

Be Gentle 1271

Chapter 1271

William shot his friend a glance, angry at his mocking tone. "Shut up!" He said.

"I told you that I'd help you." Paul walked toward them with a sinister expression on his face.

"No!" William refused because he knew that Luca was on her period.

"Why not? This is the only chance you're going to get, William. Are you sure that you won't regret it?" Paul said as he stood in Luca's way. "The conference is a one-day event, and that woman won't show up in the university tomorrow. Also, I guess that she isn't from New York either. Don't tell me you want to go into a long-distance relationship, do you? How foolish. Aren't you satisfied if you could claim her for just one night?"

Luca slowly clenched her hands into fists when she listened to his words.

She did not want to get physical just now because she did not want to cause trouble. Moreover, William was only a university student.

However, the two boys seemed to have other plans in mind...

"What do you want?" Luca said.

Paul looked at her. The woman had delicate facial features, but too bad for her, she would be the sacrifice for tonight.

"Why are you hesitating, William? It's better to act than to regret later, right? Don't worry, it'll be fine. Women like her are actually very timid," Paul continued to instigate William.

Indeed, William did not want to let her slip away just like that. He looked at her seriously and said, "Are you really that unwilling to tell me your name and give me your number?"

Luca frowned hard and told him clearly, "I will not give them to you."

that? You won't get to claim her unless you use some force," Paul

already quite angry at this point. The woman had rejected him three times in a day, and he was rapidly losing his patience. He grabbed Luca's wrist tightly and said viciously, "If you're not going to give it to me, I'll just help myself

as William grabbed toward her handbag, which contained her wallet and important documents. She let go of the plastic bag and clenched her fists, preparing to subdue

go." A cold voice was heard from not far away. Even though she did not see who it was, she could tell from the voice that it

froze. She turned around and saw that it was

when he saw the appearance of the sudden intruder. He had already restrained Luca, but someone came and interrupted

that the man was not the same one as he saw earlier at

your own business!" William said angrily. In a city like New York, he was not afraid that some passerby would call the

go," Luke repeated. His gaze was transfixed on William's hand that grabbed Luca's

subconsciously shuddered when he felt the immense pressure emanating from the man. Who was that man, and why was he

sensed that William was wavering, and he could tell that things were not going their

If they ran away now, Paul would have missed his opportunity. He did not want that to happen!

Paul took out a Swiss army knife from his pocket, stepped forward, and said, "Don't be a coward, William. There's only one of them and two of us. Let me handle the woman, and you can go and fight that man."

He reached out to grab Luca's wrist and handed the Swiss army knife to **William**.

William was still hesitating.

Paul continued to instigate him, "It'll be very humiliating if you stop now. The woman knows our name and our university. What if she posts about us as revenge? Your reputation will be in ruins. Do you think that those girls will still love you if you become the subject of ridicule?"

William was very concerned about his reputation with the girls.

He grabbed the Swiss army knife impulsively, made sure that Paul was holding Luca firmly, then let go of Luca and brandished the knife in his hand. "Mind your own business. Get lost if you want to *live!*"

Paul grabbed Luca's delicate wrist tightly, which caused Luca to exclaim in pain and come to *her senses*.

"I don't need your help here, Luke," she said.

"*It's too late.*" Just as Luke finished speaking, William charged over with the knife.

Luke deftly dodged William's attack. He wanted to end the fight as fast as he could because Luca was still in Paul's **hands**.

you, you busybody!" William's eyes were bloodshot. He gripped the knife in his hand tightly and charged toward Luke

next second, Luke kicked outward, and William was sent sprawling on

knife fell to the

could see that William was no match for that stranger. He noticed that Luca was distracted, so he choked her neck with both of his hands. "Don't come any closer. Otherwise, I'll strangle

to breathe as the hands closed around her neck

realized that she had been careless. She thought that Paul was a pushover, but she did not expect that he would

harder when he saw Paul choking Luca. He walked step by step toward Paul, which caused him to step the right opportunity, she used her elbows to ram into Paul's ribs. Paul yelled in pain and let go the same time, William had already gotten back on his feet. He grabbed the knife and slashed toward that and yelled, "Careful, turned his head around and dodged the attack, but he was a split second too late, and the knife drew a line on

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Luke waited next to the car door.

When Luca stepped closer, he opened the car door but did not get in. Instead, he gestured to invite her in.

They were quite close to each other. For a split second, she could catch Luke's scent in her nostrils.

Tommy was sitting in the car. He was very excited when he saw Luca. "Come in quick, Ms. Luca!"

Luca could not stop looking at Luke's arm. The light was too dim, and she could not see the extent of his injuries.

She bent over and stepped into the car.

Luke closed the car door, then stepped into the car through the other door.

"Hotel," he ordered the driver without using too many words.

The driver responded, then started the car.

Tommy looked at Luke with eyes full of concern. "Daddy, does it hurt?"

"It doesn't hurt," Luke said. He glanced at his arm coldly, seemingly unperturbed by the slash wound.

Tommy stopped worrying when he heard his father say that. He gestured a thumbs-up at him and said, "You were so cool just now, Daddy! You were very cool too, Ms. Luca."

Jason noticed the commotion while they were on their way back to the hotel.

The driver parked the car by the roadside, and Luke stepped out immediately to help Luca with her predicament. Tommy had watched the fight happen and was thoroughly impressed by their prowess.

you," Luca said sullenly. She could have dealt with the two boys easily, but Luke's sudden appearance had caught her by

would not have wanted to show off her combat skills if William had not brandished

flexed his wrist. Tommy had told him that Luca had single-handedly defeated several hooligans. Now that she took down a jock by herself, he was

only other woman he knew with such brawling skills

you learn how to fight?" Luke asked. He could tell that she had been training for many training at a dojo near my house since I was young," Luca said as she looked out of driver stopped the car outside of the hotel, and Luca hurriedly opened the door and stepped out of the car on

three people went into the hotel together. Under the bright lights in the lobby, she finally could see Luke's

blood had already dried, but Luca could tell that the cut was not have been hurt if he had not stepped out of an inexplicable pang of guilt. She turned around and stopped looking people stepped into the

The elevator stopped at Luca's floor, and the doors slowly opened. Just when she was about to step out, Tommy tugged her shirt sleeve and said, "Ms. Luca, shouldn't you help Daddy dress his wound?"

Tommy's reminder made Luca's gaze fall on Luke's *arm again*.

Tommy continued, "I'd help Daddy if I know how to, Ms. Luca. Is the injury serious?"

Luca felt even guiltier when she heard that. She nodded and said, "I'll help you dress your wound, Mr. **Crawford**."

Luke glanced at his son, then at his arm. He nodded and said nothing.

The elevator attendant saw that Luca did not leave. He smiled and said, "Do you want to go up, Ma'am?" "Yes." Luca nodded.

The elevator attendant pulled his finger back from the button, and the elevator doors **slowly closed**.

When the elevator arrived at Luke's floor, the three people stepped out. Luca walked behind the father and son and could not help but **feel dejected**.

"**Come** in, Ms. Luca!" Tommy waved at her and *smiled warmly*.

Luca came to her senses and stepped into the suite.

Tommy closed the door behind her, then took her hand and led her to the couch. "Please sit down for a while, Ms. *Luca*."

When Luca looked at the child's innocent smile, she could not help but feel that she had been **tricked somehow**.

feeling unwell, Ms. Luca? You seem weird," Tommy asked when he saw the forced smile on Luca's fine." Luca shook her head and patted

off his coat and hung it on the coat rack. He glanced at them and said, "I'll go and take a shower

There was no first aid kit in the suite. After Luke closed the bathroom door, she picked up the phone receiver and gave a call to the front

the call was picked up, she asked for some antiseptic and

at the six-star hotel was very efficient. In less than three minutes, someone brought all the items she requested to the

sat next to her and wagged his legs. "Daddy is a clean freak, Ms. Luca. He'll be in the bathroom for

carefully inspected the items that the attendant brought her and saw that nothing was missing. She continued, "Right, Tommy, you should go and tell Daddy not to wash the wound with shower

don't you go and tell him yourself, Ms. Luca?"

was messing around with a bottle of rubbing alcohol in her hands. Before she could reply, Tommy continued, "Are you afraid of

was speechless as she looked

Luca? You're afraid of my Daddy?" Tommy's eyes widened. He had made a harmless guess, and he did not expect to

shook her head weakly. She was not afraid of Luke, but rather, she did not want too many interactions with

Chapter 1273

Luke stepped out of the bathroom after taking a shower. He was dressed in the hotel's bathrobe, and he draped the towel around his neck. His hair was still dripping with water, and his body was still coated in a layer of vapor.

His demeanor lacked his usual seriousness. Instead, he looked sensually carefree.

Luke dried his hair with his towel as he walked over and sat on the couch. He placed his arm on the coffee table, indicating that he was ready for Luca to dress his wound.

Luca opened the bottle of rubbing alcohol after making sure that it was suitable for her use. "This will sting a little," she reminded him.

"It's fine." Luke's voice was slightly hoarse after the hot shower.

"Daddy's isn't afraid of pain," Tommy added.

Luca dipped a cotton swab into the bottle, then gently rubbed it over his wound.

Luke had avoided getting the wound wet when he took the shower earlier. After cleaning away all the dried blood, she noticed that the wound was quite deep. She sighed and said, "If the wound were any deeper, you'll have to go and get it stitched at the hospital."

He remained silent as he watched Luca do her job, and he did not make a sound when the alcohol irritated his skin.

Luca was very careful when cleaning his wound, as though she was afraid that he might find it painful. After sterilizing the wound, she took out a bottle of powder from her handbag and applied it to the wound.

"What's this?" Luke asked.

"It's my own creation. It can help in healing wounds. Don't worry, it's harmless to the body," Luca said. She had been bringing the powder in her handbag in case of emergencies.

you carry everything in your handbag?" Luke was quite surprised. Luca had brought the antidote to the drug at the party. Now, he found out that she brought along a powder for healing

spreading the powder over the wound evenly, she began to wrap it with a bandage. Her eyelids drooped when she heard his question, and she answered calmly, "They're only

looked at her handbag and noticed that there was something stuck to it. He tore it away and asked, "What's this, Ms.

sank as soon as she saw the thing in Tommy's hand. "Where did you find

hand was a miniature

stuck to your handbag," Tommy said as he looked curiously at the thing in

also knew what that thing was. "Did those two people appear out

shook her head. She thought that the two students had attached the tracker to her handbag while they were brawling in front of the convenience store earlier, though things did not seem to be

hotel was so far away from the university, so how could the two students have known that she was

met them in the university when I was there for the conference. They should be students." Luca did not go into detail about what happened at the

seems like you're quite popular." Luke could guess what happened even though Luca did not tell him too many details. "The tracker belongs

"Mm." Luca tied the bandage in a knot and took the tracker from Tommy's hand.

The tracker was very small, and she did not know its exact functions.

Luca originally thought that the incident had nothing to do with Abel. As she looked at the tracker in her hand, she realized that she had to find out the tracker's functions before she could conclude whether Abel was behind **it**.

She stood up, picked up her handbag and the plastic bag, and said, "I've dressed your wound, Mr. Crawford. Try to keep it dry for the next two days. I'll leave the powder with you, and you can apply it to the wound daily. I'll be leaving if there's **nothing else**."

Luke nodded. Earlier, he had noticed the change in Luca's expression when she first saw **the tracker**.

Normally, people would not have known what that thing was. However, Luca could instantly recognize it. Adding that to her impressive brawling skills, Luke could tell that there was more to her than he expected.

Should Gale and Rain start over their investigation?

After all, their report did not mention anything about her combat abilities or her **technological knowledge**.

Tommy stood up when he saw that Luca was leaving. "Ms. Luca..."

Luca was already at the door. She turned her head around when she heard the child calling her and smiled apologetically. "I'm busy tonight, Tommy. You should sleep with your Daddy, **alright?**"

"Alright then..." Tommy's smile vanished when Luca told him that she would not be able to take care of him. He watched Luca leave the suite, then turned around and asked, "Daddy, does Ms. Luca hate me?"

"hate you," Luca said. He could tell that Luca was feeling guilty when she said that she was not able to she want to bring me along with her then?" Tommy did not

busy," Luca said as he looked carefully at the bottle of powder she left

could tell from Luca's expression that she wanted to take the tracker apart and analyze

on the bottle became more pensive when he thought

not know what she was hiding, but he was sure that there was more to

bottle in his hand was only a simple glass bottle without

shook his head and sighed dejectedly. "Fine then. Looks like I'll be sleeping alone

made Luke wonder if Tommy could sleep soundly while sleeping with Luca. What was the reason he liked her so

...

the tracker back to her room. She also asked for a toolbox from the front

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After finding out that the tracker was cheap and mass-produced, Luca was almost sure that the incident was unrelated to Abel.

She smashed the tracker into pieces and tossed it into the trash can.

She was a lot more relieved when she found out that Abel was not involved in the incident. After washing her face and brushing her teeth, she lay on the bed.

Meanwhile, the police arrested William and Paul and brought them to the police station. Jason followed behind the police car so that he could see the incident to its completion.

William and Paul were handcuffed and placed in the same room. They waited for the family lawyer to arrive before the questioning started.

"What should we do now?" William asked worriedly as he looked at his handcuffed hands.

He was born in a wealthy family, and even though he had frequently gotten himself in trouble since he was young, he had never been arrested by the police before. His family might be rich and influential enough to bail him out, but he had indeed injured someone.

The incident might leave him with a criminal record, and his father would not forgive him if that happened.

"What's there to worry about? Relax. Your parents will definitely bail you out. As for me... sigh. What are you worried about if I'm not even worried?" Paul said. He was not as wealthy as William, and he did not have a family lawyer, but he was much more composed than William.

"That man looks quite powerful." William was not as optimistic. After cutting Luke, he noticed that those people had stepped out of a Rolls-Royce.

There were less than ten of those cars in the entire New York, so William could tell that the man was rich, influential, or both.

He was afraid that his family was not as influential as that man.

William thought about it, the more anxious he got. His hands that rested on the table began nonchalantly. "Just relax. That man definitely won't press charges. In fact, he might even need you say that?" William did not understand. Seeing how composed his friend was, he thought that he should not be so anxious

Paul said as he shook his

had coated the Swiss army knife with poison before handing it to William. The poison and the tracker were bought in the black

the man who sold him the poison, once the poison was applied to an open wound, it would take two hours to take

wanted to use the poison on William, but he did not expect that it was used on that

was confident that the man would not press charges because he knew that the man needed the antidote from them. Of course, the man would still be angry, but Paul would push the blame on William and get off

all, William was the one who hurt that man with a

did not know that Paul was plotting something against him. He nodded, leaned back on his chair, and looked at the clock on the wall. "Why isn't the lawyer here yet?" He said

no rush. It's almost time," Paul said. He could see that it was almost two

...

Luca had just fallen asleep when she was woken up by the shrill ring of her phone. She opened her eyes, and before she came to her senses, her finger instinctively tapped on the button to answer *the call*.

"Hello," she said.

"Ms. Luca? Come here, quick. There's something terribly wrong with Daddy..." Tommy said anxiously.

Luca immediately sat up. "What happened?" She asked.

"**Daddy** seems very ill. Please come here faster, Ms. Luca. Boo hoo hoo, he looks like he's in pain."

Tommy stood next to the bed and looked at the man on **the bed**.

Tommy was already sleeping, but he was woken up by a loud growl. He could tell that the noise came from Luke's bedroom, so he went over to take a **look**.

He realized that Luke had been growling, but no matter how much he called for Luke, Luke did not seem to **respond**.

Tommy was worried and afraid. He immediately thought of Luca, so he took Luke's phone and **called her**.

Hearing that the boy was about to cry, Luca quickly got out of bed and wore the hotel slippers. She left the room without even putting on a coat.

"Don't cry, Tommy. I'll come upstairs now, but I don't have the access card, so I'll need your help. Bring your access card to my floor, and I'll go up with you. Did you get that?"

could see that Luke's lips were already turning purple. He tried to hold back his tears when he heard Luca's comforting voice, then nodded and replied, "Alright, Ms. Luca. I'll go

phone in one hand and the spare access card in the other, Tommy ran out of the suite. He had taken the elevator the night before, so he managed to find Luca

stepped into the elevator, Tommy pounced on her and hugged her. "I'm so scared,

I'll go and check on him." Luca took Tommy's access card and tapped it on the sensor in the elevator. Before the elevator attendant realized what was going on, Luke closed the

had tried to hold back her tears, but he could no longer stop them from falling the moment he saw

wrenched when she saw him being so sad. She wiped Tommy's cheeks with the back of her hand.

"Alright, don't cry. Your Daddy will be

to sob. He was a child after all, and he was shocked by Luke's sudden change. He hugged Luca tightly, as though she might disappear the moment he let

elevator attendant did not know what was going on. "What happened, Ma'am?" He

Luca replied. When the elevator arrived at their destination floor, Luca picked up Tommy and hugged

not know what happened to Luke, but she could see that Tommy suffered a shock. Hugging him would give him a sense of

the elevator, Luca quickly walked toward the entrance to the suite and opened the door. "Is your Daddy in the bedroom?" She

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"He's like this because he's a little hurt. Don't be scared. I'll go downstairs to get something, and I'll be back soon, alright?" Luca comforted Tommy.

Luke had a weak pulse, and he had thrown up earlier. She could not find any other symptoms of his poisoning.

She knew that she could not wake him up, and there were thousands of poisons that could cause the same symptoms. Without being able to know what poison it was, all she could do now was to stabilize Luke's condition.

"Alright," Tommy nodded and said. "I'll look after Daddy here."

Luca saw that Tommy was still holding Luke's phone. "Give me the phone."

Tommy trusted Luca, so he handed the phone to her.

Instinctively, Luca entered the passcode she knew Luke last used, and she did not expect to be able to unlock it. "Your Daddy needs to go to the hospital. I'm using the phone to make a phone call, and I'll also go downstairs to get some medicine. Stay here and look after Daddy, alright?"

"Mm," Tommy nodded and replied.

As Luca walked out of the room, she dialed Johann's phone number.

"Hey, Luke, don't you know the time now? I was sleeping," Johann grumbled as soon as he picked up the call.

"Sorry, Dr. Park. I'm Luca Craw. Do you remember me?" Luca said.

Johann's eyes instantly widened. He remembered who Luca was, but why was Luca using Luke's phone?

looked at the phone screen to confirm that the call was indeed made from Luke's phone. "Of course I remember you, Dr. Craw. Is

something wrong with Mr. Crawford, and he needs to be sent to the hospital now. I know that you're also in New York. Can you arrange something?"

condition needed a specialist. Luca knew that she had to look for Johann's help if she wanted Luke to be cured as soon

wrong with him?" Johann sat up and

poisoned, but I don't know what poison it is. Later, I'll feed him a pill that I made myself, but I can't say if it'll work on him. Please arrange for an ambulance to come to Washington International Hotel,"

make the necessary arrangements now." Johann jumped out of bed after realizing the severity of the incident. After the call ended, he made a call to

name was renowned throughout the country, so he managed to notify the hospital very quickly. He changed his clothes and rushed over to the

to her room and took out an antidote pill from her luggage. Then, she quickly went upstairs and fed the pill to

guarding anxiously by the

minutes later, there was a knock on

went to open the door and saw a team of emergency medics outside. She told them Luke's situation, and Luke was brought into the ambulance. Luca and Tommy

Johann had arranged for Luke to be sent to the closest hospital to the hotel. The ambulance arrived at the hospital ten **minutes later**.

At the hospital, Luca met up **with Johann/**

"Dr. Park," Luca greeted and nodded at Johann. The dark color on Luke's lips lessened a little after taking the antidote pill, but he remained unconscious.

The antidote pill was not exactly effective, though it managed to stop the spread of **the poison**.

"Dr. Craw, do you know what happened to him?" Johann frowned when he saw that Luke was *unconscious*.

"He should be poisoned, but my antidote didn't manage to cure him. I think he needs a toxicology test, but I'm guessing that it's snake venom," Luca said. She knew that her antidote was least effective against snake venom, and the time the poison took effect was similar to **snake venom**.

"Alright." Johann nodded and talked to the medics. Soon, a nurse came and took two blood samples **from Luke**.

Luca could see that the blood that flowed out of Luke's veins was a lot thicker than usual.

She took out a bottle from her pocket and handed it to Johann. "He took a pill earlier. He should take *one more*."

"*Did* you make these pills yourself?" Johann said as he took the *bottle*.

"Yes. It's a general antidote, but it's the least effective against snake venom. That's why I guessed that Luke is affected by snake venom. The pill isn't poisonous, and you can eat it if you want," Luca *said*.

Johann opened the lid and instantly smelled herbs.

poured a pill onto his palm and looked at Luca. Eventually, he placed his trust in Luca and fed Luke

"Why is he poisoned?" Johann asked.

got into some trouble while walking on the street. Mr. Crawford stepped in to help me, and he got hurt. He was cut by a knife that was coated in snake venom," Luca said while looking

felt immensely guilty that the little boy had to go through that. He must be so

surprised that Luke would help

that Luke had helped her at the party. This was the

that Luke's relationship with her was more than just

the knife wound on Luke's arm. "Is that the

The color of his blood was normal when I dressed the wound, so I didn't think of that possibility," Luca
you use any medication for the wound?"

I did. It's a powder that I made myself. It's useful for healing open wounds, and it has no side effects. If
you don't trust me, you can take a sample of the powder for analysis. I can guarantee you that it's
perfectly safe,"

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Hearing from her serious tone that she had mistaken what he meant, Johann quickly wagged his hands
and shook his head. "You say that the two people are college kids, but they have to know certain people
in order to get their hands on this poison. Mr. Doyle is still at the police station, isn't he? Get him to
keep a close eye on the two kids. Don't let them get away."

Luca pressed her lips when she heard that. The nurse had injected the serum earlier, and it had not
taken effect yet.

"I'll go and make a call," she said.

"Mm." Johann nodded. "I'll take care of him."

Luca went to the balcony. A gust of night wind made her shiver. It was only then that she realized that
she went to the hospital in her pajamas. In her anxiety over Luke's condition, she had forgotten to
change her clothes.

She gave a call to Jason and told him about Luke's condition.

Jason was furious when he found out that Luke was poisoned. "I won't let them off so easily."

"Mr. Doyle, Mr. Crawford has already received the serum, and his condition will improve soon. However,
his body will be weak for the next few days. I'll keep an eye on him, so you can handle the matters at the
police station without worry. Also, investigate the background of the two students. Dr. Park said that the
snake venom can only be found on the black market. They wouldn't have gotten their hands on it unless
they knew certain people," Luca said.

"Alright, I understand. I'll get to the bottom of this," Jason said. "Thanks for taking care of Mr. Crawford,
and Little Mr. Crawford..."

"Don't worry, I'll take good care of them," Luca said. The night wind rose again, and she rubbed her arms
and sighed.

She could not remain calm after knowing that Luke's life was in danger.

If Abel knew what happened tonight, he would definitely use that fact against her.

Abel's sinister gaze and rancorous expression whenever Luke was mentioned, and that made her that the Island of Despair was not involved in the incident, but that did not seem to be the this possibility, Luca quickly went back to the already returned to Luke's face, and his lips were not as dark as earlier. However, he had not came up to her when he saw her.

Your Daddy will be fine." Luca patted Tommy's head and continued to gaze at the man lying on the is working. I estimate that he should be awake before dawn," Johann and said gratefully, "Thank you so much, Dr.

I'm glad that he's fine," Johann said and yawned. He was exhausted after attending a full day of lectures, and he would rather be taking care of

could see that he was tired. She said, "I can look after Mr. Crawford. You should go back and less worried about Luke now that he had received the serum, and he really needed the rest. He said, "Alright, I'll be going back to my hotel. I'll come and check on him again

"Mm." Luca nodded.

Johann saw that Luca was only dressed in thin pajamas and guessed that she was in a hurry to get Luke to the hospital. He took off his coat and placed it on the couch. "It's cold at night. You can use my coat. Careful, don't catch a *cold*."

"Thanks." Luca glanced at the coat Johann placed on the couch, then looked at Luke on *the bed*.

Even though Luca seemed composed, Johann could tell that she was worried. He smiled and spoke to Tommy, "Do you want to go back to the hotel with *me*?"

Tommy shook his head and held on to Luca's hand tightly. "I want to take care of my Daddy with *Ms. Luca*."

Johann did not force the boy to go with him. "If you need anything, just give me a call. I'll bring it over **tomorrow morning**."

"Alright, thank you." Luca's gaze did not move away from the *bed*.

Johann left the ward and closed the door **behind him**.

"*Let's go* and sit down, Ms. Luca." Tommy shook Luca's hand *and said*.

Luca nodded and led him to the couch. Tommy was also in his pajamas, but he was also wearing a jacket.

She hugged him tightly in his arms to give him a sense *of safety*.

He must have been traumatized by the **events earlier**.

Tommy curled up in Luca's arms, though his eyes were on his father on the bed. "Daddy will be **fine, right?**"

patted Tommy's forehead, and her heart wrenched. Indeed, he was quite

not in danger now. He'll be okay after a night's sleep." She spread out Johann's coat to cover her and so glad that you're here, Ms. Luca. Otherwise, Daddy might have died," Tommy said as he hugged her arm

drooped. The boy said that Luke was lucky that she was around, but he did not consider that Luke was injured because

she were not here, none of that would

let's not think too much about it. We should sleep for now, and when we wake up, your Daddy will wake up too," Luca comforted

"Mm, okay, Ms. Luca." Tommy nodded.

couch was wide enough for them to sleep side by side. Luca slept near the edge so that Tommy would not roll

there quietly with Johann's coat as their

not sleepy at all, but she closed her eyes to give the child next to her a sense of

had been looking at her for some time. Eventually, he closed his eyes and fell

her eyes after sensing that the child's breathing had

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He could not remember anything that happened after that.

Luca saw that Luke was struggling to sit up. She sighed and said, "The knife that injured you last night was coated in snake venom. You were poisoned."

'Poisoned?'

Luke raised his eyebrows slightly as though he could not believe what was told to him. He could only remember that he was in great pain and that he threw up before he passed out.

"After the snake venom took effect, Tommy heard your cries of help and gave me a call." Luca turned around to look at the child. He was still sleeping on the couch.

"And then?" Luke asked.

"Then I gave Dr. Park a call, and he arranged an ambulance to send you to the hospital. The doctor ran a toxicology test and found that you were poisoned by a snake found locally." Luca did not tell him about feeding him the antidote pills.

Luke nodded.

Luca continued to talk in case Luke had doubts. "Your poisoning has nothing to do with my powder. If you feel the need, you can get Mr. Doyle to get that Swiss army knife analyzed."

"Will you poison me?" Luke asked her instead of replying to her statement.

Luca instantly shook her head. "I won't."

She could not even bear to see him being injured. Why would she poison him?

no need then," Luke said. Even though Luca's background remained a mystery, Luke decided to trust slightly shocked when she heard how readily Luke had trusted her. Even Johann had suspected phone?" Luke tried to look around for his phone but could not find

here." Luca took out Luke's phone from the pocket of her pajama shirt and handed it noticed Luca's clothes. "Why are you dressed

was in a rush, so I didn't get to change," Luca replied. She did not tell him that she was too worried about

two adults did not speak very loudly, but their conversation woke Tommy up. He slowly opened his eyes and recognized Luke's voice. "Daddy, you're awake!" He exclaimed as he sat up and looked at

could tell that his son must have been shocked by the ordeal. He nodded and said, "Yes, I'm

off the couch and ran to his side. "You gave me such a fright yesterday, Daddy. Fortunately, Ms. Luca is here. Otherwise, I might not have a

might still be young, but he knew that Luke's condition yesterday was potentially fatal. Luca had saved Tommy from the fate of losing a

looked at his son, then at Luca. Tommy continued, "Daddy, you have to thank Ms. Luca. She was the person who saved your

"**Mm. Thank** you." Immediately, Luke turned to look at Luca and *thanked her*.

When Luca heard that, her face turned bright red as though someone lit a bonfire under her chin.

She shook her head. "I didn't do anything."

Tommy shook his head. "You did a lot of things, Ms. Luca. You called Uncle Johann to help Daddy, and you also fed Daddy the antidote pills. The doctor said that the pills had stopped the spread of the poison, and that greatly increased Daddy's chances of **survival**."

"..." Luca was speechless.

She knew that Tommy was an intelligent boy, but she did not expect him to understand what the doctors were saying about Luke's **condition**.

"Pills?" Luke looked at her intently.

"I made some pills myself. It's a general antidote, but it doesn't have too much effect on snake venom," Luca explained.

Tommy added, "It's because of Ms. Luca's pills that the doctors could determine that you were poisoned by snake venom. That's why they could identify the species of the snake quickly and give you the correct *serum*."

After hearing Tommy's explanation, Luke realized how much Luca had helped him in this *incident*.

Just like what Tommy said, if Luca had not helped him, he might **have died**.

did not harm him while he was in danger and instead helped him, he could tell that Luca never wanted to hurt

Luke had many questions about Luca's background, he decided to ignore all that for an excellent researcher that could bring profits to Watson Biopharmaceuticals. That alone stop his thoughts from affecting him and treat her just like any way, Luke was a lot less suspicious about Luca in the

could not help but sneeze when she looked at Luke

had divulged to Luke what she wanted to hide from

so, she was not eager to claim credit for what she had done. The most important thing was that Luke was

she sneezed, Tommy went to the couch and took Johann's coat. "Wear this,

rubbed her nose. When she was about to take the coat from Tommy, Luke asked, "Whose coat is could tell that it was not

Chapter 1278

"Thank you." Luca did not refuse Johann's gift and took the bag. After all, she was in a public place, and even though her pajamas were not revealing, it was not very appropriate for her to wear that.

She went into the bathroom and closed the door.

When she opened the bag, she realized that not only had Johann prepared a coat for her, he had also given her three sets of toiletries.

Luca opened a set and brushed her teeth. She put the coat on and left the bathroom.

The coat reached her ankles. It was long enough to cover her pajamas.

After Luca came out of the bathroom, Tommy ran over and hugged her legs. "I want to brush my teeth too, Ms. Luca."

"Alright." Luca glanced toward the bed and saw the nurse taking Luke's blood sample. She brought Tommy to the bathroom and opened another set of toiletries for him.

When Tommy was done brushing his teeth and they stepped out of the bathroom, The nurse had already taken the blood sample and was walking out of the door.

Tommy went to the bedside and touched Luke's hand. "Daddy, does it hurt?"

"Not at all." Luke's heart warmed when he saw that his son cared for him so much.

"Are you sure?" Tommy's face was fraught with worry as he recalled scenes from the night before. "You seem like you were in a lot of pain yesterday night."

"..."

Tommy continued, "Great-Grandpa said that big boys don't cry. Don't worry, I won't tell Great-Grandpa that you were crying in pain last night."

fell silent again. He remembered that he was in a lot of pain before he passed out. Now that Tommy mentioned it, he thought it was quite

rubbed her nose. She knew that Luke was a very self-conscious person, and he must have been embarrassed by what Tommy said of

to look elsewhere and ignored what

found what Tommy said very funny. He turned around so that Luke did not see

However, his trembling shoulders betrayed him.

cleared his throat and prepared to step off the bed. His foot had only just touched the floor when he felt his head spin, and he had no choice but to sit back

Tommy was the first to react because he was the closest to

Johann turned and looked toward the

himself by placing one hand on the bed and the other on the bedside cabinet. His brows were tightly furrowed, and he seemed to be

can't get off the bed just yet," Johann shook his head and

not?" Luke felt the dizziness go away after sitting down for

venom isn't completely out of your system yet. You're lucky that dizziness is the only thing you feel. Be a good boy and stay in bed," Johann said as he helped Luke

as he reclined against the headboard, as though he was very unhappy with the

Johann said, "What's up with the long face? You'll be okay in two days. What do you want to *do now*?"

"*Brush my teeth*," Luke said coldly. Brushing his teeth the first thing in the morning was a daily habit, and he was already at the limit of his **tolerance**.

Tommy looked at Luke and said sweetly, "Let me help *you, Daddy*."

Then, he ran toward the bathroom.

Luca followed him. The bathroom fixtures were built according to the height of an adult, and there was not even a stool inside. If she did not help him, Tommy would not be able to reach the *toiletries*.

Johann watched as Luca and Tommy went into the bathroom. "Dr. Craw looks really reliable. I won't be worried if she's here to help you," he said.

Luke looked toward the bathroom and **said nothing**.

Soon, Luca came out with a basin of water, while Tommy was holding a new set *of toiletries*.

She placed the basin on a chair next to the bed while Tommy unwrapped the toiletries and handed the toothbrush to Luke. "Here, hold **this, Daddy**."

Luke took the toothbrush. Tommy uncapped the toothpaste and handed it over. "Here, Daddy."

At the same time, Luca filled a cup with water for Luke to wash *his mouth*.

Luke brushed his teeth with the two people helping him. After that, Luca handed Luke a hand towel that she had wrung dry. "There's no facial cleanser in the hospital, so I hope this'll do *for now*."

nodded, took the towel, and wiped

seemed to catch on to something and smiled. "Dr. Craw, how do you know that Luke uses facial cleanser to wash his

her eyes so that Johann could not sense her

"A lot of people use facial cleansers to wash their faces. Don't you, Dr.

had used a deep-cleansing facial cleanser when they lived together. She believed that it was still the case three years

but as far as I know, the average male doesn't like to use facial cleansers to wash their faces. Perhaps Mr. Crawford and I are the exceptions," Johann said while rubbing

thought that Luca was very familiar with Luke's habits. Her understanding toward Luke was not only

impostor Bianca could not be as familiar with Luke as Luca

to their conversation without saying a word. After he wiped his face, he handed the towel

the towel, placed it in the basin, and brought it back to

"Dr. Craw seems to be really familiar with your

realized that without Johann telling him. He was wondering if it were only a coincidence, or did Luca really know that much about

that Luke was deep in thought, Johann continued, "You'd better rest in bed for now. I'll go and check if your medical report is

Chapter 1279

What happened to Luke might seem like an unfortunate coincidence, but if Luca thought carefully about it, she could not help but shake off the feeling that Abel was somehow involved with providing the snake venom.

Jason shook his head. "After preliminary investigations, there isn't anything suspicious about the two students' backgrounds."

Luca frowned. 'There's nothing suspicious about them?'

Luke noticed Luca's reaction to what Jason said, but he chose not to say anything about it.

Jason continued to speak to Luke, "William, the student who harmed you, is a student in his junior year in university, and his father is a successful local entrepreneur. Right, his business has relations with the New York branch of T Corporation. As far as I can tell, they are wholly legitimate and don't have any shady dealings.

"The other student's name is Paul. His background is much more normal than William's. His parents are typical white-collar workers, and they don't have any dealings with the criminal underworld either."

Luca thought that it was very strange. If the two students had normal backgrounds, how did they get their hands on snake venom?

Moreover, all William wanted was her phone number. How did he end up injuring Luke with a knife?

Luca remembered that the Swiss army knife belonged to Paul.

That also meant that Paul was the one who coated the knife with snake venom. If he were only a student with a normal background, where did he get that snake venom?

Also, was the snake venom meant to injure someone else?

The more Luca thought about it, the more questions she had, but she could not answer those questions just by thinking alone. She decided that she had to find the chance to ask Paul about it.

student like Paul would break quickly when interrogated. It should not take too much effort before Luca got the answer she

sat there silently observing

"That's all I can find about them, Mr. Crawford. William's father contacted me this morning. After finding out that your son has injured you, he wants to meet you

guess that William's father was worried that his son's actions might affect the relationship between the at Jason coldly. "I can't get out of bed

Luke's decision from what he said. "Alright, Mr. Crawford. Let me handle

he already knew Luke's decision before asking him, but he would have to ask Luke for the sake of

lifted the bag in his hand. "I bought some breakfast at a restaurant nearby. Please eat something, Mr. Crawford, Little Mr. Crawford, Dr.

his stomach and pouted. "Alright. I'm

smiled and took out several boxes from

food was simple yet appealing, yet Luca did not have the appetite. She remained

Luke, "Daddy, what do you want

"*Whatever.*" Luke looked at the breakfast options and was not too interested *either*.

The food was not as good as what they served at the hotel, and hotel food was not as good as **Luca's cooking**.

Tommy picked out a sandwich for his father. While choosing a beverage, he turned his head and asked Luca, "Ms. Luca, can Daddy drink coffee?"

"**He** should drink milk now," Luca **said**.

Tommy nodded and brought a sandwich and a glass of milk to the bedside. "Daddy, should I feed you?"

"**It's fine.**" Luke took the food from Tommy's hands. He might not be able to get out of bed, but it did not mean that he was **entirely incapacitated**.

Tommy grinned and nodded. He turned his head to look at Luca, who was sitting on the couch, and asked her, "Why aren't you eating yet, Ms. Luca?"

"**I'll** eat now." Luca found the breakfast options unappetizing. She ate half a vegetable sandwich and washed it down with a cup **of coffee**.

"I can take care of Mr. Crawford during the day. You should attend your training," Jason **said**.

Luca nodded. She was not worried if Jason was there to take care of Luke. She finished the rest of the sandwich and left *the ward*.

While waiting for the elevator, Luca bumped **into Johann**.

"Dr. Park, is Mr. Crawford's toxicology report

The concentration of venom in his body has been greatly reduced, and it won't negatively affect his body. In two days, after his body's immune system completely neutralizes the venom, he will be able to get out of bed and walk," Johann said. He was good friends with the hospital director, so he received his

Luca was relieved to hear that.

are you going now, Dr. Craw?" Johann

going to my training. Mr. Doyle is taking care of Mr. Crawford now,"

nodded. "Are you going to

Luca remembered that a full-day conference occupied her

coincidence, I'm attending the conference too. Shall I send you there?" Johann had noticed her in the auditorium the day before, but he was surrounded by people, and he could not

not want to trouble him. "It's fine. I still have to go back to the hotel to change, and I'll most likely fine to be a little late. Let me send you to the hotel," Johann insisted. He sent a message to Luke to give his advice, then stepped into the elevator

Johann was so hospitable, she did not have the heart to refuse

sent a message to Dr. Albus telling him that she would be late, and he did not have to wait for

Chapter 1280

After breakfast, Jason asked the nurse for a bag to keep Johann's coat. Then, he began to pack up.

He noticed that Luke had barely eaten his food and asked, "Is that going to be enough for you, Mr. Crawford?"

"Take it away." Luke did not feel hungry at all.

Tommy was sitting on the couch drinking milk. When he heard that, he said, "Daddy is a picky eater. He only likes to eat food that Ms. Luca cooks for him."

Luke shot a glance at his son. Then, he used the remote control to lower the bed.

Jason cleared his throat and said, "I can get you something else to eat if you don't want sandwiches."

Luke shook his head and said, "Go to the company and get me my documents."

Jason was quite surprised. Why would Luke want to work when he could not even get out of bed?

Luke noticed that Jason was still standing there. He glanced at him coldly, "Didn't you hear what I said?"

"I did, but the condition of your body..." Jason said hesitantly.

"Shall I repeat myself?" Luke said.

Jason felt a chill course down his spine. He could tell that his boss was not in a good mood. He shook his head and said, "I'll go to the company right now. Shall I hire a caretaker for you?"

"There's no need," Luke said. He glanced at Tommy, who was playing on his phone while sitting on the couch, and said, "Bring over the books from yesterday too."

Jason did not insist when Luke said that he did not want a caretaker. In any case, the company was not too far away from the hospital, so there should not be any major accidents while he

he walked to the door, Luke told him again, "Throw the

to pick up the bag that contained the coat before leaving the

that Luke would not rest easy unless Johann's coat

have been used to Johann joking with him,

remembered what Tommy said earlier. 'Is Mr. Crawford behaving like this because of Luca?' He could not help but

at the bag in his hand and sank into deep thought. A while later, he went toward the
kept the coat at the nurses' station instead of throwing it away. After all, Johann was popular at the
hospital. Indeed, when Jason mentioned Johann's name, several nurses volunteered to take the coat
under

...

Johann sent Luca back to the hotel, where she hurriedly changed
the time the two people went to the venue, the conference had

leading the way, Luca was ushered into the auditorium before she presented her invitation letter. She
could not help but be impressed by Johann's popularity as she watched him surrounded by groups

Luca did not mind being ignored. She looked around, noticed Dr. Albus and the other people, and
walked **over**.

When Dr. Albus saw Luca come over, he asked, "Are you alright, *Dr. Craw?*"

Luca shook her head. "I'm fine."

Dr. Albus discreetly sized her up. She wore some light makeup for yesterday's conference, but she did
not wear any makeup at all today, as though she did not respect the conference at *all*.

"I'm glad that you're fine. I thought you're late because you're caught up in some accident," Dr. Albus
said.

Luca was slightly appalled by how Dr. Albus presented himself. She did not tell him about what
happened to Luke in case he suspected *something*.

Dr. Albus might not say anything to her, but she could tell that he would be thinking of
something *inappropriate*.

Luca did not pay attention throughout the conference that lasted the entire day.

At the end of the conference, Luca did not leave with Dr. Albus and the others. Instead, she took a cab
and left herself.

Dr. Albus's assistant noticed that Luca was acting differently today. He asked Rhett, "What's up with *Dr. Craw?*"

"I don't know." Rhett seemed worried as he watched her *leave*.

"*Aren't* you her assistant? Why don't you know? She seems like she's in a hurry. Don't tell me that she's
going on a date with someone?" Dr. Albus's assistant said.

Rhett ignored him and continued walking.

took the cab to the

that it would be difficult for her to request a meeting with Paul, but when she mentioned Luke's name, a
female police officer brought her to the questioning

Soon, Paul was brought there too.

people sat opposite each other. Luca shot a glance at Paul's handcuffs and asked, "How did you get the know what you're talking about." Paul was slightly surprised but managed to keep his cool. He had been waiting to hear the good news since the night before. Eventually, he found out that the man was poisoned, just as he

of begging him for help, the man's assistant stopped them from being

the young man was not going to say anything, Luca spoke candidly, "You were the one who handed the Swiss army knife to William. You should know that the knife was coated with snake venom,

remained silent. Luca could tell that Paul was not going to tell her anything useful if she followed that line of

guess. The snake venom was meant to injure someone else,"

Paul's eyes instinctively blinked.

don't really care who you want to harm, and there's no point in feigning ignorance about the snake venom because the forensics department has analyzed it. All I want to know is where you got the snake venom." Luca slammed on the table and asked

woman's imposing demeanor, Paul realized that it was a bad idea to use the woman to