

## **Be Gentle 1981**

### **Chapter 1981**

Ray also realized something. He frowned and was a little disgruntled.

‘Gordan knew about Luke's current situation but did not tell Vivian. Was he planning to humiliate her in front of so many people?’

Ray was about to throw a tantrum when he thought of that. He wanted to question Gordan.

Vivian was highly sensitive, and her ability to observe others' moods was extraordinary. When she noticed that her brother's mood seemed off, she quickly said, "Okay, it's cold outside. Let's all go in and talk."

Ray was not given a chance to throw a tantrum.

It was not right to let guests chat at the entrance.

Gordan nodded. He knew that Ray was upset but did not plan to do anything about it. He just wanted to entertain Luke. "Come on, Brother. I'll push you."

He pushed Luke, who was in his wheelchair, into the living room.

Luca and Jason followed behind.

The living room was decorated in a European style and was completely different from the Russian architectural style. The room was spacious and bright. It looked great.

Luca was familiar with Vivian. She knew what style she actually liked. After seeing the living room, she was even more convinced that Vivian moved to this place to accommodate Gordan.

"Brother, what do you think of this villa?" Gordan asked.

"Is the villa all that you care about?" Luke scolded Gordan as he did not show any concern for Vivian.

Fortunately, Vivian was still willing to be by his side. Otherwise, from what he knew of Ray, Gordon would have been killed long ago.

not true. I'm concerned about you. Is this Dr. Craw?" Gordan looked at Luca with a bright smile on his face, aware of certain things that had happened in

that Luca was the woman Luke cared about the most at

before, Luke had requested his help to investigate

appeared to be a simple and mundane woman. Nothing about her

not understand why Luke would ask him to investigate such an ordinary woman. However, he understood why when he laid eyes on her. Luke asked him to find out more about her because this woman was beautiful and

her in person, Gordan sighed in his heart. ‘This woman doesn't look ordinary in

Luca felt strange being stared at by

knew that Luke had asked someone to investigate her identity before. The person who looked into her was

from the Island of Despair had mentioned to her that there was a man who looked like Luke inquiring about her all over

as an intriguing smile appeared on his

sad when she saw how Gordan

though he was by her side, he still enjoyed looking at beautiful

in her heart that the reason why the arrogant Gordan stayed by her side was that he was afraid

**Even if** he left the Russian borders, Ray still could hunt him down wherever he was in the **world**.

**Gordan was** not afraid of death but rather of inconvenience. He stayed for so long because he had made a promise to Luke as well.

Vivian knew that Luca was beautiful, so it was normal for Gordan to sneak a few more glances at her. Nevertheless, she would still feel sad about it.

**Even if** Luca had nothing to do *with Gordan...*

*Vivian* took a deep breath, trying to make herself not mind. She knew that she could not make a fool of herself in front of the guests, or Gordan would be unhappy...

"**Brother**, honored guests, the maid has prepared our meal. Let's go to the dining room and chat while eating?" She invited **them**.

"*Okay, Sister-in-law*. That sounds nice," Luke said. Since Gordan referred to him as 'Brother', he saw Vivian as part of the family as well.

*Vivian* smiled shyly. When she heard what Luke said, she felt the distance between her and Gordan close in a little. "I'll push your *wheelchair*."

Gordan snorted in dissatisfaction.

Ray heard the sound and stared at him coldly, warning him with his **eyes**.

If it were not for Vivian's reluctance, he would have beaten up this arrogant and rude man so badly that his head would turn **completely swollen**.

They went to the dining room.

*The maid* had served the Russian dishes she prepared on the *table*.

"Everyone, please take your seats," Ray said. He glanced at Gordan again, warning him not to *mess around*.

Luca was not an outsider, messing around in front of him would not be great for

turned his face to the side. He felt unhappy when Ray was around. He instructed the maid to take one of the chairs away. Before he could say anything else, Vivian pushed Luke to the spot where a chair was taken away. "Brother, are you okay with

"No problem," Luke said.

glanced at Luca, who just stood there and did not look like she was about to sit

have a seat," Jason

as he finished speaking, Ray and the others looked

had no choice but to sit next

everyone was seated, lunch began. Ray and Gordan did not have a drink, and neither did they ask Luke to because they knew he had to work after this.

at the Russian dishes, which were very different from what they would have for lunch in A City. Although Luke had stayed in Russia for a while, she was unsure if he was used to the

asked softly, "Mr. Crawford, what do you want

eat whatever you eat," Luke said. Her profile stated that she had been living in Russia. In those three years, it was likely that she was

wanted to see what Luca liked to

at the Russian food and was not sure what to do. She did not actually enjoy

grabbed some side dishes for herself and

## **Chapter 1982**

Luca was not his new sister-in-law. Nevertheless, the fewer people who knew that she was Bianca, the better. Hence, he had only expressed his love for her in front of Gordan.

However, he did not tell him that Luca was Bianca.

Bianca was at a loss when she heard what he said.

Gordan looked at the two of them, his expression gradually turning from one of joking to being stunned. "You haven't succeeded?"

He did not expect Luke to act so slowly and for him to step on a landmine.

Logically, Luca was Luke's prey. He should not be so slow.

He was also a man. There was inherent hostility between men, but he admired Luke.

He even believed that no woman could escape him...

Gordan looked at Luca's and Luke's expressions and knew that what he said had put them both in an awkward situation.

Ray said coldly, "Gordan, if you don't know what to say, keep your mouth shut."

Gordan could accept anyone else speaking up, but not Ray. Gordan was annoyed and slammed his glass violently on the table.

"What does it have to do with you?!" He had been upset with Ray for the longest time. All he could think about at the moment was to resist!

Ray listened to the tone of his voice and knew that he was provoking him. He could tell that Gordan was very upset and had reached his limit.

wanted to look for trouble, he was not afraid of giving him what he wanted. He ignored Vivian's begging gaze and bluntly said, "What does Luke's business have anything to do

hurriedly stood up and moved his chair back, which made a high-pitched sound as it scratched against the floor. "Do you want to

did not change one bit as he stood up calmly and took his tie off. His gaze was gloomy as he said, "You're the one who wants to

go!" Gordan roared. He had been wanting to vent his dissatisfaction for the longest

an exercise field in the villa where he would

though he was trapped by Vivian's side, he still did not stop training because he was unwilling to stay by Vivian's side for the rest of

took off his jacket and walked out. He was dressed normally to prepare for Luke's arrival, but at this moment when he was about to fight, he was not

could only let out all of his anger when his fists landed on

his sleeves, nodded slightly toward his guests, and said, "Sorry, excuse me for a

finished speaking, he, too,

looked at the two men who left, then at Vivian. She did not chase after them and just looked at them apologetically. One was her husband while the other was her younger brother. It was a regular thing for the two to get into

many times, she knew that she could not stop them, so she could only focus on entertaining her guests. "Brother, you don't like to eat Russian food? My maid knows how to cook other dishes. Shall I have her do that for

about it. This will do," Luke said calmly. He did not bother to go out to stop the two of them

**Even** if he could calm them down this time, Gordan would still find a way to fight **Ray**.

Although Ray was not a fan of Gordan, he would show mercy in consideration of **Vivian**.

Vivian felt a little uneasy. After all, Luke was Gordan's brother. She confirmed with him again, asking, "Brother, are you sure? It's not troublesome to have her prepare a few more **dishes**."

"No need." Luke insisted.

**Vivian felt** even more guilty. She had promised Gordan to entertain Luke, but she failed to satisfy his taste **buds...**

**She prepared** a table full of sumptuous Russian dishes, but unexpectedly, Luke was not a fan of *Russian food*.

'Gordan must think that I'm useless.... I'm such an incompetent wife...'

*Vivian* noticed that the guests had stopped eating, so she cheered herself up and said, "Why did you stop eating? Take a bite. They'll be back before you **know it**."

**Gordan's** skills were good, but Ray was even better. Based on experience, Vivian knew that Ray and Gordan would be back in *a while*.

**They would** both be injured, but Gordan's injuries would be **more serious**.

Jason glanced at Luke, then at Luca. He could not help but ask, "Are they going to **be okay**?"

"*They do* this quite often, so don't worry about it. Come, let's eat. There's no reason for the guests to wait for them..." Vivian said. She hid her sadness with *a smile*.

Even so, Luca could still sense the unease in her heart.

picked up the fork and picked up a piece of blini. After she tasted it, she smiled and said to Vivian, "Your blini is so delicious! It's soft and sweet. It's the best I've ever

was slightly surprised. "You like

that no one out of the three of them liked Russian food. She did not expect Luca to know a fair bit about Russian

people would think that blini was just an ordinary pancake, but unexpectedly, she knew how to

in Russia for a bit," Luca explained with a smile. She knew that Luke did not enjoy sweet food, so she asked softly, "Mr. Crawford, this borscht looks good. Would you like to try

"Okay." Luke nodded.

brought one of the bowls of borscht to Luke and looked at Jason again. "Mr. Doyle, do you

noded and replied, "I'll help

up and took one of the

took a sip. The taste was alright. He believed in

the three of them eat and breathed a sigh of relief. Her gaze fell on Luca again as Gordan's words rang in her

meant was that Luke was interested in

seemed to have a normal working relationship with Luke, but he was interested

**Chapter 1983**

'It's human nature to have a change of heart...'

Vivian could not blame Luke for what he did. Everyone had the right to pursue what they wanted.

Take Gordan, for example. If it were not for Ray keeping a close eye on him, he would have gotten together with other women long ago.

What was more, he got involved with her because he found her refreshing as he had never been with an ugly woman prior.

Gordan had the choice to go for a better woman as well...

Vivian lowered her gaze. The more she thought about it, the sadder she became. 'Maybe I shouldn't be so selfish—'

"This soup tastes wonderful." Jason's praise interrupted her thought. Vivian raised her gaze, smiled, and responded, "Glad that you like it."

As soon as she finished speaking, Gordan and Ray had ended their fight. Both of them returned to the dining room.

Luca heard the footsteps and looked up at the two of them. Both were injured.

Gordan seemed worse off.

Luca thought that Gordan was great at fighting, but it seemed that Ray was better.

It was no wonder that Ray was able to control Gordan...

Vivian glanced at Gordan, then at Ray. She was frowning.

"Why are you hurt so badly?" Vivian said to Gordan.

brother." Gordan had a stern expression. He wanted to fight and vent but did not expect that Ray would go all out. Ray saw him as a sandbag, a sandbag that could dodge and

for a fight." Ray's expression appeared indifferent as he unrolled his

was fuming that Ray was just sitting there, looking aloof. He wanted to yell at him, but he accidentally tugged at his wound. He took a deep breath and exclaimed,

anxious and put her hand on his arm. "Gordan, does it hurt? I'll treat the wound for

concern did not make Gordan feel any better. He shook her hand off and said, "No

had a grim expression when he saw Gordan being so rude to

at the three of them. He knew that if he did not step in, it was likely that they would get into

He coughed twice to remind them that he was

was about to explode when he heard Luke's coughs. He held himself back. Even though he was angry, he could still manage

glanced at Luke gratefully. If it were not for him, the two would probably fight

been in a bad mood lately, so he was probably venting his anger

said to the maid next to her, "It's time for

Miss." The maid turned around and walked into the kitchen. After a while, several of the maids brought out some

*Gordan finally* realized that Luke was still around and that even if he was pissed at Ray, he should not provoke him in front of so many people. He calmed down.

**After dinner**, Luke looked at Ray and asked, "Are you free to have a *chat*?"

**Ray squinted** his eyes, thinking that Luke wanted to speak on behalf of Gordan. He was a little reluctant, but considering that Luke was a guest, he nodded and said, "Okay, let's talk in the study."

"Okay." Luke glanced at Luca and said, "Have some tea and wait *here*."

"Okay, Mr. Crawford," Luca nodded.

**Gordan watched** Luke and Ray leave together. She felt a little depressed. He was wondering why Luke involved Ray in the conversation but not him.

**He did** not say anything and left the dining **area**.

"Gordan, where are you going?" Vivian asked immediately when she saw that he was about to leave.

"**Your brother's** fists hit me all over my body. If I don't deal with the aftermath and this face is ruined, will you be happy?" Gordan's expression was gloomy. He always thought that Vivian loved him and wanted him to stay by her side because of his face.

For a while, he even wanted to destroy his face. He thought that such an extreme method would make Vivian give up **on him**.

*Vivian bit* her lower lip in embarrassment. She should follow him, but there were guests around. It would be extremely rude for her to leave her **guests alone**.

**On** top of that, she was aware that these guests were important to Gordan *and Ray*.

*She resisted* the urge to rush over and take care of Gordan. She smiled at Luca and Jason, saying, "Mr. Crawford is having a chat with my brother and it may take a while. The maids have prepared some tea. Why don't you come with me and we can enjoy it in the living *room*?"

you," Luca said. She took pity on Vivian, who was stuck in a

the years, Gordan had never once been gentle or kind toward Vivian. Otherwise, she would not still be as cowardly as

wanted to be with Gordan and was terribly afraid of

a woman, Luca empathized with Vivian and thought that she lived a

was very protective of her, what she wanted most was the gentleness and protection of Gordan. However, Gordan was more willing to show his tender side to hookers than

'How sad...'

so timid that she never once threw her temper at

thought about it as she followed Vivian through the long corridor to the

Jason each sat on a single-seater sofa while Vivian sat in the master's seat. She asked the maid to bring milk, tea, and coffee. She then asked them, "What do you want to

have coffee, thank you," Jason said. Although Vivian was ugly, he found her soft and kind voice quite

have some tea," Luca said. Although Vivian did not say anything, she noticed that the tea was specially prepared for them by her. If she drank coffee like Jason, Vivian's kind efforts would be

used to be acquainted with Vivian. However, since she was socializing with her with a new identity, she had to treat Vivian like

the experience of dealing with Luke, she knew how to handle

## **Chapter 1984**

"I'm surprised that you can tell. Is it that obvious?" Ray touched his chin. He thought he covered it up well.

He never allowed Vivian to intervene in his affairs because he was worried that she would gain enemies from being involved.

Therefore, even if he was troubled, he would never tell her.

Nevertheless, Vivian was an intuitive woman. She could sense when something was wrong with him.

However, this time, he concealed it so well that even Vivian did not notice it. Unexpectedly, Luke noticed that something was wrong.

"Did you investigate me, or did you notice it from something that happened?" Ray asked curiously.

"We're friends. Why would I investigate you? I guessed that something was troubling you because you went all out with Gordan," Luke said. He noticed that Gordan's injuries were more severe than before.

Ray let out a laugh and admitted. "I did vent my anger on him, but it's not all because of Vivian."

"Tell me more." Luke's words were simple, but they indicated to Ray that Luke was considering whether or not to help him.

After all, his capabilities in Russia were limited. A dragon would be teased by a shrimp in shoal water. It might be a better option for Ray to deal with it by himself rather than for him to send in his men.

"It's nothing for you to worry about. There have been several men causing trouble on my site. They make a scene and grab whatever they can. It's not out of the ordinary, but I can't find out who these people are. The most depressing thing is that I lost a deal that was about to close to an unnamed organization. I lost a fair bit of revenue because of that," Ray said.



to support his sizable group of subordinates. As such, it was natural for him to be anxious seeing that his revenue

would be nice if he knew who his competitors were, but he had no idea.

got some of his men to investigate, but they either did not return or

why he was in such a

"Is that so?" Luke frowned.

a certain power in Russia and was an honorable man. Not many would dare threaten his

if they wanted to get involved, they would be forthright with it. Nevertheless, in the end, Ray would more often than not be on the

This was known throughout Russia.

one would be so stupid to fight with Ray. However, a daring organization had emerged. It was even one that Ray had not been able to find out more

new organizations have been established in recent years. Although we're not the most harmonious, none of them would take things so far with me. It's not just me who's suffering losses. Everyone is suspicious of one another, and a fair few came to talk to me as they suspect that I'm behind it,"

not trust him just on his words

Since he was a suspect, the others would be more suspicious of him if he did not show any strong proof that it was *not him*...

Luke kept silent for a few seconds. He thought of the *Island of Despair*...

**Although** they had not made any big moves in the past few years, he knew that since the Island of Despair was re-established, they would not be willing to stay unknown or make some money by working on mere tasks.

The Island of Despair would embark on the same path as before sooner **or later**.

"**Did** you know that the Island of Despair was re-established?" *Luke asked.*

**Ray** shook his head and replied, "There are rumors, but no one has evidence to prove that the Island of Despair has indeed re-established itself. The relevant Russian agencies have been monitoring the island where they used to be stationed. They found that no one was coming in or *out*."

"**Although** there's no movement, you have to take it seriously. There's someone from the Island of Despair planted around me," Luke said. They had no evidence that the Island of Despair was established again, but he **did**.

"What? Are you sure?" Ray was stunned and looked at Luke closely.

"*That person* has a tattoo of the Island of Despair. The design is slightly different, but I'm certain that they're from the Island of Despair," Luke said. The Island of Despair had a rule. When they changed leaders, the tattoo design must be changed as well.

**The tattoo** on the fake Bianca's body included slight updates on the previous design.

"Is that person still around?" Ray asked. If that was the case, they could believe that the Island of Despair had indeed **been re-established**.

would also believe that what had been happening recently was because of the Island

was drugged. I was in control of her when it was time for her to take the antidote, so she didn't manage to take it. She died a sudden death," Luke said. If it were not for the drug, he might have gotten some information from the fake

a pity..." Ray said disappointedly. He trusted

trust in Luke was not enough. He needed other evidence to prove it to

didn't know that she'd be of any use to you. Otherwise, I would have photographed some evidence for you," Luke

person do anything to you?" Ray

not tell him much, so he just shook his head. "She didn't succeed, but since those from the Island of Despair were planted by my side, I suspect that the people who are causing you trouble may also be them. If there's a next time, keep them under your control. The tattoos on their body can be covered up, and they'll only show if a special potion is applied. I'll ask Gale to send you the formula. Get your subordinates to make it and find an opportunity to see if you can find

you so much." Ray did not expect Luke to be able to do him such a

was not that he had never caught those people. He had handed them to the police and even interrogated them himself, but he never found out which gang the other party belonged

Luke's words gave him some hope.

found proof that those people were from the Island of Despair, he and the people from other gangs would not be suspicious of each other. He would have the confidence to deal with them as

## **Chapter 1985**

Luke nodded. "As such, we can only start from you."

Ray smiled wryly. He was envious of the friendship between Luke and Gordan. He joked, "Sometimes, it doesn't seem like the two of you are friends. You're like brothers."

"Is that so?" Luke responded briefly and said nothing else.

Gordan had helped him, so it was natural for him to return the favor.

Luke was not an ungrateful person.

Ray nodded. The issue that was causing his headache might be resolved with Luke's help.

"What's going on with you and Luca?" He changed the subject and asked Luke what had been on his mind.

He thought that Luke and Bianca would be together forever seeing how sweet they were before. Unexpectedly, Bianca was kidnapped.

As time went by, he was surprised that Bianca did not stay by his side.

Eventually, Luca had taken Bianca's place. Ray, who was never a gossip person, was curious.

"There are some things that I'm not comfortable talking about." Luke did not tell Ray directly about him and Luca, nor did he plan to tell him about Luca's true identity.

He firmly believed that the fewer the people who knew about it, the better.

Ray knew that something was up. "Is there more than meets the eye to this matter?"

Luke nodded and responded, "Somewhat."

uncomfortable sharing, then I won't ask." Ray was understanding. Since Luke did not want to talk about it, he would not press him for it.

thanked him for

nodded and said, "I'll push you

do it myself," Luke said. The villa had an elevator, which made it easy for him to go up and down the floors. He controlled the wheelchair and headed to the elevator with Ray following

said he did not need help, Ray did not step in. He could not help but sigh in admiration as he watched Luke move forward

people, even if they were in a wheelchair, were still so powerful that they could not be

stepped into the elevator, Luke raised his eyebrows as he looked at Gordan, who was leaning against the corner of

tone was depressed. He looked at the two of them with his hands crossed in front of his chest. "Are you done

looked at his bruised face, half of which was swollen. He no longer looked handsome. "We're done

something to talk to you about, too." Gordan shot Ray a pissed look, then looked

his depressed expression, glanced at the time, and said, "Is half an

half an hour, he had to go back to the hotel and prepare for the bidding the next

"*That's enough.* Let's go." Gordan pushed Luke's wheelchair out of the elevator. He rubbed shoulders with Ray on purpose as he passed by *and snorted*.

*It was clear he was trying to provoke him.*

In the past, Ray would have beat him up again, but this time, he **held back**.

**Luke had** just solved a problem for him. He did not want to pick on Gordan in front **of Luke**.

Gordan pushed Luke into his bedroom.

"This is your bedroom?" Luke asked. The spacious bed only had one pillow.

It appeared to be a **single room**.

It should not be Gordan's room, but he knew that the collectibles on the display cabinet on the wall were indeed **Gordan's style**.

"Yes," Gordan said.

Luke raised his eyebrows and said, "You don't share a bedroom with Vivian?"

Gordan's face sank. "Brother Luke, don't joke around. Who would want to sleep in the same bed with such an ugly woman? I'm too *scared!*"

**The** thought of waking up to see Vivian's ugly face magnified before his eyes made *him shiver*.

"Don't say this to Vivian. It's hurtful." Luke frowned. Although he also thought that Vivian did not have the best looks, he acknowledged that her heart **was beautiful**.

the one who went after her, so he should be responsible for

thick-skinned. She won't feel anything even if she hears it. What's more, it's hard enough that I have to deal with such an ugly woman. I don't want her face to be the last thing I see every night and the first thing I see when I wake up. Since you told me not to hurt her self-esteem, it's best that we sleep in separate bedrooms," Gordan

was speechless. What Gordan said

was in the wrong. Vivian's company over the years had not made his attitude better. It made him even more disgusted

outsider, he did not know what to

between the two was overheard by Vivian, who was standing outside the door while holding a plate. The smile on her face

turned out that Gordan did not want to share a room with her because he thought she

kind of knew why long ago. When they first opted to sleep in separate rooms, Gordan told her that it was because he was used to sleeping alone. He said he would not be able to sleep if there was someone next to

been using that excuse to lie to herself for as long as she could remember, but now that she heard the truth from Gordan, she could not deceive

end, he could not get over her

not dare to open the door. She was going to bring some tea to Luke, but after hearing what Gordan said, she could only leave in

she had heard plenty of words filled with disgust and ridicule over the years, she still felt hurt when she heard

how gentle and sensible she was, she could not get into

## **Chapter 1986**

Gordan pursed his lips and looked grudging. After all these years, he was still not used to it and had a bellyful of repressed grievance looking at that plain face. "I'm happy to oblige as long as she doesn't show her face around me."

Luke shook his head helplessly.

The women outside were interested in Gordan because he was good-looking and could make money at any time.

Vivian was unlike those women.

At first, he also thought that Vivian liked Gordan because of his face, but as time went by, he did not think that was the case.

What Vivian liked from the get-go was Gordan's soul...

He could see it clearly as a third party, but Gordan was very stubborn and refused to acknowledge it.

Luke shook his head, controlled the wheelchair, and left the bedroom.

He and Gordan referred to each other as brothers, but they were not blood-related. Luke did not think that it was his place to dictate his relationships.

The two walked into the elevator one after the other and took the elevator to the first floor.

Vivian was sitting on the sofa with Luca and Jason.

When she saw Gordan step out of the elevator, the words he said in the room earlier rang in Vivian's ears. She lowered her gaze to hide the sadness in the depths of her eyes.

Gordan looked at Vivian and had no intention of consoling her. He turned to Luke and said, "Brother Luke, I'll get you a car to send you to the hotel. When you're done with work, let's meet again."

"Okay." Luke did not stay any longer because he had other things to attend to.

to make the necessary

stood up, glanced at Vivian, and said, "Thank you for

heard her, she stood up quickly, held herself together, and said, "You're welcome. If there's something that you weren't satisfied with, please forgive

arranged the car and driver. He overheard what she said and sneered. "You're welcome. Entertaining guests is what she should

slightly. In the past, she thought that Gordan could do better in terms of how he treated Vivian. After all, he should treat her well since he had chosen to stay by her side. At that point, she did not find

few years later, things were still the same. However, she detested Gordan for it

a pet, one would build a connection and relationship with it after a few years together. What was more, Vivian was a living person who had been by his side for so many years. However, he had never appreciated her and always made fun of

'He really shouldn't be like this...'

was not the best-looking but it was not

had a choice in this regard, who wouldn't want to be

was deep in thought when she heard Gordan say, "The car is already at the door. Brother, I'll send you

glanced at Luca. When their eyes met, neither of them said anything. She got behind his wheelchair and

got in the car and left Gordan's villa, Luca looked at the scene of the streets outside that seemed to be going backward. She hesitated for a while, then said, "Mr. Crawford, Vivian's mood became strange after she brought you tea. She started

"*She brought us tea?*" Luke frowned. He did not see Vivian upstairs just *now*.

"**Yes...**" Luca saw his expression and had a rough idea of *what happened*.

*It* seemed that Vivian brought the tea upstairs but did not end up passing it to them. It was likely that her mood became weird because she *overheard something*.

When she returned downstairs, she seemed **unusually upset...**

*It was* different from how she would act whenever Gordan regarded her with distaste. Luca felt that something was about to **happen...**

*Luke did* not say anything and texted Gordan. [Vivian seems off, pay attention to her.]

Not long after, Gordan replied: [Brother Luke, did she say something to **you?**]

*Luke* did not tell him that Vivian might have overheard their conversation that included his unbridled hurtful words.

**Even if** he knew, Gordan would not apologize to **Vivian**.

**Without** an apology, the damage caused would never be undone, so it did not matter if Luke **told him**.

He would not feel guilty for talking bad *about Vivian...*

He replied: [No.].

[*Don't* worry about it. She's unhappy every day. Her face is ugly and she looks irked all the time. It's normal.] Gordan replied. It was obvious that he was not at **all bothered**.

looked at Luke, who silently put away

assumed that he was talking to Gordan. Nevertheless, nothing came

Vivian so much that he would never

Luca felt sad for Vivian.

was speeding through the streets of Moscow. After they arrived at the hotel, Jason used their IDs to check

also stayed in the area because the hotels around here were high-end, and they were also the closest to Party A's

helped Luke into the wheelchair. She then used fluent Russian to ask the driver to help them with

smiled and nodded toward Luca. He then took all their luggage from

Luca could put the luggage aside, a hotel employee stepped out. They enthusiastically pushed Luke's wheelchair and picked up their

the employee into the

over to her holding their ID cards and the room cards. He then distributed the items

foreign countries, these documents were proof of identity. They might not necessarily be together all the time, so it was best for them to hold on to their own documents. Otherwise, there may

took her room card, then Jason handed another room card to her. "Dr. Craw, you and the boss will be staying in

## **Chapter 1987**

"Okay." Luke had no objection. He controlled the wheelchair and went to the other room. "Bring me my luggage."

"Okay." Luca carried his suitcase. It still felt quite heavy, but it was not an issue for her.

She went into the room and said, "Mr. Crawford, where do you want me to put your luggage?"

"You can put it anywhere," Luke said.

Luca put the luggage down.

"You can go about your business. I have something to do," Luke said as he leaned down and picked up his briefcase.

Luca watched him take out the computer, put it on his lap, and maneuver the wheelchair to his desk.

It was not a specially made desk, but the height was just right. Luca guessed that Jason had instructed the hotel staff to change it to a desk with a suitable height for Luke.

"Is there something you want to talk about?" Luke looked at her as she was standing there for a while, staring at him.

"All is well, Mr. Crawford. Let me know if you need anything. I'll be back in my room." Luca said quickly and exited Luke's room.

She dragged her luggage back to her room, closed the door, and drew the curtains.

Luca wanted to take a shower, then change the gauze around her waist.

After she took out a change of clothes, she looked for the medicine in the suitcase but could not find it.

that although she had prepared the medicine, she forgot to put it in the

was annoyed at herself for being

through the suitcase again. The suitcase had a passcode, so she was certain that no one had taken her luggage. It must be that she forgot to put

stupid..." Luca could not help but blame

at the messy suitcase and slumped on the bed. She had to change the gauze, but the challenge was that local herbs made up a large portion of the prescription. It was almost impossible to buy all of them in

other alternative was to inject herself with Amphotericin B. However, she did not know anyone in Russia who could help her get it from

her chin and searched for nearby pharmacies with

several around her, so she decided to give it a try. Maybe she would be lucky enough to get all the materials she needed, or she could obtain Amphotericin B through some

put on her coat and passed by Luke's room as she left. His room door was not closed, so he saw her as soon as she walked

going out?" Luke asked casually when he noticed that Luca had put on multiple layers of

have nothing to do, so I want to walk around,"

"Go, stay safe," Luke said.

heart was warmed, and she felt relieved. When she was stopped by him, she was worried that Luke would offer to go with

**If that** was the case, she would not be able to go to the pharmacy to buy what she needed. After all, she did not know how to explain to him the situation...

After Luca left the suite, Luke grabbed his phone and called Gale. "She went out."

"Got it, Boss." Gale hung up the call and sat in the car warming his **hands**.

**He** arrived in Russia before they did to investigate the forces behind Luca.

Luca headed out as soon as she arrived at the hotel. It was possible that she wanted to go shopping, but it was also possible that she was going to meet the organization controlling *her*.

Her documents were from Russia, so the organization was most likely based *in Russia*.

**At** the same time, the Island of Despair should also be **in Russia**...

Gale watched Luca come out of the hotel. He said to the driver, "Follow them and keep a safe **distance**."

"Sir, it seems a little difficult for us to follow her without being detected since she's walking," the driver said. No matter how good he was, it would be obvious if the car was driving so slowly.



Luca was not stupid. She would notice in a few seconds.

"Yeah. Rain, send someone to follow her," Gale said.

**Rain replied** immediately, "Got it. My people are ready. They're waiting by the *junction*..."

followed the phone's navigation and arrived at a pharmacy

watched from a distance and frowned. "Drugstore. What's she doing in the

listened to Rain talking to herself from the earpiece and said, "Don't worry about it. Just follow her. Maybe she's going there to

skilled in tracking, so Luca did not notice it. After she walked into the pharmacy, she asked the clerk in fluent Russian if they had anything

clerk told her apologetically that the store did not have what she

had to leave and go to the next

later, she had gone to all the nearby pharmacies. One of the pharmacies was opened by someone from A City, but she only got two of the materials she needed. She needed a

helpless. Sure enough, it was difficult to get local herbs in

owner of the pharmacy gave her a suggestion. "Ma'am, it's not impossible to find all the medicinal materials you want. You should go to the hospital. Some hospitals in Russia have a herbology department. I think you can ask them. Maybe you can get everything you

I see. Thank you." Luca thanked the owner and left

walked for an hour. It had not been long, so her feet were not tired. However, her

saw a coffee shop nearby, went in, and ordered a cup of black

a mask and leaned against the bus stop. She pretended to be waiting for the bus and whispered to Gale, "She's gone to all the nearby pharmacies. At the last pharmacy, she walked out with a bag. It seemed she bought

## **Chapter 1988**

Rain looked at Luca, who was in the coffee shop. She could not help but say, "I can't believe that you believed me."

Gale was sitting in the car. The temperature in Russia was lower than that in A City. He was sitting in the car with the heater turned on, but he still felt cold. Rain was out in the open. Poor thing.

There was no choice. When it came to tracking, women were more likely to make others lower their vigilance compared to men.

"Keep a close eye," Gale said anxiously.

"I know. It's so cold." Rain took a deep breath. She had been staying in A City for a while. Just as she returned to Russia, she wandered the streets for more than an hour in the cold. She could not take it anymore.

A bus passed by, but it did not stop because Rain did not wave it down.

Only a puff of smoke remained.

Rain frowned in disgust. She wished to swap places with Gale.

Luca sat in the cafe, slowly tasting the coffee. She thought that the coffee they served was average.

She turned on her phone and looked for a nearby clinic.

Hospitals were generally more formal. She could and did not have the time to go to a hospital, so she wanted to see if there was a clinic nearby.

It was ideal if she could find an underground clinic. Maybe she could get her hands on Amphotericin B.

After searching for a while, she suddenly raised her head and looked out the window.

Luca frowned and looked at the woman waiting at the bus stop. She seemed to have been sitting there for a while...

Her figure...

thought that she looked familiar. She stared straight at the bus stop, thinking about when she could have seen

to have seen her nearby about half an hour

so cold but she was sitting at the bus stop. A bus had just left, and it did not seem like she intended to get on

it be that she's been

looked away and asked for the

can I help you?" the waiter asked her with a smile on

does the bus from that bus stop go?" Luca asked in

waiter glanced at the bus stop and replied, "There are only two routes at this bus stop, but I don't know exactly what they are. You can find out more online, or I can check on

I can do it myself." Luca shook her

waiter said, "The weather is bad now, so the buses will likely be late or have reduced frequency. If you need to travel, you can choose to take a taxi or the subway. There's a subway station nearby. Take a look at the map and you can find it.

see. Thanks." Luca thanked

waiter smiled and said, "You're welcome. Let me know if you

Luca nodded. The coffee in this cafe was not very good, but the service was excellent. She thought about that, glanced at the bus stop casually, then turned her

likely that the woman was keeping watch

Luca thought about it, another bus passed by. The woman on the chair still did not stop the

Now, she was sure.

*No one* would sit in the cold **for fun...**

*The woman* did not look like she was homeless. She sat there because it was the best position to monitor Luca.

Luca knew this. Although she did not know if this woman was from the Island of Despair, the other party did not seem to be acting with malicious **intent**.

If she wanted to do something to her, there were a lot of opportunities for her to take action when she was browsing at the pharmacies earlier.

**However**, the woman did not do anything. There were also no other people monitoring **her nearby...**

**She guessed** that she was not from the Island of Despair.

**'If she's** not from the Island of Despair, is she here because of Luke?'

Maybe...

*However, since* she now knew that someone was watching her, she had to be careful.

Luca stood up, put a bill on the table, and said to the waiter, "**Bill please.**"

"Yes, Miss." The waiter went over.

*Luca said*, "Don't worry about the change. It's a tip **for you.**"

After she said that, she left the cafe and walked out the door. She nodded at the woman at the bus **stop.**

saw her, stood up instantly, and walked in the

my mission failed," she whispered, not daring to look back. She was certain that Luca's smile was intentional. It told her that she had been

"What?" Gale asked.

knows I've been watching her and smiled at me. I've left. If you feel the need to keep following her, you need to find someone else,"

sighed. He did not expect that Rain would be found even with her superior tracking

vigilant considering that she spotted you. Even if I send others over, we'll still find nothing. I believe that she'll return to the hotel in a while and not run around anymore," Gale said as he instructed his subordinates to keep a close eye at the

was not far from here. If she walked back to the hotel, she could reach it in about

Rain hung up the call and turned a corner. Only then did she dare to turn around and glance  
a sigh of relief. Luckily, Luca had not

‘How did she know?’

wondered. She looked like a person waiting for the bus as she sat

did Luca catch sight of

Rain thought about it, the more despondent she

On the other hand.

shook her head as she watched the woman turn a

## **Chapter 1989**

"You're back?" Luke asked with a frown. He noticed that her coat was wet from the snow.

He knew exactly what she had been doing outside.

He frowned because Luca did not brush the snow off her shoulders, which made her clothes wet. ‘What if her coat isn’t waterproof and the clothes inside are wet? What if she catches a cold?’

"Yes, Mr. Crawford." Luca glanced at him, then looked away.

Luca's tone was cold as he reminded her, "Your clothes are wet. Change out of them."

Luca looked at her clothes.

"Shoulders," Luke reminded her.

Luca glanced at them and found that they were indeed wet. It did not matter since her jacket was waterproof.

"Mr. Crawford, it's dinner time. Do you want to order something?" she asked.

Seeing that she was not in a hurry to change, Luke understood that her clothes were waterproof. Even if the outer layer was soaked, the clothes inside would not be affected.

As such, he did not mention it anymore. The temperature in the room was high, and the moisture on the surface could be dried fairly quickly.

"Are you going to cook?" Luke asked. He noticed that she had looked at the kitchen when she came in earlier.

He had specially asked Jason to book a suite with a kitchen.

Not many who traveled on business would stay in suites as such. There were not many family suites like this in hotels.

Jason made a reservation at this hotel after asking around.

nodded and said, "I went to check out the restaurant downstairs and it's all Russian food. I don't feel like eating

what you're having," Luke said and maneuvered his wheelchair back to

what he meant. He wanted her to

into the kitchen, opened the refrigerator, and sure enough, there were quite a

all ingredients that could be commonly found in supermarkets. There was no issue for her to prepare a hearty dinner with

about what to cook, and after she decided, she took out the relevant ingredients and prepared

Jason if he wanted to have dinner as well. If he wanted to eat, she would prepare

replied to her saying no and that he was going to eat at the

did not reply to him. She put on the apron prepared by the hotel and started to

On the other hand.

Luke and the others left, Ray did not stay long and left after talking to Vivian for a

villa that was rarely lively quieted

on the sofa, still unable to calm down. She kept replaying what Gordan had said in her

It hurt...

**Vivian laughed** at herself. After Luke left, Gordan went up to the **second floor**.

He did not usually spend much time in the living room because he did not want to see her ugly face. It was likely that he was in his *bedroom*.

*Vivian stood up and walked to the second floor.*

*Gordan's* bedroom was on the east, while her bedroom was on the west. She would only pass his bedroom when she took the stairs back to her bedroom. If she took the elevator, she would not pass by **his room**.

*Vivian always* chose to take the stairs so that she could bump into *him*.

**When** she passed by Gordan's bedroom, she stopped and knocked on the door.

"**Who** is it?" Gordan's voice came *from inside*.

"*Gordan*, it's me." Vivian pursed her lips. She still wanted to talk to Gordan. She did not believe that he had no feelings for her after so many **years**.

"I don't have time." Gordan did not ask her what she wanted and just turned her **down**.

**Vivian** pursed her lips in embarrassment. Before she could even say anything, he turned her down...

**Moreover**, he said it in his usual impatient **tone**.

**‘Maybe,** he hates being by my side... Is it my fault for having an **ugly face?’**

Vivian walked back to her bedroom in despair, closed the door, and sat on the sofa by *the window*.

**The layout** of her bedroom was the same as Gordan's. She did so to feel closer to him. She lied to herself saying that they were very *close*.

could not get the exact same collection, so her shelf was

asked Ray to help find them, but Gordan had personally found the collectibles through various means. Hence, Ray could not find them even if he tried his

She had to give up.

distance between the two was only so little, but in reality, it was an incomparably large

let out a sigh. Everything that happened that day was like an extremely sharp knife that cut through her

about her persistence and him deliberately ignoring her. It had been the same all this

She loved Gordan.

love did not seem to make him happy. He was unable to bear this kind of

liked everything beautiful. Her ugly face could not get an ounce of his

at her hand and clenched her fist tightly. She was unwilling to let go of

that he did not like her, but she held him tightly like how she was clenching her

thought that if she kept him around, he would fall for her one

from what he said to Luke, she finally understood that he was a man who only cared about

was not good-looking, it was pointless no matter how good her personality was and how much she cared

## **Chapter 1990**

“Sure.” Vivian’s eyes glazed over outside the window. The decision had been made.

Perhaps God was unable to put up with it any longer either. She had been at Gordan’s beck and call the entire time. That was why she was unable to bring herself to make the decision.

The call was answered, and Misha's voice came from the other end of the line.

“Ms. Vivian, is it you?” the person asked respectfully.

Misha was Ray’s lawyer. Many of the legal affairs of his company were managed by her. Hence, she respected Vivian very much.

Vivian replied, “Yes, it’s me.”

Misha found it strange after making sure that it was Vivian who called. Vivian had Misha's phone number, and she could call that number to contact her. Why would she call the front desk's number? Thus, she asked, "Why are you calling the front desk to look for me?"

"There are some legal affairs I'd like you to help with. Ms. Misha, are you available now?" Vivian took a deep breath. Vivian had to tell her about the decision that she made. Otherwise, she would give it a second thought again before she told Misha.

Vivian was not an indecisive person. However, she knew what she had in mind when it was about giving Gordan up.

Vivian thought she might as well make the decision now before it was too late and before she regretted it again.

"Of course, I'm available," replied Misha immediately. She raised her hand to interrupt her assistant, who was about to report to her. Ray was her most valued customer. That was why she dared not to offend his elder sister.

"I'd like to file for divorce," said Vivian.

"I'm sorry?" Misha was surprised. Did she mishear it?

knew that the ugly-looking Vivian had a handsome husband. She did everything her husband told her to, and she was gentle and

the two of them did not appear in public that often, it was said that Vivian was deeply in love with  
was taking the initiative to file for

to divorce my husband, Gordan Norton." Vivian took a deep breath and repeated one more  
that something was wrong. She waved her hand, signaling her assistant to leave her office first.

assistant left, Misha asked, "Ms. Vivian, did

All you need to do is to draft a divorce agreement for me. I don't need anything. I only want a divorce,"  
said Vivian. She was paying for the house she was currently staying in, but she did not plan to

the house. Leaving everything in the house for him was the last thing Vivian could do

asked, "Ms. Vivian, you're taking the initiative to file for divorce and entrusting me to help you to draft a  
divorce agreement, am I

Vivian's voice trembled. She was not that determined, but there was nothing else she could do.

still refused to stay by her

means I'll become your lawyer once I accept your entrustment. I'll have to understand what's going on.  
Otherwise, I can't just simply draft a divorce agreement for you," Misha said responsibly.

find out about Vivian's divorce when the time came. Perhaps Ray would even come asking her about it.

That was why Misha decided to get all this figured out **first**.

"You may ask whatever questions you have." Vivian did not feel that she was being put on the spot. It was nothing more than the fact that Gordan did not like her. It was not something to be embarrassed about.

*Her* looks would have turned anyone off if they saw her.

"Is it because you fought with Mr. Norton?" Misha asked.

"No," answered Vivian. Gordan would usually taunt her instead of fighting with her.

*However, even* if they fought, Vivian was unable to argue back as would listen to everything he told her.

**"Then,** did Mr. Norton do something to hurt you?" Misha *asked again*.

"No," replied Vivian. Gordan had promised Luke that he would stop fooling around with other women after marrying *her*.

Sometimes, Gordan would go out early and come back late. However, Ray's men had investigated him before. Gordan had already severed all his relationships with other women. Gordan had never done anything to betray their relationship.

"Are you the one who's deciding to have a divorce? Are you the one who's taking the initiative to file for divorce?" Misha questioned again.

"Yes," Vivian answered.

"Then, does Mr. Norton know about this? Does he agree with the **divorce?**"

"He *hasn't* found out about it yet. But he'll certainly sign his name when he gets the divorce papers. It's not going to cause you a lot of trouble." Vivian was pretty sure about it. She could foresee how happy Gordan would be the moment he got the divorce **papers**.

silent for a while, then asked, "Have you made your decision? I remember that you used to be madly in love with Mr.

I still love him now. But I have to let him go. I know lawyers keep a template. They only need to make some amendments to the papers and the job is done. Please send the agreement to me," said Vivian. She had to settle this matter as soon as

Otherwise, she would regret it...

speechless. What was Vivian

had learned a lot when she was at Ray's side handling some legal

put in a lot of effort to keep Gordan close to her. Was it that easy for her to give up now?

Misha was not responding, so she asked, "Is there

no problem. I'm going to amend the template for you now if you've decided. I'll send the agreement to your email. You only have to print two copies out. The agreement shall be effective upon the date it's signed by both parties," replied Misha.



you." Vivian hung up the call and smiled bitterly. She had been struggling with the thought of leaving Gordan for the whole day. However, it only took 15 minutes for her to truly leave

like leaving him was not that difficult

to her study. Her study was separated from Gordan's study.

these years of being together, it seemed like he was reluctant to do anything with her, no matter if he was working or

Vivian turned on her computer.