

Be Gentle 1651

Chapter 1651

Nina rolled her eyes and did not take his words to heart. She glanced at her assistant, who was still standing by the side with a dumbfounded expression. "Why are you still standing here? If he doesn't want to leave, please call for security."

"Ah, yes." The assistant heard her and immediately left the reception room. She intended to call the security guards over.

Pierre snorted coldly and said, "You don't know what's good for you. Do you think Luke is loyal to Bianca? His mind is all filled with Luca now. Oh yes, Bianca hasn't appeared in public for a long time. Do you think that Luke did something to Bianca to be with Luca?"

Nina sneered and replied, "Mr. Mallory, you shouldn't have started a company; you should've become a novelist instead. Since you have such a great imagination, your work will sell well. If you plan to quit your company, you can consider changing careers."

Pierre thought that Nina did know chalk from cheese. He was pissed and said sternly, "Nina, this is a gentle reminder. If something happens in the future, don't blame me for not giving you a heads up that your best friend's husband is being snatched by some random woman."

He left after he finished his sentence.

Nina watched as Pierre left the company swaggeringly. She leaned against the wall weakly.

His aura was powerful and terrifying. Dealing with him was more difficult than dealing with prurient clients.

She felt that this conversation had exhausted all her strength.

However, Pierre's words made her uneasy.

Although she and Bianca had grown apart after she lost her memory, Bianca would still occasionally reply to Nina when she was in a good mood. Back then, Bianca made frequent public appearances.

However, she had not heard from nor seen Bianca for a long time.

the world that she's studying abroad, but is

...

T Corporation.

walked into Luke's office and reported to him, "Boss, Pierre went to Brilliant Architectural Design LLC. He wanted to work with Brilliant Architectural Design LLC but Ms. Langdon turned

was within his expectation that Nina would refuse to work with Pierre but Luke was surprised that Pierre would want to work with the firm in the

trying to get close to Nina through a corporate partnership? It's not impossible. After all, he seems to be very interested

Luke asked. He had a vague feeling that there should be

to report, "At the same time, Pierre also questioned Ms. Langdon about whether Mrs. Crawford is still around considering she has not appeared in public for so long. His words are hinting that you've done something unpleasant to Mrs.

coldly, his expression gloomy. "He's trying to drive a wedge between me

He also knew that Pierre wanted to get close to Nina but he did not expect that he would hurt Luke to get to

How interesting...

Luke replied, "Got it."

Jason finished his report, then turned around and *left*.

Luke took out another phone and opened Facebook. The phone was logged into the account that Bianca was using before.

He looked at the texts sent by Nina and then made a call. "After two days, send a voice message to Nina using Bianca's voice. Wait, no, just call her straight and tell her that you're living a good life *abroad*."

"*Okay*," the man on the other end of the *call* *replied*.

'*Pierre* is going after Percy's women and is even trying to cause conflict by **involving me?**'

Luke looked vexed and called Percy to let **him know**.

At night.

Nina walked into Luca's ward with the soup she made. She was relieved to see that Luke was not in the ward.

She came at a later time on purpose. She wanted to see if Luke would come to Luca's ward after he got off **work**.

She breathed a sigh of relief when she saw that Luke was not *there*.

In the past when Bianca was injured, Luke would put work aside and watch over her day and night. Even if there was work that had to be dealt with, he would get back to Bianca as soon as he finished *the task*.

more at ease that Luke was not doing the same for

you here?" Luca was a little surprised when she saw

the thermos and said, "I made some soup for

you, but you should keep the soup for your mom," Luca said. When Johann came for his rounds, she asked about

the operation was performed, Anna's postoperative condition was not the best. It was mainly because of

passed all of them some soup before I came here. This soup is nourishing. I'll pour you a bowl?" Nina said with a smile. She was in a

was because when she brought the soup to Anna, Anna did not bring up those same topics like she usually did. She even treated Nina

not sure why Anna had undergone such a change but thought that it was for

"Okay," Luca nodded.

poured her a bowl of soup and handed

took the spoon, slowly took a sip, and praised, "It's

glad that you like it. I don't usually cook. If my mother wasn't sick, I wouldn't have learned how to make this soup either." Nina sighed and looked at her face carefully. "The swelling has gone down. That's wonderful! Did the doctor say when you can be discharged from

Chapter 1652

Nina sat in the chair and chatted with her. "Nothing good happens whenever he's around. He said he wanted to work with Brilliant Architectural Design LLC."

"Work with your company?" Luca frowned slightly and accidentally tugged on the wound. She raised her hand to touch it subconsciously and moaned in pain.

Nina panicked, asking, "What's wrong? Does the wound hurt?"

Luca shifted her attention from the pain and shook her head. "It's okay. It doesn't hurt."

Nina saw that Luca's bandage was still snow-white and there was no blood oozing out. She said, "You must be careful. Restrain your expressions before the wound heals, or it might leave a scar."

Luca felt a surge of warmth from her nagging. She continued the topic that they were on just now. "Why did he propose a partnership?"

"He said that his company has just been established and the capabilities of his design department are still lacking, so he wants to hire an agency. I think he's deliberately picking a fight. Why would he want to engage with Brilliant Architectural Design LLC? The company was set up by Mr. Crawford's wife. She's not actively involved now and everything is managed by Mr. Crawford. Don't you think that Pierre is making a scene so that his presence is felt?" Nina replied. She was filled with disgust whenever she talked about Pierre.

She thought of what Pierre had done. He was just a socialite who liked to play tricks but did not have many capabilities.

After this incident, all of his cards were revealed. Luca did not know if Luke and Percy knew about it earlier on, but when she found out, she was quite shocked.

She would be lying if she said that she was not the least bit terrified.

She held Nina's hand and warned her. "Pierre can't be taken lightly. You have to protect yourself, promise?"

Nina listened to her words and nodded in response. "I will, and you too..."

chatted for a while longer before Nina

to her for quite some time and felt a little thirsty. She wanted to pour herself a glass of water. May immediately stepped forward when she saw this. "Ms. Craw, let me

as May poured water for her. She thought of how May had been taking care of her and how she was not afraid of Pierre when he was around. Luca suspected that she was not an ordinary

you're not a nurse in this hospital, are you?" She posed it as a question, but her tone seemed like she

was stunned as she put down the water bottle. When she handed the cup of water to Luca, she had calmed down. She said with a smile, "Ms. Craw, if I'm not a nurse, why would Mr. Crawford have me take care

Mr. Crawford's subordinate, so he sent you to take care of me." Luca took the cup of water, put a straw in it, and

indeed his subordinate. After all, it was Mr. Crawford who hired me." May opted to be a little

her say that, Luca was even more certain that May was Luke's

not matter if she did not admit it. After all, she already knew

was a little nervous when Luca did not respond. She was not sure what went wrong. 'Why is she suspecting me out of the

it was almost time, May picked up the medicines on the table and asked, "Ms. Craw, do you want to take your

at the time. When she was in the hospital, time felt like it passed slowly. All she did was eat and sleep. Even though she could get out of bed and walk around, she had nowhere to

The clothing she had on made it even more **inconvenient**.

Luca thought that it was not a bad idea for her to take her medicine now and rest earlier.

After Luca nodded, May divided the medicines. After Luca took them, she lay down on the bed.

Just then, her phone vibrated. She picked it up and saw that it was a text from Jason.

He was checking in to see how she was *doing*.

Luca lay down and briefly updated him about her situation.

After a while, Jason sent a text asking her for help. He had a document in Russian that he could not translate, so he asked her if she had the time to **help**.

Luca thought that Jason would not go to her to ask for help if he had other **options**.

She agreed immediately and asked Jason to send the digital version of the document to her. Luca promised to help him translate it as soon as **possible**.

Jason was relieved to learn that she was willing to help him. He told her that he would send the laptop and documents *over later*.

Luca looked at the text and quickly **replied. [Okay.]**

minutes later, Jason arrived at

looked at the man with a laptop in one hand and a document in the other. She asked, "Mr. Doyle, were you at the hospital's entrance before

documents in Jason's hands were urgent. If the documents were handed to others to be translated, the information might be leaked. Since Luke trusted Luca, Jason believed that it should not be a problem if he handed the documents to her

did not want to disturb her rest but had no other

was a little embarrassed. He smiled and put down the things in his hands. "Yes. I had no choice. I don't feel secure handing these documents to outsiders to

Luca nodded, took the documents in his hand, glanced at them, and said, "There's not much that needs to be translated. You can head home to accompany Sue and the kids. Just drop by tomorrow to collect the

you for the trouble, Dr. Craw." Jason felt at ease now that Luca had agreed to

left, May said, "Ms. Craw, you're still recovering from your injuries. Why did you agree to the

knew that May was just concerned about her health, so she explained, "He wouldn't have asked me for help if he had other

turned on the laptop and opened the documents. May knew that it was not her place to

picked up the documents and glanced at them. She then said to May, "It may take a while for me to do this. You can go to bed first. I'll turn on the light by the bedside. It'll be bright enough for me

enough. Doing that will hurt your eyes. Let's leave the lights in the ward on. It won't affect me anyway," May said as she set up the escort

Chapter 1653

After half an hour, the door of the ward was pushed open.

Although Luca had fallen asleep, she still woke up vigilantly when she heard the sound of the door opening.

She opened her eyes and saw Luke standing at the head of the bed.

"Mr. Crawford..." Luca's voice was blurry and confused. She wondered why Luke was there at this hour.

Luke looked at the notebook she put on the bedside table. The folder next to it had T Corporation's logo on it. He picked it up to have a look. "What's this?"

"Document to be translated," Luca answered honestly. She looked at the man and kept wondering why he was there.

Even if he had not slept, he should be busy working in Crawford Manor.

Crawford Manor was a long way from the hospital.

Luke glanced at the content and knew that this was the task he gave Jason.

The company's Russian translator was still on vacation, so Jason was the only one who could take on the task. After all, he had some basic skills. Luke did not expect that he would pass the work to Luca.

Luke was silent as he held onto the document. Luca watched him and sat up.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

As soon as Luke arrived, Luca could not fall back asleep even if she was sleepy. She explained, "I'll get up and translate it..."

Luke's gaze deepened. He looked at her and said in a commanding tone, "Lie down."

Luca leaned back halfway. She was not sure whether to move up or down. She felt
picked up the remaining documents and laptop. He said, "You don't have to do this. Go back
silent when she saw that he seemed to want to take over the

Russian was much better than hers, so it would not take him much time to translate these pages. However, since the usual translator was on vacation, he entrusted the matter to his subordinates instead of doing it

that he had a lot of work at hand and could not spare any time to handle this

documents in his hands, Luke sat on the sofa and opened the laptop. He noticed that Luca did not turn it off and the translated text happened to be

He continued to work on it.

saw him sitting on the sofa working without saying a word. She slowly

was some distance between the sofa and the bed but she could see Luke clearly. Luke was doing his work attentively, and she could not take her eyes off

did not look up but he knew that Luca was looking at him. His slender fingers were tapping on the keyboard as he said, "Go to

his voice graced her ears, Luca closed her

medicine kicked in and she felt sleepy again. However, she could not fall asleep while the man was still in

thought to herself that even if she closed her eyes, she would not be able to sleep until

However, the sound of Luke tapping on the keyboard was like a series of rhythmic notes. She listened to it and slowly fell *asleep*.

When he heard Luca's even breathing, Luke stopped typing on the keyboard and stood up while holding **the laptop**.

At that time, May had woken up long ago and saw Luke walking toward the door of the ward. She was not sure why, so she followed after him to take a look.

Luke sat on the bench by the door of the ward and continued to type on the keyboard.

May watched and suddenly realized that Luke was worried that the sound of typing would disturb Luca, so he went to **work outside**.

She glanced at Luca who was asleep and slowly closed the door. She switched off the lights in the ward. She left a small night light at the door, then walked back to the bed and **lay down**.

An hour later, Luke had all the documents translated. He knew that Luca was a light sleeper, so he made sure to walk lightly.

May sat up.

Luke put his index finger to his mouth to motion her not to speak. He did not want anyone to disturb the woman resting on the bed.

May nodded.

Luke put the documents and laptop by the bedside table. He then stood there and looked at *Luca*.

In any case, he would find out about the forces that were controlling her.

He swore that he would get all those who had *hurt her*.

stood there and stared at Luca for three minutes before he turned around

to the ward was closed again. Luca opened her eyes and looked at the dimly lit ceiling. She knew exactly when Luke

did not open her eyes because she did not know how to face

silent night, all emotions were hard to hide, including her love

her head and looked at the laptop and documents on the bedside table. He spent an hour translating all the documents so she would not have to stay up

not lie to herself any longer. She knew that Luke was doing all this because he was interested in

The next day.

arrived at the hospital early in the morning when Luca was having breakfast in her

good morning." Jason greeted her and rubbed his hands together when he saw the laptop and folder on the

put down her utensils and said, "Good morning, Mr. Doyle. The documents have

was overjoyed. "Really? Thank you,

thing I want you to be aware of, though." Luca hesitated for a while and decided to inform Jason about Luke's arrival yesterday as well as his involvement in translating the

picked up the laptop and documents. He could not stop smiling. He initially thought that Luca's physical condition might not allow her to complete this

Chapter 1654

After Jason left, Luca continued to eat breakfast.

Before she was done eating, Johann walked in and said, "Dr. Craw, we found no issues during the physical examination you did yesterday. If you want, you can leave the hospital today."

Luca wanted to be discharged from the hospital from the moment she was admitted. When she heard that she could leave, she was overjoyed. "I want to be discharged."

"Okay, no problem. The nurse will change the bandage for you later. After you go through the discharge procedures, you can go back," Johann said. The blood loss from her forehead wound was a little more serious. Except for the skin injury, there was no problem with any other part of her body.

If her hemoglobin index was not abnormal, he would not have kept her in the hospital until now.

"Okay, thank you." Luca was in a much better mood after she found out she could be discharged from the hospital. She was not a fan of hospitals. If Johann had not forcibly kept her in the hospital, she would have gone back home since her injury was not serious.

"You're welcome." Johann smiled brightly and left the ward.

May was sincerely happy for Luca when she heard that she could be discharged from the hospital. She started packing and asked, "Ms. Craw, do you want to inform Mr. Crawford?"

'Notify Luke?'

Luca did not think to inform him. She shook her head and said, "Let's not waste Mr. Crawford's time on such a small matter. I'll appreciate it if you can help me later."

It was not that big of a deal to be discharged from the hospital, but May thought that the relationship between the two was a little complicated. If Luca was discharged from the hospital without notifying Luke, it would not be good.

She was sent by Luke to protect and take care of Luca.

her reluctance, May nodded and said, "Okay, Ms. Craw. I'll help you pack up

not have many things on her when she was hospitalized. However, in the past few days, many sent over nutritional supplements for her. Hence, there were a lot of things

Take a look and see if there's anything you need. You can take whatever. I'll pay your nursing salary later," Luca

said, "You don't need to pay for my fees. Mr. Crawford hired me, so he'll settle the

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walked in and had some documents with her. "This is the discharge certificate issued by the doctor. Just take this slip and you may head over to pay your

you." Luca took the documents and was about to pay the bills. Just then, the nurse said, "May can help you settle the bill. I'll change your bandage for

Luca had no choice but to hand over the bank card and slip to May. "Sorry for

is what I should do." May took the documents and walked out of the ward to the payment office. She picked up her phone and told Luke that Luca was going to be discharged from the hospital

sat on the bed and watched as the nurse prepared to change

nurse said, "You'd better lie down. It'll be troublesome if the medicine flows into your

"Okay." Luca lay down.

The nurse undid her gauze, saw that some scabs were about to fall off, and exclaimed, "You're healing so fast! We don't need to clean the wound."

"Is that so?" Luca felt the gentle movements of the nurse, and the cooling medicine penetrated her skin.

"Yeah, why did Dr. Park ask us to clean your wound? The scab will be gone in two days." The nurse was still surprised. This was the first time she had seen a wound that healed so **quickly.**

"Maybe he wasn't sure either," Luca said. Since the second day, Johann had not checked her wound. The nurse arranged by the Island of Despair was the one who managed her bandages.

"That could be true. Dr. Park only has two hands. It's weird that the nurse who changed your dressing didn't say anything about your wound healing so quickly," the nurse said while she applied **the medicine.**

Luca also thought of the nurse. The nurse had been responsible for changing her dressing in the last few days. She was the nurse who appeared in front of her the most.

"I don't know," Luca said. She felt it when the nurse held the gauze over the wound on *her forehead.*

"We're done." The nurse secured the gauze with tape and said, "Your wound is almost healed, so I didn't wrap it with too much gauze. The wound needs some room to breathe. It'll feel more comfortable as well."

"Thank you," Luca sat up. She felt lighter without the layers of gauze around her *forehead.*

The nurse from the Island of Despair had wrapped lots of layers around the wound on her forehead, so she felt stuffy all the *time.*

doctor prescribed some blood-replenishing medicine for you. It wasn't delivered yet just now but I think the pharmacy would've delivered it by now. After May returns from paying the bill, you can take the bill and go to the nurse's station to get the medicine. You're free to leave after that." After she finished speaking, the nurse packed up and turned around

at her leaving and glanced at the ward

was several times better than ordinary wards. The environment was good, and the smell of disinfectant was not as heavy as in other

she hoped that she would never have to come to the hospital

at everything that May had packed. She would have to take two or three bags

at the pile of supplements and had a headache. Although she had told Nina not to send them over, Nina and Sue still sent her a lot

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a while, the door of the ward was pushed open. Luca thought that May was back but when she stood up to leave, she heard

"You're getting discharged today?"

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Crawford, why are you here?" She looked at the man at the door. He wore a well-cut suit that made him appear tall and slender. He was a natural model who looked good in

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Chapter 1655

'Responsible for me?'

Luca was frightened by his words. She was thankful that she was not drinking water at that moment. Otherwise, she would have choked.

"Mr. Crawford, although this incident was deliberate and not an accident, I'm sure you didn't want it to happen either. You don't have to blame yourself, and you don't have to be responsible for me. I don't blame you." She immediately made her stance clear. She did not blame him for anything.

Luke stared at her as she explained herself.

She was Bianca. Although she did not want to admit it, she was making sure to keep a distance from him all the time.

'What does this mean... Does she think of me like a snake or scorpion?'

Luke felt upset that the woman who used to be close to him suddenly became like this. Even so, he put up with it when he thought of the bigger picture.

"I know you don't blame me. Let's just pack up and go," Luke said.

Luca shook her head.

"You don't want to go?" Luke misunderstood her.

She did not want to come to the hospital in the first place. She wanted to leave more than anything. Luca explained, "I have to wait for May to come back because I have to collect some medicine at the nurse's station. She has to take the payment slip to get the medicine."

Luke nodded to indicate that he understood. He then walked over to the sofa and sat down.

He seemed like he was insistent on sending her home.

Luca sat on the bed and played with her phone while waiting for May to come back.

After a while, May returned upstairs with the bank card and receipt. "Ms. Craw, payment has been settled. Here's the receipt. Please check it."

at the cost and was not bothered. She did not have medical insurance in A City and had to pay for all her expenses herself. Fortunately, she had worked for several months, so she had

is it?" Luke asked. He knew that she was not short of money. He just wanted to

expensive." Luca knew why he asked, but she did not want to owe Luke

she did not plan to tell him, he did not press on

if she did not tell him, Johann would be able to find out. He would just have Jason transfer the money into her

wanted to accept it or not, it was not up to her to decide. At least, it was the case with

go get the medicine," Luca said as she walked out with

said, "Mr. Crawford, the cost of Ms. Craw's hospitalization

don't need to tell me that. Pack up and put her things in my car." Luke looked at the bags, his expression

May got busy and picked up the bags she had

the medicine prescribed by Johann at the nurse's station and looked at the list of medicines. Most of them were supplements that focused on blood health while the rest were medicines for cleaning

put the medicine in her backpack, ready to return to

noticed that she was not headed toward the elevator. He asked, "Where are you

explained, "I'm going back to the ward to

"**May** has already helped you move that pile of things to my car. Let's go, I'll take you home," Luke said coolly with his hands in *his pockets*.

Hearing this, Luca had no choice but to follow *him*.

The two walked into the elevator one after the other. The VIP ward was on the top floor of the hospital. Generally speaking, there would not be many people in the elevator once it reached the top **floor**.

Luca stepped into the elevator and tried to stay as far away from Luke as possible.

To her, Luke was like drugged honey that made others greedy for his charm. At the same time, he also made people lose themselves.

Therefore, it was best to keep a safe distance from him.

Luca looked at the numbers on the elevator that kept going down.

The lower the floor, the more people came into *the elevator*.

In the beginning, there were only a few people in the elevator. However, considering it was a large elevator, it was not too **bad**.

Even with more people getting inside, Luca was still able to keep a safe distance from Luke.

The further down the elevator went, the more people came in.

Luca stepped back to make room for the people who were about to come in. Gradually, she was pushed into the corner of the *elevator*.

Suddenly, a tall man came over and stood in front of her. The man was a little inattentive and leaned back.

Luca subconsciously covered her forehead.

Luke noticed her situation and watched her cover her forehead without reminding the person in front of her, which made him feel distressed for her.

was just like that. Even if she was inconvenienced, she would not say

walked toward her between

people in front were slightly nudged and voiced their dissatisfaction, but Luke was not bothered as he moved to Luca's

up at the person in front of her. His tall stature was not comparable to that of a few men in the elevator. At that moment, he was carrying a few bags in one hand while the other hand was supporting the elevator wall. He was protecting her in his

lowered her head. Her face was red, and her heart was

looked down at the top of her head. He was not bothered by the lack of space or the crowd behind him. He was wondering if Luca was shy.

elevator, which was usually fast, seemed to be descending very slowly at that

could not even see the descending floors because Luke was

crowd slowly dispersed after they arrived on the

the crowd left the elevator and there was a lot more room, but Luke's hand remained where it

Crawford, where's your car?" Luca felt a little awkward. As she swept her hair to the side, she touched her cheek. Sure enough, it

lot." Luke slowly withdrew his hand while still

praying that the elevator would reach the underground parking

elevator door closed and opened again. They had reached the

Chapter 1656

After Luke put her things in the boot, he got into the car.

He glanced at Luca. She was silent as if deep in thought about something.

Luke wondered if what he said before had scared her.

However, Luca did not seem like the kind of person who would be scared easily. He asked, "What are you thinking about? You look worried."

Luca shook her head, indicating that she was fine.

Luke knew that she was full of worries but he had no way of knowing since she refused to share with him.

Luke drove back to the apartment and did not stop the car even when he arrived at the gate of the community. He swiped his card and drove in.

Luca looked at him but did not say anything about him sending her to her home.

No one could stop Luke from doing what he wanted to do, including her former self. She had been long accustomed to his forcefulness.

She watched him drive all the way there and park in the parking space.

Luca thought about saying something. "Mr. Crawford, thanks for driving me back. I'll go up by myself."

"There's a lot of stuff. I'll bring them up for you." Luke did not give her a chance to turn him down and got out of the car immediately.

Luca held the seat belt in both hands and turned around to look at the man walking toward the boot. Sure enough, she had no say once he had his mind set on something.

She had no choice but to unbuckle her seat belt and go upstairs with him.

were not a lot of things. Luca looked at the bags that Luke was carrying and thought about helping. However, since he did not say anything, she knew that it was likely he would turn her down even if she the elevator reached her floor, she stepped out of the elevator and noticed that the door to the apartment

glanced back at the elevator door, and the floor displayed was

'Who opened the apartment door?'

go." Luke walked through the

followed behind him. When she walked inside, she realized that the person standing at the door was Mrs. Nancy, the chef of Crawford

'Why is she here?'

Mrs. Nancy saw Luca, she said, "Ms. Craw, congratulations on your

you," Luca noticed that there was a pot next to the door. She looked at Luke with a puzzled expression and wondered what was going on.

was not puzzled by what was in front of him. He just nodded and said,

heard him and took out some sage from the bag behind her.

Before Luca finished speaking, Mrs. Nancy put the sage into a flower pot, took out the lighter, and lit smiled and said, "Ms. Craw, step over the pot and your future will be smooth sailing. Come on

Luca looked at Luke, and he was looking right back at *her*.

It seemed that he knew about this. She was surprised that a free-thinker like him would ask Mrs. Nancy to **prepare these...**

"**This is** too much. I'm just being discharged from hospital," Luca said. She remembered that she did not go through all these even when she was still Bianca.

"*Grandpa planned this*," Luke explained. After Old Master Crawford heard that Luca was going to be discharged from the hospital, he asked Mrs. Nancy to bring these things over to smoke the bad luck on Luca *away*.

Luca was stunned. 'Old Master Crawford...'

Mrs. Nancy urged her, saying, "Ms. Craw, snap out of it and step over the pot. You'll be safe and everything will be smooth sailing in *the future*."

Luca looked at the burning sage and knew that she was unable to refuse Old Master Crawford's kindness, so she stepped over.

Mrs. Nancy then picked up a grapefruit leaf, dipped it in water, and patted the leaf on her **body**.

She did not do it too hard, so it was not painful. Luca looked at Mrs. Nancy's efforts and thought of Old Master *Crawford again*.

She was surprised that he kept her in mind when all she did was remind him that one of the ingredients in the stew was not good for his health.

Luca felt sad the more she thought *of it*.

After all the steps were completed, Mrs. Nancy said with a smile on her face, "Okay, okay, all the bad luck has been driven away now. Ms. Craw, welcome *home*."

"Thank you." Luca thanked her.

Luke also walked in. He put the bags in his hand on the coffee *table*.

did not stop him from coming in. Although he gave the house to her, the name on the property deed was

was his house, so she did not have the right to

Nancy said, "Young Master Luke, Ms. Craw, I made some soup in the kitchen. Do you want to have at the time. It was already

"Have you cooked lunch?" he asked.

Not only did I make spaghetti and vegetables, but I also made chicken noodle soup. I thought that Ms. Craw might not be able to do much chewing, so I made her some chicken soup." Mrs.

Luke said and looked

looked at him. At this moment, he was standing in the middle of the living room like the head of

wanted to run away but there was nowhere to

set the table for lunch. Luca was speechless as she looked at the dishes on

let's eat," Luke said as he looked at Luca who was standing not

out of it, walked over slowly, and sat across

Nancy served Luke some spaghetti and then a bowl of chicken soup for Luca. She said, "Ms. Craw, the dishes I made today are soft and delicious. Eat more of them. You can swallow them

Chapter 1657

Luca agreed, and the topic ended.

There was another round of silence at the dining table.

Luca raised her gaze and sneaked a glance at Luke, who was holding a piece of meat that was soft and shredded after being cooked for a while. He was not frowning.

In the past, he disliked soft foods as such. It was impossible that Mrs. Nancy did not know his preferences. It was likely that he ordered Mrs. Nancy to cook the food like this so that it was easy for her to chew.

Luca looked at the soft dishes on the table and asked, "Mr. Crawford, I assume these meals are not to your taste..."

Luke looked up, his eyes carrying an emotion that she could not understand. "You know my taste?"

Luca was startled and quickly said, "These foods are too soft. I think your teeth are so good that you probably don't like soft foods. Shall I cook a dish for you?"

Luke listened to her concern. It was obvious that she paid a lot of attention to him but she deliberately kept a distance and even thought about how to escape from him.

"No, I like it soft. I don't like it hard." His words had a special meaning behind them.

Luca was taken aback.

'He likes it soft and doesn't like it hard... He's someone who can't be swayed.'

Luca continued to eat. After she was done, she habitually stood up to clear the dishes. When she reached out to pick up the plate, she saw Luke get up and take the plate from her hand.

"I'll do it." He cleared the table.

him tidy everything up. Her hands were not injured but he treated her as if she was missing some
Luca sighed.

heard her sigh and looked up. "Don't think too much about it. I'll take you to meet someone

Luca asked. She thought that it was someone who had nothing to do

in front of him and was not even allowed to do any housework, so how could it be related to

needs your help," Luke said. He picked up all the dishes and headed to

looked at his back and thought, 'Can he do the dishes? Will he dry the dishes before putting them in the cupboard after washing

was still worried. When she walked to the kitchen door, Luke seemed to sense her even though he did not turn around. "Don't worry, I won't mess up your

just want a glass of water..." Luca said. She did not expect that he would know about her

is small. Don't come in. I'll pour a glass for you later," Luke

the past, others would pour water for him but now he offered to pour water for her. No matter how she thought of it, she felt like it was all

sat on the sofa and listened to his movements in

just cleaning and it was not like he had broken any dishes, so she did not

Ten minutes later, Luke walked out of the kitchen with a glass of warm water and handed it to her. "The water is warm. You can drink *it now*."

Luca took it but did not drink it immediately. She placed it on the coffee table instead. She picked up the medicines Johann had prescribed her and divided them according to the *doctor's order*.

Luke looked at the pills in her palm and asked, "Why so many pills?"

Luca glanced at the medicines, which were all nourishing medicines. It seemed that her hemoglobin was low before, which caused Johann **to worry**.

"**These** are medicines for nourishing blood. I assume Dr. Park was worried about my poor physical indicators, so he prescribed these medicines," she explained. Although it was only because the previous physical indicators were affected by the drug from the Island of Despair, these medicines were good for the body, so she did not mind taking *them*.

Luke nodded. Bianca used to look weak but she was in great health. He was sure that she had suffered through hell seeing her **current condition**.

'If she did not suffer, how could her health have become so bad?'

Luca did not frown at the bitterness of the pills. She just swallowed them and finished the glass of **water**.

Luke watched her. After a few days of recuperation, her health was indeed much better now. When she was first hospitalized, he was so distressed that he could hardly breathe upon seeing how she was having problems drinking water.

Luca finished drinking the water and stood up, wanting to put the *glass away*.

Luke said, "I'll do it *for you*."

Luca was stunned. She handed him the glass of water and said, "Thank you."

was a harmonious situation as though the two were husband and wife. At this moment, the husband was taking care of his sick

the glass back in the kitchen. He looked at Luca's sterilizer and his eyes flickered when he saw that there were still a few bottles in

company made all the researchers sign an agreement. Drugs that were part of the company's research were not allowed to leave the company. These bottles must have nothing to do with the research she did in the

these? What has she experienced in the past three

saw Luke walk into the kitchen. When it was still dead quiet after a while, she got up and walked to the at the door and saw him holding a mobile phone as if he was on a

seeing this, Luca did not

saw her too. After he heard the reply on the phone, he said, "I'll be

With that, he left the kitchen.

afternoon, a part-time worker will come to help with cleaning and grocery shopping. I'll let Jason send you the part-time worker's contact later. You can tell her what you want to eat via text. She'll take care of you." Luke urged while putting on

could feel his meticulous care for her but she had to remind herself not to be moved by

"I'll come to pick you up tomorrow morning. Rest

did not know where they were going but she would not turn him down as he mentioned it was to help

Chapter 1658

Luca remembered her work in the laboratory after she sent a friend request to the cleaning lady.

So far, she had not received any messages from Rhett. She presumed that it must be Luke's orders.

Luca took the initiative to send a message to Rhett to ask him about the situation in the laboratory.

Rhett responded quickly to her message. He told her that the experiments going on in the laboratory were going on as scheduled. They were ready to apply for a clinical trial now.

Luca looked at Rhett's simple response. It was as though he was afraid of disturbing her if he typed a few more words.

She shook her head, and the phone screen turned dim. She looked at her reflection on the screen. It was blurry, but she could see that her face was swollen.

She let out a sigh. She still could not go back to work even though she thought she was fine now.

She would at least have to wait for the swelling and pain on her face to subside completely. Only then would Luke allow her to return to the office and work.

Luca sat on the couch. She could not get used to not having anything to do these days. She picked up the remote and switched on the television. The news happened to be reporting about her kidnapping case, stating that it had nothing to do with Pierre Mallory.

The vicious and deceitful man came across her mind. Luca knew that Luke would lay his hands on him later even if she did not do anything.

It was not merely because of her but those who had malicious intent against him were bound to end up badly.

However, Luca could no longer bear it.

out her phone and sent a message to Abel: [The man you sent told me that you're dissatisfied with my work

while, Abel responded to her message right away: [I'm indeed not satisfied. You're still not that close to Luke Crawford. Don't think that I don't know what you're thinking about. Get it done for me. Otherwise, you'll

another message to him: [I'm already involved in T Corporation's project, but someone threw a monkey wrench into my plans. I have no choice but to rest at home now. And I don't even know whether I'll still have the chance to participate in the project or not. How am I supposed to get the tender document if I'm not involved in the

she was kidnapped by Pierre, so he replied to her message and asked her: [What do you want me to do, [I'm a vindictive person. I need you to deal with Pierre Mallory. Make him suffer.]

replied to her message again: [Vindictive? Does that mean you're going to take revenge on me if you have a grudge against

silent for a moment after she read the message.

to get rid of Abel too, but would she be able to

not afford to hire mercenaries, so how could she have the capability to deal with Abel? She could not even deal with Pierre Mallory because of her

she was holding in her hands vibrated again. Luca looked at it. It was another message from Abel.

help you deal with Pierre Mallory, but you have to speed up your progress in approaching Luke. And you have to get the tender document no matter what. To get rid of Luke, we have to begin from the

suddenly dawned on Luca why Abel had asked her to put herself at risk of being discovered to steal the tender

It turned out she was assigned to this mission because this was the mission that could deal a blow to Luke and T Corporation.

Abel wanted to let her carry out the mission herself to make Luke suffer heavy losses. That was Abel's guilty **pleasure**.

Luca shook her head and *replied: [Okay.]*

Abel responded to her message again: [You get the chance to choose how you're going to deal with Pierre Mallory since I'm helping you take revenge.]

How to deal with Pierre Mallory?

Pierre set up a company behind everyone's back. All those things that he did to her and how he had been pestering Nina...

A malicious thought came into Luca's mind. She was thinking of making Pierre disappear from this world.

However, he was a member of the Mallory family, after all. She thought for a moment and replied to Abel: [I want his company to shut down.]

[*That's all?*] Abel's message came in again. Luca did not even need to imagine to know that he had a contemptuous smile on his face.

[**That's** all for now.] The doorbell rang right after Luca sent **that**.

She glanced at the time and reckoned that it was the cleaning lady. She stood up and went to open the **door**.

A kind-looking middle-aged woman was standing at the door. She smiled and greeted Luca when she met her. "Hello, Ms. Craw. I'm the cleaning lady Mr. Doyle arranged."

Come on in." Luca was indifferent to her greeting and asked the cleaning lady to

did not like strangers disturbing her, but there was no way she could negotiate with Luke. He was kind enough to take a step back by agreeing to look for a cleaning lady for her.

was better than a 24-hour caretaker looking after her.

you. May I know where you would like me to clean?" the cleaning lady

not sure either. You can just do whatever you see fit. This place hasn't been cleaned for days. Oh, you don't have to clean the maid's room. I'll be inside. Please don't disturb me,"

cleaning lady smiled and answered. When Luca was about to walk into the maid's room, the cleaning lady asked again, "Oh yes, Ms. Craw. What would you like to have for dinner? Mr. Doyle told me that I'll have to get groceries for you. If you need me to, I'll make dinner for you

had not thought about what to eat for dinner. She always ate whatever she wanted when she was eating alone. Then, she remembered that there were some leftovers from lunch today, so she said, "There's no need to. I have some leftovers from lunch. You don't have to

cleaning lady disagreed and said, "Leftovers are bad for your health. What you need most now is rest. You need to eat freshly prepared

did not expect her to say that. She had no choice but to say, "Then please get me some fresh the cleaning lady asked responsibly.

did not know what fruits she should buy, so she just said, "Something that I can have with Ms. Craw," replied the

Chapter 1659

The cleaning lady was wearing gloves and an apron. With a smile, she said, "Ms. Craw, I've finished cleaning up the apartment. And I've already put the fruits in the fridge. Is there anything I need to do?"

"No, you can leave now," Luca replied coldly. She glanced at the living room. It had indeed been cleaned and tidied up.

"Alright. Then, I'll leave first." The cleaning lady took off her gloves and apron after she finished her work. She turned around and left after putting them back in place.

Luca picked up the sample and put it into an impenetrable sealed bag. Then, she put it in the disinfection cabinet. She did not have as many equipments as in the laboratory. Hence, she could only use these home appliances to do her research.

After all, she could not bring these to the laboratory.

After Luca handled everything, she went to take the clams that the cleaning lady had cleaned out of the fridge. She took some out, planning to make a pot of clam chowder as a side dish to have with the leftovers from lunch. She wanted to make an easy dinner.

An hour later, she had finished preparing the creamy and thick clam chowder.

The doorbell rang while Luca was putting her meal on the dining table.

She had a feeling that the person outside the door was Luke.

Even if she did not open the door, he knew the passcode and would be able to come in. Luca thought it was unnecessary to say these things to him, so she went to open the door. The man outside the door was him, indeed.

"Mr. Crawford, what brings you here?" She looked at the man, and a helpless glint flashed across her eyes. The more she wanted to stay away from him, the more often they met each other.

Usually, the chances of running into him at work were lesser as they were not working on the same floor. She thought that it was normal. Now, when she was resting at home, they had been seeing more of each other. She felt that something was wrong here.

Luke really seemed like he was taking responsibility of her...

picked her up from the hospital and hired a cleaning lady to take care

helplessness in her eyes, Luke remained unchanged and asked intentionally, "Am I not come in." Luca shook her head and made way to let him

came in, unbuttoned his suit coat with one hand, and hung it on the clothes rack behind the door. His gestures were smooth as though he was in his own home.

smell food, so he asked, "You made

noded and looked at the dining table. Considering that he came at this hour, he must not have had his only courteous for her to invite him to have dinner with her, and it was something that she should do. However, the dishes on the table were all leftovers from lunch except for the clam chowder.

Crawford Manor, Mrs. Nancy would usually get rid of the leftovers from each meal so that they would not be left overnight. They would not even have leftovers for

was very demanding when it came to the freshness of his

she invite him to join her when the food on the table were leftovers from lunch?

going to invite me for dinner?"

felt helpless. She kept an arm's length of distance from him and felt safe with this distance between them.

She replied, "The food on the table are leftovers. Only the clam chowder was freshly made. I suppose you're not used to having leftovers, right?"

"Who made the clam chowder?" Luke asked as he walked to the dining table. Indeed, they were all **leftovers**.

"I made it," Luca answered honestly. She watched his gestures and it seemed like he was going to take a seat.

Luke noticed that there was only a set of cutleries on the table. He was about to sit down but suddenly stood up straight. He walked toward the *kitchen*.

Luca knew he was certainly going to get a spoon and a fork.

He previously took the initiative to do the dishes, so he knew where the cutleries were in the kitchen. After a while, Luke carried a bowl and cutleries out of the *kitchen*.

The way Luke made himself so comfortable here almost made Luca think that she had prepared the meal for him.

Luca said slowly as she watched him sit down on the chair, "I don't have bread here, only chowder. Is that *fine*?"

Luke looked at her and said, "Sure. I'm not a picky eater."

Luca knew he was not a picky eater per se, but he was still very particular about his food.

She picked up the spoon, thinking of filling up a bowl of oats for him. However, Luke said, "I'd like to have some chowder first."

Luca heard him and put down the spoon. Then, she pointed at the big bowl covered with a lid that was opposite him. She said, "That's the clam chowder."

the lid and looked at the creamy white clam chowder inside. A savory smell greeted him. He filled up a big bowl of it, then took a sip. She had indeed made

loved the chowder that she

usually did not like eating leftovers, but there was one dish on the table that Bianca had prepared herself. That was why he decided to sit down for

saw the satisfied expression on his face and asked curiously, "Mr. Crawford, you're having dinner here, so what about the

pick them up," Luke explained, "I'll have to go back to the office again to work after

it troublesome for you to come back and forth?" Luca asked unconsciously. Although the office was not far away from here, it was pretty time-consuming if he came back and

didn't feel like having takeouts." Luke took a sip of the warm chowder. The warmth and hearty feeling flowed through his throat to his stomach. He looked at Luca with his deep eyes. "I have a weak stomach. It's bad for me if I eat takeout food

agreed with what he said. He did have a weak stomach. At the thought of that, it seemed reasonable for him to have dinner here.

was not Bianca now.

her head and drank the chowder as she remained silent.

began to eat some oats after he finished the bowl of

texture of the oats was not as good as they were leftovers from lunch. He wanted more chowder, but Luca did not prepare much of it because she did not expect him to come over. He had no choice but to force himself to finish the

Chapter 1660

After Luke left, it did not take long before Luca pulled herself together. She had something more important to do.

She could only fix her passive stance in this situation if she could develop the antidote. It felt uncomfortable to be under someone else's control.

The Island of Despair was powerful in both manpower and financial resources. It was because the members were under the drug's control.

If there was an antidote, the Island of Despair would break apart once the members were given the antidote.

Luca became even more determined to study and develop the antidote at the thought of this.

She took the sample out of the disinfection cabinet. The sample that she took from the straw did not disappoint her. The concentration was high enough. The next thing she needed to do was analyze the composition of it. Then, she would be able to develop the antidote.

Luca sat on the lab table and did her research quietly.

She stopped her research and talked to Tommy for a while when Tommy sent her a video call request before he slept.

A while into the call, Tommy got sleepy. Luca put her son to bed and hung up the video call.

Her children could always touch her heart...

She looked at her unfinished research and recalled the words that Tommy had told her. He asked her to rest earlier and not to stay up too late.

'Yes, it's better to not stay up too late.'

Luca put everything away and went to sleep after washing up.

It was midnight. The door was pushed open, and Luke dragged his tired body into the house. He looked at the dark living room and did not make any loud noises.

Luca should be asleep now.

judging from her vigilant personality, he reckoned that she had already woken up when he opened the door.

not intend to disturb her, but he wanted to reassure her that it was not some bad guy who came in. He thought for a while and called out her name softly,

was no response from the dark living room, and she did not respond to him

knew that she heard him even though she did

the maid's room and switched on the lights. He looked at the bed that could only accommodate one person and noticed that it had been neatly made with a blanket on top. He did not think anything of

was because it was not Luca who made the bed. He was the one who asked the cleaning lady to make the bed when she came to cook for

glanced at the lab table that was slightly messy and thought that Luca probably did some

could never stay put, but what kind of experiments was she

at the bottles on the lab table. He could read the words but he had no idea what they were

had always been eager to learn back then, but she had to learn and master these skills in three years. He could not imagine how much effort she put in during those three years to become

off his suit coat and lay down on the bed. The bed was more suited for the average woman as it was not very long. When he stretched his legs, they could reach the edge of the

to sleep here and tolerate everything to get closer to Luca. It was convenient for him to go to work from here too. That was why he put up with it.

In the master bedroom beside.

Luca was lying on the bed, holding her breath as she listened to the noises out there.

She had heard the sound of the door opening and closing, then the footsteps, and lastly, Luke's voice.

She knew it was Luke who came in, and he called out **to her**.

It was late, but he came here instead. He came in and out as he wished like he was the owner of the **house**.

Luca did not know how to face Luke, but she was assured after knowing that it **was him**.

Then, there was the sound of a door opening and closing again.

She reckoned that Luke had already gone to the maid's room **to sleep**.

Then, she remembered the small and narrow bed in the maid's room. Would he be able to sleep *well there?*

Luca rolled over on the bed and listened to the noises outside. She could not hear anything this time.

She reckoned that Luke must **be sleeping**.

Luca touched the mattress and wondered if it was alright for Luke to sleep on that small **bed?**

Although she felt bad, there was nothing she could do now.

Luca slowly fell asleep as she pondered. It was already the next morning when she woke up.

shot a glance at her phone. Winter was coming, and the sky was still gray at six in the morning. Then, she remembered Luke, who was sleeping in the maid's room. He was probably still asleep

clothes in the maid's room, but he did not have any toiletries with him. Luca got out of the bed and took a new set of toiletries out of the drawer.

planning to give these to Amur before

thought that after Amur returned, she would clean up the maid's room and change the bed. That would be his temporary

was because he was not picky

did not expect that it would be Luke who would use both the room and toiletries

Luca put the toiletries in the common bathroom, she went to the living room and saw the thermos bottle Luke had left on the coffee

went to pick it up, realizing that he had finished drinking

had always loved to drink her soups and chowders. It was normal that he finished drinking the chowder.

the thermos bottle and walked into the kitchen. It was still early, but when she remembered that Luke told her he was going to bring her somewhere, she got up early to

still some ingredients in the kitchen. She picked a few of them and made a simple Western breakfast.

had already gotten up when she was serving

morning." The man took the initiative to