

Be Gentle 1511

Chapter 1511

After Luca returned to her room, she tossed and turned on the bed. She could not fall asleep.

She planned to leave in the middle of the night. Hence, she decided to take a nap first. However, she did not expect herself to sleep for so long on the high-speed rail, so she could not fall asleep now.

Luca sat up and touched her forehead. Then, she looked at the time.

There were still two hours till midnight.

It would be too early for her to leave now. However, she was afraid that she could not wake up later if she took some medicine to sleep.

She had to look for Amur before it was too late.

Luca could only spend time watching videos on her phone helplessly.

Luke bringing all the employees for a trip to B City had become hot news in A City. Luca accidentally saw a news report about it when she was scrolling through some videos. She glanced at the comments below the video in passing.

Some people left their comments under the video, expressing their thoughts about how rich he was.

Meanwhile, some of them said that they were envious and they would love to have a work trip to B City too.

Luca could not help but smile when she saw the compliments. She was happy that so many people were praising Luke.

Luke was an influential figure in A City. Although there were barely any scandals about him, he showed up a lot on business and economics-related news. Luca watched reports about every business decision that he had made previously and how he had been developing the economy of A City. She was getting even prouder of him.

He was her man before this...

feel a sense of pride when it came to Luke. She would feel happy for him if he achieved something, and she would also feel sorry for him if he was

Luca looked at the news reports, the stronger the emotions in her heart grew. She was
alarm went off. With a look, she saw that it was

It was time to go out.

stopped watching the videos. She left her room after changing

glanced at the hallway. There was no one there. Everyone had probably gone back to rest.

they were still partying at the mountain

not be bothered about that. She took the elevator and came to the ground floor immediately. The hotel was located in the inner part of the mountain villa, and the area covered was bigger. Fortunately, the hotel provided a 24-hour sightseeing car service.

the hotel and got into a car. Then, she asked the driver to send her to the mountain villa's entrance.

the driver had accepted her money, he would follow her instructions. After she sat tight, the driver drove in the direction of the entrance.

was driving, he asked, "Miss, is there something important you must do that you're leaving the mountain villa at this late

it's something important," said

mountain villa is located in a remote area in B City. It'll be hard to hail a taxi at this hour. But sometimes, black taxis will be waiting at the entrance to get some business. I'd advise you not to get into one of those cars, though. Those drivers are scoundrels. You better be careful with that pretty face of yours." The driver

Luca nodded, "Got it. I hailed a taxi using a ride-hailing app. The driver is already waiting for me at the entrance."

"Alright. Still, you've got to be careful. The facilities in the mountain villa are open for 24 hours if you'd like to have fun," the driver **babbled**.

Luca smiled without saying anything.

After she reached the entrance of the mountain villa, she got out of the car. There, she found the taxi that she had hailed. She gave the driver the address of her destination after she got into the car.

She did not give the exact stronghold location right away, which was according to the rules. She simply chose an address and planned to switch to another car after she **reached**.

The address she had chosen was a local bar. It was to prevent herself from drawing **any attention**.

The only reason to go out at this hour was to enjoy the nightlife, *right?*

After Luca reached the bar, nobody at the clubs there stopped her. She walked to the curbside pick-up point and hailed a taxi. Then, she headed to the stronghold.

She got out of the car when she was near the stronghold. After she paid the fee, she looked at her surroundings.

It was a residential area, and it was not as bustling as it was at the club. It was quiet and *empty*.

Luca trotted to the stronghold. She looked at the door and pressed *the doorbell*.

Soon, someone opened the door.

Luca looked at the heavily built man inside, and she said with a fearless expression on her face, "I'm looking for **somebody**."

you looking for?" The man's eyes brightened up the moment he

her hand and knocked on the door in a rhythmic pattern. It was their secret code.

opened the door immediately after knowing that she was one of them. He said, "Come in."

entered, then she looked at the man and said, "I'm looking for Amur. He came to B City a month ago to carry out his

man stared at her up and down, remaining

"Why? He's not here?" asked Luca.

lucky. He just came back today," the man replied and led the way for

let out a sigh of relief when she heard that Amur was here. At least he was here, and he was

in there," the man pointed at the door and

not afraid that he would lie to her. After all, they would be dead if something happened

because she was an important pawn

Luca pushed the door open, she could smell a strong, bloody smell in the

hurt... The thought crossed her mind before she even saw

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There was no anesthetic left...

Luca looked at the wound that was deep enough to see the bones. The wound needed multilayer mattress stitches, and the pain would be double of usual.

Amur knew she was worried if he would be able to stand the pain. He pursed his lips and looked at her. "Don't worry. I want you to close the wound."

Luca looked at him for a few seconds. The wound had to be closed, and they could not wait any longer.

"Where are the supplies?" she asked after having decided to close the wound for Amur.

"They're in the drawer." The man pointed at the cabinet beside and said.

Luca opened the cabinet. The supplies were pretty complete except for the anesthetic.

She poured some Povidone-iodine on some cotton and quickly cleaned his wound. Then, she began to close the wound.

The needle poked into his flesh. Amur did not yell or scream. He lowered his head and stared at Luca, who was focused on stitching his wound. The wound on his arm was rather nasty, but she was not afraid when she saw it. Her hands did not even shake.

Amur recalled when Luca had just started to learn to stitch back then. She could not stop herself from throwing up when she was ordered to stitch the wounds of the people who were badly injured after being tortured by Abel.

Her whole body could not stop trembling. She said she had never seen such nasty and scary wounds.

Later, she got more and more proficient. She never threw up again when she was facing these bloody wounds.

Amur had mixed feelings when he looked at

the wound very carefully, but that did not affect her

had already mastered the suture technique when she was on the Island of Despair. She was able to stitch wounds quickly without any expression on her face no matter how bloody they were.

stitching, Luca looked at the wound that was oozing with a little blood. She took a bottle of powder out of the drawer, moved it closer to her nose, and smelled it. Then, she asked, "Is this used to stop the bleeding?"

man replied. He was impressed with her stitching

even had an evil thought a moment ago. He wanted to have some fun with Luca for a while. After all, the relationships on the Island of Despair were complicated.

when he saw her stitching the wound, he dared not to do that anymore. He came out of the island late, so he

of the Island of Despair had all learned to stitch wounds, but most of them only went through simple training. The only people who were skilled at stitching wounds were Shanks and a pawn that Abel valued

stitching technique that the woman in front of her displayed was not on the same level

she must be Abel's most important

he dared not to do anything to the person treasured by his

Amur's hand and said, "Let me sprinkle some powder on it. Then I'll cover it with a bandage. Be careful during these few days. Don't let water get in contact with the wound. Otherwise, you'll lose your hand."

A deep wound could be easily infected at any time. Hence, the wound could not come into contact with *water*.

"Alright." Amur looked at her as she carefully sprinkled the powder on the closed wound. She then covered it up with bandages. He withdrew his hand and unconsciously felt like touching the **bandage**.

"Don't touch it." Luca saw his small gesture and reminded him. "Be careful when you're sleeping. Don't press on it."

"Alright." Amur acted submissively as he listened to **her**.

Luca took out a box of liquid vials and shot a glance at them. She said, "Come on. Turn over."

"**What are** you doing?" Amur glanced at the box curiously as he saw her opening the liquid vial and taking a new syringe **out**.

Tetanus shot...

"It's easy to get infected and catch a fever since the wound is deep. It'd be troublesome to treat it only after it happens," Luca explained and nimbly sucked all the liquid vial into the syringe in a *second*.

"There's no need. I'm not that weak. I don't need the tetanus shot." Amur was so embarrassed that his face was burning red when he thought of Luca injecting *him*.

"**No**, you must get it." As if Luca noticed something, she handed the syringe to the man standing at the door. He asked, "Do you know how to give an **injection**?"

"**Yes**," the man nodded and replied.

"Give him the injection. I'll be waiting outside." Luca put the syringe in the man's hand and stood up. She shot Amur a glance. "I'll be waiting for you out *there*."

knew she wanted to tell him something, and it was most probably to reproach him.

Luca had told him that she treated him like her brother. Although he was unwilling to be her brother, she already had someone in her heart. He could only be cared for like her brother.

turned over with a cold expression on his face after he watched her leave the room. He said, grinned and laughed. "Even a grown man will feel embarrassed too, huh? She's just a woman. It'd be a shame for us men if you act like

talking." Amur clenched his fists, and the movement pulled on the wound. He cried out in pain for a moment.

man knew Amur was angry. He stopped talking and gave Amur the tetanus shot.

of them went out of the

on a ragged chair and looked at them both. Her gaze eventually fell on Amur. "Are you on another dangerous

would never have injured himself so badly if it was not

shook his head and said, "No, it's

to me, Amur. You're getting injured more often than the people on the island. Are you still not going to tell me the truth?" Luca looked at him as she tried to get an answer out of him.

injured not because of his incapability. It was because the mission that Abel assigned him was extremely

Chapter 1513

Luca clenched her teeth and glared at the man. He was here listening to her conversation with Amur, which was inconvenient for her.

Amur knew she wanted to do what was best for him. She thought they could have each other's back. However, he would be worried if she joined the mission.

"It's alright." He could not say much about it. He could only comfort her with a simple few words.

Luca stood up and looked at him seriously. "How is it alright? You're injured. Be careful next time, do you hear me?"

"Yes. I'll be careful." Amur nodded. It was part of his plan to get injured this time. The mission given to him was to gain someone's trust, so he deliberately took the stab for that person.

However, he did not expect to be stabbed so badly.

"And don't ignore my messages. Haven't you seen how many messages I've sent you? You didn't even reply. Even if you're busy with your mission, don't you have the time to reply to my messages?" Luca pulled a long face as she continued lecturing him.

Eler was still on the Island of Despair, so she was Amur's sister here.

Amur nodded continuously while listening to her reprimands. He told her that he would be careful.

It was not his intention to ignore the messages she sent him. He left his phone here to do the mission, so his phone was not with him.

There was no way Luca could contact him.

Amur felt sorry when he saw her worried about him, but he felt warm at the same time. After she finished lecturing him, he asked, "Did you specially come to B City to look for me?"

to come here a little while ago, but I couldn't leave. You know as well that someone is watching me." Luca shrugged her arms helplessly. Even if she could ask for leave from Mr. Crawford, Abel would never allow her to leave A City

did you..." Amur was worried that she had disobeyed Abel's orders.

worry. I came here on a company trip." Luca knew what he was worried about. She looked at the time. She left at midnight, it was almost three o'clock in the morning now.

have to go back," said

reluctant to let her leave, but it would not be easy for her to explain things if she did not return now. Even though she did not tell him, he knew Luca was keeping an eye

said, "Something happened in A City, and I've texted you everything about it. Read the messages when you're free. Be careful and come back safely, do you

he did not tell her about the mission, she knew that it would take some time for him to complete

the only thing she could do was to advise him to

He knew she was leaving. He stepped forward and said, "I'll walk you."

get some rest. I'll get a taxi to go back. You must make sure your hand fully recovers. Don't risk any after-effects." Luca glanced at his wound. There was not much blood oozing out on the bandage. The bleeding had probably

but insisted on walking her to the

He closed the door after Luca left. The man who was standing aside lit up a cigarette. They had been carrying out the mission together all this time. They were finally getting familiar with each other. He reminded Amur when he saw him like this. “Just a reminder, there’s no emotional attachment on the Island of Despair. You’d better give up as soon as *possible*.”

Amur listened to what he said and shot him a cold glance. Then, he headed back to *the room*.

He was losing too much blood, and he was trying to hang on when Luca was here just now. His body was already in a state of extreme *weakness*.

He lay down on the bed and fell asleep.

...

Luca got into two cars during her journey back to the mountain villa.

It was crowded at night as it was a tourist area, so it was convenient for her to hail a taxi here. After she returned to the mountain villa, she got into the sightseeing car and returned to the hotel.

When she reached the hotel, she accidentally ran into some people working in T Corporation who were coming back from the bar. They saw Luca and greeted her with a smile. “Dr. Craw, did you come here to get some drinks because you couldn’t sleep? The bar is closed.”

“*Then I guess I’ll have to go up.*” Luca did not explain when they misunderstood her reason for being downstairs. She went upstairs **with them**.

The room she was staying in was on a higher floor. After they got out of the elevator, she stood in front, lifted her head, and glanced at the surveillance camera. Then, she stepped out of the elevator as if nothing happened.

She was back in her room but she knew she would not be able to fall asleep. Hence, she took a bath, then adjusted the number of sleeping pills. She swallowed them and lay down on *her bed*.

On the other side.

was still brightly lit. He had not slept until

received a call, and he reported to Luke after hanging up. “Boss, our men in the hotel said Dr. Craw has glanced at the time. It was already four o’clock in the

she had gone out just now, but B City was not his territory. He did not have much manpower here. This time, he did not send someone to

was so smart. No one would be able to track

did not waste his manpower.

Jason replied. He turned around and

sleepy and tired. However, his boss wanted him to work overtime. He had no choice but to

noticed his small gestures. “Go get some

Boss.” Jason trotted out of the room after he was

Chapter 1514

The next day.

It was still early in the morning. Luca was still in bed when the doorbell rang.

She rubbed her eyes. It took her a few seconds to realize that she was in the hotel and someone was knocking on her door.

Luca sat up and quickly got out of bed. She walked to the door and looked through the peephole. It was Tina who was standing outside.

She picked up the cup on the door, then unlocked the door.

Tina smiled and greeted her when the door opened, “Good morning, Dr. Craw.”

“Good morning.” Luca’s eyes were a little itchy. She could not help but rub her eyes.

Tina apologized when she saw Luca bleary-eyed. She looked like she had not woken up. “I’m sorry to have woken you up, Dr. Craw.”

Luca shook her head. “It’s alright. Besides, it’s getting late. I was the one who woke up late. What’s the matter?”

She could not blame Tina for waking her up. After all, she had only slept at four in the morning. She thought that she would take some pills since she had no plans today and she would be able to sleep well.

She only slept until this hour because of the pills.

yes, Mr. Crawford has organized a team-building activity. It's compulsory for everyone in the company to join, so I came to inform you.” Tina remembered why she was here and informed Luca

activity?” Luca frowned. Luke did not seem like someone would do this. Aside from going on guided tours, he should be giving his employees time to enjoy their vacation, right? Why did

feel that this sudden team-building activity had something to do with

then I'll meet you at the swimming pool on the second floor around 10:30.” Tina

can you tell me what kind of team-building activity is it?”

like it’s something to do with swimming. Dr. Craw, remember to put on your swimwear. If you didn't bring it, you can buy it at the shopping mall downstairs. I still have to inform the others. I'll see you at 10:30.” After that, Tina waved her hand and continued to knock on the other executives’ doors to inform

on the sofa after she closed the

Swimming?

did not have any swimwear with her. She had to attend it since it was a compulsory team-building activity. She had no choice, so she took her phone and room key before heading to the mall downstairs.

villa provided everything for their guests. When Luca walked into the clothing department in the mall, she ran into a few employees of T Corporation. They came here to get their swimwear as well after knowing about the team-building activity.

was there too. She waved when she saw Luca coming in. "Dr. Craw, over

Luca came over and saw her carrying a few swimsuits in her hands. She nodded and said, "You came to buy swimwear too?"

"No, I came here with Ms. Lynn. I brought mine when I found out there's a swimming pool and hot springs here," Zoey smiled and replied. She pointed at the woman beside her. Although she called her Ms. Lynn, she did not look **old**.

Luca thought Jenni was probably only one or two years older than Zoey. They were perhaps related since both of them had the same family **name**.

"Hello, Dr. Craw." Ms. Lynn smiled **and greeted**.

"Hello," Luca greeted her indifferently, perfectly maintaining the distance between them.

"**Dr. Craw**, you came to buy swimwear, right? The designs that Zoe is carrying are pretty. Do you want to take a look at them?" Jenni was enthusiastic despite Luca's cold shoulder.

Luca looked at the swimwear that Zoey was carrying in her hands. They were all bikinis. They looked great but they were too skimpy for *her*.

She did not like them...

"*Let me* get something different." Luca did not take a closer look at the swimwear and eliminated them immediately.

Zoey knew what she meant. "Dr. Craw, you have a nice figure. You'll look hot wearing something like this. Are you really not going to try them **on?**"

"I'm not used to wearing these." Luca shook her head and strolled to the other shelves to take a look.

one of the bikinis up. She thought she would look good if she wore this. Then, she glanced at Luca who was choosing her swimwear. She said, "This looks nice too. It'll look great on someone with a nice figure."

that Luca was not interested, so she recommended it to Jenni instead. "Ms. Lynn, do you want to try this black piece? Men won't be able to get their eyes off you with that fair skin of

such a sweet talker. Dr. Craw is still here. Aren't you afraid that she might laugh at me?" Jenni smiled as she shook her head. Even so, she still picked up the black bikini and said to the shop assistant beside, "Do you have a bigger size for this piece?"

Hold on." The shop assistant glanced at it and asked her to wait politely.

widened her eyes and spoke enviously, "Wow, Ms. Lynn, you're in such good

My figure is just ordinary." Jenni shot a glance at Luca. She was indeed picking a conservative-looking swimsuit. Jenni could not help but wonder if there were any flaws on Luca's body, which was why she was choosing something

about this woman and their boss had spread all over. Jenni was wondering if Luca was some divine beauty.

hint of disdain flashed across Jenni's eyes, and she said to herself, "There's not much to her at assistant brought over the size she wanted. After Jenni paid for it, she left with

around for a while. Even the most conservative swimwear the shop had still looked skimpy to

swimwear was a one-piece, but it revealed so much of her back. There was not much cloth on the waistline either. The strips of fabric that were used for aesthetics could not cover her up.

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Chapter 1515

Luca kept yammering. The more Amur listened to her, the more touched he felt. How wonderful would it be cared for by her forever?

She had seen him when he was at the weakest moment in his life. She encouraged him to be brave and grow up. He had also seen her when she was at the lowest point in her life. He had silently kept her company. They had been through so much together but she had never fallen for him.

Was he not good enough?

He was indeed not good enough compared to the one in her heart.

Luca asked again when she did not hear any reply from him, "Amur, are you listening?"

"I'm listening. My wound is fine. I've changed the dressing. Don't worry." Amur snapped back to his senses and replied to her.

Luca was relieved when she heard him.

The doorbell rang. She wondered if it was Tina at the door. She said to Amur, "That's great. Stay safe. I'll talk to you later."

Amur wanted to ask her what she was busy with since she came here for a trip. However, she hung up the phone before he could ask anything.

He was a little disoriented as he listened to the busy tone on the other side of the phone. He felt as if he had lost something.

After Luca hung up the phone, she came to the door and took a glance. Sure enough, it was Tina.

opened the door. Tina said enthusiastically, "Dr. Craw, I came to meet you to head downstairs together. Oh, why haven't you

a moment, I'm going to change now,"

I'll wait for you here." Tina smiled. She liked being with Luca. Luca treated everyone the same with that cold attitude of hers. She needed no flattering or fawning. It was comfortable to hang out with someone her new swimwear out. She went into the bathroom and got changed. Then, she put on her UV-protection wear and buttoned it up.

at herself in the mirror and thought it was a little ugly. Hence, she unbuttoned the two buttons at the top to look more casual but without exposing

out of the bathroom. Tina saw the UV-protection clothing that Luca was wearing. She smiled and said, "Dr. Craw, do you realize we're wearing the same UV-protective clothing? But yours is the midi one, and I'm wearing the

the same," Luca smiled and replied. She kept her phone and room key in a small bag. She closed the door and left

pressed the button in the elevator and looked at how Luca had dressed up. She was wearing something more conservative compared to the

a good figure is meant to be shown to others," said

have a good figure." Luca tucked her hair behind her ears and went into the

realized that Luca was reluctant to show off her figure. She became even fonder of Luca. The swimming competition today was a sudden decision made by Luke. After the employees knew about it, they claimed that they were going to dress up

They always had to wear formal attire to go to the office and were not allowed to dress sexily. Now that they were given a rare opportunity, of course, they would love to show off. Luca was kind of special compared to the *others*.

Both of them got into the elevator and reached the second floor. The moment they walked out of the elevator, they could see a spacious outdoor swimming pool.

Jason was surrounded by a few people. He was jotting down their names on the list. Just then, he saw Luca and Tina heading toward them. He stepped over, smiled, and asked, "Dr. Craw, Tina, I'll let you choose your opponents *yourself*."

“We can choose our opponents?” Tina glanced at the name list. Most of the employees' names were written down on the list.

“Yes, Mr. Crawford came up with this at the last minute. There wasn’t enough time to prepare to draw lots, so we’re letting you guys choose your opponents. There’ll be knockouts in every round. It’s a team-building activity, so this is just for entertainment and relationship-building purposes,” Jason smiled as he explained. He had no idea why his boss suddenly organized an event like this.

However, it was his boss’ orders. He had to carry *it out*.

“Is this a competition?” It took Luca a second to understand what was *going on*.

“Yes. Tina didn’t tell you about it?” Jason looked at Luca, then he turned to look at Tina. Did he not ask her to inform everyone?

“No, I was the one who didn’t understand it clearly.” Luca thought that she would just wear a swimsuit and show up so that she could be considered to have participated in the event. She did not expect Luke to hold a competition too.

Some people were willing to participate in this kind of competition, but a few others were not. Even so, when Luca saw the names on the list, 80 percent of T Corporation’s employees had gathered here.

Why were there so many people willing to participate in the competition?

randomly chose a team, then she handed the pen to Luca. “Dr. Craw, choose a team for yourself. I heard that there’s a prize if we win. The prize must be expensive since our boss is

immediately. Luke had arranged for a prize to make everyone

was normal to have a prize when a competition was held. She did not even bother to look at the names and filled her name in the space under the women’s

continued to ask the other employees to join after both of them had registered.

pulled Luca to the corner of the swimming pool and said, “Dr. Craw, let’s warm up now so that we can swim later.”

did not intend to win the prize. She knew how to swim, but it had been years since she swam... When Tina wanted to do warm-up exercises, she casually did

she would do poorly in the first round of the competition later. Then, she would not have to go into the water

at the others standing next to the pool after she did her warm-up exercises. Some of them could not wait any longer and were already starting

said, "Come to think of it, what a beautiful scene this

chuckled. She did not expect to see this other side of Tina, who was always elegant and smart. Luca looked around and saw the different physiques of the male employees of T Corporation. Some of them were out of shape, but some of them had well-built bodies.

heard her chuckle and noticed what she was laughing at. She asked immediately, "Dr. Craw, did you misunderstand

Chapter 1516

The swimming pool was 50-meter long. Two laps would be a hundred meters.

Luca stood far away and watched them compete with a lack of interest.

"Dr. Craw, it might be boring now. But it's going to get exciting when it comes to the women's team," Tina blinked playfully.

"Oh?" Luca looked at her.

"Most of the employees in the company are young. Look at how sexy and pretty they are. They'll do their best to win the competition," said Tina. To be fair, there would be a champion for the men's and women's teams respectively.

Luca understood what she meant. She was trying to say that the competition between women was always fiercer than men.

Luke only appeared when the competition for the men's team was about to end. He was wearing his sunglasses and was casually dressed. He looked peculiar as everyone surrounding him was in their swimwear.

His appearance heightened the atmosphere at the swimming pool.

The female employee beside Tina could not help but murmur in a soft voice. "Why is Mr. Crawford dressed so casually? I was hoping to see him in his swimwear."

"Yes. Although Mr. Crawford looks good in casual attire, I really wanted to see him in his swim shorts. Mr. Crawford has such a good figure. He probably has eight packs, right?"

Luca lifted her head when she heard them. Tina, who was beside her, reminded her. "Dr. Craw, Mr. Crawford is heading over here."

There was no expression on Luca's face as she watched the man walk over. She did not even say anything.

"Mr. Crawford, you've arrived." Jason tried to let Luke take control of everything.

his head. "I'll leave it

and continued to make arrangements for

around him and found Luca and Tina at the corner. Jason had just sent him a message telling him that she was participating in the

going as he planned. The potion had been added to the swimming pool water. If there was a concealed tattoo on her body, it would reveal itself once she got into the

wearing his sunglasses. No one knew where he was looking, so they could only try their best to strike a beautiful pose to attract

all, Luke's reputation in their hearts was not as good as it was before.

was no longer the man who would keep his distance from women. His scandals were slowly

did not stop the female employees from admiring him. He was Luke Crawford, after all. The bigger womanizer he was, the higher their chances of seducing

now time for the women's team after the competition for the men's team ended. The time had come for everyone to get really excited.

were visual creatures. Some women were open-minded enough to take off their UV-protection clothing. The sun was not out now. However, some of them were still wearing their UV-protection

have to take off their UV-protection jacket for the competition, though.

listened to Jason as he read out the names one by one. She was inexplicably irritated in her

thought Luke was not going to show up, so she had been calm all this

However, the man who was sitting there while wearing his sunglasses was like a king who was watching what was happening around the swimming *pool*.

Luca did not want to get into the water.

She even wanted to hide in the corner if she **could**.

Although she knew how to swim, she had never been a good swimmer. Her swimming posture was not even *proper*.

She would probably dog paddle when the others swam the *freestyle stroke*

Luke had taught her the correct form when swimming the freestyle stroke before. However, she chose to give up after practicing for half an *hour*.

Luke did not force her when she refused to do the freestyle stroke. He let her continue to swim the *dog paddle way*.

Luca looked at Luke, who was a distance away. The competition for the women's team was in full swing, but she could feel that his mind *was elsewhere*.

What was the purpose of Luke organizing this *event*?

It was Tina's turn to swim. She took off her UV-protection jacket and handed it to Luca. "Dr. Craw, can you hold it for me for a *while*?"

"Sure." Luca took it from her and hung the jacket on her arms casually. She could not see where Luke was looking with his sunglasses on, so she might as well not look at him. Her gaze fell on Tina, who was standing beside the pool, getting ready for **the competition**.

She took this time to do some warm-up exercises while *waiting*.

A few people jumped into the swimming pool at the same time after Jason started the competition with a *shout*.

Tina's swimming posture was beautiful. While she was envious of her, Luke came into her

Luke recall something when he saw her swimming

hoping that it would remind him of her, but at the same time, she was hoping it

regularly, so her stamina was better than the others. She won the competition easily.

Luca handed her a new towel.

thanked her and took it from her. Then, she wiped the water droplets that were on her body.

Craw, two more teams and it's your turn, right?" Tina reminded her. She was looking at her when Luca filled her name in, and she memorized it.

smiled awkwardly. "I'm not a good

mean you can't swim?" asked

I know how to swim, but I can't swim well." Luca did not try to hide the fact that she was not a good swimmer. She was hoping that Luke could hear her and spare

nodded. "I see. You don't have to participate if you don't really know how to swim. But it's alright. The point is you're participating. Since you know how to swim, then good luck to you! You don't have to win, just take part and exercise a little. You'll feel great after

Tina was going to help her out of trouble when she listened to her first

did not expect she still had to participate in the competition.

Chapter 1517

Luca stood beside the pool and casually did some stretching.

Jason saw that they were almost done warming up and said, "Ready, set, go!"

The few of them jumped into the water.

Luca was no exception. She did the right posture and jumped right into the water.

Everyone on the team was trying their best to swim as fast as they could to win the prize and leave a good impression in front of Luke.

Luca wanted to relax, but the thought of Luke watching her came across her mind. She pursed her lips and held her breath to keep swimming.

Jason was watching the situation in the swimming pool. Everyone was fiercely competitive except for Luca...

Her swimming posture was way too special. It was indescribable, and she was far behind from the others.

When Luca was swimming forward, she could hear loud cheers and claps at the same time.

Some of them were cheering for her.

However, she was unable to chase after the rest. She felt like she had been swimming for a decade although it was only 50 meters.

Finally, she reached the other end. She was thinking of making a tumble turn with her legs so that she could flip over. However, her leg cramped the moment she exerted her strength.

She realized her leg was cramping. She got nervous and flapped on the water's surface.

above the pool were indifferent as they thought that it was because of her improper swimming posture.

was the only one who noticed something was wrong. "Mr. Doyle, is Dr. Craw drowning?"

up. "It does seem like it..."

moment he finished talking, Luke, who was behind him, quickly ran past him and jumped into the

Jason watched as Luke swam in Luca's direction. Looking at how nervous he was, it seemed like Luca meant a lot to him in his heart.

picked up the sunglasses that had fallen on the floor. Luke swam so quickly that he was already at Luca's side. He lifted his strong arm and carried her from behind. Half of her body was above the water.

not be bothered about the identity of the person rescuing her. The moment her body broke past the water's surface, her throat felt so uncomfortable. She opened her mouth to breathe but ended up coughing.

carried Luca and swam to the side of the

Jason and Tina snapped back to their senses, they ran to the opposite end of the pool. When Luke lifted Luca, both of them worked together to help her out of the pool. Then, Luke got out of the pool

choking on a few mouthfuls of water. Her face was pale white when she got out of the pool. She lay down on the ground, and her leg was

a cramp." Tina noticed that and put down the things that she was holding to massage Luca's leg.

who came to watch surrounded them. Luke pulled a long face and took the UV-protection clothing to cover

he ordered with a cold

The people who wanted to watch the scene backed away when they heard his cold word.

Luca's leg was fine after Tina helped her massage it. However, her face was so pale that it made her worried. She looked at Luke and asked, "Boss, why don't we send Dr. Craw to the hospital?"

They were in the suburban area of B City, which was quite a distance from the city center. It might take a while to send her to *the hospital*...

However, seeing Luca like this ...

Before Luke made the decision, someone shouted, "The doctor is *here*."

The mountain villa had a doctor on 24-hour duty since it was located far away from the hospital.

While they flustered amidst the chaos, the staff in the mountain villa had already informed the doctor to *come here*.

The doctor hurried over and shouted, "Who's the patient?"

"Here!" Jason waved hurriedly. The doctor came over and did a check-up on Luca.

"**How** is she doing?" Luke asked, not bothered about how drenched he was. His clothes were sticking to his body.

"She just choked. There's nothing wrong with her. She'll be fine after taking a day's rest. There's no need to send her to the hospital," the doctor replied after he checked on her.

Luca shot a glance at Luca. She had already closed her eyes and was ignoring everyone who was talking to *her*.

She did not struggle in the water for too long. She was rescued at once, so she should be **fine**.

at her leg. It seemed to be cramping just now," said

did a further check on Luca but everything seemed fine. He then looked around and saw that everyone was in swimwear. He kindly reminded them. "Remember to do some warm-up exercises before swimming. Don't just jump into the

Luca had her eyes closed, she heard the doctor's advice. She was just reluctant

did not know why her leg started cramping all of a sudden, leading to such an awkward

a few of them

was still lying on the ground after the doctor left. Tina glanced at her and wondered if she should look for someone to carry Luca back. The next second, Luke was already carrying her in his

Even though Tina had seen such scenes before, she could not help but cry out in surprise this

did not look back. He left the swimming pool with Luca in his

Jason was surprised to see such a scene, his reaction was much better than Tina's. "Aren't you going

soaking wet, and she would need to change her clothes later. Tina did not get it till just this second. She quickly left the swimming pool as well.

watched their boss leave as she stood by the pool. She could not help but exclaim, "How manly our boss is! Look at how he lifted Dr. Craw so

a burning fire of jealousy in her heart. Luke actually carried Luca in his arms in front

had no idea how Luca got to be so lucky to be able to hook up with Luke

Chapter 1518

Luke thought that Tina's suggestion made sense. He picked Luca up, went to the bathroom, and placed Luca in the bathtub.

"I'll help Dr. Craw clean up, Mr. Crawford. You should step outside for a while," Tina said.

"Mm." Luke shot a glance at Luca. Her arms were propped to the sides of the bathtub so that she did not slide. Her eyes remained closed, but she was conscious.

Luke stepped out of the bathroom.

Tina went inside and closed the door.

"Pardon me," she muttered under her breath before walking over to the bathtub. "Let me help you clean up, Dr. Craw. The water in the pool isn't clean."

Luca did not open her eyes or give any reaction.

Tina treated her silence as acknowledgment. She turned on the taps and started cleaning Luca.

They were both women, so Tina did not feel embarrassed. She deftly cleaned Luca's body while carrying out the task Luke had tasked her.

She had been wondering how she would accomplish the mission. Fortunately for her, Luca's accident at the pool gave her the opportunity.

After bathing Luca, she drained the water from the bathtub, then used the hairdryer to dry Luca's hair.

Tina helped Luca put on a bathrobe after drying her hair. She checked Luca's body again and did not find a tattoo.

When all was done, she opened the bathroom door. Luke was sitting on the couch outside.

Mr. Crawford," Tina said, though she was shocked that her boss cared for Luca so

gesture showed care for Luca, other than the part where he asked Tina to find the tattoo on her

up and went to the bathroom. He picked up Luca, who had already changed into a dry bathrobe, in a

Luca's head leaned onto his chest.

drown was a horrible sensation. She felt that her throat was swollen and sore, though it was pure bliss to lie in

out of the bathroom and placed her on the

felt the soft bed beneath her. Luke pulled his

hoped that she could feel that warmth

Crawford, allow me to take care of Dr. Craw. You should have some other matters to attend to,"

about me. You should join the others at the pool." Luke sat down on the couch and looked toward

Luke wanted to take care of Luca, Tina did not say anything. She knew that she should keep her mouth shut instead of speculating about

and left the room. After she closed the door, she sent a message to Luke: [I've checked, Mr. Crawford. Dr. Craw doesn't have a tattoo on her

After that, she went downstairs.

In the room, Luke received Tina's message. He did not say anything, but he sank into deep thought as he looked at the woman on the bed.

If Luca's body did not bear the tattoo, did it mean she was not from the Island **of Despair**?

'No, not necessarily,' Luke thought for a while and rejected that thought. Even though she did not have any tattoos on her body, her movements were suspicious, and her background was too **perfect**.

It was as though someone behind the scenes was sculpting the *perfect character*...

Luke recalled the scene at the pool. Luca tried her best to swim freestyle, but she could only manage a *crawl*.

That reminded him of Bianca. She was like **that too**...

No matter how hard she practiced swimming, she could not do it *properly*.

Seeing the similarities between Bianca and Luca, Luke could not help but suspect Luca shared some sort of relationship *with Luca*.

Perhaps, they might even be the *same person*...

'That can't be. If Luca is really Bianca, she wouldn't have kept it hidden from me,' Luke **thought**.

He knew that Bianca loved him very much. Even when the rest of the world thought he was dead, Bianca never gave up on *him*.

why he thought Bianca would not hide any truths

at Luca on the bed and thought, 'Just who is she? What does she want from

bed, Luca was not asleep. She felt horrible, so she closed her eyes and pretended she was oblivious to

that Luke did not leave. She also knew that Luke wanted to stay and asked Tina to

did not know the reason for him doing so, but she thought that it was the right choice to pretend to be unconscious. If she opened her eyes, she did not know what Luke might ask

...

returned to the second-floor open-air swimming pool. Several researchers from Luca's department crowded around her to ask her about Luca's

Tina replied, "She's fine, don't worry."

to know. Right, Tina, if you're here, who's taking care of Dr. Crawford?"

opened her mouth but managed to stop herself from saying "Mr. Crawford is." She smiled and said, "Dr. Crawford said that her condition isn't that awful, and she said that she wants to rest for a while. That's why I came downstairs. How's the competition coming

heard what Tina said. He guessed with absolute confidence that Luke was taking care of Luca in

was right for Tina not to say

Chapter 1519

Which was more important - The competition or taking care of Luca? The answer was, of course, the latter. However, if Tina did not worry about Luca's condition, Zoey thought that she should stay out of it as well.

Zoey smiled and cheered for Tina, "All the best, Tina!"

Tina smiled, seeing that Zoey did not insist on going to Luca's room. She said to Jason, "Let's continue, Mr. Doyle. It's almost lunchtime. We can all go and have lunch once the competition ends."

"Alright, all the contestants in the finals, let's get prepared, and we'll start the finals in ten minutes," Jason announced.

Everyone performed their warm-up exercises seriously because they did not want to end up like Luca.

In the end, Tina won first place.

After the competition, they took a shower and went to the restaurant.

Tina walked together with Jason. She asked him softly, "Mr. Doyle, should we pack some lunch for Mr. Crawford and Dr. Craw?"

Jason thought for a bit and shook his head. "If Mr. Crawford didn't give his orders, we shouldn't assume that he wants it. Also, if Mr. Crawford is hungry, he would order lunch from room service."

"You have a point," Tina said.

...

In the room, Luca lay on the bed without sleeping. Her spine was getting stiff, so she shifted slightly.

Even though she tried to make it as inconspicuous as possible, Luke still saw it.

"Are you awake?" Luke's voice sounded slightly hoarse.

that she would blush if Luke were slightly close to her. His voice was so

her cover was blown, she sat up and looked at the man. "Thank you for saving me,

looked at her. His

Luca sat up, she did not realize that the bathrobe had slid down her shoulder. It was hanging loosely from her

hair was scattered over her fair shoulder. His eyes gradually turned bloodshot as he looked at the stark contrast between black and

eyes were not the only body part that was

than Bianca, no other woman had elicited that response

his legs impatiently. He could not stop looking at the scene in front of him, and he could only think of two words to describe the scene -

looked as though he shared an intimate night

averted his gaze and said, "Your

her head and realized that she was exposing too much skin. She must have not paid attention when the belt came

Hastily, she tidied herself.

could see her frantic movements from the corner of his eye. He coughed deliberately, trying to force some moisture into his parched throat. "Do you feel

feel fine. I've been resting for the whole morning." Luca blushed when she remembered that Luke must have seen

It was not her first time that Luke had carried her in a bridal carry, but it was her first time as Luca that he did so. Moreover, she was only wearing so **little**.

Their intimacy was greater than before.

After tidying up her bathrobe, she tried to get out **of bed**.

"Where are you going?" Luke asked while looking at *her*.

"I want to use the toilet..." Luca said while putting on the hotel slippers and walking toward the **bathroom**.

Luca turned his gaze onto her fair and *smooth legs*...

Ever since Bianca was abducted, he had never felt that passion in his heart, not to any other woman around **him**...

He stood up to ease the tension in his lower body. If Luca did not exhibit any complications for the past few hours, he guessed that she was fine. Once she got out of the bathroom, he would *leave*.

Luca dawdled around for a bit in the bathroom. Her cheeks were boiling hot when she thought of Luke's gaze earlier.

She did not want to face him again...

However, that was not up to her **to decide**.

"**Are you** okay?" Luke's voice was heard from outside. He was worried that something might happen to her because she was in the bathroom for too **long**.

"I'm fine," Luca said while splashing cold water onto her face. After seeing the redness go down slightly, she reluctantly opened the door.

was still thinking about how to reply to Luke's questions when Luke said, "Take a good rest. I've asked room service to deliver a meal to you. After eating, you should nap for a little longer. If you feel unwell, you should go and look for the

Thank you, Mr. Crawford," Luca said

obligated to thank him, but only verbally. There was nothing else that she

the grand scheme of things, her character was destined for revenge. It was ironic that she was thanking him

Luca left the room.

sat on the couch, where Luke had sat earlier. He had been sitting there and watching Luca on the

looking at me while I pretended to be

her face blush

was sick, Luke would take care of her around the clock. He would even want to personally pour her a glass

then, he did not sit on the couch, but rather on the bed next

she lay on the bed, he would put his work documents on the bedside cabinet and lean on the headboard

she caught the flu. She was worried that she might infect him with her germs, so she asked him to keep a distance. Every time, he refused to do so and took care of her next to

he was sitting on the couch and watching her from a

into comparison, she felt much lonelier

Chapter 1520

In the afternoon, Tina bought some fruits from the supermarket downstairs and came to Luca's room.

After Luca opened the door, Tina glanced at her and asked, "Is Mr. Crawford still inside?"

"He left quite some time ago," Luca explained hastily in case Tina misunderstood something.

Seeing that Luca was quite nervous, Tina waved her hand and smiled. "Don't worry. I didn't tell anyone what happened earlier this morning. I know Mr. Crawford's character, and I don't think he'd do anything out of line."

Tina walked in, and Luca closed the door.

Tina placed the bag of fruits on the coffee table and said, "I was at the supermarket buying some fruits earlier, and I accidentally bought some extra. Here, have some."

"Thank you." Luca did not refuse. She knew that Tina had specifically bought the fruits for her.

"Right, do you feel better now? I was so afraid earlier. If I had known that you can't swim, I wouldn't have goaded you into competing." Tina felt guilty even though she was not to blame for what happened to Luca.

If Luca had not stepped into the pool, she would not have nearly drowned.

"I don't blame you. I didn't do my warm-up exercises." Luca did not expect her leg would cramp either.

After all, she only wanted to participate and was not interested in winning. That was why she did not make adequate preparations before stepping into the pool.

"I'm glad that you're fine. Right, do you want to go hiking tomorrow?" Tina asked.

frowned. She would rather stay in the hotel. If she wanted to visit some attractions near the hotel, she would rather do

Mount Jadeite near here is a famous attraction. I've heard that the scenery there is breathtaking this time of the year. Do you want to go?"

don't think I'd want to go. I don't like crowded places," Luca said while shaking her head. She would not want to join unless it

it. There won't be that many people this time. I'd love to go there, but the other people find it too tiring, so I haven't found anyone else to go with me. There are cable car stations along the mountain. If you're tired of walking, we can take the cable car to the top. Why don't you come with me, Dr. Craw?" When Tina cleaned Luca earlier in the morning, she noticed that Luca had a good physique resulting from that Luca must love sports and

female colleagues are not fond of tiring activities, and she did not want to invite any male colleagues. That was why Tina wanted to invite Luca; it was better than

think I'll make my decision when I see my condition tomorrow,"

quite tempted by the invitation. However, her leg had just suffered a cramp, and she did not know if it would still be painful by tomorrow

then that Tina remembered Luca had suffered a leg cramp earlier. "Right! I'm so sorry, Dr. Craw. I

my leg is fine by tomorrow, I'll go with you," Luca said. She could not make the promise

leg was still hurting, she would not torture herself by

In any case, she would love to go. She had been under a lot of pressure lately, and viewing some beautiful scenery might ease her mood a little.

"**Don't** worry. You don't have to push yourself if you can't make it. Please rest well, Dr. Craw. Right, I've also bought some ointment for you. I'll put it next to the fruits. You should massage your calf after taking a shower later tonight. You'll feel better," Tina said.

Luca thanked her and wanted to pay her *for it*.

Tina smiled and waved her hand. "It's fine. It didn't cost me **money anyways**."

"**Wha...**" Luca was taken aback. How did Tina buy something from the supermarket without using money?

Tina could see the confusion on Luca's face. She said, "To be exact, it didn't cost me any of my money. If you insist on paying for it, you shouldn't give the money to me. Alright, I won't take up any more of your *time*."

After that, Tina left the room.

Luca looked at the shopping bag on the table. There were some fruits and a tube *of ointment*.

She recognized the brand from the packaging. It was a well-known brand from Japan. Three years ago, when she had first started Brilliant Design, she had overworked herself and, because of her lack of physical training, would usually be sore all over.

She tried to keep it a secret from Luke, but Luke noticed it anyway. Whenever she felt sore, Luke would use that brand of ointment and massage her calves, waist, and *shoulders*...

Of course, there were other activities after **the massage**...

her muscles did not feel any better the next day. In fact, they hurt more

blushed when she thought of that. '... Just what am

just a tube of ointment. Why would I be thinking of

happened earlier seemed to have dredged up some intimate memories from

her head. She uncapped the ointment, squeezed some white cream out of the tube, smeared it over her calf, and gently

still smelled as herbal as before. As she massaged herself, she could not help but recall the times when he

and gentle palm, applying an appropriate amount of

woke up the next day, she pinched her

massaged herself twice the day before because she wanted her leg to heal. She got out of bed, took two steps, and realized that her leg was no

The massage worked.

had always bought high-quality products. Even the ointment that he bought was extremely