

Be Gentle 1381

Chapter 1381

After Mo returned to the office, she notified Talia that Dr. Cole was looking for her.

When she heard that, Talia walked out of her office immediately.

She knew that Luca had organized a meeting but the only people who participated in the meeting were those in Luca's research group and Dr. Cole. However, Dr. Cole did not reach out to her even after the meeting ended.

Talia was very anxious and worried about what would happen, so she had been waiting for his call.

She quickened her pace and ran into Luca at the elevator entrance. She was startled and greeted her with her eyes cast down. "Dr. Craw, good morning."

"Good morning." Luca looked at Talia and could not help wondering if she was involved in the incident.

Talia listened to her calm tone as if she was not at all anxious about what had happened. Her emotions were a little unbalanced. She asked, "Dr. Craw, I heard about what happened. If you need help, just let me know and I'll do all that I can to help you."

"Thank you for your kindness." Luca did not accept or refuse. She continued walking after thanking her.

Talia turned around and glanced at her. The worries in her heart grew.

The calmer Luca was, the more restless she felt. She walked quickly into Dr. Cole's office.

the door." Dr. Cole reminded her when he saw Talia walk

closed the door, walked to his side, and asked, "Dr. Cole, what's Dr. Craw's plan to deal with

Crawford is here. Did you know that?" Dr. Cole did not answer

As soon as Luke appeared at the company, the employee group chat went off. Upon receiving the notification, everyone pretended to be working hard so as not to be caught by the

made it to the meeting and told me something." Dr. Cole looked at Talia's face and shook his head. He was regretting being seduced by

not particularly beautiful but her young body was what he was

he say to you?" Talia had a bad feeling when she saw that there was not a trace of a smile on Dr. Cole's

said, "He asked Mr. Doyle to investigate this matter. If there's no clear conclusion on this matter, he told me that I have to take the

it possible? This incident did not happen in our research team. Luca should be the one to take the blame!" Talia's eyes widened in

Cole replied with a sharp tone, "He made it clear that I would have to take all of the responsibility and Luca would get to stay out of it. Talia, if Mr. Doyle doesn't find anything, I'll have to send someone from our team to take the

Talia understood what he meant. She clenched his fists with both hands. "Dr. Cole, I did this but you can't expose *me*."

"I don't want to, Talia. Trust me, I'll protect you." Dr. Cole could only coax her for the time *being*.

However, Talia was not a three-year-old child who could be coaxed so easily. She said, "Dr. Cole, how are you planning to protect me? Whether Mr. Doyle finds out or you expose me, no one can protect me. I'm not the only one involved in this matter, you're involved as well. In the end, it doesn't matter if Mr. Doyle finds out. You have to take responsibility **alongside me!**"

She knew how it would end for her if others found out what she did. Such a sacrifice meant that her career would be ruined in the second half of her life.

'Dr. Cole wants me to take all the blame to save himself? Don't even think *about it!*'

When Dr. Cole heard that she wanted to drag him through the mud with her, he said with a sullen expression on his face, "Talia, I'm helping you. You were the one who did it!"

Talia's emotions were agitated at that moment. However, she suppressed her emotions as she was still in the office. She looked at him with red eyes and said, "Dr. Cole, I did it but it was as per your instructions. If I'm fired from Watson Biopharmaceuticals, you won't be safe as well. I have *a recording!*"

When Dr. Cole heard that, he stood up with his hands on the tabletop. He was agitated and yelled, "What recording do you have?"

"I have a lot of recordings. The recordings of us in bed and the recordings of the things you asked me to do. If I post these recordings, you'll lose Watson Biopharmaceuticals, your wife, and your social status. I'm not threatening you. I just had to protect myself when I got together with you," Talia said with a hideous expression on her **face**.

Since she had decided to make use of her body to get a good job, she covered her grounds to prevent being betrayed by him in the future.

that these recordings would come in handy sooner or later but did not expect they would come in handy

Dr. Cole did not expect that he would be plotted against by a young woman. His original plan was to have Talia take the blame

was extremely angry but could only go along with her. "Okay, don't worry. Jason may not be able to find out about anything. Let's go with the

if he finds out?" The answer Talia needed was not to go with the flow. She wanted

you leave any evidence?" Dr. Cole was a little

I didn't leave any evidence. But if anyone finds out, don't think about getting away scot-free," Talia said. She wanted to lay it all out. She knew that an old fox like him who had been in the corporate world for many years was not easy to

Cole was beyond furious. If he knew that there would be so much trouble, he would not have agreed to her request

was backed into a corner

you didn't leave any evidence so he definitely won't find anything out." Dr. Cole had no choice but to say that. He had to put some thought into how to get away from it without being dragged through the

wiped the tears from the corners of her eyes, hating herself for choosing the wrong

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When the others heard what she said, they stopped cleaning up.

After a while, Jason walked in. He swiped with a temporary magnetic card and the door opened automatically.

He glanced at the door and said, "It's pretty smart. The lock has no trace of damage."

To protect the research results from being stolen, the company used the most advanced security system. Compared to T Corporation, Watson Biopharmaceuticals' system was more advanced.

"Mr. Doyle, good morning." Luca greeted him when she saw him walk in.

"Dr. Craw, good morning, I'll have a look at what's going on." Jason smiled, appearing friendly and approachable.

In contrast, Luca's expression was stern. She nodded and replied, "Okay."

Jason noticed that everyone in the laboratory had a serious expression. He still had a smile on his face. He was relaxed and said, "Don't worry, I'll investigate this matter. Dr. Craw, do you have a list of the data lost?"

Luca handed him the paper.

Jason glanced through the report, then put it down and said, "Go ahead with the clean-up. I'll go to the security department downstairs to check it out."

When he was about to walk out, he turned around and said to Luca, "Dr. Craw, I also need a list of staff who have the magnetic card to open this door."

"Okay, Ms. Stone will send the list to you in a while," Luca replied as Mo was responsible for such things.

After Jason left, Luca turned around and gave some orders to Rhett, then returned to her office.

After she asked Mo to send Jason the list, she turned on her computer and checked the files inside. It did not seem like anyone did anything to them.

she was sure that someone from Watson Biopharmaceuticals did

held her chin and thought about it for a while. Luke had asked Jason to investigate this matter. She believed in Jason's ability, so she was not

she thought of that, she continued to focus

Luca only went downstairs when the people in the cafeteria were almost done

moment the elevator door opened, she raised her gaze and saw Luke standing in front of a little surprised. 'Why is he still

Crawford!" Her tone was a

looked at Luca, who was standing still outside the elevator door and did not seem like she was planning to step in. He took a small step back and said,

Luca heard that, she knew she could not turn him down, she could only bite the bullet and walk in. After pressing the button for the first floor, she hid in the corner of the elevator and stood a little far away

saw the floor she was heading to and asked, "You're going to the

noded and looked at the declining numbers. Most people were in the cafeteria or upstairs. The elevator did not stop at any floor but she felt as though the elevator was descending at a slower pace than usual.

too late to go now?" Luke put his hands in his pockets and looked straight at the elevator door, but he was looking at her from the corners of his

perfect timing," Luca said. There were not many people in the cafeteria at this hour. She liked that it was quiet. Although the nicer dishes may all be sold out, she was not picky with

She looked at the two illuminated buttons in the elevator, one of which was to the cafeteria and the other to the underground garage.

'It seems that Luke is leaving?'

She was surprised that he was only leaving now. She thought he would leave right after dealing with the incident. She did not expect him to still *be around...*

'Has he eaten yet?'

Luca looked at the numbers and could not help overthinking. Luke always ate at irregular timing when he was busy.

'**However, his** stomach is a little sensitive...'

While she was still deep in thought, the elevator reached the first *floor*.

Luca snapped out of it and walked to the front of the elevator door. The door slowly opened. She saw people standing outside the door. They were all employees who were returning to the office after **lunch**.

When they saw her, they made space and greeted her, "Dr. Craw, are you going to **eat now?**"

"*Yeah.*" Luca nodded and walked out of the elevator.

Luke followed behind her out of **the elevator**.

The people outside the elevator greeted him as well, "Mr. Crawford, **good afternoon.**"

"Good afternoon, Mr. Crawford."

stunned. She turned around and saw that Luke had stepped out of the elevator and was only a few steps away

waiting for the elevator walked in one after another when they saw that the elevator was empty even though the elevator was going to the next floor

saw Luke following behind her. She immediately turned around and walked toward the cafeteria. She had received some professional training and could hear Luke's footsteps following her the entire

'He's going to the cafeteria too?'

stopped and turned around to look at Luke. "Mr. Crawford, you're heading to the cafeteria

haven't eaten lunch yet," Luke

startled and could not help but remind him. "The only dishes left in the cafeteria are unpalatable. If you want to have something to eat, it's better to

not a picky eater." Luke did not accept her

Luca kept quiet.

with Luke for so long, she knew if he was a picky eater or

a picky eater who would never touch food that was not delicious, and it was the same for drinks. However, he was now saying that he was not a

turned around and continued to walk toward the

halfway through the lunch break and there were not many people in the company cafeteria, so Luca walked to the window where they served food. As expected, a lot of the nicer dishes were already

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Luca listened to the conversation from the side and broke out in a cold sweat for the cafeteria lady. Luke was an extremely serious person. She was not sure if he disliked being referred to as a young man.

"Mm." Luke handed the meal card to Luca and said, "Thank you."

"You're welcome." Luca took the meal card. She did not expect him to react so calmly. Seeing that he was not furious at the cafeteria lady, she took her food and found a corner to sit down.

The cafeteria lady gave him a plate full of dishes seeing that he was a man. She handed it to him and said, "Young man, if you want to have better dishes, do come early. If you come at this hour, these would be all that's left."

"Mm." Luke had no intention of sharing his true identity with her. He held the tray, glanced around, and decided to sit opposite Luca.

Luca stopped eating and looked at the man in front of her. 'He wants to have lunch with me?'

Luke sat down and ate slowly.

Luca swallowed the food in her mouth and glanced around again. There were many seats available but he chose to sit opposite her. No one would believe that it was not intentional.

"Mr. Crawford, there are many seats around us." She pretended to remind him but was subtly hinting that she did not want to sit with him.

Although there were not many people in the cafeteria, everyone knew that he was the boss except for the cafeteria lady.

"Are you afraid of me?" Luke put down his spoon and grabbed some salad with his fork.

always felt that he liked to ask this question. She was not afraid of him, she just wanted to keep a

"No," she replied.

his salad and said in a calm tone, "I'm just curious as to why Tommy likes you so

not sure how

curious, so he wants to get close to

her son, so it was normal for him to be dependent on her. They were connected by blood, and their connection was something that science could

she could not tell him

just Tommy. Lanie and Rainie seem to have accepted you as well." Luke put down his utensils and looked at Luca, who was eating silently. "Luca, they're not even close to their mother. Why do they like you so

shivered at the mention of the

front of outsiders, the fake Bianca was still his wife. Even if he knew that the fake Bianca was a fake, he had no intention of making that

He was an insidious man...

"Maybe kids just like me," Luca said as she continued to eat.

Luca saw her act as though nothing was going on. 'Kids just like her?'

She appeared as someone cold, which was opposite to what Bianca was like, but his three children loved her...

Luca thought of the fake Bianca and looked at the woman in front of him. He was curious and wondered if she had the same tattoo on her **body**.

It seemed that he had to find a way to figure **it out**.

Luca felt uncomfortable eating while being watched by him. After she took a few bites in a hurry, she stood up holding the tray. "Mr. Crawford, I'm full. Take your time."

Luca watched her go to the tray collection area to put down the tray and then hurriedly *left*.

She evaded him as fast **as ever...**

In the afternoon, Jason wandered to Luca's office and knocked on *the door*.

Luca said, "Come in."

the door and walked in. He saw Luca sitting behind the computer desk, typing on the slightly surprised listening to the sound of the keyboard. The speed of her typing was comparable what she was doing, raised her head, and asked him, "Mr. Doyle, have

on the sofa. Before he spoke, he heard her ask, "Is there something seen the surveillance footage. The surveillance camera in your laboratory has been broken for three days and no one has repaired it, so when the incident happened, the surveillance camera didn't capture anything. Do you know about this?" Jason

do. Ms. Stone notified the logistics department on the day the camera was broken but they said that the camera was customized abroad and they would place an order for a replacement. They told us that they would come and install it today," Luca said. "It's not a secret. Everyone in the technical department knows about

noded and continued talking, "I've checked the cameras in the corridor too, but nothing

not check the cameras there because he had taken over the matter. She listened and asked curiously, "The cameras in the corridor didn't capture anything

think there was anything that stood out. People who went in and out of the area were all normal. After work, no one was in or out of the laboratory after the last researcher left the office. However, Dr. Craw, didn't you go to the hospital to accompany Tommy yesterday? Tommy said that the oats you made were delicious. How were you working overtime yet still had time to cook oats for him? Was it made in advance?" Jason

I didn't work overtime yesterday." Luca frowned. The day before, she got off work at normal time and went home to cook

didn't work overtime? I saw on the monitor that you left half an hour after the official working hours." Jason deliberately took note of the time each employee left. He took out his notepad and handed it over. "This is the timing I saw on the surveillance. You were the last one to leave in the

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Luca bit her lip when she thought about that. If Jason dug deeper into the matter, he might uncover a series of misaligned interests.

Watson Biopharmaceuticals was established not too long ago. Whoever was involved dared to do it because Luke was based in T Corporation. The department manager usually had the final say in Watson Biopharmaceuticals.

Of course, they would cross boundaries for their own interest...

However, just because Luke was not based in Watson Biopharmaceuticals, it did not mean that he did not care about the company. What happened this time may serve as a lesson for those who wanted to take advantage of the company.

Toward the end of office hours, Jason came to Luca's office again. His smile became wider, as though things were progressing.

"Mr. Doyle, did you find out more?" Luca tidied some documents. She had just sorted out the budget fund application form.

"There is some progress. The security footage of the corridor was altered. The footage from yesterday is the same as the day before," Jason said.

Luca smiled and handed him the funding application form. "This is the funding application form. Mr. Crawford said to just give it to you."

Jason took it. He noticed that she was not at all surprised, as if she had guessed it a long time ago. He secretly admired her calmness and wisdom. He said, "Dr. Craw, are you not curious who switched the footage?"

"Only a few people in the security department can do this. I'm not curious. If you find anything, I'm sure you'll announce it when you're ready," Luca said. She was not being polite. She was just not curious.

was indifferent to most of the company's internal affairs. She was focused on her research and was not sure of who was involved with whom. Hence, she would not be of much help to the

was curious about all these, she would not have gotten Rhett as her

or the other assistants knew more about the company's happenings. The reason she chose Rhett was not just because of his serious attitude toward work but it was also because he was not a gossip

the same time, she did not like to be the center of gossip. She much preferred if those around her did not like to gossip

her in his heart. Not everyone had such a

though her interests were damaged, she was still calm and collected as if she had gone through a lot. It

the research funding application form, rolled it up, and said, "Okay, if I find anything, I'll keep you posted at once. Now, I have to go back to the head office and submit this funding application form to Mr. Crawford. Dr.

nodded, her expression

Jason left, she took a look at the time. There was not much time left to conduct any research. The laboratory had yet been equipped with the

opened her laptop to take a look at the

After reading for a while, Amur called.

Luca pressed to answer and put the phone to her ear. She asked, "Amur, did you find anything?"

"No, there's no movement in the villa," Amur said.

Luca blinked and thought that the light on the computer screen was a little dazzling. "Mm, okay. I'll get off work on time today. What do you want to eat? I'll go to the supermarket and come back to make dinner for **you**."

"**I've returned** to the apartment but you don't need to worry about me. I received a mission and have to go to S City," Amur said. He had no choice when Abel assigned him a mission. If he got his hands on the medicine, he could stay with Luca after completing the task. However, before that could happen, he could not take on *other tasks*.

Therefore, even if Amur was reluctant, he had to turn Luca *down*.

"**S City?** Is the mission dangerous?" Luca did not ask what the mission was but asked about the risk. He was in A City, and her home was his **home**.

She saw him as her younger brother and did not want him to take on tasks that were too dangerous.

"All missions are risky, but this mission is not difficult for me. Don't worry," Amur said.

"*Mm, pay attention to safety. S City is too far away, I can't back you up from here. Amur, you must be careful,*" Luca said. The two of them were not related by blood but they had been on the Island of Despair for three years. She had already regarded him as her *brother*.

fine. Be careful in A City. I'll be away for longer this time and can't be by your side to protect you. If Luke is suspicious of you, don't be indecisive. The most important thing is to protect yourself. Nyla can't live without her mother,"

not feel assured. Luca had feelings for Luke, but because Nyla was still on the island, she could not tell him her true

time came and if Luke wanted to hurt Luca, her reluctance coupled with her gentleness would cause her to

I know. Don't worry, I'll take care of myself." Luca felt like tearing a little. She stood up and looked at the sky outside the

it came to Luke and Nyla, she felt wronged by the situation. 'Why should I suffer like

Lover, child...

extremely unwilling to hurt Luke but she was also unwilling to let Nyla suffer. If she had the choice, she wanted Nyla to live carefreely with Lanie and the others. She could see the sun and the sea instead of being locked up all the time, living in a basement where she could never see the light

that she was listening, Amur took his luggage, took a deep breath, and said, "Okay, I'm going to catch

Isn't it faster to take a plane to S City?" Luca remembered that A City had a direct flight to S City. The identity that Abel arranged for them was legal. They had access to every mode

going to a remote place in S City and there's a direct train there. I have to go. I'll talk to you later," Amur

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On the way home, Luca bought some vegetables and fish.

Amur was not a fan of fish so she never thought of cooking fish when he was around, but considering she was eating alone, she thought to have a change of food.

After she picked up the vegetables and fish, Luca thought of Tommy, who was still in the hospital. She then bought some peanut butter. It was still early, so she planned to make some peanut butter oats for Tommy and send them to the hospital after she was done with dinner.

After she ate, Luca brought the flask and arrived at the ward. Before she even walked in, she heard the nanny coaxing Tommy to eat.

"Little Young Master, you only took two bites. Have a few more bites?" The nanny's voice was full of helplessness. It was obviously because Tommy was unwilling to eat.

"I don't want to eat. My mouth tastes bitter, I want to eat sweets." Tommy's voice sounded. He sounded quite energetic.

Luca walked in with the flask.

Tommy saw her at a glance and said with joy, "Ms. Luca, you're here!"

Luca looked at the sumptuous dinner on the table that Tommy did not want to eat. She smiled helplessly and said, "Yes, I brought you some peanut butter oats. Would you like to have some?"

Tommy's eyes were filled with excitement as he asked, "Did you make it yourself?"

"Yes," Luca sat on the sofa, her heart feeling more settled when she saw how energetic he was.

to have some!" Tommy

nanny heard that he wanted to eat, she immediately stood up and said, "I'm going to prepare a

After the nanny washed the bowl, she opened the flask and poured a bowl of oats. "Do you want me to feed

Luca, I'll do it myself." Tommy did not let her feed him. He took the insulated bowl by himself and ate the oats with a

was relieved when she saw him eating. "Ms. Luca, thankfully you came. Otherwise, Little Young Master would be hungry

doubt he'll be hungry. Dr. Park would have prescribed a nutrition injection," Luca said. However, she knew that the nutrition injection would never be as good as the nutrients absorbed by food, so if Tommy was willing to eat, it was better to let him eat some

nanny nodded when she heard what Luca said. She replied, "Little Young Master keeps complaining that his mouth tastes bitter. Ms. Luca, you're more experienced than me in this aspect. Is there a way to solve

taste the bitterness anymore after eating." Luca smiled. Tommy took small bites because the oats were still hot, but he did not say anything about not wanting to eat. He was enjoying the

relieved seeing him like

way, did a nurse take his temperature today? Is there a record?"

"Yes, *it* was recorded. Little Young Master is doing well today. His body temperature came up normal every time he was tested," the nanny said.

Luca guessed that the antibiotics worked.

That kind of bacteria was resistant to many antibiotics, and penicillin was the exception. When infection first occurred, the first thing doctors thought of was to use cephalosporin for treatment. If there was no special situation, they would not **use penicillin**.

In Tommy's case, if there was no cultivation check, they would prioritize cephalosporins as their first choice for antibiotics.

Tommy looked up at Luca, pouted his mouth, and asked, "Ms. Luca, when can I leave the *hospital*?"

"If all goes well, you should be able to leave the day after tomorrow." Luca touched his head. He had to take another shot of penicillin and go through another blood test. If there were no bacteria, he could be discharged the day after **tomorrow**.

Tommy was considered lucky because the bacteria was discovered quickly so there was no damage to **his body**.

When Tommy heard that there was another day until he could be discharged, he was upset and puffed his cheeks. "The hospital is so boring. I want to go home and play with Lanie **and Rainie**."

"*Tommy, you* have bacteria in your body so you can't run around. You must be cured before you can leave." Luca coaxed *him patiently*.

"Bacteria? Is it contagious?" Tommy put down the insulated bowl after he finished the bowl *of oats*.

Luca nodded.

he heard that, he said immediately, "Then, I don't want to leave the hospital. I must be cured before I leave the hospital. I don't want to spread the bacteria to Lanie and Rainie. Dad said that Rainie is weak and it's easy for her to get

to his sensible words and felt like

educated children with reason. The children did not grow up excessively spoiled, so they did not need too much coaxing. They would understand and listen to

was a child but because of her reasoning, he no longer demanded to be discharged from the hospital and obediently stayed in

nanny heard it, she could not help but say, "Ms. Luca, the way you approach children is the same as Young Master Luke. You're full of ideas. If I was the one who said it, Young Master Tommy may not

that he doesn't know how to listen but he wants to listen to reason, not the words that are said to coax him." Luca touched Tommy's head. "Young Master Tommy is well educated. He understands reason and won't cause

to her as if she was complimenting him. He rubbed his head proudly in the palm of

felt his movement. She smiled and asked, "Would you like to

Luca, I want to have another bowl. The oats you made are so delicious. If I can eat the oats you make every day, life would be great!" Tommy said

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"It doesn't matter." Luke took the tableware, picked up the flask, and poured the oats into the bowl. He asked, "Why are you free today?"

"Nothing much is going on in the company so I got off work on time and brought some oats for Tommy," Luca rubbed her hands and replied.

Luke responded, picked up the bowl, ate a mouthful, then took another bite of the dishes that the Crawford family's cook prepared.

Tommy sat with his legs crossed and watched Luke slowly eating the oats. He smiled and asked, "Dad, aren't the oats made by Ms. Luca delicious?"

"Not bad." Luke finished his bowl of oats and poured the remaining oats into the bowl.

Luca was a little speechless when she watched him eat slowly. She did not expect Luke would eat the oats she made. If she knew that he would, she would have prepared more.

She glanced at the flask and noted that the flask could not hold that much food either.

Luca stood up, took the empty flask, and planned to clean it. If it was not cleaned in time, it would be difficult to clean it when she got home later due to the sticky oats.

Upon seeing this, the nanny said quickly, "Ms. Luca, let me do it."

Luca shook her head and said, "It's okay, I can do it."

She cleaned the flask, and Luke finished the last bite of oats. When she walked out, the nanny asked, "Young Master Luke, are you full? Would you like to eat a little more?"

"I've had enough." Luke put down the tableware. He did not eat much in Watson Biopharmaceuticals' cafeteria during lunch. He was a little hungry and felt better after he had something to eat.

to what he said, the nanny nodded and silently cleaned up

out while carrying a flask. She said, "I'm going to head home

you're leaving so soon?" Tommy jumped off the sofa. He did not have a fever, so he felt

still have some work to do." Luca wanted to stay and spend more time with Tommy but Luca was around. She thought about it and chose

reluctant to see her leave. He shook her arm and said, "Ms. Luca, will you come tomorrow? I want to eat
felt cornered. It was not that she did not want to, but she would have to re-do the research the next
day. It was likely that she would have to work overtime. "I would likely be busy with

worked overtime and cooked him oats, he would be starving when she arrived at the
case..." Instantly, Tommy put on a bummed-out

noticed how sad he looked. He looked at Luca and said, "Didn't you tell
taken aback and replied, "Tell

her reaction, Luke knew that she had not told Tommy. He said, "After you're discharged from the
hospital, you can eat her cooking

Tommy widened his eyes and said in disbelief, "Dad, is that true?"

"**Yes**, Ms. Luca has already agreed." Luke looked at Luca.

Tommy looked up at Luca. His chubby face instantly became thinner because of his actions. "Ms. Luca, is
that true? Will I be able to eat at your house in the *future*?"

"*Mm, yes.*" Luca nodded. 'So this was what he was talking about.'

"Wow, great!" Tommy clapped his hands happily. "Ms. Luca, I'll get *better soon.*"

Luca smiled upon seeing how energetic he was. She could not help but squeeze his *little cheek*.

She did not use any force and did it affectionately. "Okay, get better soon. I'll go home **now.**"

"**Goodbye**, Ms. Luca!" Tommy waved his hand happily knowing that he would be able to eat dinner
cooked by her and see her every *day*.

Luca turned around to leave. Luke noticed her actions and had a playful expression **on**.

His index finger subconsciously tapped the arm of the sofa as he watched her leave.

Tommy ran up to him, smiled, and said, "Dad, I love you so much!"

Luca raised an eyebrow and asked, "Didn't you love **me before**?"

you before but I love you more now. Dad, I'm so happy that you've arranged so that I can eat Ms. Luca's
food every day!"

out loud when he saw how excited

was also happy because it meant he could also see Luca every day. He seemed to have killed two birds
with one

made this arrangement for a purpose. He wanted more opportunities to get close to Luca. After all, he
was very suspicious of her current identity, but he did not expect Tommy to be so happy about

shook his head. He felt warm from Tommy's happiness, and the corners of his mouth could not help but
turn into

that moment, a pair of mother and daughter appeared at the door of

girl pointed to Tommy and said, "Mom, this is

nanny did not know who they were so she immediately stepped forward and asked, "May I ask you who

heard that Tommy is sick so we came here to visit." The woman smiled gracefully and said while she lifted the flask and fruit basket in her

"You are..." The nanny wondered.

daughter and Tommy are classmates." Wendy Jennings

Chapter 1387

'Who is she?'

Luke had some doubts in his heart. Before he could ask, Wendy introduced herself. "Mr. Crawford, what a coincidence. I didn't expect that a busy person like you would have the time to take care of your children in the hospital."

"Mm." He only gave a short reply when faced with the other party's enthusiasm.

Wendy felt a little embarrassed. She went to pick up Lydia from school and overheard the teacher discussing Tommy's situation. She found out that he was sick and hospitalized when she asked for more details.

When she saw Luke at the school event previously, she fell in love with him at first sight. However, she did not manage to bump into him whenever she sent her child to school and picked her up. That was why when she learned that Tommy was sick and hospitalized, she felt that her opportunity had arrived.

After she picked up Lydia, she rushed to the supermarket to buy some ingredients to make chicken soup for Tommy. She then bought a fruit basket and brought everything to the hospital. She just wanted to try her luck and was pleasantly surprised to bump into Luke.

However, his reaction was not promising...

Wendy asked enthusiastically, "Mr. Crawford, would you like some chicken soup? I made it myself. It's good for both adults and children."

Lydia, who was at the side, also chimed in, "Yes, my mother's soup is delicious."

"No, thank you." Luke did not even look at the flask. Speaking of chicken soup, he had yet to try Luca's chicken soup. He wondered if it was as delicious as her oats.

smile froze. Neither father nor son accepted her kind gesture as if she was

around the ward and saw no one else there. The woman who stopped them at the door did not seem to be Luke's wife either. She asked curiously, "By the way, what about Mrs. Crawford? Why isn't she

knew that Luke had a wife. For an amazing man like him, even if she could not be his wife, she was more than happy to be his

was why Wendy came here. Of course, it would be better if she could become

"She's abroad," Luke said.

heard that, she felt that the opportunity had come. After all, Tommy was sick and hospitalized but his mother was not by his side. She was in a foreign country. It seemed that she did not care about

"In that case, aren't you tired from having to take care of your children by yourself while having to go to work? If you don't mind, I

children are taken care of by a nanny, so don't you worry." Luke interrupted her mercilessly before she could finish

was not that he did not understand what she meant. He just did not care for this kind

Wendy was a little embarrassed that she was interrupted. 'It's impossible that a man as smart as him isn't aware of my intentions. Is there no chance **for me?**'

She spent so much money to send Lydia to such an expensive school just to get a chance. It took her some time to find someone like Luke. She did not want to let it go without a *fight*.

"**Yes**, it'll save a lot of trouble to have a nanny to take care of the kids, but it's better to take care of the children ourselves. In fact, I wanted to let you know that I have a lot of free time, so if you want—"

Before Wendy finished speaking, she was interrupted by the nanny. "Hello, Ms. Wendy, I'm the one who usually takes care of Young Master Tommy. I know all of Young Master Tommy's likes and dislikes. I can take good care *of him*."

"Yes, yes." Tommy replied, "Aunt takes care of me very well. My father is usually very busy, so she's the one who takes care of me. Thanks to her, I grew up safe **and healthy**."

They could all tell that Wendy was interested in Luke and knew where Luke stood on this matter. As such, they were not afraid that they would offend Luke when they *said this*.

After all, the nanny had seen a lot of women like this, while Tommy had met even more.

It was all wishful thinking if these women thought being nice to his kids would get Luke to take another look at *them*.

The nanny did not have a good impression of Wendy. If they were to choose a new wife for Luke, Luca would still be the most suitable choice.

After all, she had never offended anyone or insinuated that she was not taking good care of the *kids*.

think Wendy was praising her but others would think that she was telling Luke that the nanny was not doing a good

speechless when she heard their

else could she say? Although she felt embarrassed, she still got useful intel, which was that Mrs. Crawford did not take care of the family and

as she made use of her strengths, she still had a

all, all men liked virtuous

young but she knew a lot. Seeing her mother so embarrassed, she said, "Uncle, can I come and play with Tommy? We're close classmates. I'm sure he's bored in the hospital, so I want to come and play with him. Is

hated Tommy. She always felt that he was too rich and incompatible with

had instilled certain ideas in her since she was a child. She knew that she still needed to do this if she wanted to live a better life in

could answer, Tommy said, "No need for that. I'll be discharged from the hospital the day after tomorrow, and the hospital isn't boring at all. I have Ms. Luca with me and I have cartoons to keep

Chapter 1388

After Luke left the room, Wendy picked up the flask and fruit basket, took Lydia's hand, and left the room.

In the room, the caretaker looked at Tommy and asked, "Master Tommy, do you think Sir will blame me for what I said?"

Tommy shook his head. "Definitely not. Daddy hates people like her. You did a good job, and I think Daddy should give you a pay raise!"

Tommy had seen similar scenes frequently play out in the past. He was not surprised by what happened earlier.

He had to admit that his father was very handsome, and many women were attracted to him. That was why he knew how to deal with situations like that. Even if Luke eventually divorced Bianca, Tommy would not want Lydia's mother to be their mother!

Tommy rubbed his chin. Indeed, Luca was still the prime candidate.

Meanwhile, Luke arrived at the elevator lobby. While waiting for the elevator, Wendy and her daughter arrived there too.

She deliberately stood near him, which caused her to blush.

'He smells so nice...'

Lydia wagged her hand as though she was trying to hint at something.

Wendy came to her senses. She smiled and asked Luke, "Where are you going, Mr. Crawford?"

have some business back in the company," Luke said. Actually, Gale had told him that there was something

are you in a hurry? If you're not, can Lydia and I ride along with you? It's only ten minutes away. It's a little hard to catch a cab at this hour, and I wouldn't want to

urgent," Luke interrupted her before she could finish her

turned red with embarrassment after the

that she was quite attractive, but that man did not seem to be interested at

grip on Lydia's hand became harder. "Mommy," she called out softly because she could not take it came to her senses and smiled. "I see, then I shouldn't take up any more of your time. Lydia and I can catch a

to make herself sound as pitiful as possible, but Luke remained impassive. The woman next to her was no more than

only talked to her because her daughter was Tommy's classmate. Otherwise, he would not even have elevator doors opened, and Luke

wanted to stand next to him, but the other people in the elevator pushed her to a corner. She had no choice but to stand in a corner with her daughter on the

She stepped out of the elevator at the first-floor lobby. Before she left, she turned her head and looked longingly at *Luke*.

Luke exited the elevator at the basement level, went to his car, and sped toward the mansion in the **outskirts**.

Gale was already waiting for him at the door.

"You're here, Boss," he said.

Luke stepped out of the car and went into the house. "What **happened?**"

"**That woman** suddenly had a seizure. Rain is treating her now, and we still don't know what happened." Earlier, Gale had informed Luke immediately after Bianca went into *a seizure*.

After all, the impostor Bianca had the information they wanted on the Island **of Despair**.

"*Let me see.*" Luke walked down the stairs toward **the basement**.

A pungent stench assailed their nostrils when the basement door opened. Gale explained, "We've been cleaning up every day, but that woman is making a mess on purpose. Sorry that we can't do anything about *the smell*."

Luke frowned and walked inside. He saw Rain injecting Bianca with something, so he asked her, "What's *her condition?*"

what I observe, she's exhibiting withdrawal symptoms," Rain explained. After injecting the liquid into Bianca's veins, she pulled out the needle and carefully put the drop of blood stuck to it into

use it for

symptoms? From what?" Luke asked. In the three years the impostor Bianca lived in Crawford Manor, Luke had never seen her take

you remember the drug that Kassy used to give you to brainwash you? It's a vial of blue liquid," Rain

The horrible stench in the air caused him to frown

doctor on the Island of Despair that invents new types of drugs. When we were there, this drug was still under development, and they only experimented with it on the captives. It's like a poison, but its effects can be suppressed by taking the antidote at regular intervals. It's been a few years, so I guess that the drug must be ready for widespread usage by now. The people on the Island of Despair must have taken the drug before they leave, and their movements are controlled by issuing them the drug periodically," Rain

darkened when he heard that. "What are you giving her

sedative," Rain said. "Her seizures were quite serious. If I don't give her a sedative, I don't know if she'd be able to last through the night. That's all I can do for now. I'll analyze the blood sample to see if my guess is true, but even if it is, don't put too much hope on it. I can't create an antidote so quickly. You should be mentally prepared,

Rain meant was that Luke should be prepared that Bianca's life might be in danger because they did not have

darkened even more. He went up to the impostor Bianca, grabbed her collar even though it was filthy, and asked her, "Where is

Bianca was still conscious. She laughed contemptuously and said weakly, "I don't know. Even if I do, I won't tell

Chapter 1389

Luke clenched his fists as he looked at the impostor's contorted face. She was in so much pain, yet she did not give up the chance to mock him.

"My son is fine," he said coldly.

The impostor abruptly stopped laughing when she heard that, and she stared at Luke in disbelief. 'His son is fine? That can't be!'

She struggled to get a closer look at the man in front of him. His expression did not seem like that of a liar.

'If Tommy is fine... did someone save him?'

She could only think of one person that could save Tommy, and that person was Luca.

Luca was also from the Island of Despair, and she was very concerned about the three children's well-being. The impostor wondered if Luca had thought about her when she saved Tommy.

Luca must have found out that the impostor was the one who poisoned Tommy with the bacteria, and she would definitely want to confront her. If Luca tried to detect her location, she would definitely find out where she was.

The impostor began to feel nervous. Did Luca already know about her predicament but was not planning to save her?

The impostor wanted to sit up so that she could look at Luke eye to eye, but the sedative was already taking effect. Her consciousness slipped away, and she slowly closed her eyes.

to glare at the woman, even though she had already fallen asleep. He did not unclench his fists for a very long

was worried that the impostor Bianca would not last for long without the antidote. It would be much more difficult to find the real

she spoke, but Gale stopped

turned to look at Gale. Gale shook his head and said, "Go. Take a blood

noddled, took out a clean syringe, and drew half a tube of

can you get results?" Luke asked. He was not worried about the impostor, though he did not want her to die

at least three hours. The equipment I have isn't very advanced," Rain said as she held a tray and looked at Luke. "Boss, Tommy is still in the hospital, and you should go and accompany him. When I get the results, I'll let you know

caretaker is at the hospital, so there's no need to worry. I'll wait here," Luke said and walked out of

Gale, "Keep a close eye on her. I'll be at the lab analyzing the

"Mm." Gale nodded.

Rain took the tube of blood and quickly went to the makeshift laboratory she had set up **for herself**.

Luke sat on the couch in the living room. His thoughts wandered from the impostor Bianca to the real Bianca. When his thoughts went to Luca, he began to feel *inexplicably flustered*.

He had always thought that he had a firm grip on things. This three-year-long ordeal, however, was the only thing that he felt unconfident about.

The more he thought about it, the more troubled he got. He went to the wine cellar, took out a bottle of red wine, and began to drink from it while waiting for the test *results*.

Rain came out of her lab around midnight. She had a grim expression on her face.

"How is it?" Luke asked.

Rain handed the report to Luke. "According to the analysis, the concentration of poison in her body is indeed very high, but it'll take some time to discern what type of poison it is. Worse **yet...**"

"*What?*" *Luke* took a swig of wine when he heard that the impostor Bianca was poisoned.

"Even if I know what type of poison it is, I still don't know its source yet. I can spend some time trying to find its source, but I don't know how long it'll take, not to mention finding out the components of the antidote..." Rain said grimly. "Only the creator of the poison knows how to cure it. You can find the best toxicologist in the world, and they won't be able to tell you how long they'll take to make the antidote. I don't think the impostor Bianca can wait that long."

could understand the implications of Rain's

best researchers in the field that he knew were Johann and Luca. Even if they worked together, they could not guarantee that they could save the impostor's

see that Luke was displeased. She said, "Boss, knowing how the Island of Despair operates, they must have a base of operations in A City so that the impostor Bianca can take her monthly antidote. Now that it's time for her to take her antidote and she doesn't show up, the people from the Island of Despair will definitely suspect something. I don't think it'll take them long to find our

said was most likely true, but her words also reminded Luke of something

impostor Bianca would have to go to a specific place every month to take the antidote. If they could find its location using the car's dashcam, they would be able to find more people from the Island of

out his phone and gave a call to Jason, ignoring the fact that it was past

"Yes, Mr. Crawford?" Jason said.

to Crawford Manor, find Bianca's car, and remove the dashcam," Luke

"Yes," Jason replied.

Luke ended the call, Rain raised her suspicions. "Boss, the impostor Bianca probably only goes to the base of operations once every month. If the dashcam is always on, would the previous records be

Chapter 1390

Gale immediately stepped up and held the impostor Bianca's shoulders firmly so that she did not twitch as much.

Rain found the right opportunity, plunged the syringe into her chest, and injected the sedative into her heart.

The sedative worked almost immediately. Before the impostor Bianca could say anything to Luke, she calmed down and slowly closed her eyes.

Rain wiped away some sweat on her forehead, then turned around and spoke to Luke, "She's not going to last for much longer, Boss. What should we do?"

Luke looked at the impostor's pale face. That face was exactly the same as Bianca's face, but they were two different people. He had been deceived so badly...

His face was ashen with anger. "If she dies, deal with the body appropriately. Also, the other side must have already been alerted because she didn't go to take the antidote. They might have already started acting against us, so you should be careful. I'll send more bodyguards to guard the mansion later in the day so you can focus on your task."

Gale nodded. He glanced at the impostor Bianca, but there was no hint of sympathy in his eyes.

Rain voiced her concerns. "It's not hard for us to deal with the body, but how are you going to explain it to the kids? Even though Lanie and Rainie know that she's an impostor, what about Tommy?"

She was concerned that Tommy was still young and not as mature as his elder siblings. It would be very troublesome if Tommy wanted his mother.

"He wouldn't make a fuss." Luke glanced resentfully at the woman on the bed. Then, he turned around and left the basement.

He suspected Luca had something to do with this, so he planned to use Tommy to find out more. It was a good thing that Tommy liked Luca more than the impostor Bianca, so Tommy would not throw a tantrum over his mother's disappearance.

Rain watched Luke leave, she bumped Gale with her elbow and asked him, "What does Boss
his head. He did not know

later, Jason arrived at the mansion with the item that Luke wanted. It was the first time he was there because he had not been part of Luke's plan

the dashcam, Mr. Crawford," Jason said as he took out

Luke nodded and looked at Gale.

picked up the dashcam, took out the memory card, and inserted it into

the earliest record?" Luke

browsed through the files. A while later, a smile appeared on his face. "Good news, Boss. The earliest record is from one and a half months

reclined on the couch. He seemed more

gave Gale two dates. The first was thirty days ago, and the other was the day when the impostor Bianca took

The impostor Bianca did not have too many interactions with Luca. Luke could only guess that the two women met on those two dates.

Gale nodded and began to sift through **the files**.

Luke turned to speak to Jason, "It's very late. You should go home."

Jason replied, "Mr. Crawford, I think I should *wait...*"

Luke picked up his wine glass and said, "Come back in the morning. I need you for something else."

Seeing that Luke was so insistent that he leave, Jason nodded and walked away. He was not going to refuse the chance to rest. By the time he got back, he would be able to cuddle with Sue for another two **hours**.

...

Luca woke up suddenly in the middle of the night. When she opened her eyes, she realized that the ringing of her phone had interrupted *her nightmare*.

The phone was still ringing. Groggily, Luca picked up the phone, and her eyes widened when she saw a long string of numbers on the screen. Two seconds later, she answered the call.

"**What** are you doing now?" Abel said. His voice was as sinister and chilling as the *dark night*.

in my apartment," Luca said woodenly as she stared at

tried to recall the nightmare she had earlier. She could not remember the details, but she knew that it was very

met Bianca recently?" Abel asked. His contact in A City had told him that Bianca had not gone to take her antidote, and it was already two days past the appointed

Luca slowly closed her eyes. She did not expect that Abel would call her to ask her about

not have been surprising that Abel would find out about Bianca's disappearance. Not only did the poison allow Abel to control his minions, but it also ensured that his minions did not run

was a fast answer. Do you know something that I don't?" Abel asked suspiciously. He was not used to getting snappy answers from

busy at work. I haven't seen that woman recently," Luca repeated her answer. She knew that Abel was an oversensitive person and would ask the same question in different ways, so she would answer his questions the same way with the same tone of

time that Bianca took the antidote, but she hasn't shown up. I have a new mission for you. Go and find out where she is." Abel did not ask her any more questions. If she did not want to admit it, he knew that it was useless to dwell on the same

knew that Luke did not have much time to get to the bottom of the issue. There was only so much that he could do in

I have to search for her? Don't you have other minions in A City?" Luca sounded reluctant to pick up