. Even if Mo did not tell her who it was, she could guess the identity of that person.

She sauntered over to the guest lounge, opened the door, and saw Bianca sitting elegantly but slightly stiffly on the couch.

Luca closed the door and sat down opposite her. "You're looking for me?"

"You don't say?" Bianca rolled her eyes. She felt an instant disgust when she looked at Luca's facial features; no wonder Luke would fall for her bewitching charm.

According to the report she was provided, Luke preferred pure-looking faces. She was doubting the accuracy of the report now.

"I'm busy at work. If you have anything to say, make it short." Luca said brusquely and crossed her legs.

Now that they knew each other's identities, there was no need for courtesy. After all, both of them were Abel's minions.

"You already know who I am." Bianca glared at Luca as though she was in control of everything. She wanted to look apologetic, but she found that she could not keep calm at all.

"Abel told me before I left the island." Luca picked up a cookie from the plate on the coffee table.

"What is your mission?" Bianca clenched her fists.

took a small nibble. She heard that Bianca had taken lessons on etiquette just so that she could be more like her and be a match for

lessons, Luca could see that she was still rough at the

toward Luca grew when she saw Luca's relaxed demeanor. She knew that she would have to eliminate her from the picture. Otherwise, Luke would easily fall for

are no other men here. You can drop your pretense now," Bianca mocked

"Even if there's no one else here, I can't tell you my mission. That's a rule of the Island. Have you stunned, and her breathing

shook her head and said, "You've been gone from the Island for too long, and you've forgotten the rules. Didn't Abel give you a refresher

toward the Boss will eventually come back and bite you." Bianca clenched her fists tightly. She was overcome with anger when she heard Luca mention yesterday's punishment. The veins on her forehead bulged, and she forgot her objective to meeting

treated him like this, and the reason is simple: I'm irreplaceable, and you're not." Luca wiped her hands on a paper napkin after finishing the cookie. "If you anger him, he can easily substitute you with someone else. He'll just have to say that you met with another accident, and your voice changed

stood up in anger, forgetting about the wounds on her back. She grimaced

Luca stood up as well. "Calm down. The whipping wounds won't heal that quickly."

"You!" Bianca wanted to raise her hand and slap Luca, but that would stretch the wounds. She could only put her hand down sheepishly.

**"Even** though you've left the Island, don't forget your mission. If you think of standing in my way again, you should think carefully if you can bear the consequences." Luca took out a vial of powder from her pocket. "Abel asked me to give you **this**."

*Luca* received a call from Abel earlier that morning to concoct some medicine for the impostor Bianca. He was worried that Luke might suspect something if Bianca's wounds did not heal.

**Luca was** reluctant to do so, but she had to comply because Nyla was in his hands.

"Is that poison?" Bianca did not think that Luca would want to help *her*.

"Apply it to your wounds once in the morning and once at night. If you're worried that I might poison you, you don't have to apply it, though you'd better pray that Luke doesn't notice you grimacing all the time." Luca walked toward the door. When she was about to open it, she turned around abruptly and said, "Oh, right, don't tell me that you're here today just to lose your temper on me. I don't expect you

to apologize to me anyway. You'll just have to perform your role, and make sure that you stay away from **me**."

*She knew* that she would not be able to coexist peacefully with the impostor Bianca, so she would rather keep a distance from her.

Luca composed herself and walked out of the lounge. She saw Mo standing not far away and nodded at her as **a greeting**.

*Despite* the incident giving her a lot of unwanted trouble, Luca could not be bothered to get back at Bianca. One positive thing that she found from the incident was that the impostor Bianca had feelings *for Luke*.

feelings would not die that easily, and Luca knew that the impostor Bianca would hesitate if Abel ordered her to do something that would

held the vial of medicine tightly in

could that woman be? Why did she say that she

suddenly felt a sense of inferiority that nearly overwhelmed

soon composed herself. She was not going to let that woman intimidate

the vial into her handbag and stepped out of the guest lounge with

was calm, though she was holding back the pain from the wounds on her

quickly stepped up to her. "Mrs. Crawford, is

reporter's announcement, Mo did not believe that there was nothing between Luca and their

prepared to gloat over the ensuing drama when she saw Mrs. Crawford walk into the office. However, the scene was relatively calm, and Luca did not seem too perturbed when she walked out of the guest

## **Chapter 1190**

"Yes, Mrs. Crawford." Mo was overjoyed as she held Bianca's name card. After escorting Bianca to the exit, she returned to the Technical Department to continue her work.

Cole went into her office and asked her, "What were you busy with the entire morning? I asked you to compile the interviewees' resumes and put them on my table. Where is it?"

Mo stood and explained, "I was busy taking care of Madam just now, so I didn't have the time to do it. Let me get it done for you now."

"Madam?" Who's Madam?" Cole thought that Mo was trying to find excuses for herself.

The Technical Department had two assistants, but Rhett had been recruited by Luca to be her personal assistant, so Mo was tasked to do everything else.

Mo had been busy the past two days because she had to help the department manager hire another assistant.

"She's Mrs. Crawford, Mr. Crawford's wife. She just left," Mo explained. If he did not believe her, he could go downstairs and check with the security department.

"Mrs. Crawford was here? Why didn't you tell me?" Cole said.

Mo could not help but feel contemptuous toward Cole when she saw how he was eager to lick her boots. She did not think he was qualified to be the manager of the Technical Department, and he had nothing but his age and experience to prove himself.

Even though she was having those thoughts, she smiled and replied, "Mrs. Crawford was here to meet Dr. Craw."

When he heard that, Cole mumbled, "Why is everyone looking for her?"

"Maybe they're friends." Mo knew better than to tell him the truth. "Don't worry, Dr. Kidman. You'll have the interviewees' resumes on your table in half an hour."

"Mm. Please be faster." Cole was not going to blame Mo because Bianca had made her neglect her work, so he could only urge her to be faster.

Mr. Kidman," Mo replied. After Cole left the office, she turned away and muttered contemptuously, "Pfft, what a

returned to her office and read through some documents. When she heard her alarm go off, it was logged into the group chat on her phone and saw that a conversation was going on. Reading the contents, the employees were talking about how Mrs. Crawford had visited the building to look for closed the app and did not

that Bianca wanted to let Jason know about her visit through the employees, and Jason would inform Luke

she would achieve her goal. It was not a clever plan, but it was not a stupid

out of the office and bumped into Rhett, who was carrying a stack of documents. "Here are the documents you requested, Dr.

them on my desk," Luca said as she held the door open for

He put the documents on her desk and stepped out of the

"Have you had lunch?" Luca asked.

I was just about to go to the cafeteria." Rhett glanced at the time on his phone, then put his phone back in his

you read the employee group chat?"

"Yes." Rhett nodded.

"**Let's not** go to the cafeteria. We'll eat out today. It's my treat." Luca placed her hands in her pockets and walked toward the elevator.

"**Thank** you, Dr. Craw." Rhett quickly followed behind her. He guessed that she did not want to be surrounded by other employees who would be gossiping **about her**.

...

**At T** Corporation, Jason noticed that a lively conversation was going on in the Watson employee group chat.

In any case, it was lunchtime, and it was normal for the employees to be chatting during their free time. He browsed through the contents of the chat and went to the **CEO's office**.

*The office* door was open. Jason knocked on the door and said, "I have something to report, *Mr. Crawford*."

"**What** is it?" Luke's eyes remained transfixed on the *computer screen*.

"Madam went to Watson today," Jason said.

Luke's fingers on the keyboard froze for one second and asked, "Why did she **go there?**"

"Apparently, she's there to meet Dr. Craw," Jason said. He had been paying attention to the aftermath of the situation because he knew that Bianca played a part in the *scandal*.

"*Mm*. Is there anything else?" Luke did not seem too bothered.

for now." Jason glanced at his phone. The people in the chat group were discussing Mrs. Crawford's meeting with Luca and nothing

seemed that it was not something worth worrying

"Mm," Luke replied while working.

that Luke did not give him any commands, Jason rubbed his nose and left

left, Luke stopped typing on his keyboard and took out his

of the people in the chat group knew that Jason had added Luke's alternate account into the group. He read the conversation and found that the Watson employees were very interested in

upward and saw that Mo was the first person to mention

that Mo was an assistant in the Technical Department. She kept on diverting the conversation toward the meeting between Bianca and Luca, even when the other employees were starting to talk about

as though she wanted everyone to focus on the

noticed that Luca did not

on her profile. She did not upload a profile picture, and he could not see her timeline because they were not

personality, Luke guessed that she would not have posted anything to her