

## Be Gentle 1541

### Chapter 1541

There was no expression on Luke's face as he listened to Tia trying to provoke him.

He knew exactly what she was up to. He would never talk to such a woman in the past.

Luke took a sip of coffee and changed the topic of the conversation. "Let me continue explaining my mother's condition."

Tia had already expected he would not say anything. After all, a man like him would never say it out even if he was dissatisfied. She was looking forward to how he was going to deal with Nina.

She deliberately gave him a gentle smile and said, "Sure. Tell me more about your mother's situation, including events of the past. I can only treat her better if I understand more about her."

Luke looked up. He was calm as usual despite the tenderness that she showed to him.

He continued to talk about Allison.

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Luca and Nina left the coffee shop after paying their bill.

Nina was holding Luca's hand, and she asked worriedly, "Luca, how are you feeling? Are you injured?"

"I hurt my waist during the trip." Since Nina already learned about it from Luke, Luca did not intend to hide it anymore.

why are you so careless? How did you hurt it? Why aren't you getting some rest? You're still running around after getting hurt. How dare you!" Nina blocked her. Although Luca did not look like she was feeling uncomfortable, anyone could pretend and

like her. Although she was feeling extremely upset, she had to pretend nothing had happened to her in front of

smiled and said after she listened to Nina babbling with concern, "I'm alright. It's just a minor injury. The doctor gave me ointment and medicine. I'll be

takes a long time for our bones and muscles to heal. No way, let me send you home." Nina could not be bothered about anything else anymore, even giving up the thought of asking Luca to go for a facial treatment. She held Luca's hand and they walked toward the parking

not resist, and she followed Nina submissively while being dragged along by

"Oh, you mentioned that you came back from the trip early. Did you come back together with

it's something related to Mr. Crawford," said Luca. She considered that Allison's condition would be exposed to the public after she got out of jail, so she would not try to hide

was not a gossip person. Even if she was curious, she would only be curious about the people she was familiar

matter? Why did he drag you along, then? Did he not know that you're hurt?" Nina muttered as she recalled him being on a date with Tia in that private room. She was defending Bianca in her heart. "You're helping him to do things while he's

felt uncomfortable when she saw Luke and Tia were together in a private room. However, looking at it from a different perspective, they were probably not on a date

**Luke went** looking for Tia most likely because of Allison.

*The lawyer* had told him about Allison's mental condition. Indeed, she needed a psychologist. Sometimes, treating psychological trauma was much more difficult than treating **physical wounds**.

**"Mr. Crawford** is probably busy." Luca defended him.

*Both of* them entered the parking lot. Nina found her car, opened the car door, and got in. "Forget it. He has nothing to be busy with. Oh, what did he ask you for *help with?*"

Luca told her about Allison's matter.

Nina was surprised. "I didn't expect that she would end up like **that...**"

Luca secretly agreed to what she said. It was true. Allison had always valued her face, but now, half of her face was disfigured.

**"As** humans, we should never do evil things. Look at her, karma is getting her back now," said Nina. She recalled how vain and extravagant Allison was back then. She kept exploiting Luke and shut Bianca out for her own *interests*.

*As a* bystander, she felt disgusted just looking at Allison's face.

Luca let out a sigh and said, "I don't know whether it's karma or not. But I know she can never get her face back."

*Nina* started the car engine and drove in the apartment's direction. "According to what you said, if getting plastic surgery can't help her, what else can she do? Oh, don't put too much effort into Allison's matter. She'll never thank you for helping **her**."

knew she Nina only said that because she was afraid she might end up getting the short end of the stick. She thought that Luca had no idea what kind of person

it had been so many years. Luca knew very well what kind of person

She replied, "Alright. I got it."

dropped her off when they reached the apartment. She said, "You're hurt, so stop messing about. Hurry up and go home to get some

safe." Luca smiled at her, then she turned around and returned to

answered Queenie's call when she was in the

how are you doing these days?" Queenie's voice was still gentle as usual. She sounded more energetic at the same time. Her body had almost recovered after taking the medicine she gave

fine, Aunt Queenie. Are you feeling better already?" Luca listened to her gentle voice and thought of how much she missed

had been taking the medicine she gave to recuperate her body. There were not many changes to the medicine, so she would ask Queenie to just get the medicine at the pharmacy based on her prescription. She did not visit her

her biological mother. If it were not for her current identity, which made it inappropriate for her to visit her, she would have certainly visited her more

## **Chapter 1542**

Although Queenie's matter was urgent, it was not that urgent to the extent that it must be done tonight. When she heard Luca promise to help, she replied immediately, "Alright. Then I'll ask my driver to pick you up tomorrow."

"It's alright. I can go myself. Aunt Queenie, I have something to do. I've got to go." She needed help, so of course, Luca would go to her house. Luca did not want her to go back and forth, so she planned to go by herself.

"Sure, off you go." Queenie was relieved.

After Luca hung up the phone, she pressed the password lock and entered the house. She saw the luggage that had not been packed away. She got down and opened it before bringing out the laptop.

She carried the laptop and curled up on the couch. Then, she opened a software.

It was the hacker software installed by Amur. This made it easy for her to intrude into systems. Luca connected it to the internet and hacked into A City's immigration system.

The reason she did that was to check whether the person Queenie wanted her to help was Leia.

Although Luke had banned Leia from returning to the country, he was too busy to care about this these days. Leia had probably returned to the country.

There was nothing after she did the initial search on the system.

Luca thought Leia dared not to return.

She thought for a while and searched Leia's family name. There were a few names that appeared on the system after a while. She clicked on each of them, and the second one was Leia's details.

She had been staying in New York for a while. She took the opportunity to get a new identity there. This time, she used her new identity to come back here.

That was why Luke did not notice her.

person Queenie told her about was Leia... Luca already knew, so she did not have to wait until tomorrow to confirm

could Leia have? Luca frowned as she could not figure it out, so she decided not to think about into the bedroom and lay down on the bed. She fell asleep as her thoughts ran wild in her

quickly in A City as it was about to be

dark outside when Luca opened her eyes again. She heard the doorbell ringing, then she sat up and glanced at the window. She had been asleep for quite some

doorbell was still ringing. She got out of the bed and trotted quickly to the

through the peephole to check the situation outside. It was Luke who was standing outside

Why was he here?

confused as she pushed the door open. "Mr. Crawford, why are

not intend to step forward. He stood at the door's entrance and handed the bag he was carrying to her. "I bought you dinner. Why did it take so long for you to open the

at the bag he was carrying in his hands. She recognized that it was the packaging of the restaurant near her

took it from him and explained, "I fell asleep just now. Thank you, Mr.

at her slightly messy hair. He suddenly thought of the day she nearly drowned in the mountain villa. He found the air a little dry and hot all of a

*He* kept his hands in his pockets and started breathing to regulate his discomfort. He said, "Don't cook in the next few days. Enjoy your meal. *I'm leaving.*"

"Mr. Crawford, have you eaten?" Luca blurted out her concern for him. She immediately lowered her head with regret after saying **that**.

She should not have expressed her concern...

**Luke was** no fool. He could even read a *woman's mind*.

*He knew* exactly who had a crush on him and who had different thoughts about him in their minds. However, he would choose to ignore most **of them...**

Except Tia...

**Tia's** admiration for him had already reached the extent that she was no longer concealing her feelings for him, but Luke did not ignore her. Instead...

**Luca** recalled the scene of him being together with Tia in the coffee shop. She felt sick in her heart.

It was just that, she had no right to feel sick about **it...**

"**I've eaten.**" Luke shot her a glance. The way she was looking down was like she had just done something shameful.

**He remembered** what had happened during noontime today. He was thinking if he should say something about it. At last, he reminded her, "Don't wander about. You're injured."

**After a** reminder from him, her heart could no longer calm *down*.

"Alright. I got it. Thank you, Mr. Crawford." Luca thought it might be unwise to ask about what had happened today.

let out a sigh of relief as she watched Luke turn around and left. Then, she closed the

the takeaway container and looked at the dishes inside. They were all the ones she had eaten with Luke and Tommy. They were the ones she thought

did not order anything that time. It was Luke who ordered the food, but there were a few good ones among them. Hence, she ate extra mouthfuls of

did not expect Luke to notice that and ordered food for her this time according to

Was it a coincidence?

ate a mouthful of white bread. She wondered if she should tell Luke that Leia had

for a while and decided not to tell him about it. It would be difficult for her to explain if she told

how good Leia was at hiding, Luke would know about it eventually.

ate her dinner after she decided that. She then took the medicine and cleaned herself up. Lastly, she applied the ointment and lay down on the bed. She put her phone down and fell asleep after sending Amur a text message.

The next day.

up early. There were some eggs left in the fridge before she went on the trip. She fried two eggs for breakfast. After having breakfast, she went downstairs, hailed a taxi, and headed to the Norman family's still early when

into Jack, who was ready to go to work when she got out of the car. When he saw Luca, he came over and said, "Dr. Craw, why are you so early? Thank you for coming

## **Chapter 1543**

"Sir, it's time to leave." The Norman family's chauffeur reminded him. He did not mean to interrupt their conversation, but Jack had to attend an important meeting today. He would be late if they did not leave now.

"Alright. I'm leaving for work now." Jack nodded.

Luca smiled. She let out a sigh of relief after watching Jack leave.

As Queenie's body was getting better day by day, Jack's suspicion toward her was getting lesser too. He was more friendly to her now.

Luca felt her heart warm from the kindness he showed her.

She rang Norman Residence's doorbell.

Soon, the maid came running out to open the door for her. "Ms. Craw, you're here."

"Yes, is Mrs. Norman here?" Luca asked.

"Yes, Mrs. Norman and Ms. Norman are here," the maid blurted out without noticing that she had spilled the beans.

"Miss?" Luca walked in and asked intentionally. "Isn't Ms. Norman studying abroad? She's back?"

The one she was talking about was Bianca, whom Luke had told her about.

The maid covered her mouth and realized she had said too much.

Although Luca did not know much about the Norman family, she was Luke's subordinate, so she should not mention that Leia was back. Hence, Queenie had told her not to let Luca know about Leia's identity.

all, Leia had come back from overseas. Leia was a superstar back then, so Luca would know her. However, now that she had spilled the beans, it seemed like it was difficult to cover

the other daughter. Uhm, Ms. Craw, it's my fault for slipping up. Please don't ask anymore." The maid requested. Luca looked gentle and kind. The maid thought that it might be easy to get along with this kind

noded, and after she said yes, they walked past the garden and entered the

up from the couch once she saw her coming in. She came forward enthusiastically. "Luca, you're

Aunt Queenie." Luca looked at Queenie's complexion, and she knew her body was doing much better regulating her body functions with medicine, the toxins in her body

I didn't expect you to be so early. Have you had breakfast?" Queenie said caringly. It was uncertain whether it was because Luca had saved her before or if it was because she found Luca familiar as though she was someone dear to her.

made her unable to resist herself from caring about

eaten. Oh, may I know where that friend of yours is?" Luca looked around and realized there were no other people in the living

still upstairs." Queenie nodded and ordered the maid, "Wake Leia up and ask her to come

hesitated and said, "Mrs. Norman, Ms. Norman is still asleep."

how lazy Leia was. She understood that she could not change that. She used to pamper her so much in the past, but things were

still asleep, then wake her up. We can't let Luca wait for her here, right? Hurry up." She urged. Luca came here to help Leia, but she was still in bed. That was

**The maid** heard her and **went upstairs**.

*Leia* had not learned anything all the years she was abroad. She was grumpy as ever. The maid had already seen how grumpy she could be, especially when someone woke her up.

While the maid went to wake Leia up, Queenie smiled and waved to Luca. "Luca, come over here and sit **with me.**"

Luca nodded and sat beside **Queenie.**

**Queenie** poured her a cup of scented tea. "Try some. I just made *it.*"

Luca picked up the cup. The aromatic scent of the tea filled the air. The scent was not affected by the strong aroma of the tea leaves. It had a pleasant smell.

"It smells nice." Luca took a sip. The tea did not only smell nice but the taste was good *too.*

"*I love* studying scented tea. But other than my elder daughter and I who know how to appreciate it, the others in the family aren't interested in it. Ever since she went to study abroad, I have no one to drink tea with anymore." Queenie sighed.

Luca secretly apologized to Queenie in her heart as she listened to her.

**She believed** that even if the fake Bianca were here, she would not accompany Queenie to drink tea.

*Queenie* was a magnanimous person. She would not remember the bad things, and she would only remember the good things others had done. Otherwise, how could she let Leia come *back here?*

**Leia** washed up and went downstairs unhappily after being woken up by the maid.

felt resentful all of a sudden when she saw Queenie holding Luca's hand

morning, Mom." Leia walked toward her. If squeezing between Luca and Queenie was not a childish act, she would have done

The doctor who's here to treat you is already here. Shame on you for staying in bed. You're not afraid that she might laugh at you, huh?" Queenie was secretly blaming her for being

looked at the woman in front of her. This was

young doctor? She even treated Queenie and ruined her plan? She was the one who almost had her caught by Jack's

Leia instantly disliked her even more.

showed a gentle expression and said, "Mom, it's hard to get rid of the jet lag. That's why I overslept. I'm sorry. Please don't be mad at me. I'll try my best to get over

no longer blamed her when she saw Leia's pale face. She looked like she was about to faint anytime. After all, Queenie could not blame her for the jet

didn't mean to blame you. But it's not good to let Luca wait for too long. Come and sit down," said Queenie, letting it

Luca?

How intimate...

secretly mocking Luca. It was only because she did not have the chance now. She would teach the person who ruined her plans a lesson if she had the chance

She sat on the other couch.

## **Chapter 1544**

Queenie had no idea her words had gotten on Leia's nerves. She smiled and looked at Luca. "Luca, can you take her pulse, then? Leia's been feeling uncomfortable lately. I'm worried."

"Alright." Luca nodded and looked at Leia. She did not ask Leia to reach out to let her check her pulse. Instead, she was observing her to figure out her condition.

"Ms. Norman has sallow skin, and her eyes are swollen. These are caused by staying up late for an extended period of time," said Luca. There was a hint of incisiveness in her words as she pointed out the condition of Leia's body.

Leia touched her face unconsciously. Was Luca prying into her life now?

Why did she sound so certain about that when she had not even checked her pulse?

However, Leia thought for a moment. Staying up late was a common problem for most people now. It was no surprise that Luca would say so.

"Ah? Then what should we do?" Queenie asked hurriedly.

"Staying up late will only lead to various problems in your body. There's nothing to worry about. It's not a big deal if she changes her routine." Luca looked at Leia's slightly cloudy eyes. There was something wrong with her body, and it was not because of staying up late. Even if she slept early, she would not be able to solve the problem either.

"Leia, are you listening? You must sleep earlier next time." Queenie turned to remind Leia. She was listening to every word that Luca said.

"Mom, I don't really stay up late unless I'm busy with my studies... I just can't get over my jet lag now," Leia said as she placed her hand on the coffee table. "Young people nowadays often stay up late. It's not a big deal. Since you're so impressive, then check my pulse to see if there's anything wrong with my body."

her eyebrows when Leia said that in such a provocative tone. Did Leia think that she could not find out what her health

are cloudy. There might be something wrong with the vitreous humor. Please head to the hospital for a check-up if possible." After Luca said that, she slowly placed her fingers on Leia's

Leia looked at Luca, Leia could not help but touch her eyes with her other

eyes were feeling uncomfortable these days. She dared not to wear contact lenses

her to switch to another arm after a minute.



her fingers on her wrist. After a while, she said, "Ms. Norman, I'd advise you to go to the hospital for a medical check-up. Conduct a check-up for your liver and kidneys. The gynecological issues in your body require treatment too."

kidneys? Stop pretending you know everything. I'm fine!" Leia scolded with a cold

was right. She indeed had gynecological issues, and it was a serious disease. The doctor told her if she did not take good care of herself, it would be hard for her to get

about it too. That was why she let her stay and promised to look for someone to treat

Luca did not only find out about her health issues that were already there but she even stated many other new issues.

*Luca* answered firmly while she listened to her doubts. "There's a problem with your liver and kidneys. But it's not serious now, so there are no symptoms yet. I suggest you head to the hospital to get *yourself checked*."

**She did** not mention what kind of issue it was. It seemed like it was already quite serious since she was able to detect it by just checking Leia's pulse.

"How can that be? Leia is still young..." Queenie became worried when she heard **that**.

*Luca* knew what she was thinking about, but a young body did not mean a healthy body. She said firmly, "An unhealthy lifestyle will increase the burden of the body. One won't be able to run away from illnesses just because one is still young. My advice is to go for a full body **check-up**."

"Enough with all these check-ups. You're just saying that only because you don't know what the problems are, right?" Leia refused to believe Luca. She did not feel that uncomfortable, so she refused to believe what **Luca said**.

**Luca** remained silent despite being doubted. She smiled and shook her head.

"*What are you smiling at?*" Leia felt offended when she saw Luca curling up the corners of her **lips**.

**Luca looked** up and said, "Are you having abdominal pain lately? And do you feel like going to the washroom sometimes but you realize that it's nothing after you enter the washroom?"

Leia kept silent.

aren't just because of your uterus issues. You might have uterine fibroid in your uterus. And you probably had an abortion or some other operation before, which is causing blood clots in your uterus. You'd suffer every time you're on your period, and it just gets more terrible each time. I'm sure you've gone to the hospital for a check-up before and the doctor told you that you're having gynecological issues, so you think that all these symptoms are caused by that. Not all of them, though. Ms. Norman, that's all I have to say. It'd be best for you to have a check-up," Luca said patiently. She did not care whether Leia listened to her or not. She had already

these were all Leia's symptoms. She asked worriedly, "Yes, yes. Leia is facing these situations now. What are we supposed to do

check-up first." Queenie was anxious, so she kept asking what they should do. Luca did not lose her patience. Instead, she explained it to Queenie patiently.

"I understand. Luca, about her

going to say something but she

she wanted her to prescribe some medicine to recuperate her body.

probably gave Ms. Norman some Western medicine, right? The effects of Western medicine are good too, but Ms. Norman doesn't only have issues with her uterus. She has some other health issues. I suggest she head to the hospital to do a full body check-up and get the right medicine for her for recuperation and treatment." Luca did not refuse to treat her just because she was

was because Queenie would be crying every day if anything happened to Leia. Queenie would be the one who was

## **Chapter 1545**

The maid widened her eyes and said, "Do you mean Dr. Craw? I only know that she's a research professor in a pharmaceutical company. I'm not sure about anything else..."

Leia pounded on the couch when she listened to the maid's worthless words. "Useless piece of sh\*t."

After Queenie sent Luca off, she paced back to the living room without saying anything. She then ordered the maid, "Go to my bedroom and bring my bag out. Oh yes, and Leia's bag too."

"Mom, where are we going?" Leia saw her in a hurry and was confused.

"To the hospital. I'm bringing you to the hospital for a check-up now," Queenie said. Previously, Leia was pregnant with Brody's child and her body was already in terrible condition then. When she was in New York, she got pregnant with her boyfriend's child. However, they ended up aborting the child.

Her body's condition had deteriorated after undergoing an abortion twice. Queenie did not expect Leia to have liver and kidney problems other than gynecological issues.

She did not know about it back then, but she believed Luca, so she was going to bring Leia for a check-up at the hospital.

"Mom, don't listen to her nonsense. She would have written me a prescription if she's that impressive. I know my body well. You don't have to bring me there." Leia was strongly against going for a check-up at the hospital.

Queenie's eyes turned red when she looked at how disobedient she was. "Leia, I'm going to be angry if you refuse to listen to me."

Leia looked at her kind mother, stepped forward, and held her hand. "Mom, I'm still young. Don't listen to what she said."

first-hand experience with Luca's medical skills, which was why she trusted her so much.

was not someone who would talk

you forgotten what you've promised me?" Queenie had no choice but to

day Leia secretly came back, she knelt in front of the villa for a long time. Jack did not allow her to enter the house. In the end, it was Queenie who convinced him. She made Leia swear that she would listen to Queenie in front of Jack. It was only then she was allowed to enter the

it after she reminded

did not expect Queenie to take it seriously when she had just casually made a promise. Was she going to have to listen to her for the rest of her

Of course, the answer was no.

Leia was left with no choice now. She could only say, "Mom, I'll listen

Go get your ID. I'll make an appointment with the doctor now." Queenie could not be bothered that much. She was being straightforward. After all, her children's health was the most important thing

**However, Leia** did not think so in her heart. Queenie was such a hassle.

...

On the other hand.

Gale was standing beside Luke, reporting to him the progress of his work.

**After** Luke finished listening to him, he said, "We can't stop keeping an eye on her. Luca's brother is still in B City. There's still no news on him. Find someone to investigate what her brother is doing **there.**"

*Gale* replied, "Yes, I'll send someone to find out about this. But Boss, there would be information about him if he's a normal person. His movements and expenses would have left a record. If they're hiding his tracks, he's most likely involved in something illegal..."

*Luke knew* that. "I need you to find out what illegal activities he's involved **in.**"

"I know what to do," *Gale* replied. His boss had never stopped investigating Luca and Tia. For some reason, between these two people, one of them had a perfect background. They even knew what award she had won at different ages. On the contrary, there was a gap in the other person's background information. No matter how they had investigated, they could not seem to find the *missing gap*.

**"And, Boss,** I'd like to report something," said *Gale*.

it?" Luke stood on the balcony and stared at the sky. The security system was the best in this suburban villa. They had even blocked the signals by installing a

alarm would be triggered if there was any foreign equipment used to eavesdrop on their conversation.

has secretly returned. She has US citizenship now and used her family name when she came back here. Our men didn't notice it at first," *Gale* said. It was their mistake, or it could be said that Leia was too cunning.

had not been Rain who checked the data recently and found Leia's ID photo, they probably would have never known about

back?" Luke raised his brows. He did not expect her to have the guts to come made her suffer when she was abroad, so she had always been thinking of a way to escape and come back here. It was out of his expectation that she would use her family name to back. We tracked her down and found out that she's now in the Norman family's residence," Gale replied. After he knew Leia came back, they began to track her down Norman didn't say anything about it?" Luke asked. Jack had agreed to everything he did, but he kept silent looked like Leia had found a way to stay

## **Chapter 1546**

Luke would never call if there was nothing.

Queenie signaled Leia, who was sitting beside her, to be quiet. She told her not to speak. Then, she answered the call. "Luke, what's the matter?"

Leia, who was sitting beside her, was already feeling uneasy. She got even more restless when she heard Luke's name. Why was this man calling at this time?!

Could it be that he had already found out she had sneaked back here...

Leia was listening to the call while comforting herself at the same time. She had found an agency to help her. The agency's people had been forging her traces to show that she was still in New York.

Hence, Luke should not have noticed anything amiss. He was so busy. How could he keep an eye on her?

While Leia was comforting herself, Queenie was worried too.

On the other end of the phone, Luke said, "Mother, Tommy told me he's missing his grandmother. I'm planning to bring the kids over for dinner with you and Father. Is that alright?"

Queenie glanced at Leia when she heard that. "Today?"

"Yes, the kids have a school holiday tomorrow. They can stay a little longer," Luke said. He looked like he was asking for their opinion but he had already decided to head to the Norman family's house.

"Sure. I'll ask the maids to make preparations." Queenie had no reason to reject him.

After the call ended, Leia said unhappily, "Mom, how could you agree? Isn't he going to find out that I'm here if he brings the kids over?"

Queenie's expression was complicated. She had obviously thought about that too. "You only have to hide in your room and not make any noises. Everything will be fine."

kids are annoying. They keep running around. What if they run into my bedroom? You shouldn't have agreed to let him come over," Leia muttered. Previously, she was in love with Luke and thought he was and hatred were all she had for him now.

had not been for Luke and Bianca, she would not have ended up like this

point was, Queenie obviously sided with

can lock your bedroom from inside. Now that they've grown up, they're sweet and nice. They won't find out if you don't come out." Queenie felt uncomfortable after listening to her complaints.

her three grandchildren, her favorite was Lanie. She could not reject Luke when he said he was going to bring the kids over. Queenie was comforting Leia, who was worried, and was sending a message to the maid at the same time. Queenie asked her to head to the market to get some groceries.

Then, she informed Jack about it.

were already old. Although Jack had not officially retired, he was the same as her. They wanted to indulge in family love and

husband and wife would definitely be happy when they heard the kids were coming for

unhappy, but other than that, she felt resentful when she saw how delighted

not say anything

doctor Queenie had made an appointment with quickly made arrangements when they arrived at the hospital. He took a few tubes of Leia's blood and gave her a CT scan. As the blood test result would not be out so soon, he asked them to come again on the following

On the other hand.

Luke received a message from Johann.

*He told* him that Leia had arrived at their hospital and was doing a blood test. Johann was looking at several check-up test reports, and he raised his eyebrows.

*It was* related to liver and kidneys, even gynecological.

**Luca** went to the Norman family's house today. It seemed like it was Queenie who invited her over. Come to think of it, it must be because of Leia's health issues. Queenie only wanted to help *Leia*.

Luke opened his contacts and called Luca.

Luca had just arrived at the apartment at this moment. She hesitated for a few seconds when she saw that it was Luke calling her. She ultimately decided to answer.

*"Hello, Mr. Crawford."* She still sounded careful.

*"Are you free tonight?"* Luke asked right *away*.

Luca was standing in the hallway and opening the shoe cabinet when she heard his question. She paused for a moment when she was about to change her shoes. Was the man who just asked her to get a good rest and not simply wander off now planning to take her **somewhere?**

**"What's** the matter?" She did not answer him right away. She could choose not to answer her boss' questions as it was not working hours **now...**

"I'd like you to accompany me to a place tonight," Luke said. Knowing that she might reject him, he added again, "Lanie will be there too. He told me he misses **you**."

Lanie missed her...

let out a sigh. Her heart always softened when it came to the children.

"Alright." She agreed.

told her the time and she agreed. "I'll come pick you up at five-thirty in

thing Luca heard was the busy tone from the other end of the

was always quick to end the conversation when he was on the phone. She was a little dazzled. She even doubted that the phone call was just an

it were him alone, she could stand her ground and

she realized that she could not reject him if he brought up the children. After all, they were her own flesh

a person had become a mother would she realize that her will and determination were much stronger than she

was like when she realized she was pregnant on the Island of Despair. She was able to stay strong until now only because

put her phone back in her pocket and changed into her slippers. She sat on the couch and stared into space for a while.

at the residence's entrance on time when it was five-thirty in the evening.

## **Chapter 1547**

Luca listened to the kids complaining about how Luke had forgotten his promise and brought her there instead.

She was a little embarrassed. After all, it was not like she traveled with Luke to have fun with him.

"You can still go there. Your whole family can go there during the holidays," said Luca.

Tommy asked, "Can you travel with us when the time comes, Ms. Luca?"

Luca did not expect the child to take the initiative to invite her. She was startled for a moment. She glanced at the kids and said, "Let's talk about this later."

"I want to go with Ms. Luca, and I want to go with Sis too. It'd be much more interesting compared to traveling with Daddy," Tommy said while blinking his eyes.

Luke was given the cold shoulder, but he did not say anything. He continued to drive as if the person his child was embarrassing was not him.

Luca was speechless. She did not expect the kids to embarrass him in front of him.

Rainie said, "Daddy is busy with work every day. He would even bring his documents along with him when we travel. We can only wait for Daddy to finish settling all his documents if we want to travel with him. It's no fun when we have to spend most of the time in the hotel."

"Yes, yes. It'd be great if Ms. Luca can join us and bring us to have fun," Tommy continued.

Luca thought it would be bad to turn the kids down. She could only brush them off. "Perhaps if we get the chance."

Luca, does that mean you agree?" Tommy asked excitedly with his

knew she had not promised them but she could not turn the kids down in front of them either. She could only say, "If there's a

will be. We'll wait till the winter holidays and you can travel with us. I don't want to travel with my workaholic daddy." There was a hint of contempt in

Luca smiled.

who was beside him, reminded him. "Won't you go to calligraphy classes during the winter holidays?"

had been asking to attend hobby classes recently. When Old Master Crawford realized he was not as steady as Lanie, he decided to send him to calligraphy classes during the

Tommy had agreed with it too.

was stunned for a moment after he was reminded about that. He still wanted to travel with Luca, so he said, "I won't be going to calligraphy class every day. I only want to travel with Ms.

smiled when she listened to Tommy acting like a spoiled

at her gentle face and was lost in thought. He always had a familiar feeling whenever she

not say anything. He parked the car in front of the gate of the Norman family's

**Luca noticed** that, and she turned to look at him. "Mr. Crawford, are we..."

"My mother-in-law's health has improved a lot. But I'm still a little worried. I happen to be bringing the kids here for dinner today, so I was thinking of asking you to check her pulse to see if there's any problem," Luke explained. He pushed the car door open and pressed the doorbell of the Norman family's villa.

Luca had just come this morning and Queenie's complexion was fine. There was no problem *at all*.

They watched the maid open the gate to let them drive into the villa. Luca was wondering how she was going to explain why she came together with *Luke*.

*Luke* got back into the car and drove the car in. Then, he parked his car in the parking lot in front of the front yard.

"You can get out now," he said.

*Tommy cheered*, and he was the first to push the door open. He jumped out of the car. Luca could only bite the bullet and get out of the car too.

**The Norman** family's maid could not help but be confused when she saw Luca getting out of the car. She just came this morning, right? Why was she here again, and she even took Luke's car here. "*Ms. Luca?*"

"Hello," Luca greeted her politely.

*The maid* was still confused, but she did not ask anything. She led them into the house.

*Queenie* was delighted when she saw Luke and the kids walking into the house. She was startled for a moment when she saw Luca. Then, she went back to normal immediately. She asked, "Luke, you're here. Luca came too?"

Mr. Crawford is worried about your health, so he brought me here to take your pulse and check on your health condition," Luca said without mentioning what had happened in the

smiled gently. "I feel much better. Save the trouble next time. Stay with us for dinner since to leave after taking her pulse. When she was about to reject her, Luke said, "Take her pulse shook her head. "There's no need to. Don't bother about it. I'm

Daddy is just worried about your health. Let Ms. Luca take your pulse," Rainie said in a her head and sat down. Then, she placed her arm on the coffee down beside her and began to take

pulse was much more stable, and the major health problem was gone. She said, "Aunt Queenie, you're very healthy. But you have low blood pressure, right? Remember to take more supplements to nourish your body. Stop eating food that can decrease your blood

Queenie felt a warmth in her heart while listening to her reminders. "I told you I'm fine. Save the trouble next

looked at Queenie's kind face. Half of Bianca's personality was from her. She was gentle and kind.

had a clear mind compared to Queenie. She would never get soft-hearted with the person who had hurt her, but

## **Chapter 1548**

Even though Leia had locked herself in her room, she might not be able to stay completely silent.

Moreover, Tommy was a curious child. If he realized that something was amiss, he would tell Luke about it.

When Queenie thought about that, she smiled gently to mask the unease in her heart. "The playroom was sterilized earlier this morning, and the smell of disinfectant is still quite strong. I don't think you should go in there. What do you want to play? I'll go and get it for you."

Tommy shook his head when he heard that. "It's okay, Grandma. I'll watch cartoons instead."



"Alright. I'll turn the TV on for you." Queenie breathed a sigh of relief. The child was well-behaved.

Luke looked at her, then at the stairs. He guessed that Leia was hiding upstairs.

Otherwise, Queenie would not stop Tommy from going up.

Luca also knew what was going on, and she did not say anything, including the fact that she had been to the Norman household earlier in the day.

Queenie turned on the television. The three children sat on the couch and bothered no one. She breathed a sigh of relief again, stood up, and said, "I'll go and get some dessert for you."

At the same time, Luke stood up and said, "Mom, I've heard from Dad that he acquired an antique inkwell lately. Is it in the study?"

Queenie stopped walking. The study was upstairs.

"I think so? I've heard him mention it, but I'm not too familiar with antiques. Why don't you wait for him before going upstairs?" She suggested, trying to stall Luke for as long as possible.

"Alright." Luke was not planning on entering Jack's study without his permission anyway. There might be top-secret documents inside.

He did not sit down, which made Queenie worried. She asked, "Luke, do you want to

go to the bathroom?"

Queenie nodded. "Alright."

When she went into the bathroom, Queenie looked at Luca, who was accompanying the children on the couch.

"Luca, can you help me with the fruits in

the kitchen? I need to ask a guest to help out, but Queenie had more pressing things to be concerned

about. She could not tell Luca about Leia's matters in front of the children. That was why she asked her to go to the

kitchen. She knew what Queenie wanted to tell her. She nodded, stood up, and went to the kitchen with

Luca. Luca was cutting the fruits. Queenie did not ask her to go out. After all, the maid knew about the fact that Leia was

helpless. "I need to ask for your help with something," she said. Luca could hear the helplessness in

her voice. "Wherever I can, Mrs. Norman," she said. Even though Leia was not related to Queenie by blood, she had been Queenie's adoptive daughter for more than twenty years, and there was a shared bond between

them. "Do not fault Queenie for trying to help

you. Do not tell Luke about what happened earlier in the day?"

"Did something happen earlier?" Luca asked. Even though she did not agree with what Queenie did, she had to place herself as an outsider with no say in the matter.

**Queenie** was taken aback. When she realized what Luca meant, she smiled and said gratefully, *"Thank you."*

The maid arranged the cut fruits on a plate. Luca took the plate and said, "I'll bring **it outside**."

**Queenie nodded**. She took out the children's favorite cookies from the cabinet, placed them on another plate, and brought the plate outside.

*When* Luke came out of the bathroom, he saw the two women come out of the kitchen together. He guessed that they had talked about something in the kitchen.

Luca thought of leaving after bringing the fruit plate out. However, Queenie and Tommy asked her to stay, so she decided to have dinner with **them**.

**Half an** hour later, Jack came home from work. A warm smile appeared on his stern face when he saw *the children*.

"My dear grandchildren! How are you?" He put the briefcase down and picked up *Tommy*.

"Grandpa! Lanie found an answer to your riddle!" Tommy said excitedly. Earlier, Jack had promised the children that each of them would receive a set of toys if any of them could answer his riddle *correctly*.

*Jack* looked surprised. "Really? Then tell me the answer, Lanie!"

Lanie told him the answer.

**Jack** gestured a thumbs-up at the children. "That's correct! As expected of my grandchildren! I'll bring you all to the mall to buy toys this **weekend**."

the best, Grandpa!" Tommy was the one who cheered

at Luca. Queenie had sent him a message telling him about what happened earlier in the day, so Jack was not too surprised to see Luca there. He nodded at her and greeted her, "Luca, you're here

I was taking Mrs. Norman's pulse earlier. Her pulse is stable, and she is healthy," Luca said. She did not mention what else happened in

Jack did not mention it too.

the conversation. Suddenly, he said, "Dad, I've heard that you've acquired an antique inkwell

you interested in seeing it? It's in my study," Jack said candidly. He realized immediately after that Leia Queenie's heart skipped a beat.

like to take a look. My grandfather's birthday is next month. He's an avid collector of antique inkwells, and I'm interested in getting him one," Luke

Tommy on the floor and glanced at Queenie. Queenie was smiling, but Jack could see the unease in her and take a look. I got it from a collector. If you like it, the collector has better inkwells," Jack said as he brought

that Queenie had informed Leia that there were visitors in the house, so he was not too worried about bringing

Leia made some noise and was discovered, she could not blame other

## **Chapter 1549**

The sky was darkening. Luca looked at the time and saw that it was half-past six.

She could smell the fragrance of the food wafting out of the kitchen. The maid was almost done cooking dinner.

However, the sky...

Tommy noticed that Luca was looking out of the window. He leaned over and asked curiously, "What are you looking at, Ms. Luca?"

"It looks like it's going to rain." The sky was much darker than it should be at that hour. A storm should be coming.

"Oh, it really does look like it's going to rain. I'll go and take the laundry in." Queenie glanced out of the window and immediately stood up.

"Let me help you, Mrs. Norman." Luca also wanted to go upstairs.

On the second floor, Luca glanced at the room to their left. That was Jack's study.

The door was ajar. Luke and Jack were inside talking about something.

Luca tried to tune in to the conversation. The two men were talking about antiques. After that, she went to the balcony to help Queenie take the laundry in.

The clothes on the balcony belonged to Jack, Queenie, and Leia. Luca reminded Queenie, "Mrs. Norman, those clothes..."

Queenie immediately understood. She turned around warily to see if Luke was watching her. Then, she put Leia's clothes at the bottom of the laundry basket, then covered them with her clothes and Jack's clothes.

was becoming stronger, and it scattered Queenie's hair. She looked at Luca and said, "Let's go in, Luca. It looks like there'll be a storm

at the sky. The clouds were low. If it started raining, no one knew when it would

went inside, Luke and Jack happened to step out of

happened to your hair?" Jack asked when he saw that the two women's hair

a gale on the balcony. It's going to rain soon," Queenie explained as she shut the door to the balcony. When she looked at the two men, she became nervous again and clutched the clothes basket tightly. "I was taking the laundry in earlier. I'll go and put it in the room. You should go downstairs. Dinner will be ready

slightly louder so that Leia could

noded and said to Luke, "Let's go downstairs,

Luke replied and nodded. He looked at Luca and noticed that her hair was messy too. "Let's go

noded and went downstairs with the two

stood at the top of the staircase. After the other three people went downstairs, she quickly went into her bedroom, took out her phone, and sent another message to Leia, telling her not to make

was lying on her bed. After she read the message, she rolled

doing nothing except for lying on the bed since earlier. Why is Mom so long-winded? Is she afraid that Luke might discover me, or is she worried that Luke will blame

**The caretaker** served dinner and summoned everyone to the dining table.

The long table was crowded, and the atmosphere was jovial.

*To commemorate* the occasion, Jack opened a bottle of red wine. He poured the wine into a glass while asking, "Luke, are you planning a grand celebration for Old Master Crawford's birthday?"

"Yes, it will be grand. We've already booked a ballroom at the hotel," Luke said. The people in the Crawford family placed a lot of importance on Old Master Crawford's *birthday*.

Luke and Louis had insisted on holding a grand celebration for their grandfather despite Old Master Crawford telling them not to. After all, it concerned the image of the Crawford **family**.

"I see. That should be the case. Right, will Bea be attending?" Jack asked. Compared to Leia, he favored *Bianca more*.

Luca's hand froze for a split second when she heard that question, but she soon regained *her composure*.

Bianca was definitely not coming back. However, it would be very strange if she did not attend her grandfather-in-law's birthday **celebration**.

**How was** Luke going to explain it?

"Bea is busy attending college overseas. She might not be able to come back," Luke said.

"That's too bad. I was hoping to meet her on that day. Why did she enroll in a college all of a sudden? She abandoned her husband and children at home just like that. I wonder if she's okay by herself," Queenie *said wistfully*.

*She had* not talked to Bianca for a long time. Even though Bianca had always replied to her messages, she would not do so on time, as though she were very busy with something *else*.

is achieving her dreams, and I support her," Luke

right, Grandma. It's a good thing that Mommy is studying what she wants. My teacher said that it's good to pursue one's pash... fashion?" Tommy interjected, but he forgot what his

"You mean, 'passion'," Lanie corrected him.

right. I think Mommy is a good role model to us," Tommy nodded and said before stuffing his mouth with

smiled gently. "That's right, but she shouldn't forget about her family. I wish I could've educated her better,

it. As long as Bea is with me, I'll let her do whatever she wants," Luke said and took a sip of warm water. He did not drink alcohol because he was going to drive

hand shuddered. Luke had told her the same thing before, but there was a caveat to

would allow Bianca to do whatever she wanted, as long as she did not leave

not help but feel emotional when she thought of that. She tried to compose herself while she

can you pick a pork chop for me?" Tommy tugged

came to her senses and filled Tommy's plate with a pork

glanced briefly at her, then looked

## **Chapter 1550**

The maid would stay the night in the Norman residence when it was inconvenient to go home.

Queenie looked at the rain outside the window and said, "It's not very convenient for you to go home. You should stay."

"Yes. The weather service has also issued a yellow alert earlier," the maid said.

"It's that serious?" Queenie did not expect that. She looked at Luke and said, "You shouldn't leave just yet, Luke. It's not safe to drive home when it's raining so heavily."

"Alright," Luke said. He did not expect that Queenie would ask him to stay.

The rain was not going to stop any time soon. How long would Leia be able to hide? He knew that she was not a patient person...

After dessert, Luca sat on the couch and watched the news. The yellow alert had been escalated to an orange alert. She looked out of the window and saw that the rain did not lessen.

The storm was much more severe than any summer storm.

"It's orange now," Queenie said. She was also watching the news.

Jack stood next to Queenie and said, "It's been dry for so long. It's normal to rain."

Queenie was worried about something else. Luke and his children were there. There was Luca too...

She was worried that the storm would last through the night, and they would have to stay over.

residence was a small-sized mansion, and there were not many guest rooms. Ever since Bianca reunited with the Normans, they had converted the guest room into Bianca's

Leia were not around, there would be enough rooms for Luke and his children as well as Luca. Now that Leia was in her room, there was only one spare room left in

and the children could stay in Bianca's room, but what about

not voice out her worries. By ten o'clock, Tommy was already yawning. "I'm sleepy, Daddy,"

out of the window. The rain was as heavy as

was not impossible to drive home, but it was not very

a call from Old Master Crawford. "Yes, Grandfather?"

still at the Norman residence?" Old Master

The rain is too heavy. It's not safe to drive." Luke glanced at Queenie and Jack. One of them was calm, while the other was visibly worried. Perhaps she was worried that Leia was getting

the children to visit their grandparents. At the same time, he wanted to give Leia

did not expect to be caught in a

"**Griffin** said that it's an orange-level storm. You shouldn't drive home. Why don't you stay the night over there?" Old Master *Crawford said*.

"**I'll see** how it goes." Luke did not immediately agree to it, but he could tell that it was most likely **the case**.

They needed two rooms, and the entire Norman residence only had one spare room.

He looked at Luca.

"You don't have to see how it goes. The storm is no joking matter. That settles it," Old Master Crawford said and ended *the call*.

*Jack said*, "What did Old Master Crawford **say?**"

"He said that it's not safe to drive home with the children tonight, and he's telling me to stay over," Luke *said*.

*Jack* looked out of the window and agreed. "The sky is already dark, and the storm is so heavy. It's not safe to drive. There are still clothes for you and the children in **Bea's room**."

**Queenie had** prepared clothes for the children in Bianca's room in case they wanted to stay over. Naturally, there were some of Luke's clothes in the closet too.

It would not be a problem if they wanted to stay over.

"But we don't have enough room..." Queenie whispered and bumped Jack's arm with her elbow.

**It** was then Jack realized that there was only one spare room in the entire house...

He looked at Luke.

asked, "Can't Dr. Craw stay in

quickly and replied, "That room was recently renovated. The smell of paint is still quite strong, so it won't be comfortable to stay

knew that Jack was lying. He continued asking, "Huh? Why did you suddenly renovate Leia's room? Is she coming

of course not. Why would she be coming back? She's enjoying herself overseas. Queenie and I noticed that the wallpaper was peeling, so we got a handyman to replace the wallpaper with a fresh coat of paint," Jack

added, "That's right. Leia's room is the only room in the house with wallpaper. It hasn't been occupied for three years, and I thought it smelled moldy. That's why we've

Luke nodded.

there, feeling embarrassed that her parents had to lie

were usually honest people. It must be hard for them to keep a straight face

we do?" Queenie said worriedly. There were no hotels near the residential area. Of course, Luca could not stay in the same room with Luke and the

Leia was still in the house. They could not ask Luke to sleep in the