

Be Gentle 1751

Chapter 1751

Luca was speechless. It seemed like Jason was not willing to help her.

She would have to face Luke alone sooner or later. She pondered for a moment before walking out of the office.

Rather than facing Luke alone at home, it was better to face him in the office. At least he would assess the situation and not do anything crazy to her.

Luca thought for a moment and knocked on Luke's office door.

"Come in." Luke's voice came from the other side of the door.

Luca pushed the door open and saw the man busy with his work. She took a deep breath and entered the office. "Mr. Crawford, I came to get my laptop and folders."

"They're here." Luke pointed at the edge of his office desk without lifting his head.

Luca nodded, picked up her things, and was ready to leave.

"I need to talk to you," said Luke.

Luca paused, then closed her eyes. She could not run away from him, so she had no choice but to listen.

"Yes, Mr. Crawford?"

"I'll be busy for the time being and I'd like to take the apartment back. It'll be more convenient for me to get to work and back," said Luke.

Luca was stunned. Was he taking back the apartment?

not think it mattered to her. She would just have to move back to her previous apartment. The journey to the office would be longer, but it was not a big deal.

go home and pack today. I'll move out tomorrow," said Luca as complex emotions rose in her heart.

Luca kicking her out of

would he do that? Was it because she did not give him a clear answer last night? Was that the reason he did not plan to persist in pursuing

she moved back to her apartment now, Abel would know about it and he would think that she had failed her mission. She knew exactly what she would have to face

can't get used to sleeping on the maid's bed. That's why I want the apartment back. I've prepared another place for you. It's not far away from the office." Luke continued to look at the screen. He was working and implementing his plan at the

Crawford, why don't you move there, then?" Luca asked. It was troublesome for her to move here

stopped working and lifted his head to look at her with his gloomy eyes. "My clothes and daily necessities are all in the apartment. I'm asking you to move out of the apartment so that I can save my

time. As for your belongings, I'll get a professional moving service to pack your things for you. You need not worry about it. Your things will be moved to the

listened to him. What he meant was that he refused to let her move back to the previous apartment and she had to move out of the current apartment too.

nodded and readily agreed to what he said. "Alright, Mr.

matter what his arrangements were, he would not use 'working overtime' as an excuse to stay with her in the future anymore.

between them would not grow too close either. Besides, the place she was moving to belonged to Luke too. She could still lie to Abel so that he would not be in a rush to take any action.

Luke said, "You may leave if there's nothing else. I'll send your new accommodation's address to you *later*."

"Okay, Mr. Crawford." Luca only nodded her head and agreed to what he *said*.

When she turned around carrying the laptop and folders in her arms, she heard the man say, "I'm going back to Crawford Manor tonight. You don't have to prepare my portion for tonight's dinner and tomorrow's breakfast."

"Alright..." Luca left the office **after that**.

She heard Luke coughing again when she closed the door.

She thought of preparing some soup for him tonight to soothe his throat and lungs, but he was not going to the apartment tonight...

Luca let out a sigh and shook her head. She carried the laptop back to her office and forced herself to concentrate on her *work*.

After Luke watched Luca leave, he stopped working and began to make arrangements for the **move**.

He found a cleaning company and asked them to clean the furniture and the villa. The villa would soon be his, Luca, the kids' home.

After that, Luke called the cleaning lady who had been cleaning Luca's apartment. Once that was settled, he continued **his work**.

...

the evening, when everyone got off

returned to the apartment. She had mixed feelings when she saw that the cleaning lady had almost finished packing her

claimed that he could not get used to sleeping in the maid's room, but he had been sleeping there for a few nights continuously. How did he suddenly become not used

only one explanation. He had decided to give up on her as she did not agree to his request last night.

her to move out of the apartment was the best choice. He would not have to trouble the others to pack his things. After all, judging from his personality, he had always hated unrelated people touching his personal

belongings would remain in the apartment. He would be able to move back to the master bedroom afterward. He handled the matter well by providing her with another

understood what was the purpose of him doing

last night had brought the two of them who used to be distant even farther away from each other.

like she could no longer receive his special treatment. Luke would only treat relationships like fast

I don't have to follow Abel's order to harm you. Even if I have to do something to hurt you in the future, you won't fall into the trap just because you trust me so much." Luca looked at the luggage that was already packed. Then, she put the ingredients that she bought earlier in

took the ingredients out and realized that even though she knew Luke would not be coming over for dinner, she had accidentally bought the ingredients to make soup.

these ingredients, she would be able to make a pot of soup that could cool the body and nourish

Chapter 1752

The following day.

The people from the moving company were already here when Luca woke up.

She did not have a lot of things with her. There were only two suitcases of clothes and books, as well as some experiment instruments that were already packed.

The people from the moving company were busy for a while, then they started moving her belongings into the truck. One of them asked, "Miss, would you like to follow us to the new address?"

Luca thought Luke must have already made arrangements for her, so she shook her head and said, "I have to go to work. Send my things to the address and someone will meet you all there."

"Alright." The worker from the moving company turned around and left.

Luca returned to the apartment. She took the antidote that had been separated from the fridge and put it in her briefcase.

She did not trust the moving company to move them there.

After Luca brought the antidote with her, she distributed the soup into different flasks and left the apartment with them. She turned around and glanced at it the apartment before she closed the door.

She recalled how reluctant she was when she first moved in here. She was finally leaving now, but her heart was full of complicated emotions. She could find the words to describe how she was feeling now.

Was she reluctant to leave?

Luca looked down, mocking herself for having such feelings. Perhaps it was because she shared some memories here with Luke, so that was why she felt this way...

Luca moving out this time made her realize that Luke's partner did not have to make his intentions clear. She did not agree to his request that time, and now, he was over. It was better this way too...

Luca left the apartment, she hailed a ride and headed to the T. It was still early. Jason had yet to reach the office when she placed the thermos flasks that were filled with soup on the table and began to translate the documents. There was a pile of documents that needed to be translated. If she did not hurry up, she would not be able to translate all the documents.

Jason always passed by Luca's office when he came to work. He popped his head around the door and curiously took a look when he saw that the lights were switched on. He saw Luca was

Dr. Craw. Why are you so early?" Jason smiled and asked earlier than usual today. Mr. Doyle, have you eaten your breakfast?" Luca smiled and asked. After she unconsciously bought the ingredients and made soup, she brought some to the office. She had prepared some for him too.

Sue has to accompany the kids to the school to join the charity event today. She didn't have time to look after me, so I bought breakfast when I was on my way here." Jason lifted the bag he was carrying in his hands. It was his breakfast.

Luca took one of the thermos flasks out and said, "Mr. Doyle, I made some soup. It can nourish your body, especially your lungs. Here's some for you."

Jason was surprised to hear that. He had tried Luca's cooking before and knew that the soup must taste **good**.

"**Thank** you, Dr. Craw. The weather has been cold, so I was thinking of drinking something hot." He came forward and took it from her. Then, he noticed there were two flasks left. He asked, "Are these for Boss?"

"**Uh...**" **Luca** scratched her head. She thought of telling him that she did not prepare anything for Luke. There were two flasks left. One was for herself, while the other was *for Tina*.

Jason noticed that she was holding back her words and made a guess. "You didn't prepare some for **Boss**?"

"*I don't* think Mr. Crawford needs it..." said Luca. After all, if Luke wanted to eat something, he would not starve no matter where he **went**.

Jason shook his head and looked at Luca's face. He was wondering if she really had no idea or if she was doing it on purpose.

"Dr. Craw, I think it'd be better if you prepare another one for Mr. Crawford. Or should I give mine to him?" Jason said. If Luke knew Luca had prepared soup for Jason but not him, would he not be skinned *alive*?

Luca listened to him and understood what he meant. Indeed, it was inappropriate if she prepared things for the others but **not him**.

However, Luke had already made such arrangements. If she prepared his portion, would she not cause him to misunderstand?

Luca pondered for a few seconds. She had no choice but to compromise. She handed her flask to him. "You can give Mr. Crawford this."

"Oh, so you already have his portion. Well, you prepared the soup. Of course, it'd be better if you gave it to him yourself. Thank you for your soup. I'm going back to my office to work first." Jason carried the thermos flask and left.

not stop him even when she called out to him. She watched him leave, then she glanced at the flask of soup. Was she really going to give it to

her head. She lowered her head and continued to translate the

always pass by Luca's office when he went to his office. He saw Luca working with her head lowered when he passed by. He remained silent and walked past her office right

Luca could lift her head, Luke had already walked past her

up unconsciously, but she wondered if it was impolite for her to stand here and call out to Luke. Hence, she sat down

Luke passed by Jason's office, he saw that Jason was drinking soup. He stopped and asked, "What are you

I'm drinking soup." Jason noticed that Luke was not holding a thermos flask and wondered if Luca had given him the soup

early in the morning?" Luke raised his eyebrows. He could smell the fragrance of the soup from far away.

"Dr. Craw gave it to me. It won't taste as good when it's no longer

Luca prepared soup for Jason?

it to you?" Luke

Chapter 1753

"Didn't you prepare soup for Boss? You can pass it to him along with the documents." Jason dared not to enter Luke's office as he might cross the line. He was just joking before, but he dared not do it anymore.

Besides, if Luca did not go into Luke's office, the rest of them would all be in trouble later.

Jason urged Luca to do it. She did not tell him about her hesitation.

Jason noticed that she was not taking any action, so he said, "Boss saw me drinking the soup just now. He looked mad."

"Did you tell him that I gave you the soup?" Luca wanted to know if he did it on purpose.

Jason did not have to piss Luke off.

"Yes. Boss was wondering why I was drinking soup early in the morning. His expression changed when he knew it was you who gave it to me. Dr. Craw, we have to attend a meeting later. If Mr. Crawford isn't in a good mood, we'll all be screwed." Jason recalled the look on Luke's face. It was as black as ink. It would be hard to resolve this.

Luca was probably the only one who could chase away the dark clouds above Luke's head.

Luca listened to what Jason said and could not help but doubt him. However, she had no choice but to bite the bullet when she saw him refusing to bring the documents in for her. "Alright."

She picked up the translated documents and walked back to her office.

There was only one thermos flask left. Luca hesitated for a moment before picking it up. Then, she headed to Luke's office.

Knock, knock. Luca knocked on the door. She had been having this complicated feeling since Luke asked her to move out of the apartment.

voice came from inside the office. "Come

pushed the door open and looked at the man behind the office desk. Indeed, his face was sulky like what Jason had told her.

Crawford, I've finished translating the documents." She walked into the office and stopped after taking two steps forward.

here." Luke did not lift his

to his office desk and placed the documents on it. Then, she put the thermos flask on his desk too. She took a deep breath and turned around, ready

Luke called her. "Wait."

walking, then she turned around and looked at him. "Mr. Crawford, do you need anything

pointed at the thermos flask and asked,

'Doesn't he know about it? Why would he ask when he already knows it?' She did not know how to answer

had no choice but to answer honestly, "It's soup. I made it

a sudden?" Luke stared at her. It was difficult to figure out what he had in mind with those dark

bought the ingredients yesterday. I'm moving out soon, right? I can't possibly move the ingredients there too, so I prepared some soup. This soup can help to clear the heat in one's body and nourish your lungs. You'll feel much better if you have it during this season," Luca explained, trying hard not to let him think too much

She bought the ingredients to make the soup only because she heard him coughing.

Luke's tone sounded a little cold as he listened to Luca's explanation. "You made soup for everyone. Luca, you're not the company's chef. You're my translator and the research professor downstairs."

Luca could sense his dissatisfaction in his voice. She nodded. "Yes, Mr. Crawford. I'll take note of it."

Even though she did not prepare the soup during working hours, she admitted that she was wrong. She did not want the man to mention that particular topic to her again.

Luke saw her behavior and knew no matter what he said, it would not affect her. He would only end up feeling more **dissatisfied**.

Then, Luca asked, "I can take it out if you don't want *the soup*."

"*Put* it there. Go out and get ready for the meeting later." Luke did not let her take it out with her. There was nothing he would like better than Luca bringing soup for him to **drink**.

He had deliberately coughed in front of her yesterday just to see her reaction.

He did not expect Luca to prepare some soup. He thought it was a good thing. However, he never thought that she would share the soup with **Jason**.

He was unhappy about it.

Luca listened to him, nodded her head, turned around, and *left*.

door was closed again. He picked up the thermos flask and noticed the flask seemed to be slightly different from the one Jason was holding. It looked like it had a larger

She made it specially for him...

mood brightened up a little at the thought of this. His woman should not be treating other men kindly. She should only be treating him

the thermos flask and took a sip of the soup. The soup was freshly made in the morning. It had been kept warm until now. It tasted fresh and stimulated his taste

smiled satisfyingly. His unhappiness had disappeared into thin air after he found out Luca was giving him the special

...

Pierre's villa.

lay down on the bed, feeling weak. It was her second day on

did not eat anything yesterday, nor did she drink anything. She was exhausted, and she was no longer able to walk. She had no choice but to lay down on the bed to reduce her physical

looked outside the window. The sky was bright again. It had been two nights, but no one came to save her. She could not even find a way to get herself

able to feel the despair Luca had experienced when Pierre held her hostage back then. She was impressed with Luca's courage too. After Luca went through something that was a hundred times worse than what she was going through now, Luca was still able to stay

it had been her who went through all those things, she might have already collapsed and broken down

Chapter 1754

Nina had been lying on the bed for the whole morning. The maid did not come in to disturb her anymore.

The bedroom was pushed open when it was noontime. The maid came and saw that the breakfast was left there, untouched. She could not help but mock Nina. "Ms. Nina, you sure know how to waste your food."

Nina closed her eyes, refusing to talk to her. No matter what she said, she would not be able to get out of here. She figured that she would save some energy for herself.

The maid glanced at the person at the door and said, "Since Ms. Nina refuses to eat, then please give her a nutrition injection."

"No!" Nina opened her eyes. She knew what a nutrition injection was and she refused to get that.

She thought of showing defiance against Pierre by refusing to eat and asking him to let her go. If she was given the nutrition injection, it was useless for her to go on a hunger strike.

Although nutrition injection was not as good as eating food, it could keep her alive and prevent anything from happening to her.

The expression on the maid's face was cold. She did not plan to listen to Nina. After all, this was Pierre's arrangement.

"Ms. Nina, we gave you a chance, but you didn't appreciate it." While she said that, two people in white robes who were standing at the door came into the room.

Nina did not ask for help. It was because she knew the people who could enter the villa all worked for Pierre. They would not betray that man just to save her.

"Even if you're planning to give me the injection, I won't cooperate!" Nina sat up and looked at the people in front of her defensively.

The maid refused to listen to her. She watched the male doctor take a straitjacket that was used to restrict mental patients out of his medical kit. He exchanged glances with the female doctor.

of them carried the straitjacket and headed toward the

what they were planning to do. They were going to restrict her and give her the away! Don't touch me!" She

did not listen to her and worked together with the female doctor to restrict

was on a hunger strike, so she was already physically weak. The two of them were working together to restrict her. There was nothing Nina could do. Her struggle was nothing

maid restricted her with the straitjacket, she looked at Nina and mocked her. "Ms. Nina, if you had listened to me and taken your meals, things wouldn't have become so troublesome. Look at you. Even two women can easily handle you now. What's the point of making a

closed her eyes desperately. It was pointless, indeed. It only took two people to stop her. What made her think that she could escape Pierre's imprisonment when this was his arrangement for

had Luke and the others looking for her when she was kidnapped. Now, she was locked up by Pierre, but she was afraid that no one had noticed she was missing. Would someone even come looking

across Nina's mind. She could not help but let the tears stream down from the corners of her eyes.

thought it was Percy who had caused her to suffer all these years, but after seriously thinking about it for two days, it seemed like Percy had nothing to do with it at

it had not been for him, her life would have been much

She might not have been able to treat **Anna** either.

The misfortune that happened to her could be said to be caused by Julian, or maybe Pierre. It was definitely not Percy.

Percy was by her side during all these years. She took it for granted and blamed Percy for all the misfortune that happened **to her**.

Percy was the innocent one. He was clearly the good guy, but she had been treating him like he was the villain. He put up with her temper when he did not have to...

The male doctor finished mixing the formula for the nutrition injection. He hung the bag and lifted Nina's arm.

Nina was restricted by the straitjacket and could not struggle. However, when her hand was lifted, she subconsciously clenched her fists.

The doctor frowned. It was difficult for him to inject her she did that. The male doctor looked at Nina, who was being restricted yet still refused to give in. He reminded her, saying, "Ms. Nina, if you continue to behave this way, I have no choice but to give you a tranquilizer. Once you pass out, I'll give you the nutrition injection. You'll feel horrible when you wake up after getting a tranquilizer shot."

Nina had experienced it before, so she could not help but shiver.

Perhaps the maid was right. No matter how hard she tried to struggle, it was useless. She had to receive the nutrition injection anyway. Maybe she should consider her own comfort now.

Nina slowly unclenched her fists.

When the male doctor knew that his threat was working on her, he nodded his head with content and began to give Nina the injection.

needle slowly pricked into her veins. Nina felt a slight pain, then she felt the tape sticking on the back of opened her eyes. There was a dull look

female doctor adjusted the intravenous rate of flow, then she said to the maid, "The therapy has begun. We'll leave first. It'll take about half an hour to complete the

maid replied worriedly, "Will she do anything to hurt herself if we leave her alone here?"

doctor chuckled and showed no mercy for Nina's current situation. "It'll be fine. With the straitjacket on her, it'll be difficult for her to pull the needle off, not to mention hurting

listened to him and

female doctor turned to look at Nina and saw there were tears at the corners of her eyes. She showed a little compassion for Nina and said, "Don't worry. You must feel uncomfortable after starving for a few days. You'll feel better with the

of them left after

was lying on the bed, struggling to look up at the IV solution at the head of the bed. The solution was flowing into her body through her vein little by little, supporting her

she could stay alive with the nutrition injection, she knew her days were

an impatient man. He would be harsh on her when her menstruation cycle

Chapter 1755

The female doctor replied, "She's asleep. Don't worry. We added a drug that puts her to sleep in the IV drip to prevent her from crying and causing us any trouble."

The maid nodded.

The female doctor looked at Nina's face and sighed quietly. "She's hardly considered a stunning beauty. Her figure is slim and looks good, but she's way too skinny in some parts. She's different from the other women Boss used to be with."

The two doctors were private doctors whom Pierre had hired. That was why they knew most of Pierre's ex-girlfriends.

The maid said, "As ordinary as she looks, this woman seems to be Boss' favorite. Now, stop talking nonsense. You'll probably get into trouble in the future if she can hear you. Judging from her situation now, she's going to submit to the boss sooner or later."

"She's asleep now. She can't hear any of this. Relax," said the female doctor. The IV drip had just finished. She pulled off the needle, pressed on the injection spot for a while, and let go of it. After confirming that the wound on Nina's hand was no longer bleeding, she brought the equipment with her

and left the room. "Oh, if she refuses to eat again, we'll have to give her another shot at noontime tomorrow. The nutrition injection can only last 24 hours."

"Alright." The maid looked at Nina who was deeply asleep. Then, she walked out of the room and closed the door.

She took her phone out and reported to Pierre about what had happened.

...

It was already evening. After Luca completed her work, she gave Percy a call. She felt upset after knowing that his men were still looking for Nina, but they did not have a clue where she was.

She looked at her phone. The thought of using the resources from the Island of Despair came into her mind.

However, Abel was looking at her.

knew that Nina was one of her weaknesses too, Nina would probably be in danger if anything happened in the future. She dispelled the thought when she thought of

Someone was knocking on her office

her head and saw Jason standing at her door. She stood up and asked, "Mr. Doyle, what's the

replied, "Dr. Craw, isn't it time to get off work? Why are you still

was in a good mood today. He did not go too far when stating problems with the department managers' work during the meeting. Besides, everything was on schedule. That was why they could get a rare chance to get off work on

at the time. Indeed, it was time to get off work. She smiled and said, "I'm leaving

Oh, I came to return your thermos flask," said Jason. He put down the thermos flask he was carrying in his

immediately, "There's no need to. You may take it. I won't be using

did not insist on returning the bottle. He smiled and

stood up to clean up her table. She recalled that she had already moved out when she was about to leave.

had yet to tell her

Luca hesitated for a moment. She sent a message to Luke as she did not want to be homeless: [Mr. Crawford, you haven't sent me the address.]

After a while, Luke sent her the location.

Luca looked at it and frowned. This area was a villa **district, right?**

Besides, it was a villa district located near the office...

Luke asked her to move out of the apartment and into a villa district?

Most of the villas there were occupied by people with families. Was it not too luxurious for her to stay there alone? Moreover, it was inappropriate...

Luca had a feeling that if outsiders were to learn about this, they would think that Luke was keeping her as **his mistress**.

This villa would seem like the place where he was hiding his mistress.

[Mr. Crawford, did you send me the wrong location?] Even though she knew Luke was unlikely to have sent the wrong location to her, she confirmed with him once again.

[No, I didn't. The moving company has moved your things into the house. The villa uses a digital door lock too. The passcode is the same as the one at the apartment.] Luke replied to her message soon **after**.

Luca looked at Luke's confirmation and shook her head. She punched out, hailed a cab, and headed to the new address.

found the location of the villa based on the address given by Luke. She looked around the villa and realized that the privacy of the villa was pretty good. There was some distance between the villa in front and behind it. There was another villa on the other side. Luca saw that the lights were lit in that villa, and there were noises of an electric drilling machine. Luca knew that the villa was under

door opened after she keyed in the

the door open and walked into the villa. A spacious front yard came into sight. She looked at the design of the front yard. There was a pavilion, swing, and various kinds of vegetation that could withstand the cold. Even though the weather was getting cold, the vegetation was still green and

also noticed that there was a huge rose flower wall in front of

front yard decorations suited her taste very

down the front yard and into the living room. She saw that her boxes were left there. She headed to the kitchen first, then placed the antidote into the fridge's freezer compartment.

opened the boxes one by one. She found the master bedroom and study room. Then, she sorted out her was already dark outside when she finished settling

sat on the sofa, reluctant to move around. After a while, the doorbell rang.

Was that Luke?

wondered, she saw that the person standing outside the door through the surveillance camera was not Luke. It was the delivery man. She went to open the door with some

Chapter 1756

Luca placed the takeout on the dining table. This villa was big. It was much bigger compared to the bachelor's apartment.

She walked around the house, wondering if Luke had installed surveillance cameras in the house. However, she did not find any.

Even so, her not being able to find any did not mean that none were installed. Luca sat on the chair beside the dining table and looked at the takeout. She was lost in thoughts.

Her phone rang. She glanced at it and saw that there was a message from Luke.

Luca tapped on the screen. His voice came into his ears. "Have you received the takeout I ordered?"

The man's voice was deep and hoarse as though it was a ray of sunshine in the cold weather, slightly warming up her cold heart. Luca was startled. She picked up the phone and replied to him, "I got it. Thank you, Mr. Crawford."

[You're welcome. Eat it while it's warm.] Luke did not send an audio message this time. He replied with a text message instead.

Luca looked at those six simple words. Then, she opened the lids of the food containers. Luke had ordered all her favorite food...

She picked up the spoon and ate a mouthful. It tasted good.

Luca thought of cleaning up after dinner. However, she realized the whole villa had already been cleaned up. Hence, she walked into the study.

She was planning to continue her research since she was free tonight.

An hour later, Luca received Amur's call.

"Why are you calling me at this hour?" Luca asked. She knew Amur was busy with his mission, so she tried her best not to disturb him.

no idea about how Amur's mission was going. She was worried

listened to Luca's voice and took a deep breath. He sounded excited. "Luca, I've accomplished my mission

your mission?" Luca was surprised. She did not receive any news from him the entire time. What was his I can return to A City to protect you tomorrow onward." Amur could not hide the excitement in his voice.

great. Finally, he was able to return here safely. Luca's voice became excited too. "What time will you be reaching A City tomorrow? Do you need me to pick you

can go back myself. It'll be late. There's just one more thing I need to take care of first." Amur hung up the phone

always seen Amur as her younger brother. He could come back safely now. After worrying about him for so long, Luca could now set her mind at

suddenly thought about whether Amur should stay in the apartment or the villa after he returned. This seemed to be difficult.

people on the Island of Despair had killed people before, she refused to let Amur continue staying in the apartment. Besides, he might be against it too.

However, the villa...

Luke's villa. If he could ask her to move in, then he would be able to ask her to move out

Luca thought she would have to ask for Luke's permission if she wanted Amur to move in here. She pondered for a moment and opened her contacts on her phone.

She would not be able to explain it clearly through an audio message. She had no choice but to call Luke.

After the call was answered, Luca spoke in a gentle voice. "Mr. Crawford, are you busy?"

"Yes. It's late. What's the matter?" Luke was a little surprised that she would call him at this hour. It was because Luca could not wait to set boundaries between them. It was inappropriate for her to call him now.

"**My** younger brother is coming back tomorrow. I want to ask you whether he's allowed to stay in the villa with me." Luca asked. There were enough rooms in the villa. If Luke gave her permission, she would clean up a room after this.

"Younger brother?" Luke frowned.

"Yes. His name is Amur. We're not biologically related but I consider him my younger brother. You've met him before." Luca reminded **him**.

Luke remembered. Amur was that tall Russian man.

Amur was not Luca's younger brother, and he knew that well. He reckoned that Amur was related to the power that was manipulating Luca behind her.

However, if he was one of those who was manipulating her, why would Luca care about Amur?

Luke frowned at the thought of *this*.

uncomfortable when he recalled how much Luca cared about Amur and the fact that they had been staying in an apartment together for quite

Luca called out to him when she did not hear any answer from

back to his senses. He said without a second thought, "I don't think it's convenient to do

Luca did not expect Luke to disagree with it and use such an excuse

She had no choice but to agree with it. After all, it was Luke's villa. It was no good for her to continue asking about it.

Luke sounded a little annoyed as jealousy filled his

Luca did not have romantic feelings for Amur, she actually asked him if she could stay with Amur. He was unhappy with it from the bottom of

nothing else, Mr. Crawford. Sorry for disturbing you. I'm hanging up now." Even though Luca had considered the possibility of Luke rejecting her, she was still unable to understand why when she heard him saying no.

Why did he turn her down?

glanced at the time. It was already 11 o'clock at night.

villa had already been cleaned up. If Amur came to stay here tomorrow when he came back, there was no need for her to come back and forth. Besides, after everything that Amur had done for her, she felt the need to take care of

had refused her request.

Chapter 1757

The next day.

Luca opened her eyes. It was already a quarter past seven.

As it was about time to go to work, she headed to the master bedroom and took a set of office wear out. She did not move out everything when she moved out last time, and she kept some of her things here.

Although the clothes were thin as they were meant to wear during early autumn, she would still be able to make do. She checked the weather forecast, and it showed that it would not be too cold today.

After Luca washed herself up, her phone rang when she was about to leave.

She picked it up and glanced at it. It was Luke.

"Good morning, Mr. Crawford." She answered the call, sounding cautious and serious.

Luke was standing outside the villa. He pressed on the doorbell again. "Are you still in bed?"

"No, I'm awake. I'm about to go out and head to the office. Is there anything you need?" Luca thought he called her early in the morning to give her work to do.

Luke frowned. She was about to go out? Then why did no one answer the door when he had been ringing the doorbell for ten minutes?

"I'm outside the villa," said Luke.

Luca was stunned. She paused her gestures while she was changing her shoes. She glanced at the time and said, "Uh, I'm not in the villa."

"Where are you?" Luke asked. He had only asked her to move in yesterday but she was not here today?

"I'm at the apartment, my own apartment. My brother is coming back soon, so I came back here to clean it up," Luca explained.

slept in the apartment after you finished cleaning up?" Luke's brows furrowed together. It seemed that Luca was very concerned about this brother who had no blood ties

she had for Amur was how a sister treated her younger brother. However, Amur's feelings for Luca were not as

met each other the last time, his instinct told him that Amur had feelings

was too late, so I slept there. Don't worry. I'm heading to the office now. I won't be late." Luca promised him. She refused to think about the reason why Luke showed up in front of the

still running away like an ostrich from Luke and his feelings

thought that he had made it clear by asking her to move out of the apartment. However, what he was doing now made her

What was Luke doing?

was he giving her the wrong impression that he cared

at the breakfast he was holding in his hand. He was worried that Luca did not have any ingredients to make breakfast after she moved in here. That was why he brought

did not expect that she was not here at

had taken into account the journey to the office and bought Western breakfast for her. It would not affect the taste even if the food went cold.

bought you breakfast. You don't have to buy anything on the way to the office." Luke hung up the phone after he said

not get angry if Luca cared so much about her younger brother who had blood ties with

After all, her family was important to *her*.

However, Amur was someone who had nothing to do with her. Besides, he was related to the organization that was behind Luca. Still, she cared so much about him!

Luke was unhappy. She was not even that straightforward with him. She had to give another man a share of soup when she prepared soup *for him*.

He got back into his car. Then, he recalled what he did to verify whether or not it was Luca who personally made the soup for him yesterday. He even called the maid who took care of her and asked if she had bought any ingredients to prepare the *soup*.

After the maid confirmed with him that Luca did not ask her to buy the ingredients to prepare the soup, he was sure that it was Luca who made the soup herself.

What a difficult woman...

She was straightforward to other **men**.

Luke felt unhappy at once. It seemed like she was not busy enough in **T Corporation**.

She still had the energy to clean up the apartment for another man. If that was the case, she should not blame him for doing this **to her**...

Luke was planning to bring the kids to the villa for them to stay together with Luca. Now, it seemed like he had to proceed with the plan earlier than scheduled.

That way, she would have to take care of the kids after work. There were three kids, so he would like to see if she had any extra energy to take care of another man!

At the thought of this, Luke picked up his phone. He called Mr. Griffin and gave him orders.

Then, he drove back to the T Corporation.

The villa was nearer to T Corporation. Naturally, Luke reached the office earlier than **Luca**.

walked out of the elevator after he came to his floor. He was carrying the breakfast in his

Luca's office and placed the breakfast on Luca's desk. He was afraid that she might not see it, so he placed it in the middle of the table. Then, he headed to the pantry and prepare coffee for

she did not say anything about it, Luke knew that she must not have slept much last

Luca's habit, she would usually go to sleep around 12. However, she called him at about 11:30 last night, asking whether her 'brother' was allowed to

rejected her, she must have headed to the apartment to clean

felt even more upset at the thought of Luca staying up late cleaning the apartment for some other man. After he put the thermos flask filled with coffee on her table, he turned around and left the

at T Corporation. She walked into her office after she punched in. She saw the Western breakfast that Luke had bought for

was a thermos flask on the table

at the flask, and it seemed like the one she gave to him

her eyes. She walked into the office and picked up the flask. It

the flask and looked at it. There was coffee in

The coffee was still warm...

it. She could smell the rich aroma of the coffee. She looked at the breakfast on the table and wondered why Luke made

Chapter 1758

After breakfast, Luca sat in the office chair and started to work.

Tina came from time to time to hand her the documents to be translated. She said, "Dr. Craw, the documents to be translated are increasing. You have to pay attention to your time management. You can't delay your work from the lab or have any errors with your translation work."

Luca nodded. The drug research was about to end. If there were no issues during the final experiment, the product could be launched.

Therefore, she often went downstairs to preside over the experimental research.

However, the translation work was also very important. She had to take care of both ends, and her workload was more than that of other T Corporation employees.

"Thank you for your hard work. Do you want coffee?" Tina asked.

"No, thank you." Luca took a sip from her coffee cup and continued to work.

At noon, the phone rang. It was Amur who called.

Luca quickly answered and asked, "Amur, are you back?"

"Yes, I'm back. Are you at work now?" Amur asked. To come back sooner, he chose to travel by plane instead of the high-speed rail.

The few hours on the high-speed rail would make him a little bit impatient.

"Yeah, I'm still at work. By the way, I've already cleaned up the apartment. You can just move back in." Luca paused tapping on the keyboard. She thought of keeping him from knowing that she had moved out for the time being.

going to wait until they met for dinner at

came back by plane and I've put my things in the apartment. It's time for your lunch break. Can you come down for a meal?"

Luca was shocked. "Are you downstairs?"

haven't had a meal together for some time now,"

glanced at the time. Even though the whole company was busy, there was still time for lunch. She saved the file she was working on and turned off the computer. "I'll come down

waited on the ground floor of T Corporation and looked at the employees who came out for

tall figure and handsome face attracted the attention of many female employees. He was even approached by one

not interested in them. He kept looking in the direction of the entrance. He could not go in because he did not have an access card, so he could only wait there for Luca to come

downstairs and saw Amur standing at the entrance. She greeted him with a smile, "You're finally

out his hand and saw that she just stood there without hugging him. He asked suspiciously, "Luca, I came back safely. Won't you give me a

glanced back at the entrance and shook her head. "We're in A City now. It's not the norm for siblings to was worried that if she was overly enthusiastic, it would be seen by others and reach Luke's

Luca was worried that he would misunderstand the situation.

Disappointment flashed in Amur's eyes. In the past, when they were on the Island of Despair, they loved each other like a family. Every time he returned from a mission, she would give him a big hug.

Luca noticed his silence, walked over, and patted his shoulder. "Do as the locals do. Come, I'll treat you to lunch."

"Okay." Amur forced a smile. Even if she did not say anything, he knew why she would not hug **him**.

In Luca's heart, he was just one of her younger brothers and would never be more important than that man.

Although he overcame all difficulties and completed the mission quickly so that he could return to be by her side and protect her, all Luca could think about was that man.

When Amur saw Luca was leaving, he followed *behind*.

Tina walked toward them, and her eyes lit up when she saw Amur. She smiled and greeted them, "Dr. Craw, are you going for lunch?"

"Yes." Luca nodded.

Tina looked at Amur curiously and asked, "Who is this?"

"Oh, this is my brother, Amur. Amur, this is my colleague, Tina." Luca *introduced them*.

Amur greeted Tina out of a gentleman's

hello." Tina smiled, her eyes could not hide the admiration she had for him. After all, he was a handsome guy. Who would not

didn't expect you to have such a handsome brother, Dr. Craw. I won't take more of your time. I'll head off now." Although she admired Amur, she did not say

Tina leave, turned her head, and said to Amur, "There's a nice restaurant nearby. Why don't we go there for

happy to go along with whatever you pick." Amur had no objection. He liked to eat whatever she liked to

Amur to a nearby restaurant and chose a corner spot. Since it was already halfway through the lunch break, there were not many people in the

they placed their order, she checked in on him. "Did the mission

went well. Otherwise, I wouldn't be able to return so quickly." Amur nodded. He could only restrain himself when facing

Luca asked, "Are you injured?"

inevitable to get injured during a mission. Isn't it normal to have a few bruises here and there?" Amur explained with a

few bruises?" Luca's expression was serious. "Amur, you know I'm asking about the scars on your

shook his head. He was unwilling to have her worry. "I've always been

Chapter 1759

"He's living with you?" Amur frowned. He was uneasy at the thought of Luca and Luke being together again.

Luca was put in such a situation because of this man. If she got back with Luke, the catastrophe that would bring her was unimaginable.

"No, I'm living alone. I moved out of that place because Abel killed a security guard there. The place I'm living at now is great. It's close to the office, so it's convenient to travel to and from work." Luca was a little incoherent. She knew that he wanted to move in with her but she had to stop him.

It was just because of what Luke said.

Luca was relying on him and could not move out, so no matter what, she still had to listen to Luke.

Amur understood that she did not want him to move in purely because of that man. He gripped his fork tightly and said, "If you want your journey to the office to be more convenient, I'll rent an apartment near your office with you. Don't worry about the rent. I've saved up over the years."

Luca shook her head, took a sip of tea, and reminded him. "Amur, the one who asked me to approach Luke is Abel. You can't refuse Abel's orders..."

Amur fell silent when he heard that.

The matter did not just involve Luca and Luke. Abel was a factor as well.

He would kill Luke and run away with Luca if he could, but he could not betray Abel.

It was not that he was worried about facing death if he betrayed him and there was no antidote. He was thinking of his sister who was still on the Island of Despair.

had three weaknesses—Eler, Luca, and

order..." Amur repeated what she

all Abel's plan. You know what that man means to me. I don't want to hurt him if I can, but do I have a choice? I don't, and neither do you..." Luca lowered her gaze and reminded him of the mess that they were

were not at the mercy of fate but were in

This was the cruel truth.

was silent for a while. Eventually, he said in a muffled voice,

of them could get rid

if you don't want to stay here, go back to the Island of Despair. Your last mission was a tough one. I think Abel gave you such a difficult mission to make things difficult for you..." Luca muttered. It was time for Amur

his head, his gaze firm. "I can't go back. I can't leave you here alone. Don't worry, I won't cause you too much trouble. I'll be of help

sighed and suddenly thought of

Maybe Amur could be of help...

She stared at him, not knowing if he was injured from the mission. She was debating on whether it would be cruel to ask him to help her right after he finished *a mission*.

Amur could tell that she had something to say, so he got straight to the point. "Luca, if you have something to say, just say it. Don't keep it in **your heart**."

Seeing that, Luca said, "My good friend, Nina, was kidnapped by a fop named Pierre. Many people are looking for her but there's no news *so far*."

"**Your** good friend? Luca, you made a good friend here?" Amur asked. He did not care about the life and death of others. The only thing he cared about was the person in front *of him*.

"To be specific, she's a former friend. But I've become good friends with her again. Amur, I know it's not fair of me to ask you for help now, but the person who kidnapped Nina has also kidnapped me before. Saving Nina and confronting this man is the same thing," Luca said.

Amur looked nervous. When he was on a mission in B City, he did not pay much attention to the situation in A City. He did not even know that Luca was kidnapped. "You *were kidnapped*?!"

"**That's in** the past. Luke rescued me. The person who kidnapped me was Pierre, but he paid off someone, so he has been at large. I have to settle the score with him. Abel is also helping me on this but things have been a little slow on his side," *Luca said*.

She found out from the news that Abel had made a move. She did not know if the progress had stalled because Pierre was too vigilant or Abel was not satisfied with **her progress**.

Amur's expression darkened when he heard what she said. "If this kind of thing happens again, you must tell me as soon as possible. Send me the information of that person. I'll help you find **her**."

to touch the person he loved would have bad luck coming their

and sent him Pierre's information and Nina's photo

way Percy and Luke were tracking down Nina was legal, but if Amur was involved, he would be able to get rid of the obstacles and find the place where Pierre was hiding Nina in a

they were done with the conversation, Amur glanced at his phone and reminded her, saying, "It's getting late. Hurry up and eat. The food will be cold if you don't

noded. She was relieved that he had promised to help find

On the other hand.

on the door of Luca's office with a takeaway box in his hand but there was no

knocked again and called out,

over, saw what Jason was doing, and told him, "Mr. Doyle, you don't need to knock anymore. Dr. Craw is eating with her younger brother

Jason's expression was blank. He was unaware that Luca had a younger

Chapter 1760

"Brother?" Luke stopped working.

"Yes, I heard that it's a man with European features." Jason had not realized the problem and continued with his report.

Luke's mood sank. She told him the day before that Amur would be back and she ended up having a meal with him as soon as he returned...

'She's that excited? Doesn't she know that besides me, all other men are trash? How could she have dinner with that man...'

Jason noticed Luke's gloomy expression and realized that he was in trouble.

He hurriedly said, "Boss, if there's nothing else, I'll be heading off to attend to some tasks."

"Wait a minute." Luke stopped Jason, who desperately wanted to leave.

"Boss, what can I do for you?" Jason turned around with a serious expression. He looked like he was ready to make a noble sacrifice.

"When Luca comes back, get her to come into my office," Luke ordered.

"Will do." Jason breathed a sigh of relief. He felt fortunate that Luke did not pick on him even though he was in a bad mood. He hurriedly left Luke's office seeing that all was well.

When Luca returned to the office after lunch, she noticed that Jason was standing in front of her office. He was even working on a document so that he could be productive while waiting.

"Mr. Doyle, why are you here?" She hurriedly stepped forward. She thought that it was likely Jason was waiting here for her because of work matters, hence she hurriedly opened the door.

Craw, I'm here for you." Jason's words confirmed what she had in

downstairs for lunch. You could've just dropped me a text. Why are you standing here waiting for me?" Luca walked into the office. In T Corporation, Luke was the only one who could order

such, she was surprised to see him standing there just to wait

want to stand after sitting for so long. It's nothing to worry about." Jason made up a

and thought that it was weird even after he explained himself. "What can I help you

almost forgot! The boss asked to see you. He said you should go to his office after you're done with lunch." Jason relayed

silent for a few seconds. She thought of all the possibilities of why Luke would ask to see her and asked, "Uh, did Mr. Crawford tell you

tell me. Just a head's up, the boss is in a bad mood. Dr. Craw, good luck to you." After Jason finished his sentence, he walked back to his

was in a bad mood, so he made Jason wait in front of her office so that he could notify Luca as soon as she came

nodded, took a deep breath, walked to the front of the door of Luke's office,

is it?" Luke's voice came from inside. He did not allow her to enter

"Mr. Crawford, it's Luca," Luca said.

"Come in," Luke ordered.

Luca opened the door and walked in. She saw the man sitting behind the desk doing his work with piles of papers on the desk. He **looked busy**.

"Mr. Crawford, I heard you're looking for me?" She walked in and asked, standing one meter away from *the desk*.

"**Get** off work on time today and go to the supermarket to get some groceries." Luke did not look up. He did not mention her meal with *Amur either*.

Although he knew that Amur was not her half-brother, to outsiders, they were siblings. Even if he was discontented, it was not his place to say *anything*.

He could not let Luca know that he already knew about everything.

"Okay." Luca subconsciously agreed. After she processed what he said, she asked awkwardly, "Mr. Crawford, what do you want me to do with **the groceries**?"

"**The** kids heard that you've moved and want to celebrate your move. Get some groceries after you get off work and make a meal for them when you get home. Alternatively, you can call the cleaning lady to buy them as well. She's helping out at the villa now," Luke said. He thought that she would need some help to cook for so many people.

"**Okay**." Luca agreed. She could not say no when it came to the kids.

Although she could not be there and take care of them all the time, she was willing to make their wishes come true when it was still within her ability to do **so**.

Luke was not surprised when he heard her response. After all, the kids were her everything.

You can get back to work." Although he was still unhappy, he asked her to

wants to take up all her time outside of work as soon as he's back? No

of Luca's time should belong to him and

him, left the office, and closed the door on her way

looked at the closed office door, picked up his phone, and asked the butler, "How's the progress of what I told you

while, the butler replied, "Young Master Luke, the maid has packed up some daily necessities. Zander will send them

then put down his phone and went back

returned to the office, frowning. 'Why did the children suddenly make such

thought about it for a while and still could not figure out why. She sent a list of ingredients to the cleaning lady and asked her to help buy

no ingredients in the villa as she had just moved in, not even basic seasonings. There would be a lot of things to prepare for the meal she would be cooking later

Luca sent the cleaning lady the list of items, she continued

was time to get off work, she did not want to work overtime and immediately packed up the documents to take them home. She planned to continue with work after the