

## **Be Gentle 1801**

### **Chapter 1801**

Luke kept silent and just stared straight at her.

Madam Mallory thought that it was because Luke was thinking about something. However, he did not speak even after a full minute.

Madam Mallory thought that Luke was looking down on her. She was fuming that he did not seize the opportunity even when she gave him an out. She said to the driver with a stern expression, "Drive."

The driver heard her and hurriedly started the car.

Madam Mallory slammed the door and left.

When the bodyguards blocking the road saw that, they got into their cars as well and left.

Luca breathed a sigh of relief. Her nerves were tense, but it was not because she was afraid that Luke would betray her for the sake of maintaining the harmony between Crawford and Mallory families. She was just worried that Madam Mallory would try to force Luke.

Madam Mallory's men certainly would not be able to hurt Luke, but it was hard to say whether he would get hurt trying to protect her.

After the Mallory family's bodyguards retreated, Luca looked at Luke, who was just standing there. The night wind blew. She could not help shivering from the cold.

Luke retracted his gaze and happened to see Luca shivering. He remembered that he had brought her a coat. He said, "I noticed that the temperature dropped, so I brought you a coat. It's in the backseat."

Luca nodded, opened the rear door, and saw a bag.

She picked it up and inside was one of her long coats.

'How thoughtful of Luke...' She picked up the coat, put it on, and instantly felt a lot warmer.

time, you must keep me in the loop if you encounter such things. You shouldn't have been dragged into this mess with the Mallory family." Luke said. Madam Mallory acted like that because she had no one else to pick on. As such, she went

was the one who provoked her first." In front of him, Luca admitted to what she did truthfully. After all, she was the one who made the first move on

his head helplessly when he heard what she said. Nevertheless, he did not ask her to keep her temper

Pierre needed a spanking, and Luca just dealt with Pierre before he and

she did nothing wrong. In fact, she did a good

home. Tommy and the others won't go to bed until you're back," Luke said and returned to the

soon as Luca heard that, she did not dare to delay any longer for fear that it would affect the children's rest. She got into the passenger seat, closed the door, and fastened her

Luke drove back to the villa.

children gathered around Luca when they saw that she was back. "Ms. Luca, are you cold? It's cold outside

looked at how caring Rainie was, shook her head, smiled, and said, "It's not cold, not cold

and said, "Ms. Luca won't be cold with the coat that Daddy

scratched his nose. 'What a cheeky one, I wonder where he learned it from...' She said, "It's getting late. Why are you

"**We were** worried about your safety, so we waited for you to come back," Lanie replied obediently. Whenever he was with his mother, his temperament would shift from being cold-hearted **to talkative**.

Luca glanced at the clock on the wall. Usually, the children would have already returned to their respective bedrooms at this hour to get ready to sleep. She urged them, saying, "Okay, go to bed now. It's **getting late**."

**The kids** nodded and walked up **the stairs**.

**Luca glanced** at Luke, who was still standing there. If it were before, they would go upstairs together. If he was busy with work, she would stay downstairs and make him a glass of milk. If he was not busy, they would go upstairs and walk into the *bedroom together*.

However, things were different at **that moment**...

Luca nodded toward him, then said, "Mr. Crawford, if it's alright, I'll head to bed **now**."

"Mm." Luke did not ask her to stay.

After Luca went upstairs with the kids, he was the only one left in the huge **living room**.

Luke sat on the sofa and called *Percy*.

*Percy was* being lovey-dovey with Nina. When he heard his phone ring, he was slightly annoyed. However, when he saw the caller, he resigned himself to fate and sat up to answer the call.

"Luke, do you know that disturbing people's sleep in the middle of the night is a terrible sin?"

*Luke* heard Percy's dissatisfied voice on the other end of the phone and knew that he had ruined his and Nina's fun time together. Nevertheless, he did not feel guilty. "You can go ahead with your plans anytime you want, but there's something I need to *tell you*."

matter?" Percy pinched Nina's face. There was not much meat on her face, so it did not feel the best. He secretly vowed to make sure that Nina

mother wanted to kidnap Luca tonight," Luke

dare she do that?" Percy frowned. He did not expect Madam Mallory to be

thought that only Pierre would dare to do such a thing in the Mallory family. He did not expect that Madam Mallory would be such a roughneck as

was not mindful of the overall situation. All she was doing was causing trouble for the relentless enough." Luke reminded him. Percy had more compromising things in his hands that could be used

he had gone with a firmer approach, it would not give Madam Mallory time to plot against at Nina, who was also looking at him worriedly. "I see. I'll take care of

dealt with the matter, but I can't guarantee that she won't badger Luca again. I don't want this matter to involve her any more than it already has," Luke said. Even in front of his best friend, he was imperious in protecting his

his everything. She was a woman he could not bear to bully himself, so how could he allow her to be bullied by

"Got it." Percy hung up.

his hand and asked worriedly,

## **Chapter 1802**

Nina looked at him. She had something to say, but she hesitated.

She wanted to ask him why.

'Why is he asking me to leave the matter alone when it's something that everyone would know is wrong without having to think twice? Could it be that there's a secret behind all this?'

Luke should never have betrayed Bianca, even if there was another reason behind it.

Even if he no longer loved her, he should end the relationship with her righteously. However, Bianca was exiled abroad, while Luca was by his side.

It was not that Nina thought that Luca was bad. She just thought that it was wrong for her to intervene in Luke and Bianca's relationship.

However, Percy told her to stay out of it...

Percy held Nina in his arms seeing that she was staying silent. "There are many things that the fewer people know, the better. I promise that when the timing is right, I'll tell you everything."

Nina knew that there must be a plan in motion, so she did not continue to pursue the matter. However, she asked, "Will your plan hurt Luca?"

It was inappropriate that she was involved in Luke's marriage, but she should not be hurt either. After all, she was a genuinely nice person.

"No." Percy promised.

"That's good. it's getting late. Let's go to bed." Nina held his arm, her voice was soft.

Percy wanted to deal with the matter involving the Mallory family, but seeing that it was almost midnight, he knew that Old Master Mallory had already fallen asleep. As such, he had to wait until the next day.

let's sleep." He hugged Nina as they

was long. Some whispered about love, while there were some who could not sleep for various

...

The next day.

came downstairs with dark circles under her eyes to

was occupied and working in the kitchen. When she saw Luca walk in looking like she had not slept all night, she said in surprise, "Ms. Craw, did you not have a

alright. My mind was occupied with work, so I only got a few hours of sleep," Luca explained and touched her face. Her skin was not in the best condition because of

she thought about everything and anything, causing her to have

the first time she could not fall asleep even after taking sleeping pills. Luca felt that her current life had made her more and

terrible. How about I make you a cup of warm milk to make you feel a little better?" the maid asked,

about it. I'll just get some sleep tonight." Luca picked up the apron beside her and put

noticed that Luca was going to prepare breakfast for the children, so she said thoughtfully, "Actually, let me do this. Would you like to go back to sleep? You can still sleep for an hour

"It's alright. I can't fall asleep right now. I can prepare breakfast while you can go ahead with your other tasks." Luca shook her head, opened the refrigerator, and took out **some ingredients**.

Tommy and the others liked the breakfast she made. If the maid prepared it, they would be able to tell the **difference**.

**Therefore**, Luca wanted to make breakfast for the kids when she still could.

*She* did not want to leave any regrets. She cherished any time she could be part of their growth, even if it was only for one **day**.

*Seeing that* Luca insisted on making breakfast for the children, the maid nodded, took off her apron, and walked out of the *kitchen*.

*Luca worked* agilely to prepare breakfast for the children. She then went upstairs and put on some light makeup to hide her **haggard face**.

*By the time* Luke and the kids got up and went downstairs, Luca had already brought the breakfast she prepared to the *table*.

**Tommy's gluttonous** eyes lit up when he got a whiff of the aroma. He dashed to the dining table and looked eagerly at the breakfast on the *table*.

"Ms. Luca, I'm hungry." He turned his head and looked at Luca, who was pouring milk into a **glass**.

"*Sit down* and dig in, then," Luca said, putting the cups of milk in front of the children's seats. In front of her and Luke's seats, she placed two cups of **coffee**.

Luke would usually have a cup of coffee in the morning, while she would usually drink whatever the children drank for breakfast. However, she did not sleep much last night and had to have some coffee to deal with her **high-intensity workload**.

*The children* took their seats, and Luke sat next *to them*.

looked at the coffee in front of him, then at the coffee in front of Luca. He was a little puzzled and asked, "Since when do you drink coffee in

past, she would drink milk

put the toasted bread in front of the kids and responded to the man's question, "I like to switch things around from time to

maid heard her but did not say

Luca stood up. She did not need to clean up the plates on the table, so she went upstairs to change and prepared to head to

the maid saw her going upstairs, she whispered to Luke, "Sir, Ms. Craw didn't sleep well last night, so she

nodded. Although Luca did not say anything, he could guess

was stable, and she paid great attention to taking care of her health. She would not drink coffee if she did not

makeup now, but when she came downstairs to prepare breakfast for everyone, her complexion was terrible. If you can, please have her rest more." After the maid finished speaking, she brought the dirty dishes to the

glanced at the kids. They had all heard what the

the future, whether the food is prepared by her or the maid, you have to finish everything obediently. Don't be picky eaters," he ordered

downstairs to make breakfast for them even when she did not have enough rest because she knew that the kids liked

## **Chapter 1803**

"Do you have any concerns?" Luke asked, seeing her hesitant expression.

He knew her so well that he could even decipher what she was thinking about with just a micro-expression.

Luca shook her head as she could not ask the question she had in mind. "It's nothing."

Luke's gaze sank, but he did not press on. "Let's go. We're going to be late if we leave any later."

Luca nodded and left the house with him.

Luke drove, and when they passed the villa's entrance, Luca noticed that the contractor of the villa next door was already embellishing the door.

She said softly, "Is the renovation work next door almost completed?"

"Mm, Louis and the others will soon be moving in." Luke took a glance and continued to drive toward the entrance of the community.

"Louis?" Luca looked at him. 'The villa is Louis?'

Luke nodded in answer.

Luca did not say anything. 'He planned all these on purpose...'

He first arranged for her to move to the villa, then he moved in. Not long after, the children moved in as well, while Louis and Yuri would soon live next door.

For a moment, Luca thought that she had returned to her previous life.

was living at Crawford Manor with Luke and the kids at the time. Louis had just started a family and given up his old ways. He lived a happy life with

Unfortunately, it was all an illusion.

looked at the road ahead, it was leading to T Corporation. The car kept going forward, just like how her life could not go back to how it was in the

...

On the other hand.

had no peace early in

Master Crawford invited some friends to go out for morning tea. Since the master of the house was gone, Susan and Allison fought first thing in the

did not want to get involved in their feud and left with his wife

the end, Allison and Susan did not reach a conclusion with their fight. It was the butler and the maid who forcefully separated

it was office hours, the butler did not notify Luke and settled the matter

went back to the bedroom and called Luke six times in a row, all of which went straight to voicemail.

"Damn it, there's no place for me in this

to pack up and take out her suitcase. However, she paused what she was doing. She thought that if she left, it would make life easier

**Even** if she had somewhere to go, she could not give this home to **Susan**.

**Allison calmed** herself down, sat on the bed, and left a message to Luke. [If you don't come back tonight to bring me justice, you can wait to bury my body. I can't stay in this *house anymore*.]

**After she** texted him, she sat on the chair and picked up the herbal concoction prescribed by Luca that the maid had just sent to her **room**.

She got a whiff of the strong medicinal smell, remembered the unpleasant taste, and frowned *in disgust*.  
*She* did not want to drink such an *unpleasant concoction*.

Knock, knock. There was a knock on her bedroom door.

**"Who is it?"** Allison put the concoction at the side in *disgust*.

"Madam Allison, Madam Mallory is downstairs. She's looking for you." The maid's voice came from outside the bedroom.

"*Madam Mallory?* Did she say why she's looking for me?" Allison did not open the door and just stood behind the door to ask. She knew Madam Mallory, but they were not *close*.

To be precise, because of her identity, Madam Mallory had always looked down on her in their social circle. She had a better relationship with Susan because Susan was the *legal wife*.

*Even though* she was the one who gave birth to the heir to the Crawford family, in those people's mouths, she was nothing but a mistress who lived in Crawford Manor by relying on her son.

**If** Luke was no one special, the Crawford family would want nothing to do with **her**.

how Madam Mallory saw her from the beginning, so Allison felt no need to bootlick nor  
never close, so Allison did not go down immediately, thinking that she came to visit out of the blue to make fun

at herself in the mirror. Her skin did not get better even after she applied and consumed the  
never allow herself to meet outsiders with her face like this so as not to be  
didn't say why," the

that, Allison did not give it much thought before she said, "If she didn't say anything, it means that all is well. Tell her I'm not feeling well and I can't meet her. If there's something she wants to talk to me about, have her

was taken back as she thought that it was not the best

worked for the Crawford family for many years, so she knew about the relationship between the Crawford and Mallory families. Allison acting up might harm the relationship between the

Ma'am." The maid understood and knew that Allison would not meet Madam Mallory no matter what. She returned downstairs and politely said to Madam Mallory, who was sitting in the living room,  
"Madam Mallory, I'm sorry. Madam Allison is not feeling well. She won't be able to meet you

Madam Mallory frowned.

who sat beside Madam Mallory, snorted coldly and exposed her. "She's not feeling well? She was just yelling at everyone like a shrew but she's suddenly not feeling well now? I think that she's just embarrassed to meet our guest with that ugly face of hers.

was not sure how to react seeing how ruthless Susan was. It was said to not wash one's dirty linen in public, but the two could not wait to publicize their

## **Chapter 1804**

"What happened? Tell me about it," Susan asked quickly. She did not intend to let go of anything she could use against Luke because this might be the evidence she needed to bring him down and make Louis come to power in the future.

"Tell you? Are you able to tell him off?" Madam Mallory wondered. After all, Susan was not Luke's biological mother.

"Why not? No matter what, I'm still his mother. When Allison doesn't know how to educate her son, I'm the one who steps forward," Susan said.

Madam Mallory nodded. No matter what, Susan was the legal wife of Zachary Crawford.

Even though his biological mother was around, Luke still addressed Susan as 'Mother.'

"Doesn't Luke already have a wife? I found out that he's very close to Luca Craw and there's a high chance that they're living together," Madam Mallory said. She did not mention what had happened the day prior.

After all, she impulsively wanted to kidnap Luca. It was illegal, so she did not want to say anything about it.

When Susan heard that, she lost interest. "Luca Craw? It's not news that they're close. Luca has won the hearts of the three children. If you say that they're living together, that's possible... But there's nothing anyone can do about this matter, not me nor Old Master Crawford. We can't be involved."

"Old Master Crawford doesn't care? How is that possible?" Madam Mallory was surprised. She only spoke about this so that Allison or Susan would know about it and relay the news to Old Master Crawford. Her goal was for them to restrain Luke.

clear that out of everyone in the Crawford family, only Old Master Crawford could do something

Let me tell you, Luke moved out with the kids, and Old Master Crawford agreed to it. His agreement says everything. Old Master Crawford is not stupid. When they moved out, he must have investigated everything and knew that Luke might live with Luca. Even so, he still agreed. This matter is not a secret in the Crawford family." Susan took a sip of tea and suddenly lost interest in the

wanted to win over Luca but was turned down, so Susan had no other means to go

is ridiculous!" Madam Mallory could not believe that Old Master Crawford had given his agreement for Luke to move in with



not afraid that the reputation of the Crawford family will be ruined if the reporters find out about why Madam Mallory did not get the reporters involved but instead went to the Crawford family to inform them was that she did not want to make a big deal out of it. To some extent, the fate of the Crawford and Mallory families

it was not absolutely necessary, she did not want the Crawford family to be involved in family is crazy. Since that woman got out of prison, it's gotten even crazier." Susan could not help complaining. She knew that Madam Mallory wanted the Crawford family to control Luke, so she thought of a way to go

can we let Luke be like this? What about his wife who's abroad? If that woman sticks around, won't he just be like his father?" Madam Mallory rambled and mentioned the Crawford family's playboy,

Susan's mood sank.

Madam Mallory pursed her lips and realized she had said something wrong. She touched Susan's hand and said, "Sorry, I didn't mean to mention *him*."

"It doesn't matter. He's been gone for so long. I'm somewhat glad that he only had Allison. If there were two more, I won't be able to stay in this home any longer." Susan felt hatred in her heart, but she could not show it. Hence, she *acted generously*.

**Madam** Mallory took a sip of tea. Seeing that she had not achieved any purpose in her visit today, she did not want to waste any more of her time. After all, the mess left behind by Pierre had her occupied.

*"Forget it. I just wanted to remind you but it seems that all of you already know about it. Although it's absurd, the entire Crawford family is in Luke's hands now. None of you seem to be able to do anything, so I won't bother you any longer."* She stood up. She intended to put pressure on Luke but did not expect that the Crawford family was in a situation as such.

*Although* they seemed to be doing better than the Mallory family, if this piece of news exploded, they would have their hands full as well.

Seeing that she was about to leave, Susan hurriedly held her back. "Although the Crawford family can't deal with this matter, I know people who can."

*As soon* as Madam Mallory heard that, she sat on the sofa again and quickly asked, "Who?"

"**The** Norman family." Susan reminded her. She had hinted to Queenie once before and Queenie had reacted with surprise then. When she was sitting and waiting for the drama to unfold, the matter was over before she knew it. *Nothing happened*.

that her plan failed, she could not continue to remind or encourage Queenie to find trouble with Luke because it would make her ulterior

all, she was still Luke's mother. If anyone found out what she was planning, she would be digging a grave for herself. If Old Master Crawford found out, it was inevitable that she would be criticized for

family? Jack Norman?" Madam Mallory remembered that Luke's wife was Jack's long-lost

always felt guilty about her long-lost daughter. It's a pity that they don't know what Luke is doing behind their backs." Susan took a sip of her tea. Her hints could not be more

Madam Mallory nodded thoughtfully.

told Queenie about this, she would not stay out of it from what Madam Mallory knew

the way, don't tell others that I told you that. Old Master Crawford doesn't like it when I cause trouble. Last time, I didn't hint at Queenie hard enough, so it didn't work. Luke has been bewitched. If it's for the good of Luke, you can try doing something about it. After all, Luca Craw is not as unassuming as she seems." Susan was worried that Madam Mallory would not take action if her hatred for Luca was not strong enough, so she deliberately phrased her words in a certain way to increase their effectiveness on Madam

Mallory gritted her teeth and said, "I know that there's more to that woman that meets the eye. Otherwise, how could Luke, who has always been wise, be bewitched by

## **Chapter 1805**

"How much did you overhear from the conversation between me and Mrs. Mallory?" Susan asked. The maid was responsible for delivering food and drinks to Allison. She was usually the one in contact with Allison.

The maid's body shook as she uttered, "Madam Susan, I didn't hear anything."

"Very well. If someone else knows about what we talked about, I'll know that you accidentally overheard it and spread the news. You're aware of the consequences, yes?" Susan threatened the maid. Although Old Master Crawford was still in control of the Crawford family, she still had the ability to frame the maid and have her fired.

The maid nodded quickly and said, "I understand. I didn't hear anything."

The maid cleared the cups and snacks on the coffee table. Then, she got a text from Allison, so she immediately went upstairs.

She knocked on the door of the room, and Allison's voice came from inside. "Come in."

The maid opened the bedroom door and saw Allison's face. She was frightened and could not help trembling. She immediately lowered her gaze and asked, "Madam Allison, what can I help you with?"

"Take that bowl out of here. It stinks like hell," Allison said while she pointed to the bowl next to her that contained the herbal concoction. She had only taken two sips before she decided that she did not want it anymore.

The maid came in and picked up the bowl along with the tray.

Allison asked, "Has Madam Mallory left?"

"I think so," the maid replied cautiously. She knew that Allison wanted to get information out of her, so she was careful not to let herself slip. After all, Susan had warned her.

As such, she could only hide what she knew from Allison.

say anything?" Allison looked at herself in the mirror, her thoughts in turmoil. She covered the mirror with a black

replied softly, "She chatted with Madam Susan for a while

her eyebrows and looked at the maid. She was jealous of the maid's fairly smooth face and was mad that a maid's skin was better than hers. "Chat? What did they talk

seemed to be talking about some household matters. Nothing out of the ordinary." The maid tried to ask, "Household matters? She didn't mention to Susan why she came to look for

didn't hear anything... I was in the living room only for a while before I was asked to go to the kitchen by the cook to help out." The maid quickly shook

did not look at her anymore. She waved her hand and said, "You can leave now. By the way, you don't need to bring me lunch later. I'm trying to lose

Madam Allison." The maid got her permission and immediately went downstairs with the bowl for fear that Allison would continue to question her. She was worried she would end up letting something slip because she was

on the vanity chair, deep in

Mallory was not close with her and would usually look for Susan if she visited.

did she suddenly come to look for me today? Is it as simple as wanting to see my disfigured

**"What a bitch!"** Allison yelled out vicious words when she thought that Madam Mallory came for just **that**.

...

At noon.

**Luca finished** a task and ran to the lab downstairs to check on the progress of the *experiment*.

**Rhett handed** her the reports. Luca carefully looked at every line of the data. She did not dare to be careless. All of the data would affect the final stage of the drug's research and development.

*After she* read the data at hand, Luca asked "Has the clinical trial report been *sorted out*?"

"We'll only be able to have it ready this afternoon," Rhett answered honestly.

*Luca* nodded and did not put pressure on them. "The processing of the data can't go wrong, or it'll affect the next step of the research. Take it easy. Just make sure there are no mistakes."

**Rhett nodded** and asked embarrassedly, "Are you sure that everything is okay? I heard that Dr. Albus' research is coming to an end and their drug is about to be launched. The laboratory researchers on our team are feeling a little anxious because of that..."

**Luca understood** why they were anxious. After all, they were supposedly ahead of everyone with **their research...**

**They could** not help but feel ashamed of being overtaken by Dr. Albus' **team**.

the report in his hand and replied, "Drug research is not child's play. Our drug is more complicated than Dr. Albus'. It's understandable why we were ahead in the early stages of our research and slowed down in the later period. Don't rush. The progress of others doesn't represent ours. Speed doesn't mean anything as long as we're meticulous with the research and the medicine can truly

the report from her

Luca was reasonable.

news of her helping out Dr. Albus had spread in the team. Some of the researchers were dissatisfied. After all, they were all hands on deck with the research, while Luca not only had to take care of T Corporation's translation work but she also helped

looked at Rhett's embarrassed look and knew why he reacted as such. "Tell them to focus on the task at hand. If the drug is effective, it'll naturally sell. If the sales are good, they'll get their bonus. Besides, the company's end of the year performance is not based on who launches the drug in the market first but rather, whose drug is used by more hospitals and

Rhett nodded knowingly.

at the time and said, "It's time for lunch. Go and get something to

Craw, don't you want to get anything to get? Do you need me to take away some food for you?" Rhett around, yawned, shook her head, and said, "I'm not hungry. I want to go back to the office to rest for a while. When lunch break is over, please knock on my door. I'm afraid I won't be able to get up in

did not sleep all night last night, so she was a little tired and

there were not many office sofas that a person could lie flat on. Hence, Luca came down specifically to lie down and rest in

## **Chapter 1806**

"Dr. Craw? I went downstairs with her just now but I don't think she was going for lunch." Jason reported truthfully but wondered why Luke did not call her directly.

'Aren't they already living together? Why are they still so awkward when they're in the office?

After all, Luke was the boss of the company. Jason did not think that should be the case.

No one would dare say anything even if he used a public tool for private use.

"Where did she go?" Luke asked even though he had an answer in his heart. If she went downstairs and did not go for lunch, she was probably too tired. Hence, she went to the office downstairs to rest.

He glanced at Luca's office. It was a temporary office that used to be a vacant utility room, so there was not enough space for a sofa that could fit her.

"I think she's in the lab." Jason looked at his thoughtful expression and felt a little uneasy.

Luke turned around and walked to his office. When he thought that Luca might not eat and just sleep until the end of the lunch break, he turned around and said to Jason, "Order a meal and put it on Dr. Craw's desk."

"Got it, Boss," Jason replied.

Luke returned to his office and closed the door because he did not want to be disturbed by others. He moved the mouse to open the monitoring software that had not been in use for a long time.

Since Luca moved to the office upstairs, he had not used the software.

Moreover, after he found out that she was Bianca, he did not install surveillance cameras in the new office because he believed that she would never hurt him.

did what she did because she was compelled

at the surveillance footage and saw Luca lying on the sofa with her head facing the camera. She used a coat to cover

cold, but all she did was put on a

not sit still. The moment he stood up, he sat down again. Luca would be suspicious if he sent a

knew her true identity, he did not want her to know what he was doing

at the woman lying on the sofa resting, he silently clenched his fists and called Tina

knocked on the door. After she got his permission to step in, she opened the door and asked, "Boss, what can I help you

logistics team send each department a few blankets,"

was a little confused as to why each department needed blankets. "Boss, what are the blankets

at the screen and showed an indifferent expression. "It's getting cold. Our employees might catch a cold if they don't have a blanket during their

Tina nodded in response...

**However, the** company had never implemented something like this before. This initiative was out of the blue, so Tina thought about it before figuring out why he gave the order. She said, "Boss, do you need to equip the senior management of each department with one more? Just to be safe."

*Luke thought* what she said made sense and nodded. "Go for it."

"Okay, Boss. I'll make arrangements right now." Tina left his office with a smile.

Luke's gaze fell on the computer screen again. There was limited space on the sofa, so Luca did not change her sleeping position. She slept straight and appreciated every second that she got **to rest**.

At the end of the lunch break, the alarm clock on her phone rang and there was a knock on the door.

*Luca opened* her eyes and said to Rhett, who was at the door, "I'm *awake*."

When Rhett heard her reply, he stopped knocking on the door and said, "Okay, Dr. Craw. I bought you lunch. Would you like to have it *now*?"

Luca glanced at the time. It was already after lunch hours. She used her lunch break to rest and thought that it was not fair for her to use her work time to eat. She turned him down, saying, "Thank you, but don't worry about it. I'll get back to work in a moment."

Rhett heard that she did not want to eat and did not insist. He returned to the laboratory to continue with the **research**.

**Luca sat** on the sofa, turned off the alarm clock, put on her coat, and left the office without staying much **longer**.

When she returned to the office upstairs, Luca saw a takeaway box on her desk and *frowned*.

'Who put it here? Was it **Luke**?'

denied this possibility but knew that besides him, not many would so thoughtfully prepare food for picked up the takeaway box, walked to Jason's office, and found that his door was not closed. She still knocked on it

up from the pile of documents, glanced at her, and said with a smile, "Dr. Craw,

Doyle, did you put this takeaway box in my office?" Luca asked as she showed the takeaway

glanced at the takeaway box and replied, "Yes and no. The boss asked me to put it in your office. He might have asked me to get that for you because I mentioned that you went downstairs for work, so he guessed that you wouldn't have

him and nodded. 'It's

you." After she thanked him, she was ready to go back to

said, "Dr. Craw, why don't you go and warm up the food? You can continue working after you have something to eat. It won't take much time anyway. The boss arranged it as such because he's concerned about

not intend to eat at first but reconsidered after she heard what Jason said. 'Yes, this is his kind intention. Although I act like I don't care, how could I not eat

She walked into the pantry with the takeaway

On the other hand.

## **Chapter 1807**

Madam Mallory glanced at the ward number and found that it was a VIP ward.

She guessed that whoever Queenie was taking care of was not simple. Otherwise, why would they be in the VIP ward? On top of that, her men could not find out who was in the ward.

'Is it Jack Norman?'

Madam Mallory thought that it would not be possible as she saw the news of Jack in the newspaper that morning. He was attending various events, so he could not be in the VIP ward for treatment.

‘Could the person in the ward be Luke's wife, Bianca?’

After all, Bianca was supposedly studying abroad but no one knew where she was studying nor the specific details.

Maybe she got sick and Queenie brought her back to be secretly treated...

If it was Bianca, she could use her to mess with Luca.

‘Luca likes to be a mistress, huh? If Bianca appears in front of her, Luke won’t be able to protect her anymore.’

The longer a man was in Luke’s position, the more afraid he would be of getting into scandals that could affect his company's stock price. If something happened, he would be sure to stand on Bianca's side.

By then, Luca would be nothing.

looked at Pierre who was still asleep and told the nurse, "Take care of Young Master Pierre. I have something to

nurse heard that, she was a little scared. After all, whenever Pierre was sober, he would be in a terrible mood. If he woke up and Madam Mallory was not around, she would likely get the brunt of his

Mallory snorted coldly when she saw how the nurse reacted. She knew her son, so she said, "I'll be back in a while. He's injected with valium, so he won’t wake up any time

Ma'am." The nurse had no choice but to agree. After all, she was here to take care of the patient. Since the Mallory family had paid her, she should take good care

Mallory immediately left the ward and rushed to the upper

Pierre should have been allocated a ward on the upper floors, but his situation was special and the doctor did not recommend him to stay there. Otherwise, it would be more difficult to take care of him. Hence, they could only go with the doctor's arrangement and stay in a two-person

took advantage of the Mallory family’s connections and turned the double ward into a single

Mallory came to the VIP ward floor and was about to look inside but was stopped by the head

who are you?" The wards on this floor were special, so she remembered each patient and their family members. She would not allow others to walk around at will to protect the privacy of the patients

to visit a patient," Madam Mallory explained patiently when the nurse stopped

**The nurse** looked at the woman who was dressed gracefully and luxuriously. The nurse thought that she did not look like a gossip reporter who came to secretly take pictures. Hence, she politely asked, "Which patient do you want to visit? We need the consent of the family before any visitation."

*Madam* Mallory was taken back. She had not come to this floor for too long, so she forgot that the management of this floor was strict.

She did not have time to look for connections to assist her in this operation as she feared that Queenie would leave while she was doing that. She just said, "I'm here to visit a patient from the *Norman family*."

"Which Norman family is it?" The head nurse patiently verified **with her**.

**Madam** Mallory began to get impatient and said, "It's Jack **Norman's family**."

The head nurse knew about the Norman family. She glanced at her and said with a straight face, "Ma'am, I'm sorry. We haven't received any instructions from the patient's family, which means that they didn't tell our nurses that a guest would be coming to visit **today**."

**Madam Mallory** was at her limit. She stared at the head nurse and shouted, "They're so busy, they may not remember everything. I made an appointment with them yesterday and told them I'd come to visit today. I also know their ward number. It's 2505, isn't it?"

"I'm sorry, we weren't informed. Maybe the patient's family was so busy that they forgot about it. Perhaps you could give them a call. You can only enter if you're authorized." The head nurse insisted. The patients on this floor paid great attention to their privacy, so she did not dare to let her in of her own **accord**.

**Madam** Mallory looked at how insistent she was, became anxious, and said, "Do you know who I am? I'm Madam Mallory, not one of those good-for-nothing reporters. I'm a public figure! How dare you dare stop me? I'll have you fired *by tomorrow*!"

The head nurse was helpless at her rogue remarks. They did their work according to the rules and regulations. They did not dare to let anyone walk in just like that.

Mallory. It's our job." The head nurse insisted on wanting to maintain patient privacy. After all, she was more afraid of letting randoms in and the patient's family blaming her than to receive a complaint from those she did not let

Mallory cursed, "Who do you think you are?! I'll have a chat with your department later. What kind

out her phone, walked to the elevator, and called the number that called her just now. "I can't get into that ward. Help me think of a way for me to

person on the other end of the phone heard her and said helplessly, "Madam, if you can't enter, I would have no

nurses would not even let someone with the Mallory name walk in. He was just someone who was at the bottom of the food chain. He was out

you're useless!" Madam Mallory was so angry that

on the other end of the phone gave her a suggestion. "You can wait by the elevator? She would have to leave

the elevator? Does he not know who

immediately hung up the phone in



then looked at the head nurse in the distance who was still standing there. She had arranged this kind of ward for Old Master Mallory before and knew that even if the head nurse walked away, there would be other nurses or security guards guarding

## **Chapter 1808**

Madam Mallory certainly would not let Queenie know that she had been waiting for her, so she made up an excuse. "My son is hospitalized because he's not feeling well, so I'm here."

Queenie frowned, her mood heavy. Leia's illness made her empathize with Madam Mallory. She looked at her worriedly and asked, "Is your son alright?"

"The situation is not optimistic." Madam Mallory secretly rejoiced when she saw that Queenie responded rather positively. She turned around and waited for the elevator with her. "The doctor can't find out the root cause, so he can only rely on painkillers and valium to stabilize his condition."

"It's that serious..." Queenie's brows furrowed deeper. She thought of Leia,

She had been taking medicine and would go home to recuperate when she got better. However, if her condition took a turn for the worse, she would have to be hospitalized again.

The medicine that Luca prescribed was effective, but Leia's willfulness made her condition worse. The medicine had now become less effective.

Seeing Queenie's sad face, Madam Mallory made a plan in her heart. She sighed and said, "Pierre was hospitalized because someone plotted against him. The cause has not yet been found, so he can only cry out in pain. As a mother, I wish I can take the pain for him but... Sigh..."

Queenie replied with concern, "Someone plotted against him? Who's so courageous?"

Although she did not have much contact with the business circle, she knew exactly the status that the Mallory family held in A City.

"I don't know if you know her... That woman is doing whatever she wants with the Crawford family's backing!" Madam Mallory watched the elevator arrive, politely let Queenie step in first, and said all that through gritted teeth.

'The Crawford family?'

paused, walked into the elevator, and saw that Madam Mallory also walked in. She asked, "Did the Crawford family hurt your son? Aren't the Crawford and Mallory families on good

not believe that anyone in the Crawford family would break

Mallory pretended to be thinking of something. Then, she shook her head and acted as though she wanted to avoid talking about it. "Forget it. It's a

Mallory, you are..." Queenie could not let it go when she heard the Crawford family's name being mentioned. If the Crawford family did something outrageous, she could plead

forgot that Luke is your son-in-law. You should just act like you didn't hear anything about it." Madam Mallory pressed the button for the first floor. She guessed that Queenie was

is there anything I can help you with?" Queenie was not a gossipy person. Although she was related to the Crawford family, she did not ask any further since Madam Mallory refused to

not expect that she would not pursue the

were someone else, they would continue

Mallory rolled her eyes, shook her head, and said, "Sorry, I lost my temper. I was too worried about Pierre. Sigh, I blame him for provoking

'Woman?'

Queenie frowned. 'How could any woman in the Crawford family provoke Pierre?'

The only people she could think of were Allison and Susan, but neither of them seemed to be the kind who would interact **with Pierre**.

"**Who** is the Crawford woman you're talking about?" Queenie was *curious*.

Madam Mallory lowered her gaze as a smug look flashed across her face. Her opportunity came, and she did not bother to be subtle this time. She said, "It's the woman named Luca *Craw!*"

"*She's* from the Crawford family?" Queenie looked suspiciously at Madam Mallory, trying to understand if there was more to the situation from the look on **her face**.

**Madam Mallory** sighed and shook her head, "Of course, she's not a woman from the Crawford family. I shouldn't have said these things, but at this point, I have to reveal the truth. Mrs. Norman, I think you're still being kept in the dark *by Luke?*"

Queenie blinked and had a bad premonition. "Mrs. Mallory, what do you mean *by that?*"

*Madam Mallory* deliberately showed an embarrassed expression as she said, "Mrs. Norman, you and I are not gossipy people. When some truths are uncovered, it may lead to a bad impact. Why don't you pretend that you didn't meet me today and nothing happened? "

**The** more she spoke, the more questions Queenie had. "Is there a secret relationship between Luca and Luke?"

know?" Madam Mallory blurted out the words, then covered her mouth. She deliberately pretended to have accidentally let it

thought about what she had seen and heard before, as well as Susan's previous

she believed in Luke's character and his feelings for Bianca. She did not continue to question their relationship following Leia's illness and the kindness that Luca showed to

Mallory's words had rekindled her suspicions. "I know about Luca... Luca has good medical skills and she's also an employee in Luke's company. The two are friends. Do you have

know about everything..." Madam Mallory thought to herself. Queenie was not a fool, but she did not choose to pursue it. The reason for this was intriguing

they have a good relationship, but from what you said, is there any misunderstanding?" Queenie said. She hoped that Luke and Luca were just colleagues and

also hope that I misunderstood the situation. Last night, I went to Luca to find out what she did to my son but Luke protected her. At that time, it was already after ten o'clock. If they're just friends, would they be in the car together past ten o'clock? She was alone in the cafe at that time and Luke personally picked her up after she left..." Madam Mallory said while noting the change in

friends wouldn't act as such...' Queenie's expression turned

Mallory said, "I hope it's fake. After all, Luke has a wife. His relationship with Luca is

saw the elevator reach the underground floor and

### **Chapter 1809**

After Madam Mallory hung up the call, her phone rang again.

She answered, her tone full of impatience, "What's the matter?"

"Madam, something terrible has happened! Young Master Pierre woke up and is twitching from the pain!" The nurse on the other end of the call was flustered. Madam Mallory could hear Pierre's wailing through the call.

Madam Mallory's complacent mood was instantly disturbed. She quickly returned to the elevator and went upstairs. "Inform the doctor immediately. I'll come now."

...

After Queenie left the hospital, she was still thinking about what Madam Mallory had said. She felt uneasy.

The doubts that had been suppressed before were now springing up like bamboo shoots after rain.

She did not want to doubt them, but she could not help it. She called Jack and said, "Dear, are you in the office now?"

"Yeah, I'm still processing some documents. What's wrong?" Jack noticed that his wife's tone was off. He quickly asked, "Did Leia do something wrong again?"

Leia kept trying to buy organs from other sources but was stopped by the people arranged by him and Luke.

As such, Norman Residence had not been peaceful.

"It's not Leia. Can I go over now?" Queenie asked.

Jack listened to her uneasy tone and did not dare to let her go

was fine, but because of Leia, she had neurasthenia. The doctor's advice was for her to get more rest and the company of her

consent, Queenie got into the car and asked the driver to take her to the

walked into Jack's office, Jack was talking business with someone on the phone. When he saw Queenie walk in, he motioned

knowingly. She sat on the sofa beside her and

to talk with the person on the other end of the

secretary came in with a cup of tea and said softly, "Madam, this is

Queenie took it. She was elegant and did not lose Jack's face. She picked up the teacup, took a sip, and talking to others about urban planning and some important events that would be held in A City in the coming

listened and saw how busy

that she should not bother Jack because of Luke

Queenie thought about it, Jack was done with the work

**Jack** asked with concern when he noticed how upset his wife looked. "What's wrong? Why do you look so **bitter**?"

"**Nothing...**" **Queenie** smiled slowly, trying to ease the ugly expression on her face. She had made up her mind not to tell him her *doubts*.

**She could** investigate this matter on her own.

"You have worries written all over your face. How can you be okay?" Although Jack was an alpha male, they had been together for decades. He was thoughtful when he needed to be, especially when facing **Queenie**.

*He sat* beside her, sighed, and took her hand. "What *happened*?"

Queenie looked at him. There were tears in her **eyes**.

*Seeing* her like this, Jack was even more sure that something had happened. He quickly asked, "Okay, let's hear it. If there's a problem, I'll fix it."

Queenie took a deep breath and told him everything Madam Mallory *told her*.

*After he* heard everything, Jack frowned and replied, "If that's the case, we have to get Bea to *come back*."

"**Bea** is still abroad. Usually, she's the one who takes the initiative to contact us. I want to reach out to her but I may not be able to get in contact with her in time." Queenie also agreed with his decision. For the sake of Luke and Bea's marriage, this must **be done**.

*Whether they* decided to stay together or get divorced, it was not Luke's *decision alone*.

However, the biggest problem that they faced now was that they could not get in contact **with Bianca**.

how about this? Didn't Bea send us a parcel last time? We'll ask someone to find this address and see if we can contact her right away,"

have any friends over there?" Queenie

planned to ask someone to check on how she's doing recently. In this situation, I have to ask my friend to check in on her immediately," Jack said as he texted

a time difference, so the message was not responded

to what Mrs. Mallory said, Luca and Luke are very close now. Why don't you get in touch with Luca to see if they're as close as that Mrs. Mallory said? It's not good if we accuse her of something she didn't do." Jack suggested. In his mind, Luca was not the kind of person who would be a mistress and ruin someone's

had always been accurate in making a judgment of a person's character. He did not want to believe that he was wrong this

contact Luca now. If your friend has news, let me know immediately." Queenie could not wait to get in contact with

had always disapproved of Bianca's plan to

time she persuaded her to come back on the phone, Bianca was so determined to stay abroad to study. If she continued with her studies, she may have no family when she returned to

Bianca was good-looking, she was not young. Queenie did not want to see her live the second half of her life miserably. No matter what, she had to get Bianca back in

Jack nodded and watched her contact

number was dialed, and after a while, Luca answered, "Mrs. Norman,

## **Chapter 1810**

Queenie looked at Jack and nodded after Luca gave her promise. Then, she said, "I shouldn't be keeping you any longer. See you later."

"Sure," replied Luca.

Queenie hung up the call first.

Jack asked again, "Should we invite Luke too?"

"You're thinking about figuring out if there's anything suspicious between them, right?" Queenie knew what he had in mind, and Jack nodded.

"Actually, it was already very suspicious when they slept in the same bedroom last time. But we believed in Luke's integrity, so we stopped suspecting him." Queenie grabbed her husband's hand and added, "I know you believe in Luca. I'd like to believe that she's not that kind of person either. I'm just trying to get her to talk tonight, so there's no need to ask Luke to come over too."

"Alright." Jack did not say anything knowing that Queenie had her own plans. After all, he wanted to find out whether or not he was wrong about Luca too.

Queenie stood up when Jack agreed with it. She said, "Then I'll go get ready."

"Wait, did you just come back from the hospital just now?" Jack asked.

"Yes." Queenie nodded. Leia suddenly felt uncomfortable a few days ago, so she was admitted to the hospital again. "I ran into Mrs. Mallory when I walked out of Leia's ward."

Jack nodded.

Then, Queenie asked again, "What's wrong?"

Jack did not tell her what he was thinking about to prevent her from getting worried again. Therefore, he said, "Nothing. Go back and get ready."

Queenie knew he had something else to do, so she turned around

Jack sent Queenie out of the door, he made a call. "Find out what's going on with the Mallory family up the phone after he gave his orders and sat on the office chair,

were quite slow in investigating things, but there was no way he could ask Luke for help

feel there was a huge mystery shadowing the Crawford and Norman families after things had come this knew about it, but he chose not to tell him. If that was the case, he must be trying to protect the Norman family or someone else.

it Luca he wanted

shook his head. It seemed like other than handling his work, he would have to find out what Luke was

...

was six-thirty in the evening. Luca was still working in

glanced at the time, then at the documents that she had yet to complete. She was not anxious about them as she thought that there would be enough time

into her office without knocking on the door or making any

was keenly aware that someone had come in. She looked up and realized it was Luke. She was slightly startled and stood up unconsciously to greet him, "Mr.

*Luca* looked at the documents on her table and nodded. He said with a cold voice with his hands in his pockets, "Still busy?"

**"No, there** are just some documents left," replied Luca while wondering why he was here.

*"There* aren't many left. Leave them for tomorrow." Luke glanced at the folders. She had the habit of keeping the completed documents on her right-hand side while the unfinished ones were kept on her left. It was just like how Luke **did it**.

Now, there was only a white-colored folder on her left. The white-colored folder was not an important **folder either**.

**"It'll only** take me half an hour to finish it," said Luca. When she sat down and planned to continue with her work, she suddenly thought that Luke might have come to see her because of something *else*.

*She lifted* her head and looked at Luke's expressionless face. She had gotten used to his gentleness back then, so she was still not used to seeing him being cold to her. "Mr. Crawford, are you waiting for me to get off **work?**"

Luca nodded and reminded her. "Zander has picked up the children and sent them back to the villa."

*Previously*, when she was still Bianca, she would never work overtime in the office. She would bring her work back home most of the time. It was because she wanted to prove to the Crawford family that even though she had her own career, she would not neglect her children. Her children would still be the center of her **world**.

**Luca** recalled that she had not told Luke that she was going to meet Queenie, so she quickly said, "Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Norman invited me for dinner at her house tonight, so I probably won't go back home so *soon...*"

Did Queenie invite her for dinner?

**Luke slightly** furrowed his brows. Why did he not know about it?

**"Mr. Crawford**, is there a problem?" Luca asked *again*.

*"You should* leave earlier since you promised to have dinner with them. I'll bring these documents back for you. You can continue working on them after dinner." Luke came closer and picked up the white-colored *folder*.

was so astonished that her jaw dropped a little as she watched his domineering gestures. She felt

was true that she should not let her parents wait

up and said, "Alright. I'm

you want me to give you a ride?" Luke

second thought, Luca shook her head and answered immediately, "No, thank you, Mr. Crawford. I don't want Mr. and Mrs. Norman

slightly narrowed his eyes as he listened to her. He felt annoyed deep in his

Misunderstood?

his wife. It was just that she had changed her appearance and was placed beside him by the people behind her. What was there to

were not worried that something might happen to her, he would have jumped at the chance to blow her

that he had been keeping silent with an annoyed look on his face. She said carefully, "Mr. Crawford, if there's nothing else, I'm

you go." Luke brought the folder along with him and left the office

at the man's tall figure from behind and let out a sigh. She knew Queenie would not invite her for dinner without

was not about Leia, then it was probably because of