

Be Gentle 201

Chapter 201

The black Bentley limousine did not drive into the courtyard but instead was parked outside.

Luke was not driving his car.

After Jason parked the car, he got out and opened the door to the back seat.

The boss and his two children stepped out.

Just as usual, Luke was impeccably dressed in his business suit and leather shoes. However, one could easily tell from his face that he was more vibrant than usual, as though he had heard some good news.

Rainie was in her father's arms, smelling of her father's cologne, while Lanie ran excitedly into the courtyard wearing his backpack.

"Hello, handsome young man!" One of the female colleagues greeted the boss's son.

'This trip is so worth it!

'The amenities might not be as good as the city, but I get to see the boss's handsome face and his cute kids!

'How blissful!'

Lanie looked around the crowd but did not find Miss Bea, though he did not forget his manners and returned the greeting, "Good morning, Pretty Miss!"

The female colleague who was called "Pretty Miss" grinned widely.

Joe put himself in charge and tried hard to keep things under his control.

He stepped forward and shook hands with Jason.

sat down for breakfast and everyone chatted, a female colleague noticed that the boss was walking alone toward the

That was where everyone's rooms were.

vaguely see him carrying a paper bag in his right hand, and it seemed to be holding

is so caring toward his

Jason did not have the time for breakfast before he started driving. The two children woke up very early and insisted on

you tell Uncle Doyle what you want for breakfast?" Jason pointed at sliced bread and milk with his left hand, and at buns and oatmeal with his

Rainie said as she took out a picture book from her backpack and showed it to the adults around her.

"Daddy bought this for me. I'll get 100 marks if I read

...

In the upstairs room.

not woken up by the commotion downstairs and the knock on her door, but she was roused from her sleep when her

that her phone was faulty because it always turned itself off, even though there was still 60% of power

was planning to order a new phone online, or she might go to town and find a reliable

was entirely up to luck if she could pick up

was from an unknown number, but she answered

Lacey's voice was heard over the phone. "Bianca? I'm Lacey, your mother-in-law."

Bianca was curled up in her blanket. "I know who you are. Is there anything?" She spoke diplomatically.

Lacey did not appreciate Bianca's courteous yet distant tone of voice. It sounded as though Bianca wanted to distance herself from the Tanner *family*.

"I'll **cut** to the chase. It's like this. I've heard from my son that you're pregnant with his child. I'd like to give you some advice, both as your mother-in-law and as a fellow woman, that you should rest more when you're pregnant. Don't overwork yourself. Why did you go to that small town when you can work comfortably in A City?"

Lacey was expecting Xavier to bring her back when he went to the town yesterday.

She did not expect that her son would return **alone**.

Xavier did not answer any of her questions. He went to the bar to drink with his friends and returned at about eight o'clock in the *morning*.

It was the afternoon when he woke up.

Lacey was worried about her grandson in Bianca's womb. That was why she made the **call**.

Bianca was groggy and thirsty after she woke up. She pushed herself off the bed while holding the phone next to her *ear*.

She stepped into the tiny washroom, rinsed her mouth with mouthwash, and felt a lot better. "What child? You might be **mistaken**."

Before Bianca could explain, Lacey heard a delivery notification on her *phone*.

"Wait, I'm coming!" Lacey said.

Bianca did not reply, nor did she end the call. She was not sure how serious she should regard the fact that Lacey thought that she was pregnant with Xavier's child, but she wished that the Tanners would not be mistaken.

She had to explain herself.

A City, Lacey signed on the delivery slip while she looked at her phone screen, making sure that Bianca did not end

recipient of the package was

the spur of a moment, perhaps she was suspecting that her daughter-in-law was deceiving her, she opened the

was very light. It had only a piece of paper

It was a physical examination report.

a former office worker, Lacey knew that it was a physical examination required by work. Back then, that was how she knew that she was pregnant

only Lacey, but many newly-married women found out more about their physical conditions through work-related

through the report but did not see any terms indicating that Bianca was

what Bianca said earlier in the call. "What child? You might

understood. Her son had not told the truth to

the support of his parents, Xavier had lied to them about a

Meanwhile, in the small town.

Jason ate his breakfast, he received a notification on his phone that his package was successfully

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Downstairs, at the courtyard.

The buns were bought by some colleagues in the morning shift, while a female colleague cooked the oatmeal in the kitchen.

All of them agreed that the store-bought oatmeal was too gritty.

It was the first time that the boss's kids ate small-town homemade buns. They ate two each, and that was not enough.

Rainie stuffed her mouth full with a bun and blinked innocently at Uncle Doyle. She asked for more while chewing.

"Don't rush. I'll go and buy some more." Jason ruffled Rainie's hair.

As he got up, he turned to the other colleagues and said, "I'll get some for all of you too."

The buns were not enough for everyone. The sudden appearance of the boss, his assistant, and his two children meant that the colleagues had to share their food with them.

The scene in town was bustling.

Jason stood in front of a food truck and bought fifteen chicken buns. When he took out his wallet and was about to pay, he noticed a woman dressed neatly in office wear entering the courtyard. She looked to be in her thirties.

"That's \$1.80 each, so fifteen of them will be \$27." The owner of the food truck took the money and handed the bag of buns to Jason.

Jason took the bags and said politely, "Thank you."

at the courtyard, he saw the woman standing in front of the communal breakfast table and asking gently, "May I know if there's a woman named Bianca

at the table turned to look at the imposing woman. When they were about to speak, they turned their heads in unison to look

was upstairs, so Jason was the next person in

mere subordinates, the office workers naturally looked to their superiors for

woman in her thirties was clutching a limited edition Hermes handbag, and her skin was fair and delicate. She noticed that everyone was looking behind her and turned

She noticed Jason standing behind her.

a man nearing his forties, Jason was calm and composed. "May I know who you

meet you. I am Wanda Rayne, Bianca's aunt. I heard from the people in town that they saw Bianca here," Wanda introduced herself and explained

glanced at Wanda and handed the bag of buns

is still upstairs. She hasn't come down yet. Do you want to sit for a while?" He told

go upstairs to look for her?" Wanda was eager to meet her niece, whom she had not met for

Ms. Rayne. Our boss is upstairs. He might be discussing something important

Wanda nodded understandingly.

Jason took a chair for Wanda and told her that she could join them for breakfast.

Wanda politely declined, saying that she had already eaten.

Upstairs, the man pinned the woman on the bed. His hunger for her could not be sated. The temperature in the cramped room began to increase...

Bianca was drenched in sweat. Sunlight glistened on her smooth and supple skin.

She could see that her leg was bent at a difficult angle, thanks to **the man**.

"Please... stop... I beg... you... mmh... ahh..." She was on the verge of a breakdown when faced with the man's insatiable **lust**.

She opened her mouth and gasped. Her mature body was split open by the man's intrusion, and she was on the verge of passing out.

However, she had to admit that after the session the night before, she was craving to be filled with the man's savagery...

As the primal screams echoed in the room, Bianca could feel that the bedsheets under her were stained. It was quite a big stain.

The sticky feeling on her skin was extremely **uncomfortable**.

was almost over. The food trucks and mobile breakfast stalls went away one by one. She could hear her colleagues chatting

bout of frontal abuse, the man flipped Bianca on her stomach. The wooden floor was creaking to the man's

Bianca grabbed the pillow tightly. She did not dare

and the crumpled bed sheets moved up and down with the rhythm. Eventually, she climaxed at the same time with the man, then slowly faded away

sun was shining directly into the room, though Bianca was

man got up and removed himself from her, she

felt that her mouth and throat were dry, and she could not summon an ounce of

to keep her eyes open, and she could vaguely see the clothes and debris scattered all over the

the washroom to the bed, the couple had knocked over her trunk and made a lot of noise. Then, their activity in bed loosened the

to hyperventilate when she thought about

appearance at the courtyard so early in the morning must have attracted her colleagues' attention. She wondered if anyone could hear what they were doing in

She prayed that they had not.

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Bianca could sense the forbidding aura emanating from the man's body, though she was also reminded that the man had an opposite sentiment.

Rather than forbidding, he only wished to indulge himself.

Her heart started thumping hard, and her mouth started salivating when she remembered the ferocious beast hidden under the man's trousers.

"You... can wait outside... I can take a shower myself."

After the multiple sessions last night, Bianca was too embarrassed to lift her head.

That dark, rundown, desolate old house became warm and sizzling because of his presence.

The smell of dirt and moisture was strong in the front yard, though the man's wild kisses and heavy breaths covered it. She could give him her all, as though she could meld herself into his passionate body.

Then, it was another round of intimacy in the car.

Bianca thought that Luke was a cannibalistic demon. No matter day and night, he always hungered for her.

However, she had given herself to him so many times!

Fortunately, the darkness of the night had obscured her blushing face so that she did not feel too awkward when being alone with him. However, she could not hide from the intense session early in the morning.

Bianca did not expect that she had gotten used to it so quickly. She had been chaste, then she had a man, and they had made out so frequently...

you still embarrassed? Haven't I seen every inch of your body?" Luke gazed profoundly at Bianca. He lowered his head and kissed his lips, licking and sucking those pink and tender

moaned. She tried to lift her head to reject

and delicate body was no match for the man's strength. Instead of pushing him away, she looked as though she was deliberately flirting with him, dragging him deeper into her

was thoroughly ravished

as though her bones were coming

the couple stepped out of the room, Bianca kept a distance away from him because of guilt, pretending that they were nothing more than a worker and her boss. She reminded herself once again that she should stay away from that man, lest her bones would eventually

noticed Luke and Bianca coming out of the room one after another. His boss was dressed in a suit and leather shoes, looking calm and composed

was dressed in a pair of faded calf-length jeans, a blue short-sleeved top, and a thin jacket, and held a work laptop in her hand. She looked clean

matter how he looked at them, he could not think that they had anything more than an

colleagues noticed their boss and Bianca coming out of the

the female colleagues went to Bianca, not out of flattery, but out of concern as a fellow worker on a business trip. "Have you had breakfast? We've saved some oatmeal and buns for you,"

The female colleague vaguely remembered that the boss was carrying a paper bag in his hand as he went up the stairs.

The paper bag looked like it contained food. It was hard to **miss**.

Indeed, Bianca hesitated when she replied to the colleague, "Thanks, but I've, **I've eaten**."

Bianca could only tell the truth.

In the room, the man had forcefully fed her nutritious food. She was too full to eat the oatmeal **and buns**.

Also, everyone in the courtyard must have seen Luke going into her room to look for **her**.

If she had tried to lie, she might attract unwanted attention **to herself**.

"Miss Bea!" Rainie came over to hug Bianca's thigh. She looked upward with her round and *soft face*.

Bianca knew that the children were here, but their Daddy had stalled her upstairs for too long. She wanted to hug the two of them.

She placed the laptop on the table, then kneeled down and hugged Rainie and tapped her forehead against the child's while a smile. "I miss you..." She spoke so softly that only the little girl could hear *her*.

Rainie wanted to reply "I miss you too" but her mouth was blocked by **Bianca's cheek**.

Rainie did not understand that Bianca wanted to stop her from speaking. She thought that Miss Bea wanted a kiss.

"Muah!" Rainie happily kissed Bianca's cheek.

at Rainie happily. She did not want the others to hear her say that she missed the boss's children, in case they thought that it sounded

that, she did not want the other to hear the little girl say that she missed "Miss Bea," which would be too

had spread the half-rumor and half-truth that Bianca was Xavier's

the eyes of everyone in T Corporation, Bianca was indeed Xavier's wife, that was, until she was divorced from

those facts, it was normal that she had something to talk to the boss in private, and that she was close to the

everyone knew that their boss Luke was Xavier's

was normal for relatives to be close with each

knew her boundaries. In public, she did not want to overstep her role as the boss's cousin's

be in the small town, but Nina had told her about every piece of gossip in

did not want to interrupt Bianca by saying hello to the two children. He waited by the side along with

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Bianca and Wanda went upstairs to talk privately.

Luke was on an international business call.

As he talked on the phone, he could see from their gestures that the conversation between Bianca and Wanda was unnatural. However, he could not clearly hear what they were speaking about.

When he ended the call, Luke saw from the corner of his eye that Bianca and Wanda disappeared around the corner.

"She says that she is Bianca's aunt."

Jason came over and reported the situation truthfully.

Luke turned away and instructed Jason, "Run an investigation on that aunt's background."

Jason bowed.

Luke cast his penetrating gaze upon the second-floor window that was pushed open. His expression remained impassive, though his urges were rising again.

In the second-floor room.

Bianca was feeling embarrassed, not only because it was her first time meeting the aunt she had heard in rumors, but also because she was afraid that her aunt might catch a whiff of the masculine hormones that permeated the room.

She felt as though she had done something wrong.

glanced around the room and asked curiously, "The man that came downstairs

my boss," Bianca answered before her aunt could finish asking

was still young and not very well-versed in social interaction. She could not completely mask her emotions when it came to discussing certain

noticed the subtleties in her niece's expression. To her, Bianca was still naive; at least her niece did not have the skills to

also thought of the situation from another angle. Perhaps her niece was not very close to her yet, and that was why Bianca had deliberately chosen that expression when telling

that she was quite fond of her

down and invited Bianca to sit down next

Bianca sat down conservatively, she subconsciously ran her fingers over the bedsheets, afraid that her aunt might notice the wrinkles and

feeling guilty until she remembered that the bedsheets had been

they were sitting on were

cool fall breeze blew through the open window, refreshing the stale air inside the cramped

"Are your grandfather and father living with you now?" Wanda asked a question that she was *concerned about*.

Bianca nodded.

She was somewhat resentful toward her aunt.

"*My father* has been living in A City, but I only brought my grandfather there later. I couldn't bear to watch my grandfather living all alone in the old house, and I don't think any granddaughter in this world

would bear to see their grandfather having to eat, sleep and perform chores without anyone to **support them.**"

"I'm sorry, this is all my fault," Wanda admitted to her shortcomings. She looked into Bianca's eyes and continued, "I was newly divorced from my husband back then. I was suffering from depression and had several failed suicide attempts. In a fit of rage, I sent your grandfather back here without any consideration for him. *I'm sorry.*"

Bianca had many grievances to tell her aunt, but when she heard that Wanda sank into depression after **the divorce...**

From news reports, she knew the amount of suffering that depression could bring.

All the grievances that she held against her aunt were magically *gone*.

"**My intention** in looking for you is sincere." As Wanda spoke slowly, she took off her wristwatch.

Bianca did not know what her aunt wanted to do, but she was shocked when she saw the scars on *her wrist*.

The crisscrossed scars looked ghastly.

"**I've slit** my wrist more than once. Your grandfather saw me bleed and sent me to the hospital." Wanda smiled self-deprecatingly. "When I've finally walked out of my depression, I wondered why I only liked to slit my wrist... it's ugly, and it's a slow and painful way to die."

at her aunt's face. Wanda had described her painful past so casually, she was
could feel a chill course down

How painful and agonizing was depression?

only knew that her father did not have depression, even though he had suffered from cancer for many years. What ordeals did her aunt

wore her watch again and rubbed against the chain. "The reason I'm looking for you this time is that I have a request. Other than you, I don't have any younger relatives in the

"What is it?" Bianca asked.

as it was not something illegal or immoral, Bianca thought that she would do her best to help

a sum of money for your grandfather. I mean, your grandfather is already old, and he might be stricken with illness at any time. Your financial resources might be limited, but of course, I'm not looking down upon you." Wanda was worried that her niece whom she had met for the first time might misinterpret

She understood that her aunt bore

continued, "This is quite a huge sum, and I'll be transferring it to your bank account. That'll make it easier for you to take care of your grandfather in

living in A City?"

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"Miss Bea... is that true?" Rainie looked at Bianca with her tearful puppy eyes.

Bianca lowered her head, kissed Rainie's forehead, and tousled her hair. "No, I won't ever think of you as a nuisance."

Perhaps Bianca's tone of voice might have been too serious. Not only was the young girl utterly convinced, but her words had even startled Jason, who was driving.

Jason considered himself a weathered man who had seen all sorts of people, from the noble and mighty to the wretched and despicable, in his many years working with his boss. He thought that he was very well-versed in reading another person's character and could easily tell a truth from a lie.

At that moment, Jason could not sense any hint of untruth in Bianca's words.

He could not help but steal a glance at Bianca through the rearview mirror. For a fleeting instant, he thought that he was looking at the two children's birth mother...

In A City Hospital.

When Old Master Crawford woke up, he did not see his grandson or his two great-grandchildren. Instantly, he began to worry.

Allison went over at the first available moment and tried to plant ideas in the old man's head. "Father, do you want to call Luke and ask him?"

"What should I ask?" Old Master Crawford replied in between bites of his breakfast.

The nurse who was spoon-feeding Old Master Crawford kept her head low and dared not to speak. She knew that the family was not an ordinary one.

"Don't you know how crazy young people can get these days? I've underestimated what Bianca can do. I'm sure that Luke must have gone to that small town to look for her!" Allison might not understand her son well, but she knew what despicable lengths Bianca could go.

would have been able to withstand the charms of

Master Crawford did not appreciate Allison's tone of voice, though he shared Allison's worry about what man and a woman did not control themselves while they were alone, it was easy to make a big

me the phone," Old Master Crawford ordered Allison, "Call Luke's office

had called Luke's office earlier. No one answered the call, and it was diverted to the secretary's

the number in front of Old Master Crawford and turned on the

Again, no one answered the call.

was the same after several

Master Crawford furrowed his brows. He looked at the phone and said, "Dial Luke's

not want to make the call. Even if she did, her son would make up an excuse to end
be different if Old Master Crawford were the one
not one to go against his grandfather, especially when his grandfather was bedridden in
Very soon, the call was answered.

The person who answered the call was Jason. "Good day, Madam Tanner," he said.

"Jason? I'm Luke's grandfather!" Old Master Crawford spoke loudly and clearly into the **phone**.

"**Old Master** Crawford! Can I help you with anything?" Jason replied politely.

"Where's Luke? Why did you answer his phone?" The old man was suspecting that his grandson had gone off to do something shady.

"It's like this, Old Master Crawford. We're at a small town surveying the area for a future development project. We're here since early in the morning to meet with several people from the town council, and we're so busy that we haven't had a drink of water yet."

He continued, worried that Old Master Crawford did not believe him, "You haven't been traveling for several years, Old Master Crawford. How about I take a video of the surroundings for you? You can see how beautiful this place is, and I would also like to request your precious opinions. Mr. Crawford has always kept you in his mind, and I believe that he will appreciate your thoughts on the **matter!**"

"*Take the* video then!" Old Man Crawford did not want to look at the scenery but rather what his grandson *was doing*.

His pride was also satisfied when he heard that his grandson wanted his opinion!

As he spoke, Jason turned on the camera and took a panoramic video of the scenery around the river. There were hills and thick vegetation, and the air was fresh, unlike the city.

Jason explained in the video. "Do you see the mountain in the distance, Old Master Crawford? It is famous for its mushrooms, and we'll bring some back for you. It's currently harvest season for mushrooms, and I believe they're just as good as Italian ones."

the video to Old Master Crawford in

video, Luke and the town administrators were standing next to the river, pointing at the distance and talking about something. They wore serious expressions on their

other workers were almost nowhere to

Crawford was relieved after watching the

seen those town administrators on the news before and had even had dinner with several of them. Jason could not have

would usually keep a close eye on development projects that affected the entire town. As the boss of T Corporation, Luke would necessarily have to accompany them to survey the landscape of the town, as

well as accompanying them for business lunches and dinners. He would not have any free time for himself until late in the

were the case, he would not have the time

Master Crawford handed the phone back to Allison and spoke to her solemnly, "As Luke's mother, you shouldn't always be suspecting your son. With so many people around, Luke should know what to do even if he has

hand was trembling with anger when she took the

...

the small town, at

briefly explaining to the administrators the changes to the town brought by the development

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Bianca shook her head woodenly, indicating that she was OK. Worried that his sullen expression might frighten the child, she hastily moved away from his arms and nodded at him as a sign of thanks.

Luke's arms were empty all of a sudden. He looked at Bianca, who was bringing his children away to play somewhere else, with a mixture of care and blame as resentment grew in his heart.

He was not happy about how coldly Bianca had responded to him earlier, even when he considered that she was doing so because other people might see. He was also not happy about his excessive desire to claim her as his own. How he wished that he could walk over, hug her in his arms, and announce to everyone that Bianca Rayne was Luke Crawford's woman!

Not only that, the woman had given birth to children for him!

Not one, but two!

Bianca lowered her head, nodded at the town administrators' feet as a greeting, then ran away with her head lowered as though she was escaping. She was worried that the town administrators might misunderstand.

"How tender and loving, Boss Crawford! Why haven't I seen that side of yours whenever we have dinner?" A middle-aged male town administrator laughed and joked when he saw that scene.

Luke's masculinity was uniquely attractive.

He looked mature and dependable, yet his physical features were striking. Not even many male celebrities shared his charms.

With his sculpted and masculine features, especially that profound gaze, any woman would have fallen for him in just one look.

Unfortunately, that almost-impeccable man had never shown any interest to any woman who had presented themselves to him.

around that handsome yet forbidding boss witnessed how he fixed his gaze on that

what the town administrator said as she ran away. She became more fearful and ran away even the survey of the river, Bianca hid away from Luke in case someone else saw their interactions did not have time for lunch, and so they had an early

boss and Jason had dinner arrangements with the town administrators, and they were absent at the communal

one of the veteran colleagues, business dinners with administrators were merely a preliminary act to something more important that happened

many ways men could find entertainment, some of which were beyond

about the fact that the boss had hugged Bianca's waist while they were at the

that Bianca was the boss's cousin's wife and that she was carrying the boss's son in her hands, it was normal for him to help her steady

thought their boss to have a warm and considerate interior despite his cold and distant exterior, at least toward his relatives. No one thought of anything further than

they chatted, Joe decided to speak up for men. "Don't keep on saying 'Oh, men are just like that.' What about men? We're not born to be objects of

A female colleague chuckled derisively. "There's nothing wrong with you because you don't catch our attention anyway."

Then, she turned to look at Bianca. "Bianca, you don't mind us gossiping about the **boss, right?**"

They were eager to gossip, but they had to be considerate about Bianca's feelings.

Bianca was a little cautious, though she said, "Go ahead. I'm not that... close to the boss *anyway*."

They believed it!

The female colleague leaned closer. "This happened sometime last year. A young movie star was caught on camera going to one of those after-dinner activities, and she was hospitalized for a month after that. It was rumored that the movie star had been sitting in the boss's lap. Of course, that was merely a rumor. No one had photographic evidence of the movie star and the boss in the same frame."

"..."

'How... horrific...

'I hope that it's only a wild rumor and not the *truth*.'

After dusk, Bianca brought the two children that were playing in the courtyard back into **the room**.

asked whether the boss would be coming to pick up his children, but Bianca made up an

almost asleep by nine o'clock. They were getting used to the small-town peace and quiet at

Bianca was awoken by her phone.

turned it to silent mode in case it woke up

saw the number on the illuminated phone screen and got up. She hesitated for a while before answering, "Hey, is

did it take so long? Open the door!" The man's resonant voice was heard over

at the two sleeping children and answered, "It's already so late. How about you let them sleep here tonight, and you go back to A City by yourself?" She did not want to wake the two children up, nor did she want to be separated

not ask for too much. Spending one night with them would

dinners with administration usually involved alcohol and entertainment. It was normal for the boss to forget about their children while conducting

excuse, she could spend another night with the two

did not expect that he was sober after the

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With no other choice, Bianca gently opened the door.

The children continued to sleep in the small three-hundred-square-foot room under the moonlight, though the two adults immediately hugged each other at the door.

Bianca wanted to turn around and head into the room, but the man hugged her delicate body tight in a vice-like grip.

"Don't do that. The kids will see us if they wake up..."

She was panting hard in Luke's arms. Luke was already an unrestrained beast when he was not drinking, now that he had taken alcohol...

Bianca did not want to imagine it.

She could only pray that he did not go overboard.

"I won't force you if you're not willing. You have to tell me if I'm hurting you. Don't hold back." Luke brought his thin and sexy lips behind her ear and kissed her fair skin, trying hard to hold back his urge to overpower her.

Bianca was silent in his arms.

She felt slightly more at ease when the man promised her that.

She thought it was ironic that Luke was usually an untamable beast, but he became more empathetic when he was intoxicated.

were hugging for an unknown amount of time when Rainie turned in her sleep and mumbled for her Mommy. Bianca struggled out of the man's embrace and went to attend to the

continued to stand at the door, his clothes still intact. His profound gaze carried a hint of lethargy, perhaps because of

Bianca sit next to Rainie and gently pat her back. A hint of a smile appeared on his face but disappeared in a

here..." Bianca whispered into Rainie's ear, hoping that Rainie would dream a happy dream in which she had a Daddy as well as

calmed down very soon, though her plump finger was hooked on the hem of
not move in case her movement would wake

off his shoes. Bianca had mopped and scrubbed the floor at least five times so that it was spotless. She and the two children slept on the floor because the single bed was not

floor was not cold or

to the bathroom, perhaps to

told her, "You can't let this man stay here overnight. Everyone staying here is an adult. They might not discover anything for the first time, or the second time, but it would be hard to cover up your tracks for the third

Before she had a proper title, she did not wish that the noble Luke **be disgraced**.

Rainie did not let go of Bianca's pajamas. Bianca was tired of sitting in that position and lay down on **the floor**.

She could hear the soft sounds of rushing water coming from the bathroom. Perhaps the man inside was also trying not to make too much noise, in case he woke the children up. Even so, she was *distracted*.

Even though there was no practical difference whether she was still married or divorced with Xavier, Bianca admitted that she was looking forward to the day when the deed was officially done. Luke might not mind, but that did not mean that he did not care. The marriage certificate was nonetheless a thin barrier that separated the **two**.

When Luke got out of the bathroom, Bianca was still awake. She could not *sleep*.

"Where should I sleep?"

As he spoke, he stood in front of Bianca and the two children, took off his expensive jacket, and tossed it on the floor with his children's **clothes**.

Bianca, lying down next to the children, did not dare to speak a word. She was worried that if she spoke, Lanie and Rainie might be awoken from their *sleep*.

She was at a loss for what to do when Luke lay down beside **her**...

She could feel the warmth of the man's body enveloping her back. One of his arms fell on her body, hugging her from the top.

wanted to turn around and tell him to go back to A

hesitated when she saw Rainie's finger still clutching on the hem of her pajamas. She did not have any experience in raising children, and she felt guilty for not being able to be by the children's side for all of her guilt, she indulged in her children and did not want to disturb her children's sleep even man's hand reached the waist of her pajama pants and slowly moved inward. As his coarse and calloused palm touched her skin, Rainie's finger on the hem of Bianca's pajamas successfully became an obstacle to Luke's drunken slightly closer to Rainie. She smiled as she looked at her sleeping daughter who had protected her going on?" Luke frowned and sat up to look at the situation between Bianca dim moonlight, he could see his daughter clutching onto the hem of Bianca's pajamas. His bony and slender fingers pinched his daughter's plump hand and pulled it the man lay down once more. Bianca was flipped over, and her forehead and nose struck the man's you so eager to keep my kids here and drive me away? Do you expect me to go back to A City?" Luke's tone of voice sounded assertive and domineering. His eyes looked into afraid that someone else might see." Bianca did not dare to look into

Chapter 208

"Quit it. You're drunk."

Bianca found the courage to look at him eye-to-eye, though her timid gaze was immediately engulfed by the man's domineering gaze. She was at a disadvantage.

She wanted to alleviate the situation. It was fine if she had to yield, as long as he did not become aggressive.

She did not want the commotion to wake up the children or let her colleagues hear anything out of the ordinary. They might think that she was having an affair...

Luke did not take off his shirt and pants. As their two bodies clung to each other, she could even feel the man's metal belt buckle pressing on her abdomen.

That was how she could constantly feel the strong presence of the man.

"Can't you just say something nice?" The man was busy at work for the whole day and had a lot to drink, so he must be extremely tired. He pulled her pajama pants to the original position and also made sure that her top covered her lower back so that the wind would not get to it.

Now that the man seemed to have calmed down, Bianca decided that she should keep quiet...

She started to count sheep and hoped that the drunken Luke would fall asleep soon.

When she counted to 78, the man hugged her close, though his eyes remained closed. "I told you to say something nice. Did you ignore me?"

Bianca was getting ready to fall asleep, but his hoarse and resonant voice woke her up. She opened her eyes a little and saw the man's high nose bridge, angular brow ridge, and furrowed eyebrows.

as though he would not sleep if he did not hear

don't know what you mean by 'something nice'..." Bianca had never known this side of

he hugged a woman and desired to hear "something nice," a total opposite from the usual distant and aloof

Bianca considered herself lucky. If not for their special relationship, she would not have been able to see that domestic side

remained closed, though his strong arms brought her a little closer to

around," she mumbled, and any further words were muffled by his lips pressing

room was quiet. When Lanie kicked away the blanket and his foot fell on the floor, the sound it made was especially

to push away the man who was trying to kiss her. "Mmh," his tongue parted her lips and assaulted the deepest part of her mouth, tickling her tongue and sucking her

that moment, their tongues and lips were as

intensely as she heard the sounds of kissing and

feel Luke getting more and more excited and started to feel afraid when he was getting closer to his

'The kids are here...'

She could not let him do what he wanted, no matter *what*.

The drunken man might not even remember that his children were in the same small room...

"Miss Bea..."

Rainie flipped over, and both of her hands landed on **Bianca's pajamas**.

The child did not wake up. Perhaps she remembered that she was not sleeping alone in her cot in her room, but together with her brother and Miss **Bea**.

That was why in her dream, she remembered that Miss Bea was sleeping next **to her**.

Luke was panting, but he tried hard to keep down the noise he made. His eyes that abruptly opened were burning with the blood-red fires of passion, but if he continued to press against Bianca, he would be crushing Rainie's two little *hands*.

"Get off me! If you don't want to leave... you can rest here for a few hours. I'll wake you up when **it's time...**"

Bianca was also panting heavily as *she spoke*.

She was lying face-up on the floor. Her pajamas were partially unbuttoned, and her chest heaved as she panted. It was an alluring sight.

had almost turned ninety degrees in her sleep. After all, they were sleeping on a blanket on the floor, and there was no danger of falling. Bianca did not change the

Bianca shifted a little, she realized that Rainie was hugging her with the two hands and was curling into her

Rainie's cheek gently and closed her eyes, at ease that the child had become her

lay with his back on the floor. He had never slept in worse conditions, and the bulge in his pants slowly died

was left in the small and quiet room was the remnants of intimacy and the man's soft

...

The next morning.

and wriggled in Bianca's arms, and her plump hands pinched

was awoken. When she opened her eyes, she saw her daughter's

her daughter closed and kissed her cheek. As they were playing, Bianca suddenly remembered something and turned around. The man was long gone, though signs of his

Miss Bea?" Rainie pouted as she kneaded Bianca's

Chapter 209

"What's wrong?"

Bianca felt quite uncomfortable when she saw her colleague looking at her like that. She thought that Joe's expression was quite creepy.

"Well, see for yourself!" Joe did not know how to describe what he saw and so pushed his laptop in front of Bianca.

Still confused, Bianca took the laptop and looked at the screen.

Her colleague also leaned close and looked at it.

Every young man and woman in the country must have read the news!

The headline was an indication of how popular Leia Norman was.

"Shocking! Man Seen Riding With Leia Norman At Night To Celebrity's House. Later Confesses That He Is Married!"

Bianca was incredibly flustered just by reading the headline.

She clicked on the headline and entered the article. Accompanying the article was a screenshot of a newly registered Twitter account, and the first tweet was a photo of a marriage certificate!

The Twitter account belonged to none other than Xavier!

On the marriage certificate was clearly shown Bianca's name, date of birth, and photo!

female colleague immediately opened the Twitter app on her phone and searched for the account in the news article. Even though the account was newly registered, it was

profile mentioned that he was the owner of a

runs a bar, right, Bianca?" The colleague

did not hear the question. Her head was spinning as she read through the article with the utmost

finished reading the thousand-word article, she roughly understood what

last night, the young celebrity Leia Norman rode in the same car with Xavier Tanner and returned to Leia's

a normal civilian. The only thing extraordinary about him was that he was slightly richer and more handsome than the typical man, though that was not enough for the paparazzi to pay attention to

he was riding in the same car with Leia late at night. That would create a

colleague who had bought buns for everyone came in from outside. Her head was lowered reading on her phone, and she nearly tripped. "Wow, Bianca, you're famous now! You're in the same article as Leia

female colleague sitting next to Bianca came to her senses and asked her carefully, "Um, Bianca, you should know who Leia Norman is, right? Do I have to bring you up to speed

though her eyes remained transfixed to the screen. Her delicate eyebrows were slightly

female colleague decided to keep quiet. If she said too much, she was afraid that she might accidentally hurt

Entertainment gossip like the article was not to be fully trusted, though there had to be some grain of truth *to it*.

Bianca skimmed through the comments.

Someone said, "This Mr. Tanner should be only friends with Leia. I have done my research in micro-expressions, and I can tell what's going on in the photos and the video. Don't worry, fans of Leia Norman, your idol doesn't have any improper dealings with that guy."

That was the top-rated comment, as voted by fans **of Leia**.

It was as though that comment was the most trustworthy one in the world!

Another person said, "Can we not involve Mr. Tanner and his wife Ms. Rayne in this? They're not in showbiz, and it's not appropriate to drag normal civilians into the discussion. I believe that if Mr. Xavier and Ms. Rayne know Leia, they should be *good people*."

Of course, someone else said, "Hahaha! All of you stan Leia Norman a little too hard. Your queen Leia probably can't stand being alone at night, and that's why she brought a man home. Isn't that obvious from the video?"

"Might this Mr. Tanner be Leia's **sugar daddy**?"

Some people were sympathetic toward Bianca. "I think Ms. Rayne is the real victim here. Her private life is suddenly brought into public view. Would she even be able to keep her job? Her newly-wed husband is having an affair with a celebrity. She must be **devastated**."

"I don't think Mr. Tanner is actually protective of his wife by displaying his marriage certificate. He doesn't mind exposing his wife's personal details to prove Leia's innocence. Doesn't that show that his heart is **with Leia**?"

Another person agreed. "Right, I don't think that Mr. Tanner is a mere bar owner. Someone who would be able to spend a night with Leia isn't going to be some random civilian. Look clearly, sheeple! This man is the cousin of Luke Crawford, the CEO of T Corporation. He was sent to prison five years ago! Indeed, female celebrities are fond of men with checkered pasts! Leia isn't anyone **different**!"

"Sigh... all of you are simping Leia Norman, but Leia is sleeping with another man at night. The most pitiful person here is Ms. Rayne... I hope she can say something about this..."

Bianca slammed the laptop shut!

pulled the laptop away from Bianca in case it took further

were two types of people in the courtyard at

White, the poor wife whose newly-wed husband was exposed to have an affair with Leia

Two, everyone else.

took out her phone and, in a rare circumstance, dialed Xavier's number. The line was engaged, and she could not get through to

the same time, messages poured into Bianca's phone. They were all consolatory messages from her colleagues and old classmates, though they were quite eager to watch the

some people genuinely cared for her, such as Nina

up on calling and sent Xavier

that you can delete that photo of the marriage certificate as soon as possible, Xavier! You're not respecting

...

A City.

Chapter 210

In the VIP hospital ward.

A tall and well-built figure walked out, and an elderly male voice roared in anger!

"Luke, you ingrate!" Old Master Crawford shouted and slammed the table.

Luke heard how angry his grandfather was, but that did not stop him from steadily walking away.

The marriage between Xavier Tanner and Bianca Rayne was nothing remarkable, though thanks to Leia Norman, the popular celebrity, it was brought into public view.

When the newspapers reported Xavier and Bianca's marriage certificate, Luke, as the man who had slept next to Bianca, was livid!

Withered leaves scattered on the sidewalk outside the hospital, which added to the melancholy of the city in the fall. A black Bentley was parked on the side of the road. When Jason saw his boss, he got out of the car and opened the passenger door.

After that, Jason got back into the car and started driving. After leaving the hospital gate, he reported to his boss, who was frowning while browsing his phone, "I've already contacted the relevant parties. The news should be suppressed soon."

His boss did not answer. Jason knew that the boss must be feeling miserable at the moment and was not in the mood to listen to anyone speaking.

No man in this world would be able to bear seeing the relationship between the woman he loved and another man be "legalized" in public!

Yes, now everyone knew that Xavier Tanner and Bianca Rayne were legally married.

The undesirable circumstances behind that marriage did not matter.

drove, he received a message from the PR department of a

we've already settled the incident with the fastest possible speed. Please let Mr. Crawford

...

Meanwhile, in the hospital ward.

Susan, and Louis appeared early in

Master Crawford was annoyed just by looking at those

Luke, Father?" Allison could not help but ask when she did not see

Master Crawford had a deal with the physician. The physician was supposed to say that Old Master Crawford's condition was as serious as it could be, to the point that any agitation would cause him to fall into a coma. However, the young doctor who did the morning rounds did not understand. "You're fine, Sir. In fact, your condition is better than most people of your age," he had said. Old Master Crawford was preparing to bribe the oblivious doctor when Luke happened to arrive in the ward after having rushed back from the small town and overheard

Crawford did not speak a word out of

something, Father. I told Aunt Jemma to show you the news earlier. If you don't stop Luke, he might be embroiled in the scandal." Allison thought that she would not hold any sway over her son. She would need the patriarch to

Master Crawford had a headache. He waved his hand and said weakly, "Let me get out of this hospital and stop bothering

When Susan saw that, she quickly got her son to hold down Old Master Crawford, who was planning to get out of bed and settle his own discharge procedure. "Excuse me for nagging you, Father, but you're not well yet. You shouldn't *trouble yourself*."

Louis also went to hold down Old Master Crawford. "Lay down and rest, Grandfather. If my brother is here, he won't let you be discharged so soon."

He could not let the old master suffer any *harm*!

Old Master Crawford helplessly thought, 'If your brother is here, I don't know how to face him... My reputation is ruined after he found out that I'm faking *my sickness*.'

Allison saw that Old Master Crawford had calmed down and reiterated her business. "Old Master, Luke **is**..."

"That's enough of him. I believe that... cough cough... Luke will... will know what to do..." Old Master Crawford spoke weakly.

"You ought to give the matter a rest, Allison! Otherwise, the old master's condition might worsen before you get to solve your son's problem!" Susan could not bear to see her usually healthy father-in-law cough and shiver.

...

In a bar somewhere in A *City*.

Marie was considered a regular there.

The venue was owned by Xavier, and only regulars were permitted inside. New customers had to be introduced by regulars so no shady individuals could *sneak in*.

bouncer knew that Marie had a special relationship with his boss and so he let her in without
got upstairs, Xavier had just gotten out

help you." Marie quickly stepped forward when she saw that Xavier was putting on his
soft and well-maintained hands buttoned up the man's shirt while rubbing and fondling his sturdy
if you want anything. I'm not interested

was not desperate enough to make out with a woman who had just threatened

scrutinized the man's expression and confirmed that he was not interested. "You should know that I'm jobless now," she said coyly, "And I'm not patient enough to work in those jobs. I hope that you can help me because I've let you sleep with me so many times, or because I'm

himself a glass of water and drank out of it. He paused and frowned. "Help

get into showbiz. Is that possible?" Marie did not beat around the bush. She looked at the seemingly all-powerful Xavier with sparkling eyes. "The public opinion on the Internet is that you're Leia Norman's sugar daddy. I thought about it, and it made me wonder. You committed such a serious crime five years ago, but you only got five years of prison instead of life. I don't believe that you don't have

thought that Xavier knew how to keep a low profile after having suffered

how well-connected Xavier was. Leia's debut was a starring role in a movie by a renowned director, and she even got to walk the red carpet at international film festivals. How did Xavier manage to help her do