

Be Gentle 1391

Chapter 1391

Luca slowly clenched her fists when she heard that Abel was using Nyla to threaten her.

Indeed, with Nyla in his hands, she had no choice but to obey what he said.

However, she wanted to try to give Luke more time.

"I understand," Luca said. The next second, Abel ended the call.

In the conversation earlier, Abel had spoken a lot more than he usually did.

Luca could tell that he was getting nervous because of the impostor's disappearance.

Luca knew why he was so nervous. A few years ago, Luke had brought down everything Robert had built for decades.

Even though Luke did not know who the leader of the current Island of Despair was, he was well-equipped to fight against Abel when it came to it.

Luca put her phone away and closed her eyes.

It was already two days since the impostor Bianca was supposed to take the antidote. Without the antidote, she would soon meet her end unless Luke suddenly changed his mind.

Gale and Rain would not be able to devise a cure for the poison. Even she herself could not.

Luca flipped over and closed her eyes, though she could not stop thinking.

To Abel, the impostor Bianca was nothing more than a pawn, and Abel never had any sympathy for his pawns.

not care whether the impostor Bianca lived or died, but he did not want her to divulge too much information about the Island

was probably a good thing that the impostor Bianca died. That way, no one would harm Luca's

opened her eyes and stared into the darkness. Since when had she become that

did not care whether anyone else lived or

people that she cared for were Luke and her

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day, when Luca arrived at the Watson office, she saw Mo putting up a notice at the

had never cared for those notices. When she walked past Mo, Mo said, "You're here, Dr.

"Mm. Good morning." Luca nodded.

that Luca was ignoring the notice board, Mo reminded her, "Don't you want to take a look at the notice?
It

'It concerns me?'

stopped walking and turned around to look at the notice on the

The notice was very long, but the gist was that the T Corporation building had vacated two floors to be an extension of Watson's *research laboratory*.

Only some of the researchers from the Technical Department were moving over.

Luca read the notice carefully. Only her team of researchers were moving over.

"*Why are we moving?*" Luca mumbled to herself. She did not know what was going on.

She thought that Luke was singling *her out*.

Of course, that was only *a hunch*.

"Dr. Craw, I've heard that it's because of what happened to your lab yesterday. Mr. Crawford doesn't trust the security system here, and he doesn't want the progress of your research to be compromised. Your team will be the first to move there. When other research teams reach the clinical trials phase, they would be moving over too," Mo explained. In the entire company, only Luca's team was in the clinical trial phase.

"*Won't that* be very troublesome?" Luca frowned and **said**.

It would be a hassle to move the computers and laboratory equipment between the two buildings. That would incur a huge cost to the *company*.

Luca knew that Luke prioritized efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Would he do that just because of what **happened yesterday?**

"*It's not* troublesome at all. The headquarters has already made all the arrangements. There'll be an administrative assistant handling the move, and you'll be the department manager when you're there. Also, Mr. Doyle has arranged for a mover. When your team has finished packing up, the truck will bring the items over to T Corporation," Mo said with a smile.

She noticed that Luca did not seem happy at all, so she said, "Dr. Craw, you might not enjoy as much freedom in T Corporation, but you'll be in the city center, and it'll be much safer there. It's not a *bad trade-off*."

Luca did not think it was a good thing to move there. Luke might be concerned about the security of her research team, but she did not want to be working in the same building as Luke, especially not when Abel had given her a new mission the night before.

would have to keep her guard at all times when she

massaged her forehead, not paying attention to what Mo was telling her. She made up an excuse and went into her

of her research team had already read the notice and were busy packing up their

had only cleaned up yesterday's mess, and they had to pack the equipment in boxes

greeted Luca when they saw her enter

nodded and went back to her

to her office with several empty cardboard boxes. "I've prepared some boxes for you,

and said, "Place them next to the door. I'll pack up in

placed the boxes next to the door and reminded her, "Dr. Craw, you should keep the most important documents securely, and you should bring them there yourself. You can leave the rest to the movers. Just make sure that you label the boxes with

"Alright." Luca nodded.

left, Cole came into Luca's office. He saw that Luca was not busy packing her belongings and said jealously, "Hey, Dr. Craw, why aren't you packing

no rush." Luca frowned when she heard the jealousy in

Chapter 1392

In the afternoon, all the research data and equipment were carried onto the moving truck and brought to T Corporation.

Luca did not have a car, so she sat in the car of one of the researchers.

During the ride, the two other researchers in the car expressed their excitement about moving to T Corporation. Their houses were closer downtown, and Watson was relatively far for them.

Luca turned her head to look at the receding scenery outside the window while passively listening to their conversation. She did not want to think about it, but she could not help guessing Luke's motives for the move.

"We're almost there," the driver suddenly said, which brought Luca back to her senses. She suddenly felt a sense of melancholy as the car slowly drove into the basement parking lot.

She could not help but feel that fate had brought her back to T Corporation. After the car came to a stop, she opened the door and stepped out.

Jason had already tasked someone to wait for them at the elevator lobby. After exchanging some pleasantries, the person brought Luca and the others to the twelfth floor.

Luca tried to recall the name of the department that used to occupy the twelfth floor. It did not take too long for her to find the answer.

The entire building belonged to T Corporation, so it was not hard for Luke to shift departments around. The entire eleventh and twelfth floor belonged to Luca's department.

Rhett had reached the building a little earlier than Luca. He had already surveyed the location, so he went up to Luca and told her, "Dr. Craw, your office is at the end of the corridor. It's very quiet."

Even though Rhett had not been working under Luca for a long time, he already knew

was secluded, but it also meant that she would not be disturbed. That was exactly what elevator arrived on the twelfth floor. Rhett told her, "I'll bring you around, wanted to tell him that she was familiar with every floor of T Corporation, but her current identity did not allow her to do that without raising suspicion. Instead, she did not say anything and followed behind the door to her office and led around the spacious and brightly-lit office. She wondered if Luke had installed security cameras to spy he moved me here to keep a close eye on that Luca did not say anything, Rhett asked, "Dr. Craw, if you have any specific requirements, you can tell them to the administrative assistant that Mr. Crawford had assigned to our department. You can let her know anything you want, and she'll make the was already well-equipped, and Luca did not think that she was lacking anything. She shook her head and said, "I have everything I need for now. Tell the movers to bring my two boxes to my office first. I want to organize them so that I can resume my understand Luca's worry. The research data had been compromised, and the progress was seriously Even though Luke did not blame them, they would still need to meet the deadline.

"Alright, I'll inform them." Rhett nodded and left *the office*.

Luca placed a small cardboard box on the table and began to unpack the documents. She had been carrying that box with her while the others were in the moving truck.

She did not close the door because the movers would be arriving soon.

Jason came in through the door with a smile on his face. "Good afternoon, Dr. Craw. Have you gotten used to the new environment **yet?**"

Luca turned around and smiled at him. "It's my first time here. I can't say whether I'm used to this place yet."

Jason thought that she would try to appease him and say that she had gotten used to the place or that the office was very nice. He did not expect her to give him a candid answer.

"Haha, the conditions here are much better than Watson. I think that you'll like it a lot better here," Jason laughed **drily**.

Luca wondered why Jason was so free to chat up with her. She asked him, "Mr. Doyle, have you found the culprit who made a mess of my lab?"

"I found the security guard on duty that night. He was the only one on duty, so he can't make up any excuses. Things are looking to be quite easy, so I got someone else to continue with the investigation," Jason answered. The new mission that Luke tasked him with was much more urgent than the incident at Watson.

why Jason delegated the investigation to another

and did not ask any more

his chin and asked, "Dr. Craw, aren't you curious about why I'm not investigating that

I'm not your boss, and I'm not a manager. There's no reason for me to know," Luca replied. She could tell that he was trying to probe

Luke tell him to

guessed that Luke had tasked Jason to investigate the impostor

knew that there was nothing more important to Luke than reuniting

bad for Luke, Bianca was given a new identity. Even if Luca was constantly by Luke's side, she could not tell him that she was the real

sank into deep thought. Bianca was not nosy like other people, and she seemed to be interested only in her research. Could she be related somehow to the impostor

also knew that some people were natural-born actors. Luke was one of those people. His expression would never change no matter who or what

Chapter 1393

"Alright," the mover replied and put the two boxes on the coffee table.

The mover with the crate asked, "Ma'am, the computer is quite heavy. Shall I help you move it to the office table and assemble it for you?"

"Don't worry about it. You can leave it there. Thank you," Luca said politely. It was not hard for her to assemble a computer.

After the movers put the boxes down, they left the office.

Luca took out the important documents and placed them on the table. She turned to look at the door and realized that Jason was still standing there. "Is there anything else, Mr. Doyle?"

"That's all. I heard that you've arrived, so I wanted to welcome you. Feel free to tell me if you need anything, Dr. Craw," Jason said.

Luca smiled politely and said, "Alright."

Jason left the room after that.

Luca went to close the door. When she turned around, she discreetly glanced at one corner of the office, then continued to unpack her belongings.

From Jason's actions earlier, she could tell that there was a surveillance camera in the office.

However, she could not let them know that she knew about it. She continued to unpack as though she was oblivious about the surveillance camera.

the most important documents in the safe, she set up a new passcode and began to assemble

was very busy at work in the office and soon forgot about the surveillance

was as though she was already used to being spied

stared unblinkingly at the computer screen. On the screen, Luca was unpacking her documents. After that, she began to assemble the computer. It did not take too long for her to set it up, as though she was very familiar with

on the office door. "Come in,"

opened the door and came in. "Mr. Crawford, Dr. Craw doesn't seem interested in what I

Luke replied. He had overheard their

had tasked Jason to investigate her, and he did not expect that Luca's expression and words did not expose anything. However, that only made him even more suspicious of

Luca have some relation with the Island

said, "Mr. Crawford, I think that there's something suspicious about Dr.

it," Luke said as he drummed the table with his fingers, as though he was thinking

"She's too composed. She doesn't show any emotion on her face, and her breathing is even. It's as though she's doing that deliberately. Anyone who's doing that must be hiding *something*."

Luke's phone vibrated, and he read the message that he had just received. He stood up and said, "Prepare the car. I'm going to the mansion."

Jason nodded and immediately did what he was told. He knew which mansion Luke was **referring to**.

He went to the basement parking lot to get the car, then drove it to the main entrance and waited **for Luke**.

Five minutes later, Luke came to the main entrance and stepped into the car. The two people went to the mansion on the outskirts.

An hour later, the car drove into the mansion and parked in the garage.

Luke stepped into the living room. Gale was sitting on the couch typing something.

"I found something, Boss," he said.

"Show it to me," Luke said.

Gale opened a clipping of the **dashcam footage**.

The footage was captured the day after the impostor Bianca took Rainie away. Gale had been trying to access the footage of those two days, but there was a problem with the memory card, and it took him some time to fix it.

to restore the footage, but I don't think there's much to be gained. Take a look," Gale said and clicked on the

computer screen, Luke saw Luca and Amur walk to the entrance of the house. Before they went in, Luca turned around and looked in the direction of the car, as though she wanted to confirm that it was from Crawford Manor. Some time later, Luca came out of the house carrying Rainie in her arms. Walking next to her was Amur and the impostor

asked for the car keys from the impostor Bianca, and they all got into the car. The footage stopped playing immediately

all we have. Someone must have forced the dashcam to shut down, and the data was corrupted," Gale said. Thanks to the forced shutdown, he had spent a lot of effort to restore the

asked, "When was the next time the dashcam was

two days later. I've searched through all the locations captured in the dashcam. The impostor visited some places multiple times, and other places only once. I think the most likely location is this one." Gale opened another

the map application on his phone and recorded the locations shown on the dashcam footage. He would analyze each of those

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finished unpacking her belongings and saw that it was almost time to go off work. She remembered that Tommy was discharged from the hospital earlier today, and according to what she had agreed to Luke, the driver would be sending Tommy over to her

did not linger in the office for too long because she did not want Tommy to wait for her, so she took her personal belongings and

T Corporation building was located downtown, so traffic around the area was quite heavy. It took Luca some time to find a vacant

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Luca's heart warmed up when Tommy's hand grabbed one of the shopping bags. Sean, who had been waiting next to Tommy, also smiled.

The full shopping bag was quite heavy, and Luca did not want to trouble the child. She shook her head and said, "It's fine. I can carry it myself. You don't have to wait for me at the entrance. Just sit in the car next time."

Tommy grinned childishly and said, "I want to see you as soon as possible, Ms. Luca."

Sean said, "Master Tommy really likes you. We went upstairs earlier but saw that you're not home yet, so he insisted on waiting for you at the entrance. I can't park the car at the entrance, so I parked at the side of the road, and we waited for you."

Luca nodded. The weather was cooling down, but it was not too cold yet, so the child could wait there without suffering any ill effects other than slightly sore legs. However, it would be winter soon, and she did not want the child to wait for her in the cold.

She considered giving him a set of spare keys for the apartment, but she remembered that Luke was keeping a close eye on her. If Tommy had her house keys, Luke would be able to go inside whenever he liked.

She had nothing to hide from Luke, but Luke was a cautious man, and she was worried that he might find something.

After arriving at that thought, she rejected the idea.

She moved both shopping bags to her left hand and held Tommy's hand with her right. "Alright, let's go upstairs."

Tommy held Luca's hand happily. Sean said, "I'll be leaving Master Tommy to your care, Dr. Craw. I'll come back later to pick him up."

"Alright," Luca replied and led Tommy into the apartment.

at her house, Luca first prepared some cut fruit for Tommy as usual. She saw Tommy taking out several workbooks from his backpack, so she asked him, "Do you have a lot of homework

not a lot, but I don't know how to answer some of the questions," Tommy said with a smile. He actually knew how to do them, but he wanted Luca to

if that's the case, you can do your homework while I cook dinner. Leave those questions blank, and I'll come and guide you after I'm done

Tommy took his pencil and began to do his homework, and Luca patted his

and Rainie were already five years old and were in school by the time she married Luke. They inherited Luke's smart genes, so she did not need to worry about their

would sit next to them and observe them do their homework, but she did not need to guide

that it would be quite fun to guide her children with their homework, and she hoped that she could do it to Tommy. Before he went to school, she was abducted

not expect that she would get the chance to guide Tommy with

went into the kitchen, washed her hands, and prepared to

sat in the living room. Munching on the sliced fruit that Luca prepared for him, he began to do his

Occasionally, Luca would stick her head out and sneak a peek at the child in the living room. She wondered if she should prepare a study desk for Tommy in case Luke continued sending Tommy over to *her house*.

After cooking dinner, she went to the living room and guided Tommy with her homework. After he completed his homework, she briefly checked each of *his workbooks*.

Tommy handed a pen to her. "Ms. Luca, now that you've watched me complete my homework, you can sign your name at the end of **my workbooks**."

Luca took the pen but was immediately taken aback. She shook her head and said, "Shouldn't your parents sign your workbooks?"

Tommy was also taken aback. What Luca said was correct. Usually, when he finished his homework, either Luke or Old Master Crawford would sign his workbooks. "But you're the one who guided me, Ms. Luca."

"How about this? You can put your workbooks away now, and when you get home, you can ask your Great-Grandpa to sign them." Luca thought that it was not appropriate for her to sign the workbooks.

The teachers at Tommy's school knew who Luke, Bianca, and Old Master Crawford were. If they saw another name on the workbooks, how was Tommy going to explain it *to them*?

He could not say that his elder sister guided him. After all, Luca was much too old to be Tommy's elder sister.

To save the trouble of explaining it to the teacher, she would rather have Old Master Crawford sign the workbooks instead.

Tommy did not argue with her. He put the workbooks in *his backpack*.

gently pinched his cheeks. "Alright. Are you hungry? Shall we

Tommy nodded and stood up.

pointed at the bathroom. "Go and wash your hands first. I'll set the

nodded and went to the bathroom while humming a

smiled when she heard the tune. She had often sung that tune to him while he was a baby. She did not expect him to still remember the tune after three years and would inadvertently

went into the kitchen, took the dishes out, and spread them on the dining table. She had prepared an insulated plate

his hands and sat at the dining table. He looked at the pasta on his plate and asked, "Ms. Luca, why does the color of the pasta look different this

made of organic millet instead of wheat. It's better for your health," Luca answered as she handed Tommy his cutlery. She knew that Tommy was a picky eater, and he needed the nourishment so that he could recover from his illness more

tried to improve Tommy's health through food. Even the fruits that she had prepared for Tommy earlier were

kind, Ms. Luca." Tommy ate a bite and did not seem to

Chapter 1395

Luca sighed when she thought that Tommy would have to go home soon. She sat down next to him and watched the cartoon with him.

"Tommy, has your Daddy been very busy recently?" She tried to find out something from Tommy while they watched the cartoon together.

"Daddy is always very busy," Tommy answered, though his eyes were transfixed on the television. He did not suspect anything.

Luca hugged a pillow in her arms and continued to ask, "What about your Mommy? Does she know that you're here to have dinner every day?"

"Mommy?" Tommy thought about his mother and shook his head. "I didn't tell her. Daddy said that she's traveling overseas and told us not to disturb her while she's having fun."

Luca knew that Luke had deceived the children, but they did not seem to miss her.

She could tell that the impostor Bianca did not love or care for the children. If the impostor Bianca had shown them the least bit of care, things would not have turned out this way.

Tommy turned his head and asked Luca, "Ms. Luca, do you think that I should tell Mommy about this?"

Luca shook her head. "No. I was only curious. You ought to listen to your Daddy. I'm just wondering if you and your elder siblings miss your Mommy because she's gone for so long."

"We don't miss her at all," Tommy answered without thinking. "Mommy doesn't like any of us, and she won't take care of us, unlike the Mommies of other kids."

Luca's heart wrenched when she heard Tommy answer the question so readily.

as young as him should have been cared for and protected by his parents. Abel's plan had robbed the three children of the motherly love they

would not be able to make up for it no matter how hard

the child's head. "Maybe your Mommy has

looked at her doubtfully. The adults had never explained anything to them, and he did not know what those reasons were. "Ms. Luca, you're so much nicer to me than my Mommy is. She always neglects us, and she would often throw scary tantrums. Daddy is the only person she cares for. If Daddy isn't home, she won't be home either. It wasn't like this before. Mommy used to treat us like how you're treating me now. Whenever Lanie and Rainie came home from school, she would prepare a plate of fruit for them so that they could eat some fruit when they finished their homework. But Daddy said that Mommy got very sick one day, and she didn't behave like how she used to. I don't like my Mommy now. I wish that she'd return to what she was

heart wrenched when she heard the little boy's complaints toward the impostor Bianca, but there was nothing she

was old enough to have a mind of his own, and he would remember how his mother had treated him. Luca hoped that his experiences with his mother would not affect his self-esteem in

wanted to say some words of comfort to the child, but she could not make the words come out of her mouth. Before she knew it, tears welled up in her eyes, and she felt a twinge in her

The doorbell rang.

at the clock. It was already nine o'clock. That was so

put on her slippers and went to answer the door. The person standing outside the door was not Sean but Luke, which surprised Luca. If he was truly holding the impostor Bianca captive, she must be suffering from the effects of the poison by now. How would he have time to come and pick the child

Mr. Crawford," Luca sniffled and said

Luke noticed her bloodshot eyes. "Have you been crying?" **He asked.**

"No. Some dust got into my eyes just now. Are you here to pick Tommy up?" She opened the door fully to let the man in.

"Mm." Luke had just returned from the mansion in the outskirts. He noticed that it was almost time, so he told Sean that he would pick up the child instead.

Tommy heard his father, so he hopped off the couch and picked up his backpack. "Why are you here instead of Uncle Sean, Daddy?"

"I was working overtime in my office earlier, and I thought Ms. Luca's house was along the way," Luke said. He took Tommy's hand and led him out of the **house.**

Luke did not speak much today, but that did not make Luca relieved. Instead, she had an ominous premonition exactly because he did not **speak much.**

She could guess that the impostor Bianca was about to meet **her end.**

Luca did not have any sympathy for that woman. After all, she did not deserve any sympathy for what she did to *the children.*

While Tommy was being led away, he turned around and waved to Luca. "Bye-bye, **Ms. Luca.**"

"Bye-bye." Luca waved to him.

stopped walking and turned around to speak to her, "I'll pay you Tommy's expenses at the end of every month. Does this arrangement work

could tell that he was planning to send Tommy over to have dinner every evening. Even if it were not every evening, it would last for at least

shook her head. After all, she did not intend to collect any money for cooking for the child. "Tommy doesn't eat

at his son. He knew how much his son ate. "I'll pay you at the end of the month. Just send me a message with the total amount," he

Luca nodded but said nothing.

he insisted on giving her something, she had no chance of

not pout or sulk when he left Luca's apartment. He knew that he would be coming back every

the door only after Luke and Tommy entered the

was happy that she got to cook dinner for her son every evening, but it also meant that her interactions with Luke would become

not know what she should feel about

Luke. Every time she met him, it felt as though she was

Chapter 1396

From the tone of his voice, Luca could tell that Abel was up to some mischief.

Calmly, she told Abel about how she had moved to T Corporation, and Luke had installed a surveillance camera in her office to monitor her.

Abel laughed brazenly when he heard that.

Luca did not say anything. Luke was already wary of the influence of the Island of Despair on his life, yet Abel did not seem worried at all.

Abel finally stopped laughing half a minute later. "It seems that Luke is more and more interested in you." His tone was shilling.

Luca's heart skipped a beat as though Abel's words were a stark reminder of her situation.

Luke had never stopped suspecting her identity ever since she returned to A City. His latest act of installing a surveillance camera in her office showed that he was suspicious of Luca's involvement in the incident of the impostor Bianca.

Luca wanted to keep a low profile to avoid suspicion, but she could not bear to see Queenie suffer. What she did to save Queenie probably made Luke suspect her even more.

Everything that Luca did after that probably increased Luke's suspicion toward her. Eventually, it led to him ordering her to move to T Corporation and installing a surveillance camera in her office.

She could not tell if what Abel said were true, but she knew that Luke was both caring for her and suspecting her.

Luca did not say anything, though Abel could tell that Luca was in agony.

that those were her feelings and that the person Luke had been searching for was right in front of him, Abel found some relief to his

was so close to success. He would be able to avenge his beloved

I want you to continue to investigate Bianca's whereabouts. Also, cooperate with Luke and give him everything he wants. It would be best if you could make him fall in love with you," Abel said. He was eager to see what would happen when Luke fell in love

ended the call right after that. The following scenes had played out in

the phone tightly with a vacant expression on her

thought that Abel would use her to steal company secrets and bring down T Corporation. She did not expect Abel's plan to turn out to be like

would fall in love with her, but he would not be able to obtain her. In fact, he would not be able to obtain

her eyes in despair. She did not feel relieved even though she knew Abel's endgame. Instead, she realized that she had been walking along an

she and Luke be able to escape from

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Luke and Tommy returned to Crawford Manor. Shortly after Luke parked his car, he received a call from Gale. "She's not going to make it, Boss. Rain is trying her best to **resuscitate her**."

Rain was helpless against the effects of the poison. With the sedatives, she might be able to let her live for a few more days. Even so, the sedative could not stop the *impostor's seizures*.

"I'll go over now." Luke used one hand to unfasten Tommy's seatbelt and opened the door. He put the phone away and said, "Tommy, I have some urgent business at the company. You can go into the **house yourself**."

Tommy nodded and hopped off the car. He asked, "Daddy, will you come home *tonight*?"

"We'll see about that," Luke said. After Tommy closed the car door, he reversed the car and left **the house**.

Tommy walked into the living room and saw that no one was there. He ran up the stairs and saw that Lanie and Rainie were reading storybooks in the common area. He smiled and went over, "Good evening, Lanie and **Rainie**."

Rainie knew where her younger brother had been. She could not help but pinch her face when she saw the grin on Tommy's face. "How was dinner **tonight**?"

Tommy's eyes sparkled when Rainie mentioned dinner. "I ate so much today!" **He said**.

Rainie was quite envious of her younger brother. The three children loved Luca's cooking, but only Tommy had the chance to eat it every day. "What did Ms. Luca cook for you **today**?"

"So much delicious food! The best dish was the basil pork chops. It's so delicious!" Tommy began to salivate when he thought of the food he had eaten earlier. The pork chop almost melted in his mouth as soon as he bit into it. Even the cook in Crawford Manor could not cook like **that**.

smiled knowingly. She put her book away and looked toward the staircase but did not see

where's Daddy? Didn't you say that he brought you home?" She asked. Earlier, when she was in the living room downstairs, she had overheard the driver answering Luke's call, which was why she knew that Luke would be the one to fetch

tilted his head. "Daddy left again after he answered

Lanie heard that, he put his book down and exchanged a knowing glance with Rainie. "Do you know who called

"Daddy said that it was from the company. It seemed very

guessed that their father was somewhere else instead. They stood up, and each of them took one of Tommy's hands. "Alright, I'm sure that it's very important. Let's brush our teeth and prepare to go

Tommy nodded excitedly, then looked at Lanie. "Lanie, can I sleep with you

raised his eyebrows like how Luke would.

happy today, so I want to sleep with you," Tommy said. It was not a surprising thing since the two boys would occasionally sleep

and said, "Alright. You should go and take a

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Traffic was light at night. Luke floored the gas pedal and arrived at the mansion in about half an hour.

There was no one in the living room. Luke guessed that Gale and Rain were both in the basement, so he went down the stairs.

As expected, Gale and Rain were there.

"Boss," Gale greeted Luke as soon as he saw him.

"What's the situation?" Luke glanced at the impostor Bianca lying on the bed. Her skin was wrinkled and waxy, and she had lost all her vigor.

"Our drugs won't be able to keep her alive for much longer," Rain said as she stepped aside. Earlier, she had given the impostor Bianca a dose of sedative and a dose of painkillers.

Since two hours ago, the impostor Bianca had been screaming in pain whenever she was conscious. She even tried to ram her head against the wall, and Rain had no other choice but to give her a double dose of drugs.

A normal person could not withstand the double dose, but if Rain had not done that, the impostor Bianca might have been dead by now.

"Luke Crawford." The impostor Bianca was panting heavily as the last shreds of her lucidity slipped away under the effects of the sedative.

Luke looked at her. "What else do you have to say?"

The impostor Bianca grimaced when she saw that Luke did not show her the slightest hint of sympathy. As the painkillers took effect and the pain vanished, she began to grin brazenly.

Rain took a step back when she saw the unnerving grin on the impostor's face.

not help but think that the mysterious doctor on the Island of Despair was extremely cruel to invent such a poison. Shortly after one stopped taking the antidote, they would rapidly wither like a

that, they would be in

though Rain had not experienced the agony herself, she could tell that it was extremely

Bianca grunted and glared hatefully at Luke. "Aren't you always looking for your wife? Let me tell you, you won't be able to find her. Once she falls into that man's hands, she's as good

clenched his fists tightly. "Do you

began to flow down the impostor Bianca's cheeks as she stared at the ceiling. "I don't know her, but it'll be impossible for you to find her. Even if she's still alive, she'll hate you for taking so long to find her. Just... give up. If I can't find true love, you won't be able to either. She'll hate you... for the rest of her

not beg because her condition had gone past the point of no return. Abel would not believe that she did not betray him anyway. Her voice became weaker and weaker until she fell into

looked at the woman on the bed. In only two days, she seemed to have aged twenty

I wake her up?"

no need. She's not going to last for long." Even though Luke was not proficient in medicine, he could tell that the impostor was one foot in the

Rain nodded.

Gale said, "Even if she wakes up, she'll only be screaming in pain. We won't be able to obtain any useful information from *her*."

They did not have to torture her. The poison from the Island of Despair was torturous **enough**.

Luke glanced at her coldly. Those words rang in his ears.

He had to admit that he had fallen into a trap. Otherwise, he would not have stopped searching for the real *Bianca*.

Even if the real Bianca were still alive, she would hate him to the bone...

Luke could not imagine how much Bianca had suffered over the past three years.

Rain could guess what Luke was thinking. She said softly, "I'll look after her, Boss. You should go home. Gale will get the job done when it's time for her to **go**."

"*Make sure* that no one can recognize her," Luke said. If the real Bianca was still alive, there was no need for the impostor to keep her disguise as his *beloved wife*.

"*Understood*," *Rain* said. If Luke were not worried about explaining to his children about their mother's sudden disappearance, they would be willing to carry out his orders.

Luke did not linger at the mansion. He left the basement and **drove away**.

Those words continued to ring in his ears. He could not shake **them off**...

mansion was not far away from the coast. Luke drove the car to the coast, parked there, and lit

years ago, Bianca's trail had abruptly disappeared at the port. No one could find her until some time later when she was discovered in another

had thought carefully about it back then, he would realize that Bianca would not have appeared in an inland city if she had disappeared at the

way, he would not be deceived by the impostor

smoked a cigarette after another. The car was filled with the stench of

instinctively take out a cigarette whenever he thought of Bianca, as though the nicotine could both stimulate and soothe

he did not feel the effect of the chemicals at

midnight, Luke received a message from

message said that the impostor Bianca was deteriorating rapidly. She had regained consciousness half an hour after Luke left, and no drug was able to alleviate her suffering. Moreover, her internal organs began to fail, and Rain could not do anything about

turned cold after reading Gale's report. Even though the woman had been by her side for three years, he did not feel any sympathy toward

began to compose the reply. [End

Chapter 1398

After the local news section was the financial news. Luca came to her senses and watched the news report on the stock market. T Corporation's prospects were looking bright.

She turned off the television with the remote control, finished her breakfast, picked up her handbag, and left the house.

The laboratory at T Corporation was almost completely furnished. Luca would be restarting her research today.

Rhett had told her that the different research teams in Watson were working much harder than before because of this new policy. They wanted to be the next team to move to T Corporation.

Luca did not understand the appeal of working in T Corporation.

She was even willing to let them take over her position in T Corporation. It was not only because she was constantly under surveillance, but she also did not want to work at the same building as the CEO.

Luca caught a cab and went to T Corporation. After she clocked in, she stashed her personal belongings in her office, then went to the laboratory.

The researchers in her team should have been working at their stations, but now, they were huddled together and discussing something.

Luca went over and asked them, "What are you talking about?"

"Good morning, Dr. Craw," the researchers greeted her. They were not very close to her because Luca was not very social. Usually, they would inform Rhett if they needed anything, and Rhett would tell Luca about it.

One of the researchers said, "Dr. Craw, have you seen the announcement on the company website?"

What about it?" Luca

caught the person who messed up our research," the researcher said excitedly. All of them were happy that the culprit was

be exact, they only caught one of the people in the security department. In the announcement, that person had admitted that he tampered with the surveillance cameras," another

the same. If many people were involved and they caught one of them, it wouldn't take too long to catch the others," the previous researcher

asked, "I don't have my phone with me, but did the announcement say who the security

article mentioned that he's a relative of a certain manager in Watson. I didn't know that you need connections to join the security department!" The

you know that security guards get paid more in T Corporation and its subsidiaries? If I were a security guard, I'd want to work in T Corporation

what the researchers told her, Luca could guess the contents of

announcement did not specify which manager it was, but Luca could roughly guess

the researchers, "Alright, we should get to work soon. I'd like to hold a brief meeting before we start on the research again. Let's meet in the conference room in ten

"Yes, Dr. Craw," the researchers replied.

Luca glanced at the time, then took her tablet computer and went into the conference **room**.

Five minutes later, the administrative assistant in charge of their department came into the conference room with cups of coffee and placed them in front of each of the seats. Her name was Zoey Davis. "Dr. Craw, shall I take the meeting minutes for you?" She asked.

Even though Luca knew that Luke had installed a surveillance camera in her office, she did not know if he had asked Zoey to spy on her **too**.

She thought for a while and nodded. "Alright, please help me take the meeting minutes later."

"**Yes**, Dr. Craw. I'll go and make preparations." Zoey nodded and left the conference room with the empty **tray**.

Ten minutes later, all the researchers were seated in the **conference room**.

Luca briefed them about the research direction. From the previous stage of their research, Luca realized that they had to prioritize certain things, and other steps could be omitted. She was going to implement

those changes when they came to the next stage of their research, but seeing that they had to start over, she might as well make those changes now.

Her speech lasted for fifteen minutes. After she had spoken what she wanted to say, she looked at the researchers in the conference room and asked them, "Does anyone have anything else to add?"

The researchers shook their heads.

nodded, stood up, and picked up her tablet computer. "If that's the case, the meeting is dismissed. Let's all work hard so that we can bring the product to the

"Yes," the other researchers replied.

the meeting minutes and watched Luca walk out of the conference room. She took out her phone and sent a message to Jason. [Mr. Doyle, Dr. Craw has just finished her meeting with

tasked her to spy on Luca's movements in addition to being her administrative

returned to her office. She did not have time to rest. Instead, she put on her lab coat and went to

not surprised when she opened the office door and saw Jason

"Can I help you?" Luca asked.

Sue wants to host a dinner at home this Sunday. She knows that you're working in T Corporation now, so she's asking me to hand you the invitation," Jason said as he handed Luca an invitation

took the card. The handwriting on the card indeed looked like Sue's handwriting, but she could not help but wonder why it was so

don't know if I'm free on Sunday," Luca said. She did not immediately accept the

Chapter 1399

"There will be another announcement at the conclusion of the investigation, right?" Luca did not say that she knew who was behind it. Instead, she only said that she was not curious.

She knew that curiosity killed the cat.

Jason smiled as he listened to her explanation. He came to her office to find out what she knew, but it seemed that he did not find anything interesting.

"You're right. We'll definitely publish the findings once the investigation is complete," he said.

Luca nodded. "Mm. That's why I don't need to make any baseless guesses now."

Jason smiled. He felt his phone vibrate, so he took it out and glanced at the screen. "Alright, Dr. Craw, I won't take up any more of your time."

"Take care." As Luca watched Jason leave, the smile on her face slowly disappeared.

He must have been testing her...

Luca closed the office door behind her and went to the laboratory to continue her research.

...

Back at Watson Biopharmaceuticals, Cole was exasperated when he read the announcement. The security guard that was caught was his cousin's son.

He did not expect that the security guard would break so easily under interrogation. Even though the security guard did not implicate him in the incident, he had a feeling that Jason would be knocking on his door very soon.

all, they already knew that the security guard was

his hands together worriedly. He thought of contacting the security guard, but the security guard was currently detained in the police station. Even if he were to visit him there, they would not have the chance to talk

He cursed under his breath. He thought he could get rid of Luca, but instead, Luca had benefited from his ploy while he had to be kept on

for Talia to appear in his office, but she did not come. He dialed Talia's number on the internal line, but Mo picked up the

and asked sternly, "Ms. Stone, where is

said that she has an upset stomach, so she's in the washroom now. Are you looking for her? Should I go to the bathroom and let her know?" Mo sounded calm, as though she was concentrating on digging some

rarely gone to the laboratory in the past two days. Instead, he had been brooding in his office. Talia did not go to the laboratory too, and she had often gone into Cole's

When she returns, tell her to come to my office,"

Technical Department was busy at work, so that they could be the next one to move into T Corporation. Only Cole's team did not make

"Alright," Mo replied.

she hung up, she sat on her chair and waited. Five minutes later, Talia came into the office with a

"*What's wrong*, Talia? You don't look too good," Mo asked out of **concern**.

Talia took a few deep breaths while gently grasping her chest. "I threw up in the toilet. I think it's because I ate something *wrong this morning*."

"*You* threw up?" Mo suddenly thought of something. She shot a glance at Talia's flat stomach. "We can't really say if it's serious, but you've not been feeling well for the past two days. Why don't you take the rest of the day off and pay a visit to the doctor?"

Talia shook her head. She could not afford to be away from the office at this critical juncture.

She was afraid that Cole might backstab her when she was not **around**...

"It's fine. I've always had stomach problems. I'll just need to rest for a bit," Talia said as she sat down on her chair. "Everyone in the department seems to be so busy lately. I don't think I can bring myself to tell Dr. Kidman that I want to take the day off."

When Mo heard that, she said, "Right, Dr. Kidman was looking for you earlier, and it seems to be something urgent. You should go to his office now. He didn't sound very patient either."

She deliberately told Talia more in an attempt to **befriend Talia**.

Talia knew why Cole was in a bad mood. The security guard that had helped them was arrested, and the two of them were in a *precarious position*.

Even so, she smiled gratefully at Mo. "Thanks for your reminder. I should go **now**."

Mo waved her hand. "Take care."

left, Mo was left alone in the office. She leaned back on her chair and narrowed her getting interesting. Did Cole and Talia plan

a sitting pose and nodded to herself. She had a strong feeling that her guess

that Cole was a chauvinistic man, and he could not bear to see Luca

other hand, Talia seemed to be quite friendly to Luca at first. However, Mo heard the rumor that Talia had approached Luca to be her assistant, but Luca had

was why Talia hated

the two people shared the same goal, it was not too hard to come up with

smiled and shook her head. She had always kept a low profile in the office, but she knew more about office politics than anyone else. Rather than collaborators, Talia seemed to be more like Cole's pawn in

As for Talia's stomach...

tell that Talia was showing symptoms of pregnancy. She also knew about the illicit interactions between Talia

that Cole had been married to his wife for many years, but his wife had poor health, and they never had

Chapter 1400

At this point in time, Cole was not going to be threatened by the photographs in Talia's hands.

"Talia, this incident has already grown beyond our control. Mr. Doyle isn't stupid, and if we keep this up, both of us will end up in trouble. Let me get straight to the point. What do you want me to do so that you'll take the fall?" He asked.

Talia clenched her fists tightly. The man sounded as though he did not wish to be implicated at all.

If she did not take the fall, it would soon be over for the both of them.

Talia said, "I can't be the only one to claim responsibility in this incident, Dr. Kidman. You're already a veteran in this industry, and you have strong backing from your family. Even if you were exposed, you still have other options. I'm only a nameless rookie, and my future would be ruined if I have to take the fall!"

Cole glanced at her coldly. He did not like it when she spoke to him like that. "Take the fall, and I'll give you money."

"Money? You can give me a million dollars, but that's not going to last me for the rest of my life. What I need is career stability. I've already told you that before I slept with you, and the only reason I'm doing this is so that you can give me what I want. Now that the cat is out of the bag, you're not going to sacrifice me to save your skin, right?" Talia was becoming emotional when she saw that the man was so heartless.

She was born in a small town, and she did not graduate from a remarkable university. It was not easy for her to gain a foothold in A City. Even though Cole had helped her, those promises amounted to nothing in the face of the crisis.

If she were found guilty, she would have to go to jail. Even if Cole hired the best lawyers for her, the record could not be erased, and she would be ruined for the rest of her life. She was not going to be stupid to take the fall herself.

narrowed his gaze. When he remembered the photos in her hands, he clenched his fists and pounded heavily on the table. "What do you want, Talia? Don't make me regret sleeping with

reaction, Talia knew that either of them would have to take

would be willing to take the fall If Cole could guarantee that he would provide for her for the rest of her life. Thinking that she would be the only victim in the entire incident, she took a deep breath and said, "Enough talk. You want me to take the fall alone, right? I can do that, but you have to promise me

it?" Cole saw a ray of hope. He was willing to agree to whatever she said as long as she took the fall and did not publicize

want you to sign a contract with me. In the contract, you will promise to divorce your current wife, and when I get out of jail, you will marry me and never divorce me. If you want to divorce me, you will have to concede all your property to me," Talia said. She had to find a way out for

could live her life comfortably in the future, she would be willing to take the fall

expression sank when he heard that. "No. I can't agree to

though he was disappointed with his wife because she was infertile, he did not plan to divorce her. She came from a wealthy and influential family, and Cole wanted to be a part of

If he divorced his current wife, he might lose everything he had, and Cole did not want that to **happen**.

Talia chuckled coldly as she glared at him. She had been willing to give him a chance, but it seemed that the man only wanted her youthful body and had no affection for her. "Let's get arrested together then. If you want to sacrifice me, don't think that you can get away *scot-free*."

"**Are** you threatening me?" Cole's eyes widened. "To me, you're nothing more than an ant. I can crush **you easily**."

Talia knew what he said was true, but she was not afraid because she had the photos and recordings. "I know that you can crush me easily, but don't think that your troubles are over if you get rid of me."

Cole knew very well what she meant, and he managed to douse the sudden urge to strangle her. He kneaded his hands and tried to negotiate with her, "We can still talk about this, Talia. If you can agree to what I say, I promise I'll take care of you for the rest of your life after you get out of **jail**."

Talia might be convinced if he had not said that earlier. Now that he did, she was sure that he was willing to lie to her so that he got off *the hook*.

"*I'm* done talking. It's either you divorce your wife and marry me, or we can go to jail together," Talia *said*.

Cole stood up abruptly and clenched his fists. He wanted to punch Talia's face.

He managed to stop himself as his fist swung through the air. If Talia was injured in his office, there was no way he could explain **it...**

then, Talia. You've forced my hand. No one will care if you suddenly find yourself dead in a ditch tonight!"

heart skipped a beat. That was a

if she should publicize the photos and recordings in case she met an

up and glared into Cole's eyes. "I didn't expect you to be so heartless, Cole

finishing the sentence, she felt a sudden bout of dizziness, and she immediately gripped the

not have any sympathy for her, even though her face was deathly pale. He had nothing but disgust for out of my office!" He

though their relationship was purely one born out of mutual benefit and not of true affection, she had expected the man who slept with her to show the least bit of sympathy to her instead of wanting to kill her or asking her to