

## **Be Gentle 1191**

### **Chapter 1191**

Jason had not gone too far when he heard the loud thump. He paused and turned around to see, wondering what was making his boss so unhappy.

Was the lunch not to his taste?

Jason shook his head. He remembered that he had something else to tell his boss, so he went back to the office.

"Boss." He knocked on Luke's office door.

Luke turned around and looked at him. "What is it?"

Jason guessed that Luke had punched the window. He glanced at the window to make sure that there were no cracks on it and said, "You have a meeting at two-thirty this afternoon with the CEO of Belpharma."

Luke did not remember the meeting. He frowned and asked, "When was this meeting scheduled?"

Jason replied, "Two weeks ago. You agreed to the meeting."

Luke thought about it and realized that it was indeed the case. Belpharma was a pharmaceutical company that received foreign investment. It invented many types of medicine after setting up its headquarters in A City, and its sales accounted for fifty percent of the entire pharmaceutical market. Watson had only just opened its doors back then, so when someone from Belpharma initiated a meeting with Luke, he agreed to it immediately.

The CEO of Belpharma was overseas at that time, so their meeting was scheduled to happen two weeks later.

"Mm," Luke replied after he remembered it. He sat down on his chair.

Usually, he was not so forgetful, but there had been too many things on his mind.

his nose and said, "I'll go and make

of the two companies would be meeting in T Corporation, so Jason had to make sure that the company looked

Luke nodded and returned to work.

two, the CEO of Belpharma appeared at T

brought the person to the guest lounge and informed Luke about it. Meanwhile, other staff members of T Corporation made sure that the guest

was informed, he went downstairs to the guest lounge. When he opened the door and saw the man sitting on the couch, he narrowed his

Mr. Abel." He composed himself and

stood up and extended his hand. "Good afternoon, Mr. Crawford. I've heard about you, and it's my honor to meet

a brief and firm handshake with Abel. Even though the man in front of him had a friendly smile on his face, Luke could tell that he was not as kind as he

have a seat." Luke gestured to

Abel nodded and sat opposite him.

**Tina came** in with two cups of coffee, placed them on the coffee table, and quietly left the *room*.

"**A City** is a great place with abundant talent, Mr. Crawford. Even your secretary is very pleasing to the eye."

*Tina had* not gone too far. She heard Abel's comment and frowned, not expecting that someone with such a gentlemanly demeanor could say that.

**Luke** smiled diplomatically and went into the main topic. "What business do you have with me today, **Mr. Abel?**"

Abel turned his head away from Tina and transfixed his eyes on Luke. He had to admit that Luke was a very handsome man. No wonder Kassy would fall for *him*.

Luke had the demeanor of a noble, though he was too heartless. Kassy's efforts on him were *in vain*.

*Abel* grinned. Seeing how impatient Luke was, he was not going to beat around the bush either. He took out an envelope from his **briefcase**.

"**There** is a pharmaceutical association in A City. Now that T Corporation has ventured into this industry, I, as the president of the A City Pharmaceutical Association, would like to officially invite you to join us," Abel said as he handed the envelope *over*.

*Luke had* heard about the association before, but he had never thought of joining *it*.

*He* took the invitation with an impassive expression on his face. Belpharma had all but monopolized the pharmaceutical market in A City. There was no practical reason for the association to exist.

"**On** behalf of the association, I would like to officially invite you to join us," Abel *repeated*.

"Alright." Luke nodded and agreed.

that he had received the invitation, it would be rude of him to refuse to join

several reasons why Luke wanted T Corporation to venture into the pharmaceutical industry. Not only was the industry very lucrative, but it was monopolized by a few

venture would bring great profits to T Corporation, and at the same time, it would be able to break the

is great." Abel clapped his hands and extended his hand. "We welcome you to the Pharmaceutical

Luke was not interested in such associations, but joining it was the only way to find out what his rivals were

up and shook

continued, "There will be a welcome party this Sunday. Would you like to

"I will." Luke nodded.

grinned brilliantly. Putting up the pretense of a gentleman, he said, "That is wonderful. Each of the members of the association will be bringing their researchers so that they can interact with each other. Right, Mr. Crawford, you can bring your family along with you too. I've heard that your wife is beautiful, and I wonder if I'll have the chance to

isn't feeling very well. We'll see," Luke

## **Chapter 1192**

Jason had been working for Luke for a long time, and he knew what his boss wanted before he was told.

"Mm." Luke nodded, leaned back on his chair, and put the invitation letter into his drawer.

Jason continued, "Boss, should we invite Cole Kidman to join the party?"

Abel's words earlier left a deep impression on him, as though Abel deliberately wanted Luke to bring certain people along with him to the party.

"Inform Cole Kidman." Luke paused for a second and said, "And Luca too."

Jason was quite surprised. Usually, people would only bring one extra guest to such parties, but Luke wanted to bring two.

Even though the scandal had already concluded in their favor, it was good to behave tactfully to avoid any suspicion. Clearly, Luke was not bothered by that.

"Alright, I'll inform them now." Jason nodded and left the CEO's office.

The decision was not up for him to make. Jason informed Mo, who in turn informed Cole and Luca.

Luca was surprised when Mo told her about the party.

'The Pharmaceutical Association? What organization is that? I don't think it existed three years ago!'

"Have you heard of the Pharmaceutical Association before?" Luca asked Rhett.

working on his experiment and answered, "The Pharmaceutical Association was founded two years ago, and it's comprised of the pharmaceutical companies in A City as well as certain renowned doctors. The president of the association is the CEO of Belpharma. He's also the one who founded

heard the name "Belpharma," she realized what was going

Abel left the Island. He was coming for Luke, and dealing with Bianca was a

not think too hard to realize that Abel had an ulterior motive when he invited Luke to join the

the test tube in her hand. Thinking that she would have to face both Luke and Abel at the party, she was not very keen

Mo, Jason had only informed Cole and Luca. Luca wondered if she could give the invite to said, "Events like these are a good opportunity to meet other people in the industry, Dr. Craw. They don't come by raised her eyebrows. "How about smiled sheepishly and scratched the back of his head. "I'd love to go, but I'm not qualified," he want to go," Luca said and returned to her looked at her, confused. Every other researcher would appreciate the opportunity to join such an event, but why did Luca not that Luca was only interested in doing research and was not fond of socializing. He could understand why she did not want to

**"Right. Is Dr. Kidman interviewing the new applicants now?"** Luca asked.

"Yes." Rhett nodded.

**The** interviews were supposed to be conducted by the HR department and not the Technical Department, but Cole had insisted on being the main interviewer.

"When will he be done?" *Luca asked.*

**"There** are about twenty interviewees today, so it should be about another hour," Rhett *said.*

*"Noted."* Luca devoted her focus to the experiment. She would meet Cole after he was done with his interviews and tell him that she would pass on the opportunity to another *researcher.*

An hour later, Rhett came into the laboratory and told Luca that Cole had finished the interviews and was back in his office.

Luca nodded, stood up, and took off her gloves. "Tidy up the documents and bring them back to my office. You can go home after that."

"Yes." Rhett went over and picked up the documents from her desk.

Luca went to Cole's office and knocked on the door.

"Who is it?" Cole's voice was heard from the inside. He sounded quite **gruff.**

did not think too much about it. She replied, "It's me,

Dr. Craw." Cole glanced at Talia next to him, who was hurriedly tidying her clothes. "GO and open the

Talia was quite frustrated that Luca had appeared at an inopportune moment. While she smoothed her hair, Cole said, "Meet me at the parking lot

Dr. Kidman." Talia flashed a cloying smile and opened the door for

"Good afternoon, Dr. Craw," she said.

raised an eyebrow. Why would Talia be in

'How interesting...'

What a coincidence." Luca noticed that the lipstick on the corner of Talia's mouth

forgot to hand in some documents during the interview earlier, so..." Talia was surprised to see that Luca was looking at her coldly, as though Luca already knew what she

Luca looked away and

the scene hastily, as though her motives would be exposed if she lingered for another

a seat." Compared to Talia, Cole was a lot more composed. He pointed at the chair opposite

### **Chapter 1193**

Cole dialed Dr. Muller's number with the internal phone and told him the good news. When that was done, it was time to go off work.

Remembering his promise to Talia, he stood up, whistled, and went downstairs. While he was walking, he let Jason know that Luca had given her invitation to someone else.

After Luca left Cole's office, she went back to her office and happened to meet Rhett coming out of the laboratory with the documents.

"Are you done?" She took the stack of documents from his hands.

"All the documents are here," Rhett smiled and said. He suddenly felt the load in his hands become lighter. "Let me do it, Dr. Craw."

"It's fine. It's not heavy anyway." Luca continued walking toward her office with the thick stack of documents in her hands. "You should go home."

"Alright." Seeing that his work was done for the day, he went to clock out and leave the office.

After Luca returned to her office, she stashed an important document in her briefcase, then put the rest into her safe.

Her phone began to ring. The call was from Amur.

"Hey, Amur." While storing the documents in the safe, she answered the call after putting on an earbud.

"I'm at the supermarket now, Luca. What would you like to have for dinner?" Amur asked. He thought that Luca must be exhausted after coming home from work, so he decided to get the ingredients for her from the supermarket.

"You should be resting at home." Luca frowned when she heard that Amur was in the supermarket. His wounds had just healed, and he should not be walking around.

"I'm fine." Amur looked at the vast display of fresh food, feeling a little overwhelmed.

was his first time buying food in the supermarket, and he did not know what to

hear that his surroundings were noisy. Now that he was already at the supermarket, she could not ask him to

two cod fillets, a dozen eggs, and a zucchini,"

committed the list of items to his memory. "I'll get them

get everything fresh, especially the fish. Make sure to check the packing date on the packaging," Luca reminded

heart warmed when he heard her nag

call ended, Luca put the rest of the documents into the safe and

walked out of the office, she received a call from an

she did not save the number, she knew that it was from

she said after answering

Craw, have you already gone off work?" Jason sounded happy, as though he was smiling

to leave," Luca answered, though she did not know why Jason was asking

great. Mr. Crawford is waiting for you in the Watson parking lot. Won't you go and look for him?" Jason

**"Does Mr. Crawford want to see me?" Luca stopped walking.**

"Yes. Mr. Crawford has found out that you're not going to the party this Sunday, and he wants to talk to you about it," Jason said. When he found out from Cole that Luca had given her invitation to Dr. Muller, he immediately told Luke about *it*.

**Luke** happened to be nearby, so he got Jason to ask Luca if she was still in the building.

"What does Mr. Crawford want? Does it mean that I must go?" Luca frowned.

**"Mr. Crawford appreciates talent, and you're one of the most talented employees in the company,"** Jason answered her question **indirectly**.

*From* the answer, Luca knew that she would have to go to the party even if she did not want to.

She had no other choice but to say, "If that's the case... Mr. Doyle, please let Mr. Crawford know that I will attend the **party**."

*"Mr. Crawford wants to meet you for something else."* Jason could hear from her tone that she was reluctant to meet Luke. He shook his head and reminded *her*.

*There had* not been a precedent where Luke did not get to meet the person he wanted to meet.

**Luca was** silent for several seconds. "Alright, I'll head downstairs now," *she said*.

**"Mm. Goodbye,"** Jason ended the call after hearing that she was willing to meet *Luke*.

**Still holding** her phone to her ear, Luca sighed and went to the elevator.

Most of the employees had already gone off work, so she did not have to wait too long for the elevator. After stepping inside and pressing the button for the first floor, she suddenly remembered what Jason *told her*.

the button for

stepped out of the elevator into the basement parking lot. After walking about fifty feet, she saw Luke's car

heart skipped a beat when she saw the man sitting in the

Luke noticed her, he flashed

walked over but did not step into the car. Instead, she stood next to the side passenger seat and kept a distance from

over slightly and looked at the man in the car. "Is there anything,

in the car." Luke pointed at the side passenger seat with

froze on the spot. She looked at her surroundings to make sure that no one was around, then said, "We can talk like this if there's anything, Mr. Crawford. I'd like to

send you home." Luke narrowed his gaze. He found that Abel was Russian after reading his dossier. Suddenly, he remembered that Luca was

why he came to look

not get in the

won't talk to you if you don't get in the car," he

stared at him. She never knew that he could say something

## **Chapter 1194**

Talia felt unhappy when she remembered the scene where Luca stepped into the CEO's car.

She thought that she was quite beautiful, and she was younger than Luca, so why did Luca manage to seduce Luke, while she had to settle for someone like Cole?

Talia glanced at Cole, who was driving, and said emotionally, "I didn't expect that the rumors were true. I pity Mrs. Crawford now."

Cole would hear a hint of pretentiousness in her words. "It'll serve you well to leave them alone."

"Ah, I'm just saying." Talia could sense his unhappiness and realized that she had misspoken.

She thought that she was the same as Luca. Both of them have sold their bodies in exchange for their jobs.

Luke was married, and so was Cole.

When Talia approached Cole, she promised him that she would not interfere with his family life. That was why Cole was willing to give Talia a chance.

Talia's words earlier reminded Cole that he was having an affair too.

She smiled apologetically and hoped that he would forget about it.

...

Meanwhile, Luca sat in the passenger seat with her fingers clasped together tightly.

She stole a glance at Luke's side profile and took a deep breath, filling her lungs with his scent.

heart began to beat faster, and her cheeks

you want to tell me, Mr. Crawford?"

you want to join the party?" Luke did not look at her. Instead, his eyes were transfixed on the

the evening rush hour, so the roads were slightly

not good at socializing," Luca explained. "People only drink alcohol and chat at parties like that. I'm not too

to go." Luke did not ask for

wanted to refuse, but she could not. He was the boss, and she would have to obey. She nodded and said, "Alright, I'll attend the party. You can drop me at the intersection ahead, Mr. Crawford. I'll take a cab

send you home," Luke repeated. His hands gripped tightly on the steering wheel, and he did not look like he was going to

the seatbelt. "Aren't we done

"Not yet." Luke gazed at her.

was not as penetrating as before. Luca could see the gentleness in his eyes, which made her gasp for breath. She composed herself before saying, "Do you have any other

was frustrated when he sensed the impatience in her voice. Why was she so afraid to be

you know about Belpharma?"

"I've heard of them. As far as I know, they're one of the biggest pharmaceutical companies in the country," Luca replied. She could not say that she did not know about them. It would be quite ridiculous for a researcher in the industry not to have heard of *them*.

"How about their CEO?" Luke asked.

"I know about the company, but I'm not too sure about its internal structure," Luca shook her head and **said**.

"Their CEO is called Abel, and he's also Russian. Apparently, he's very famous in his country. You've at least heard of him, right?" *Luke asked*.

Luca cast her gaze downward to hide her emotions. Should she say she knew who Abel was or **not?**

*Abel* was quite a prominent figure in *Russia*.



If she said that she knew him, she was worried that Luke might ask her more questions, during which she would inadvertently divulge something.

If she said that she did not know him, it would cause Luke to suspect whether Luca was actually from Russia.

**Luca** did not think for too long before she replied, "I've heard of him. He's a famous entrepreneur **in Russia.**"

"Indeed." Luke had perused Abel's dossier. There were no flaws in it.

*However, any* successful Russian entrepreneur would surely have some dirt on them. Abel's background was too clean, and Luke could not help but suspect that something **was amiss.**

**Luca** glanced at him. He looked like he was concentrating on driving, but Luca knew that his expression meant something **else.**

He was thinking of something.

that Luke would not let her out of the car before they reached their destination, she could only try to relax and sit

talking about Abel, Luke continued asking his questions, "Why did you choose to apply to

wanted to work in a new company so that I can prove myself," Luca said. Then, she

won't be able to prove myself if you keep on trying to get close to me,

affecting your work?" Luke raised an eyebrow. It was the second time he heard someone say that he was affecting their

person to say so was Bianca

Luca remembered that she had said that with her previous identity. She continued to explain, "The reporter might have made an announcement that the entire scandal was made up, but the Watson employees won't be so easily convinced. They still think that I got the job as a researcher because you pulled some strings. Mr. Crawford, I hope that you can keep some distance from me in the future. All I want is to do my research so that I can prove my abilities and bring profits to

you're right. I have indeed affected your work," Luke said impassively. Somehow, he was not very happy when Luca said that she wanted him to keep a distance from

words brought anguish to

as though her relationship with Luke had returned

then, she did not know Luke's true intentions, and she was not sure about how she felt. That was why she had tried to keep a distance

had to keep a distance from Luke now because she was not Bianca Rayne

**Chapter 1195**

"Not bad," Luca said after being stunned for a few seconds.

She was not planning to be romantically involved with anyone in the office anyway. The new rule would not affect her.

When Luke heard her nonchalant response, he stepped on the gas pedal harder.

Luca could feel the car travel faster, but she did not gasp or exclaim in surprise. She sat there calmly, as though she was used to traveling at this speed.

The car was traveling on the open road, and traffic was very light. Luca was not worried that Luke might rear-end another car, so she managed to keep calm.

She knew that Luke was a skilled driver.

Luke stopped his car outside Luca's neighborhood.

After the car came to a complete stop, Luca unfastened her seatbelt and said to him, "You're a skilled driver, Mr. Crawford."

She opened the door and stepped out of the car.

Luke raised an eyebrow and asked, "Aren't you inviting me to go upstairs?"

Luca was taken aback, not expecting Luke to say that. When she came to her senses, she said, "That's not very convenient."

'Not very convenient?'

Luke was not sure why he was not very happy when he heard that. Perhaps it was because it was the first time that someone had refused his request.

He unfastened his seatbelt. When he opened the car door, he heard a masculine voice saying, "You're back."

out of the car and saw a young man standing next to Luca. He turned to face Luca as though waiting for her to introduce

not expect to meet Amur downstairs. She smiled awkwardly and said, "It's you. Why did you come back hour ago, Amur was in the supermarket. What took him

bought quite a lot of things." Amur stared at Luke. From afar, he saw Luca step out of that man's

who that man was. He was Luca's

smiled as he looked at Luca. "Who is

Mr. Crawford, the CEO of my company." The two men were looking at her, and she had no choice but to introduce each other. "Mr. Crawford, this is Amur, my

two don't look alike at all." Luke turned away from Amur. He did not like that young

hated it even more when he saw how Amur was gazing at Luca with his bright

have different mothers, so we don't look alike." Luca had already prepared an  
to say something, but when he heard Luca say that, he could only say, "Nice to meet you, Mr. Crawford.  
Thank you for sending my elder sister  
tone, Luke could sense that he was very possessive of Luca, and that had irked him  
felt as though Luca had stabbed his heart with a thorn, and Amur had pulled it out  
Luca glanced at Luca once more before going back into his car, closing the door, and  
**Luca** breathed a sigh of relief. She saw that Amur was carrying two shopping bags, so she took one from  
him, and the both of them headed toward the **apartment**.

*Luca turned* around to look, but Luke's car had disappeared from view. She asked Amur, "What did you  
buy today that took you so **long**?"

**The supermarket** was only a five-minute walk from the **apartment**.

"I bought everything that you told me to, but I'm not too good at judging the freshness of the food,"  
Amur explained.

*"Next time, just leave it to me."* Luca shook her head. They stood in front of the elevator and waited for  
it **to come**.

*"I don't* have anything to do at home. Let me at least help you with the groceries," Amur said.

**Seeing that** Amur was quite determined, Luca could only *nod*.

*Amur* took a closer look at Luca's delicate face, thought for a while, and said, "That man *earlier...*"

*"We'll* talk when we get home," Luca *interjected*.

Amur kept quiet. They stepped into their elevator one after the other and returned to the apartment.

**Luca took** the shopping bag into the kitchen. Amur quickly followed behind her and asked her, "That  
man earlier, is he your husband?"

**"Mm."** Luca was taken aback by the question, though she nodded.

Legally, Luke was indeed her husband.

she had changed her appearance and identity, her DNA did not change. It did not matter if no one could  
recognize her, her DNA would not

"Have you told him?" Amur asked.

impossible..." Luca felt her heart skip a beat when she heard that  
thought of telling Luke the truth, but she could not bring herself to do  
love him..." Amur could see the anguish in

tell that Luca was only pretending not to care about Luke. After all, the siblings were the closest people  
to her for the past three

going to cook, Amur. The kitchen is quite cramped, so you should go out." Luca felt a blunt pain in her heart when Amur correctly guessed her feelings. She did not want Amur to see her in

the shopping bag on the kitchen counter. He could see that she was frowning slightly. "If your feelings are causing you anguish, you should stay away

Then, he left the kitchen.

her chest tightly. Her heart was

that if she did not see Luke or think of him, she would not have been in such pain. However, Abel's plan did not allow her to stay away

wanted Luca to get close to Luke and make them sink into

she tried to run away, the more Abel would try to force her to approach

going according to Abel's plan. Luca had the premonition that something bad would happen at the party on

## **Chapter 1196**

Meanwhile, as Luke drove away, he could not help but feel unhappy when he remembered Amur's face. He took out his phone and gave Jason a call.

"Send me Luca's dossier," he said.

Jason was taken aback. "Haven't you already seen it before?"

"I want to look at it again," Luke said.

"Yes." Jason did not know why his boss would suddenly want to do that. However, he was in no position to question his boss's decisions.

After the call ended, he immediately turned on his laptop to find Luca's dossier. It took him some time to find Luca's folder from the numerous employee folders and send it to Luke's mailbox.

Kari was sitting next to him, watching him work. She ran into the kitchen and said, "Mommy, Daddy isn't helping us turn on the TV."

"Isn't he sitting on the couch? Why isn't he helping you?" Sue was busy in the kitchen cooking dinner. She turned around to glance at her daughter before resuming slicing vegetables.

"Daddy is very busy." Kari pouted.

When Sue heard that, she went to the kitchen door and roared at Jason, "Jason Doyle! Turn on the TV for your daughters!"

alright!" Jason shuddered. He plugged in the television, turned it on, and switched to his daughters' favorite

her children from watching too much television, Sue had installed the power socket for the television at a high place so that the children would not be able to turn on the television

on the television, Jason checked his laptop that he had sent the files over to Luke before turning off his hear the sounds of slicing vegetables beyond the sounds of the television. "Watch your television and don't go anywhere, alright?" He told the children before going into the kitchen and rolling up his shirt sleeves. "Do you need any

lettuce." Sue was very busy in the kitchen. Usually, the caretaker would be there to help her, but the caretaker had to take the day off today. She had been working in the kitchen

was not a very proficient cook in the first place, so the kitchen was in

Jason replied and went to

called me and told me to give him the information on Dr. Craw, so I had to do it immediately," Jason

The woman implicated in the scandal with Luke?" Sue raised

could tell that Sue was thinking that the rumors were true, so he reminded her, "The reporter has announced that he created the scandal because someone paid

Sue chuckled. "So what? Your boss is still interested in *that woman*."

"*It's important* for every employer to understand their employees' background," Jason said. "Shireen Williams from your company is a prime example. Ms. Rayne didn't do a thorough investigation of her background, and that had caused your company a lot of trouble later."

**Sue waved** the kitchen knife at Jason's face. "Don't you know when to keep your *mouth shut*?"

*Bianca* had hired Shireen even though no other design company wanted to. Shireen's performance at work proved that Bianca had made the right decision.

Last year, Shireen had won an international award for her design, and Brilliant Architectural Design became world-famous **after that**.

Even though Bianca was no longer around, Shireen continued to stay and contributed to the company greatly. She had refused many lucrative offers from other companies so that she could repay Bianca's debt of gratitude.

**Eventually, the** other companies stopped trying to poach her.

**After Shireen's** popularity exploded, the company doubled its clients. Sue was happy to see that happen, and Nina was meeting a new client every day.

*However*, the good times did not last very long. Two months later, a foreign construction company brought Brilliant Design to court for plagiarism, and the other designers were implicated *as well*.

Sue and Nina were busy talking to their lawyer during their period, and most of their clients had terminated their contracts after hearing that Brilliant Design was involved in a plagiarism lawsuit.

had to step in to investigate. He found out that Shireen was the reason why that company was picking on Brilliant

reason was not surprising. Shireen was the ex-girlfriend of the boss of that

had hidden in A City for many years, and that man could not find her. Now that she was internationally famous, the man set his sights on her

bought over a design company in A City and offered Shireen a job there, but Shireen refused and insisted on staying at Brilliant Design. That angered the man, and he tried to make life difficult for

I shouldn't have brought that up." Jason could not help but smile when he saw

not angry that Shireen had brought trouble to the company. After all, Shireen had brought them a lot of profits. She was angry that the man had tried to poach Shireen, Brilliant Design's best designer, using such

didn't he investigate that woman sooner?" Sue

Crawford had read through every employee's information, but he suddenly wanted to see Dr. Craw's dossier again." Jason thought that it was quite

had never done that before, so Jason had no rational explanation for his

would rather not think that Luke's behavior had an irrational explanation

## **Chapter 1197**

After Luke parked his car in the Crawford Manor, he did not get out of his car. Instead, he opened his mailbox and read through Luca's dossier several times.

There was not a lot of useful information on Luca, perhaps because she was from Russia.

Luke sank into deep thought.

He heard a knock on the car window. He came to his senses and saw the butler standing next to the car with a gentle smile on his face.

Luke rolled down the car window.

"Sir, Old Master Crawford wants to know why you're not going into the house," the butler said. Old Master Crawford was deliberately waiting for him in the living room, but Luke did not go into the house.

"I'm still doing a bit of work. I'll go in soon," Luke said.

"Yes, Sir." The butler nodded and went away.

Luke took out his phone and gave Gale a call.

"Any orders, Boss?" Gale answered the call very quickly. He sounded quite carefree.

"Go to Russia, and bring Rain with you. I want to investigate on someone," Luke said. Rain and Gale had been overseas for the past two years to build up a network of contacts.

The first place he chose to build his network was Russia because he was afraid that the Island of Despair would rise again.

Boss. Who's the target?" Gale asked. After building up a network of contacts in various countries, it was not a challenge for them to

influence had grown greatly in the past three years, though to the average layman, he was only the CEO of

Her name in Russia is Ivana." Luke sent Luca's dossier to Gale's mailbox while he spoke. "I've just sent you her dossier. Go to Russia with Rain tomorrow and find out everything about

worry, Boss. We'll do that as soon as we can," Gale

you can about her family too," Luke

"Yes, Boss."

ending the call, Luke went into the living room. Old Master Crawford was sitting on the couch waiting

"You're back," the elderly man said.

Grandfather. Have you had dinner?" Luke knew that he was going to come home late, so he told the butler not to wait

The cook saved some food for you. You can get it in the kitchen if you want to eat," Old Master Crawford said while stroking

put his briefcase away and sat down on the couch. "You have something to tell me," he said to Old Master

That was a statement and not *a question*.

Old Master Crawford nodded. "How is your mother-in-law?" He tried to make some small talk.

"**She's taking** her medication now. It's only a matter of time before she is cured," Luke said.

**Queenie had** taken the first dose of the herbal concoction in the hospital. She was still weak, though the concoction did not give her any **side effects**.

*Johann* said that the effects of the concoction would only be seen after some time, and he reminded Jack to boil the concoction for Queenie regularly.

"**I've** heard that the Norman girl is the culprit," Old Master Crawford said. There was no one else in the living room to overhear it anyway.

"**There's no** evidence." Luke's expression sank *slightly*.

He and Jack knew about the things Leia had done. However, Jack decided not to pursue the matter because there was no evidence, and Leia was not in the **country**.

*He* thought that the matter would stay within Johann's office, and he did not expect Old Master Crawford to have caught wind of it.

Old Master Crawford nodded. He could guess why Jack made *that decision*.

**If** Queenie could be fully cured, the higher-ups in the government would reappoint him to his job. Moreover, his rank this time would be higher than the **last**.

had voluntarily retired to take care of his wife, and that had affected his reputation positively. Because of his newfound reputation as a family-oriented man, his political career would be

reputation will continue to grow after this incident, Luke. You should spend some more time with them. Right, you should bring your wife along with you too. In any case, she's their daughter," Old Master Crawford

Bianca lost her memories, she refused to meet the

though they were related by blood, they would eventually drift apart if they did not maintain the relationship. Old Master Crawford was worried about her future, and that was why he had told Luke to bring Bianca along whenever he visited the

know." Luke knew what Old Master Crawford was talking about. If Jack returned to the political scene, T Corporation's influence

though they did not really need the extra help, it was good to have another person to rely

I've bought two cases of supplements, and I'll get the butler to put them in your car boot. It's Saturday tomorrow, so if you're free, you can bring it over," Old Master Crawford

Queenie was discharged from the hospital, she would need all the nutrition that she could

He had planned to visit them tomorrow anyway, so Old Master Crawford's exhortations did not change

was about to stand up, Old Master Crawford said, "Right. Find that mysterious woman if you can. I'm talking about the woman that discovered your

mysterious woman and Queenie's condition was not a secret in Old Master Crawford's social circle. Everyone he knew was talking

## **Chapter 1198**

"Yeah." Luke looked at Bianca. The light from the dressing table illuminated her side profile. She looked delicate and flawless.

However, no matter how he looked at her, he was not spellbound by her as he used to be.

He did not believe that time could change his love for Bianca, but it was true that he was no longer infatuated with her.

"What's the matter with you? Why do you look so serious?" Bianca narrowed her eyebrows and observed his expression.

Luke's expressionless face did not carry a tinge of warmth, and it made her feel uneasy.

"It's nothing to worry about." His expression was still cold and indifferent.

Bianca stood up and tried to approach him when she suddenly heard him ask, "Why did you go to Watson Biopharmaceuticals today?"

"You found out..." Bianca lowered her eyes slightly to show an aggrieved expression. She knew Luke would find out since she had paid off Mo.



Her goal was achieved. Luke was aware that she went to Watson Biopharmaceuticals to look for Luca.

Bianca said, "I went to Watson Biopharmaceuticals to look for Ms. Ivana. I wanted to apologize to her for the news that broke out. I felt horrible that I caused a lot of trouble for her—"

"She didn't know that you're involved," Luke said.

Bianca was uncomfortable with how Luke was wrapped around Luca's fingers. 'She didn't know? How could she not know?! Ivana was the first to know!'

"That might be true but she's an employee of Watson Biopharmaceuticals, after all. If she pursued it any further and found the reporter, she would've found out about everything then. I took the initiative to look for her and sincerely apologized in case things got worse," Bianca said.

I'm sorry for what I did, but please know that I only did it because of how much I love you. I believe you. I know nothing is going on between you and Ms. Ivana. I'm sorry for being oversensitive." She stared into Luke's eyes and

could not afford to stand still. Admitting to her mistakes was her best

Bianca did not think she did anything wrong, legitimacy belonged to the victor. She had no choice but to admit it was her fault now that her scheme

worry about it." Luke looked at her pitiful expression and the tears welled in her eyes. It was as though her tears would fall if he said

to let it go.

smiled slightly and walked toward him. "Do you

never blamed you." Luke knew that Bianca had gotten a little more sensitive after she got amnesia. It was likely that she did what she did because of

about it for a little while and said, "I have an event on the weekend. Do you want to join

overjoyed. When she was about to agree, she thought of the wounds on her body. The wound on her back was

to wear a dress for the event. Even if she wore a long dress, it may not be able to cover all the wounds on

could not go for a customized dress either. If someone saw the wounds on her back, they might misunderstand and make some nasty comments, which might

more Bianca thought about it, the angrier

the wounds on her back gave her no choice but to turn Luke down. She asked, "What kind of event is

"It's a banquet held by the Pharmaceutical Association," Luke said.

"Hmm... I'm not good at socializing with medical professionals and I don't know anything now, so it's best that I don't go, lest I embarrass you," Bianca said vaguely. She knew that Abel owned the Pharmaceutical Association that Luke was referring to.

She could not go in case Abel was there too. If his mood changed and he wanted to do something to her, it would not be worth the loss.

Bianca was determined not to accompany Luke to attend the event on Sunday. Eventually, the fury in her heart gradually *faded*.

*Seeing that* Bianca was unwilling to accompany him, Luke nodded and said coldly, "Mm, it's your choice. Get some rest."

*Bianca looked* at him as he finished speaking and then turned to leave. She let out a sigh of relief and paused before she said *something else*.

**Even if** she got Luke to stay, there was nothing she *could do*.

*Her* body was wounded, so even if Luke stayed, she would not be able to do anything with **him**.

All Bianca could do was watch him leave. She then closed the *door*.

*Luke* returned to the study and thought of what Old Master Crawford had **said**.

The news of Queenie being poisoned had spread. Many of the rich and famous wanted to know who was the wicked person who harmed her.

**Even if** he and Jack did not pursue it, others would.

*If he* found out who that person was before everyone else, maybe he could protect them before the others got *to them*.

texted Jason to make

Early the next morning.

Luke got up, he notified the three children separately that he would be bringing them to the

kids were overjoyed when they heard that they were going to visit their grandparents. They immediately jumped and started getting

to Bianca's bedroom after that. The bedroom door was closed. He knocked but there was

knocked again thinking that Bianca had not

walked over and looked up at him. "Dad, what are you

to wake your mother up," Luke

nodded but asked, "Why are you knocking on the door? Why don't you just

was speechless after hearing what his son said. Tommy was right. He could just go in without knocking on

and Bianca were husband and

was not in his subconscious to do that. It was because he felt distant from Bianca. They were more like roommates living under

are you in a daze?" Tommy asked when he saw that Luke was spacing

## **Chapter 1199**

"Norman Residence?" Bianca felt bitter when she thought of Jack's face.

Jack always had a stern face that was a little too serious whenever they were in the same room. His majestic gaze seems to be able to see through everything.

There was also Queenie, who was so fragile. Every time Bianca went to the Norman Residence, she had to do all kinds of housework for Queenie to maintain the image of a good daughter.

Bianca hated all of this.

"Mm." Luke noticed her resistance and did not choose to accommodate her this time.

Bianca looked at the calmness on his face and felt slightly disappointed that he did not show any empathy toward her.

Luke was not saying anything to help her out of this, which meant that she had to go.

Bianca was not happy about it but dared not express it. Too many things had happened recently. If it were in the past, she could turn him down, but in the situation that she was in now, she could no longer take any risks that would cause Luke to dislike her even more.

She said, "I'll go get ready."

"Mm, we'll wait for you downstairs." Luke turned to leave when he saw that Bianca agreed.

Bianca looked at him as he left. She was tightly clutching the door frame with her hand, and some sawdust had gotten into her nails.

Luke cared about her less as the days went by.

Bianca wandered downstairs half an hour later. Luke had finished breakfast and the kids were seated around the table, drinking juice.

"I'm ready." She walked

noddled and handed her a plate. "Have some breakfast before we head

Crawford, who was sitting on the chair, put down the newspaper and took off his reading glasses when he heard what Luke said. He said, "Luke, I have something for Ol' Norman. Pass it to him when you see him

"What is it?" Luke asked.

please bring it to me," Old Master Crawford

he heard that, the butler bowed slightly and left the dining room. After a while, he returned with a bag in his

kolinsky sable paintbrushes. I heard that Ol' Norman used to paint but stopped after your mother-in-law fell sick. Send this to him. Maybe he'll have some use for it in the future." Old Master Crawford took the bag from the butler and handed it

her breakfast while listening to Old Master

surprised that Old Master Crawford treated Jack so well. It seemed likely that as soon as Queenie recovered, Jack would return to

of these had anything to do with her. She did not want to be involved with anyone from the

pass it to my father-in-law." Luke took the bag. It was heavy, so he placed it gently on

were probably from Old Master Crawford's

intriguing that he decided to gift items from his precious collection to

*After* Bianca was done with breakfast, Luke drove her and the kids to Norman Residence.

They had informed Jack and Queenie in advance that they were visiting. When Luke arrived at the Norman Residence, Jack and Queenie were waiting for them in the living room.

*In* the past, Queenie would usually be resting in her room around this time.

Queenie smiled and waved at the kids. "Lanie, Rainie, Tommy, come here. Come to Grandma."

The three walked to her.

"Grandma, good morning." The children greeted her in unison and looked at Jack. "Grandpa, **good morning.**"

"*Good* morning, my love." Queenie was overjoyed to see the kids. She lovingly rubbed their heads.

**Rainie was** a sensitive and loving child. She asked, "Grandma, I heard from Daddy that you were just discharged from the hospital. How are you feeling?"

"I feel much better. All the pain is gone the moment I see all of you." Queenie could barely conceal her delight. She held Rainie's hand and said, "I haven't seen you for a while. It seems that you've grown a lot taller."

When he heard this, Tommy raised his hand and said, "Grandma, I've grown taller too! If you don't believe me, take a look! Soon, I'll be taller *than Rainie.*"

**Queenie laughed** with joy while talking with the kids. Her mood improved significantly.

*Luke's eyes* fell on Bianca, who stood next to him. She was carrying the gift bag Old Master Crawford had passed to them in her **hand**.

noticed Luke's gaze, Bianca said, "Dad, Mom, this is what Luke and I prepared

called out to them timidly. Queenie's eyes were

girl... come. Come and sit with me." She waved to

returned, she lost her memory and did not make any attempt to get close to Queenie and Jack. Bianca was resistant whenever Queenie tried to bond with

gap in their relationship only grew bigger

was abroad, Queenie wanted to focus all her attention on Bianca but Bianca did not want any of it. Eventually, Queenie's health got worse and she no longer had the energy to do anything to improve

Queenie heard her voice, tears filled her eyes. She felt like she owed

felt awkward seeing Queenie's overflowing

grew up in an environment where her father and mother did not pay her any attention. She was never close with

she was brought to the Island of Despair, family love became more and more

not the biggest fan of family love, but unfortunately, she had to

placed the bag on the coffee table and had a stiff smile on her face as she sat next

grabbed her hand as it was the first time Bianca was willing to be so close to her... She looked at Bianca's frail face and said, "You've

## **Chapter 1200**

Jack knew what Old Master Crawford's intentions were by giving him the kolinsky sable paintbrushes at this timing. He nodded and accepted the gift. "Please thank Old Master Crawford for me. When Queenie feels better, our families should have a meal together."

"Sounds good," Luke nodded.

Old Master Crawford knew that Jack would do better than ever after he returned to politics, so T Corporation would be riding on his wave then.

The caretaker walked over with a bowl of herbal concoction and said softly, "Madam, the concoction is ready."

Queenie smiled and picked up the bowl. She chose to gulp it all down in one sitting instead of drinking it sip by sip because the concoction was bitter.

After she finished it, she frowned slightly as she could still taste the bitterness of the concoction in her mouth.

The nanny handed her a piece of candy and said, "Madam, you'll feel better if you eat something sweet."

Queenie shook her head to turn her down.

Luke asked, "Mother-in-law, how do you feel after taking the concoction?"

"I feel much better and am not afraid of the cold as much as I was before. The temperature of the air conditioner in the house today is lower than it usually is. Although the effects aren't immediate, I do feel

much better." Queenie smiled. Even though she could still taste the bitterness in her mouth, her heart was finally at ease.

After she started taking the herbal concoction, she felt that her health was improving by the day.

"That's good." Luke nodded and thought about the mystery woman who gave Queenie the herbs. He was curious about the woman's identity.

Queenie's gaze fell on Bianca again, she said, "Bea, stay for dinner. I'll have the caretaker cook your favorite dishes."

"Yes, that sounds good," Bianca nodded.

said, "Bea, the flowers in the garden are in full bloom. You used to love looking at the flora and fauna in the garden. Why don't we go for a

had no interest in plants and wanted to turn

was there, so she had no choice but to nod, stand up, and

was pleased to see that Bianca was not as resistant toward her as before. The corners of her mouth were raised as she stood up and said, "Okay, I'll take

her, "Put a jacket

Queenie shook her head and smiled. "The sun is warm and wonderful. I don't feel that cold

she held Bianca's arm intimately and they walked out

them leave and said, "Queenie is doing

At midnight last night, she told me that it was too warm and wanted me to remove the blanket."

Although Jack's expression was still serious, he could not conceal

happier than anyone that Queenie was

said, "Father-in-law, I want to find out the identity of that

**Jack** nodded, pondered on it for a while, and then said, "Your mother-in-law doesn't want us to pursue this. Since that woman chose to go about it anonymously, she thinks that the woman does not want her identity to **be known**."

"*Everyone* already knows how you met her and is concerned about her identity. This is a villa area and the security system is excellent. Even if we don't look into it, others will," **Luke said**.

"I know..." Jack knew that news about what happened to Queenie had already spread throughout A City. Since then, everyone thought of the mystery woman as a goddess-like **figure**.

*Anyone* who was sick wanted to contact this woman for treatment, so of course, people were motivated to investigate this **matter**.

"**If I** find out who she is, I can misdirect the public and protect her privacy," Luke said.

Jack thought that what he said made sense. If they did not investigate, the woman would still be found by others sooner **or later**.

He looked at Luke. "Go forth with the investigation, then. I want to thank her face to face. By the way, there's one thing that'll **help you**."

**Luke nodded** and knew what he was talking *about*.

Jack asked the maid to take the box from his study and handed it to Luke. "This is the box that the herbs were packed in. I haven't torn off the courier note on it, so you have an advantage over the others who are trying to find her."

"Thank you, Father-in-law." Luke took his phone out, snapped a photo of the courier note, and sent it to **Jason**.

*The parcel* was sent from the same city. As long as he had the tracking number, he could find out which employee picked up *the parcel*.

*This* was faster than going through the *security footage*.

this person, but don't let your mother-in-law know. She's grateful to that woman. If she finds out that she has caused a lot of inconvenience to that woman, she'll feel guilty," Jack

"Okay," Luke nodded.

poured him a cup of tea. "Here, have

picked up the teacup, took a sip, and heard Jack say, "You asked Bea to come over

though Jack had not said anything about this matter, he still noticed the unwillingness hidden in Bianca's

that being in a good mood will speed up the discharge of toxins." Luke did not deny it. Jack had been in politics for decades and was proficient in reading body

tell at a glance whether Bianca came willingly

she wants now is to see Bea and the children." Jack took a sip of tea

In the garden of Norman Residence.

Bianca's hand, not knowing that she was uncomfortable with

it was morning, it was way past dawn so the sunlight was getting stronger. Bianca felt uncomfortable when the sun shone on her

had several layers of gauze wrapped around her body. If she sweated, the gauze might stick to the wounds and she would have to deal with it when she got