

Be Gentle 2021

Chapter 2021

However, would Luca want to return to the hotel?

The person who was manipulating Luca behind her would have heard about the news that T Corporation had gotten the project successfully. That person would still go after T Corporation and him. Therefore, they should have something up his sleeve.

Luke thought that Luca would still be the one to implement that person's next move.

That was why Luca was not allowed to be out of his sight.

Ray noticed that Luke's gaze was on Luca. He turned to look at her and said, "It's dangerous to drive in a snowstorm. No subway route can bring you back to the hotel either. Why don't you spend the night here?"

Luca put down her cutlery, lifted her head, and noticed that Luke and the others were looking at her. They were waiting for her reply...

"Mr. Crawford, I'll leave the decision up to you," Luca said in a soft voice, telling them that she was fine with the arrangement.

Luke nodded. It seemed like Luca had not received any orders. Luke turned to look at Ray and said, "We'll have to spend the night here, then. I'm sorry for bothering you."

Vivian replied immediately, "Brother Luke, what are you saying? You're not bothering us at all. I'll ask the maids to get three rooms ready for the three of you."

At night.

Luca sat on the sofa in the room, staring at the heavy snow outside the window with a depressed expression on her face.

The weather forecast was right. It was snowing heavily.

If it snowed all night, the snow would be as high as their knee the next day when they woke up.

Vivian went to tidy up the guest rooms after dinner. Luca was not in the mood to join the other activities. She found an excuse and told them that she was tired so she could hide in the room.

sat there for almost

only wanted to be alone now without thinking about Luke and Abel's

Her phone suddenly rang.

was startled. She slightly jumped and looked at her phone that was left aside. The screen lit up, and a string of numbers was calling

was no way she could escape what ought

let out a sigh. She answered the call after it rang five

pulling my leg?" Abel's sinister voice came from the other end of the line.

could imagine the ferocious look on his face even though she could not see him. She knew exactly why he called without asking him. He came to ask about T Corporation's

Luca sounded calm. She was not in a hurry to

bidding document T Corporation submitted is different from the one you gave me. Now, Luke won the bid with another bidding document and got the project. Ivana, tell me, were you fooling me?" Abel refused to believe what she said.

not concerned about the bidding results in the first place. After all, he assumed that Luke would lose the right to get the project. However, things were out of

T Corporation was awarded the contract!

stunned when he saw the news on M Group's official website. He realized he had been played by Luca.

"The bidding document I gave to you was the one I stole from the safe box. Besides, I participated in the translation of the bidding document. The contents are the same as the contents of the document I gave you. I didn't know he prepared two bidding documents to set me up." Luca looked down. She was secretly praising Luke for doing a great job. Luke had won this silent battle *impressively*.

Abel's voice was full of disbelief as he asked, "Do you think I'll believe your nonsense?"

"I wouldn't do anything to betray you for Nyla's sake." Luca took a deep breath. It would be difficult for him to believe her right *now*.

However, she had no choice but to make him **believe it**.

Abel was reminded of her daughter. Nyla was indeed in his hands. Luca would not dare to do anything **to him**.

"Are you serious? You're not in cahoots with Luke?"

"I'm not capable enough to finish a bidding document alone." Luca took a deep breath and thought of Luke.

He forged a fake bidding document and prepared a real bidding document...

How capable he was to be able to work on two bidding documents for the same project at the same **time**.

Luca could not help but feel impressed. Luke was the only one who could *do this*.

Besides, she had no idea when he started preparing two bidding documents. The other employees must not have known about it either. Otherwise, how could the news not **have spread**?

No secret could be kept forever. Hence, Luke probably teamed up with just a few people to complete the real bidding document.

Luca did not know how many people were in on this, but she knew there were only a few of **them**.

pondered, and he thought Luca's words could be

was not capable enough to prepare a fake bidding document alone, and the contents of the bidding document looked decent.

into this. If I find out that you've lied to me, you know the consequences." Abel warned her

you going to investigate this matter?" Luca had a

you're curious? This isn't something you're supposed to know." Abel did not intend to tell

was not the only one he had placed in

she was an important pawn and tool. That was why Abel would ask Luca to do certain

seemed to know how Abel was going to investigate this, and she fell

Luke set you up on purpose. Has your identity been exposed, then?" Abel continued to ask when Luca did not say

did not want Luca's identity to be exposed that quickly. He had yet to finish taking revenge on Luke.

not sure." Luca stood up and drew the

do you mean by you're not sure? Luca, get back here immediately if you've failed your mission. If you're thinking that you might have a chance to run away, your daughter will be the unlucky one,"

her fists. She never wanted to talk much in the first place, but she had no choice and continued, "It's unlikely for me to be talking to you now if my identity was exposed. That's why I'm not sure about

Chapter 2022

Luca had never given up the thought of saving her daughter all along.

However, it was only now that she realized that there was no way she could do this alone.

She could not depend on her strength. There was no way she could fight against Abel alone. Every word and every move she made was made known to Abel.

Luca needed support from others so that she could fight him. However, who could support her?

Luca knew she could only do this alone. There was no one else...

Knock, knock. someone was knocking on the door. Luca lifted her head in grievance and suppressed the urge to cry. Only then did she ask, "Who is it?"

"Luca, it's me, Vivian." Vivian's voice came from outside the door.

Luca sniffed and walked to the door. She opened the door and said, "Vivian, what's the matter?"

Vivian was carrying a set of clothes in her hands. She gave Luca a shy smile and explained, "I thought you might need these, so I came to give them to you. They're all new. Don't worry."

Luca took the clothes Vivian handed to her. It was a set of warm pajamas.

"Thank you. Sorry to bother you tonight." Luca thanked her.

"Don't mention it. You're our honorable guest. This is just something I should be doing," Vivian smiled and said. Then, she noticed that something was wrong with Luca's expression. Her eyes were red and puffy, so she asked, "Luca, were you crying?"

"No." Luca shook her head, pretending as if nothing had happened.

had been pretending to be strong in front of others for a long time. It was an easy task

your eyes are red. You can tell me if you feel upset. I promise I won't tell anyone about it." Vivian thought Luca was worried that she would reveal her secret, so she gave Luca her word

because she had no other choice that she told Ray about Luca's matter the last

I feel so happy today. T Corporation got the project, and everyone's efforts paid off. Why would I cry on such a happy day? If I'm going to cry, it'd be tears of happiness," Luca said a lot to make Vivian believe in

looked at Luca with her blue

Luca continued to explain when Vivian refused to believe her, "My eyes are red because I'm feeling sleepy and my eyes

see. Well, I should leave. Goodnight." Vivian thought she was disturbing Luca and felt

her head. She did not intend to continue to explain to Vivian even though she had misunderstood

leaving first. Oh, if there's anything you need, just pick up the phone receiver at your bedside and press one. The maids who are on duty will pick up the call. And the guards on duty will answer the call if you press two." Vivian turned around and left after

closed the door and looked at the pajamas she was holding. She pondered for a moment and changed into the pajamas. Then, she lay down on the

still have to stay in this villa even if her thoughts were all over

would not be making any moves. Hence, she did not have to speculate what Luke was going to do. She closed her eyes and planned to take a

to force herself to rest for a while no

She was stressed out all day long, and she needed to **rest**.

In the villa's living room.

Luke and Ray were discussing something

Vivian walked toward them. Ray asked, "Have you finished making the arrangements?"

"**Yes**. I've already handed the pajamas to Mr. Doyle and Luca. Brother Luke, I asked the maid to leave a set of new pajamas for you on the sofa in your room. You can change into that later," said **Vivian**.

Luke looked up, and Luca came across his mind. He asked, "How's Luca **doing**?"

"Luca? She looks tired. And her eyes were slightly red. She told me that she was sleepy. I didn't say anything much. I just gave her the pajamas and left," **answered Vivian.**

Her eyes were red?

Luca must be distraught, thinking of what he would do **next.**

However, they were still aboard, so they could not work things out now. That was why she kept on worrying.

Vivian noticed that Luke remained silent, so she asked, "Brother Luke, the maid has prepared supper. Would you like to **have some?**"

Luke shook his head and replied, "No, thank **you.**"

I'm going to bed. The two of you can continue talking." Vivian smiled, then she stood up

watched Vivian leave from behind. He asked, "Has Gordan proceeded with the

Ray's expression turned gloomy when Luke mentioned Ray. "I don't know what he's up to. The lawyer said he'd like to talk to

don't want Vivian to have anything to do with Gordan again," said Luke. It was not a question but an

and replied, "It wasn't easy for her to make such a decision. Since she's leaving, then I'll have to make sure that she draws a line between her and Gordan."

did that to protect Vivian's

would possibly know what Gordan was

ugly women. Even so, he was still the one who approached Vivian

how Vivian devoted herself to him and treated him kindly, Gordon never failed to show that he detested

when Vivian asked for a divorce, Gordon did not agree with it immediately. Instead, he was now trying to get the chance to discuss it with

not satisfied enough even when Vivian asked for nothing in return? Could it be that he wanted them to compensate him for the past few years of

relationship, Gordon was forced to stay beside Vivian. He was definitely at a disadvantage. Even so, Vivian had also spent her youth and spirit on this relationship. Had she not made sacrifices too?

was why Ray would not allow Vivian to meet Gordan and talk about it no matter what. It was to stop him from hurting her again.

Chapter 2023

"Just tell me if you need anything," said Luke. He thought that the reason why Vivian chose the Capital was mostly because of Gordan.

Although she had made up her mind to leave Gordan, she still missed him in her heart.

"Alright. I'll not hesitate to ask for help if I need it." Ray nodded. Vivian was the one who could decide where she would be going. He could not interfere.

Ray had friends all around the world, after all. Even if Vivian wanted to travel to some state in Africa, he would still be able to make arrangements for her.

However, he did not encourage Vivian to head to countries that were lagging behind other countries as she would suffer there. That was why Ray agreed right away when Vivian chose to head to Luke's country, and he had already begun to make arrangements.

Ray glanced at the time. It was late. Luke was his guest, so he should not be taking up his time to chat with him. Hence, Ray said, "It's late. Let me ask the maid to bring you back to your room."

"Sure." Luke did not reject him. He knew Vivian had arranged different rooms for each of them. He would like to return to his room as soon as possible to see what Luca was doing.

The maid pushed Luke's wheelchair and sent him back to his room.

Luke asked the maid to leave as he did not need her to serve him.

The maid turned around and left.

Luke had asked where Jason's and Luca's rooms were. Jason's room was opposite his room, and his room was right beside Luca's.

Luke maneuvered the wheelchair closer to the wall.

There was no sound from the other side.

the soundproofing was too good, or Luca was already in bed. Luke could not hear a

up his phone and sent a voice message to Gale, "They don't have to keep an eye on her tonight. Let them rest

had arranged for his men to keep an eye on Luca to prevent her from disappearing all of a sudden. Thus, there were still people following them even when Luca was just beside Luke.

were currently in Ray's villa. The security here was good, and Luca was unfamiliar with the environment here. Even if she wanted to leave in the middle of the night, it was unlikely that she could leave without alerting the

at the pajamas Vivian left on the sofa. It was a brand new set of pajamas. He quietly changed into pajamas without showering this

showered at the hotel before he came here. That was why he did not feel uncomfortable even if he did not

held onto the armrest of the wheelchair and stood up slowly. He landed steadily on the floor with just one leg. Then, he slowly turned around and sat at the

had become familiar with doing this while experiencing the inconveniences of his injury after the car lay down on the bed and tucked

were still listening to the movements in the next room. However, he did not hear anything until he fell ...

Luca did not sleep well.

She felt something was wrong in the middle of the night.

Luca opened her eyes and looked around her in the dark. She sat up on the bed with beads of sweat on her forehead.

Due to the restless sleep, not only was her forehead full of sweat but her body was sweating too.

There were footsteps and noises. Those people were gabbling away in Russian as though they were after *someone*.

The noises were far away, and Luca could barely catch any information.

Someone had broken into the villa.

Danger!

Luca turned on the lights immediately and looked around her. She was afraid that she might be taken away while she was asleep. That was why she hung a cup on the door handle before she slept. The cup was still hanging on it. No one **came in**.

Where were Luke and the others?

Luca climbed out of bed right away. She was worried about **Luke**.

Ray was a famous leader of an underworld organization here. The person who dared to break into his house must be as powerful as he was. Luke was defenseless now, and he had an injured leg. It would be dangerous if he was taken by those people who broke into the *villa*.

Luca could not be bothered that much. She ran to open the door barefooted, thinking of rushing to Luke's bedroom to protect him.

just opened the door when she saw Jason standing behind Luke's wheelchair in front of her

are you alright?" Luca asked

fine. Are you okay?" Luke woke up earlier than she did. That was why he managed to hear more about what was happening. The person who broke into the villa was hiding somewhere, and Ray's subordinates were checking every room now.

was worried that the person who came was the man manipulating Luca, and he was also worried that she might be taken away. Hence, he asked Jason to push him here to guard her

the door open while Luke was hesitating if he should open

just woke up..." Luca glanced around her and realized that she could hear the noises clearer after she pushed the door open. However, they were some distance away. She asked,

broke into the villa and triggered the security system. Ray is looking for the intruder now. Is there anything strange in your bedroom?" Luke asked. He was not worried that Ray's enemy would come looking for him. After all, Ray had many men with him, and he could solve this. Luke was only worried about the person who was manipulating

The windows are locked. No one came in." Luca let out a sigh of relief when she saw Luke was safe was glad that Luke was

Luca knew someone broke into the villa, she worried about Luke's safety the most. Now that she knew that Luke was safe, she set her worries aside.

men are looking for the intruder. Stay in your bedroom, close the door, and lock it. Don't open the door if it's not me asking you to open it," said Luke. Luke was assured knowing that Luca was alright. He planned to look for Ray and find out what was going on.

listened to his words and frowned. "Mr. Crawford, are you going over

Chapter 2024

"Brother Luke, it'd be better for you to stay here." Vivian stopped Luke immediately. It made no sense to ask a guest to help catch an intruder. "Trust Ray. He can handle this well. Besides, the villa is more than a hundred years old. The person who broke in will get lost easily even if he has the map. And your leg is still injured. We should stay here."

Luca went along with Vivian's words and said, "Mr. Crawford, I think we shouldn't cause any trouble for Mr. Ray."

Luke slightly frowned. Although the current situation did not look too good, Luke could feel Luca's love for him.

She was concerned about him...

Luke stared at Luca for a while. It was indeed inconvenient for him to go look for Ray now. He could only come up with a few ideas for Ray, but he could not be of much help.

Ray would still have to ask someone to protect him if something happened.

His staying here would not cause any trouble for Ray, and he could also make sure that Luca was within his sight...

Luke decided at once and nodded. "Let's go in."

Vivian and Jason let out a sigh of relief, but it was obvious that Luca was the one who felt the most relaxed now.

They walked into the room together.

Vivian asked her security guards to come into the room too. Then, she closed the door and locked it carefully.

Vivian glanced at her phone and said, "Ray will call me if there's any news. Don't worry."

"Alright. Thank you," Luke nodded and said.

Vivian felt embarrassed. She said, "Brother Luke, don't mention it. I invited you to spend the night here, but something like this happened. You couldn't even sleep well. I'm really sorry for what happened."

after me," said Luke. Otherwise, why would they choose to break into Ray's

underworld scene in Russia was in a mess, why would they choose tonight, when the group of them was staying over, to make

silent when she heard what Luke said.

was a chance that they were after Luke, but the only person who was after him was

Abel was behind this, he would not have called her to ask about it just

Luca thought it was not

had not offended anyone in Russia. If it was because he won the bid and someone was jealous of him, it was unlikely that those people would break into Ray's villa just because of

Ray's name was well-known among the underworld organizations in Russia. Who would be willing to mess with

As for Pierre Mallory...

how capable he was with the Mallory family supporting him, he would not be foolish enough to mess with Ray

remained silent as she was secretly analyzing what was going on. This probably had nothing to do with her

dead silence in the bedroom. The guards were keeping a close eye on the door, preventing anyone from breaking into the

were in the safest place, everyone was nervous while listening to the noises outside. No one even dared to make a

Half an hour later, the noises out there got even louder. Vivian went closer to the door, trying to figure out what they were talking *about outside*.

Those people were talking in Russian. Although Luca understood Russian, the soundproofing was too good. In her eyes, the voices kept breaking up. After a while, the noises got softer. Luca reckoned that the matter should have ended.

It was either Ray had caught the person who broke in, or that person had *already escaped*.

After a while, Vivian's phone rang.

"*It's Ray.*" Vivian glanced at the phone and told everyone. Then, she answered the call, "Ray, how is *it*?"

"**I** caught him. Everyone can come out now," said Ray.

"Alright." Vivian took a deep breath and hung up the call. Then, she said to everyone in the room, "The man has been taken down by Ray. Let's go out."

Everyone was wide awake after what happened. Luca stood up and glanced at *Luke*.

Luke's expression was serious. Luca had no idea what Luke was thinking about.

Usually, she would be able to speculate it, but ever since she saw Pierre submitting the bidding document, she did not know what Luke had in his *mind*.

Jason pushed Luke's wheelchair and walked out of the room, while Luca followed *them*.

Vivian came up to Luca and apologized in a soft voice, "I'm sorry, Luca. You must be shocked."

"It's alright." Luca shook her head.

They headed to the living room and saw Ray sitting there smoking his cigar with a stern expression on his *face*.

became clear that although the person was caught, the trouble had yet to

"How are things?" Luke asked.

at Luke, then glanced at Luca and Vivian. He eventually said, "Take a seat

Luca sat down on the sofa, while Jason locked the brakes on Luke's wheelchair beside the sofa. He sat down as

the person, and he's being locked in the cellar now," said Ray. There was a cellar in the villa, and the cellar had only one door with reinforced walls surrounding it. It was meant to lock up these kinds

say anything?" Luke asked again.

haven't questioned him. I think I'd need your help," replied Ray. He needed Luke's help

problem. Let's go." Luke nodded and agreed to

Luca's gaze fell on Luke.

that Luca was feeling perturbed by the look in her eyes. He reminded Vivian, "Vivian, take care of Dr. Craw and Mr.

this. Don't worry." Vivian smiled and ordered the maids who were waiting at the side to get Luca and the others a cup of warm tea.

everything that just happened, they needed a cup of warm tea to warm themselves up and comfort their

maids acted fast. They immediately served a warm cup of tea to each of

Chapter 2025

The bodyguard pushed the door open.

Ray walked in front, heading into the cellar.

Then, the bodyguard pushed Luke's wheelchair and walked in as well.

The cellar was not as dark as he had imagined. It was brightly lit, and he could see everything clearly.

A man was chained to a steel bar that was as thick as an adult human.

The clothes on the upper half of the man's body had been taken off. There were fresh bruises on his body. Just by looking at them, it was obvious that it was Ray's men who beat him up after they found him.

"This is the man who secretly broke into my house."

The man lifted his head and glanced at Ray when he was talking. The expression on his face was evil-looking. Then, he lowered his head. Not a word of pleading escaped his mouth.

Even though he was being held as a prisoner now, he was still arrogant.

Luke looked at the man in front of him. He had blonde hair with a Western appearance. Even though he had been captured, his expression was still prideful. He had this evil look in his eyes.

"What do you think?" Luke asked Ray. It was Ray's villa. That was why he should not be interfering with the interrogation.

"I have to go on with the interrogation first," said Ray. Even so, he knew that he would not be able to get any answers from this man.

Luke nodded without saying anything.

Ray's subordinate grabbed a chair for him. Ray sat on the chair. He left Hansen responsible for the interrogation session.

"Who sent you?" Hansen asked.

who was tied up kept silent and gave him a dirty

was pissed. He punched the man in his stomach right away. Everyone there could hear the loud and clear thud of his punch landing on the man's

"Speak. Who sent you?"

man lifted his head and sneered. He looked at Ray instead of Hansen. "Aren't you a big shot? Find it out yourself, then."

was toying with the cigar in his hands with a cold expression on his

these years, this was the first time someone dared to break into his villa. Fortunately, he was able to capture the man. Only a few of his men were injured, so it was not very

if Ray had not managed to capture that person and the news spread out in the underworld scene, everyone would start thinking they could trample all

man realized that he had failed to provoke Roy, he continued, "Well, I thought you were better than this. But this is all there is to

smack sounded right after he said that. A hand slapped him right across his face and gave him a slap, and the man's face was all red.

He puckered his lips and spat out a mouthful of blood. A tooth was knocked out by the slap. Then, the man said angrily, "Finish me off if you have the guts to do so. Even if you kill me, I'd rather die than tell you who sent me!"

"I really think we won't dare to do so?" Hansen rolled up his sleeves and lifted his shirt. "Wait," Ray interrupted Hansen.

"Boss! He's asking for it. We should teach him a lesson. Otherwise, he'll think we don't have the guts!" Hansen clenched his fist and yelled as he was eager to give this man a piece of his *mind*.

It had been a while since they fought, but that did not mean that they were to be messed **with**.

Ray had been asking them to train themselves, and they had never missed any training sessions. If they were to fight, they were unlikely to *lose*.

"What's the point of beating him to death?" Ray rolled his eyes at Hansen. He had to at least figure out something. He needed to know if the man was coming after him or Luke, as well as who was the force **behind him**.

The man heard their conversation. Even though his face was still red and swollen, he sneered and said, "You're just a coward, like I **said**."

"Do you wanna get beaten up again?" Hansen was still tempted to beat him up even though Ray had stopped him.

"Come on, then! You'll never know who's coming after you if I'm dead and when he's going to make his next move!" The man provoked him. He had never thought of returning the moment he got captured.

He only came to carry out his mission. It was a relief to him no matter if the mission succeeded or not.

Hansen could not help but think of beating him up.

"Stop!" Ray yelled.

"Boss, if we don't teach him a lesson, he'll think we don't have the guts to do anything to him!" Hansen loosened his grip and clenched his fist again as he could not hold himself back any **longer**.

Ray stared at the man and asked, "I'm giving you another chance. Who's after **me**?"

The man lifted his head and glanced at Ray. Then, he lowered his head and sneered, "Don't you have any idea who you've offended?"

who was listening to their conversation beside them, frowned.

The man deliberately said so to arouse Ray's suspicion and make him suspect the underworld organizations that had disputes with him before.

all, Ray's family had existed for more than a century in Russia. It was normal for his family to have some disputes with other organizations.

everything had been stable thus far regardless of the disputes between

would be willing to ruin the peaceful situation now, given the benefits that they had been receiving all this while. After all, current society was governed by law. There were many things that were inconvenient for them

I'd like to have a word with you," said

the cigar on the ground and nodded. Then, he signaled the bodyguards behind him to push Luke out of the

lowered his voice and warned the man after Luke left, "I'm giving you another half a minute. Think about whether you'd like to tell me or

Ray left the cellar.

asked the bodyguard to continue pushing him in his wheelchair until the people in the cellar could not hear their conversation. Then, he asked the bodyguard to stop and wait for Ray.

caught up with him not long after that. He asked, "Luke, did you find anything

was listening to him just now, it seemed like he was trying to start a war." Luke believed that Ray had sensed it

He's trying to pass the buck to the organizations that my family had conflicts with before." Ray was not dumb, and he refused to believe what that man was

was a possibility that he was sent by one of the organizations, he told Ray to

Chapter 2026

"At this crucial moment!" Ray frowned as he could no longer keep himself calm.

The man Ray caught was probably drugged and was like a time bomb. If the man was unable to accomplish the mission or return, the drug would probably attack his body.

It would be difficult to interrogate the man by then.

"Are there no pharmacists left?" Luke asked.

"There were two of them. But they followed Winson there." Ray grabbed his hair. He had no idea whether the man locked in the cellar had swallowed any pills or not.

"I know someone who can help—Luca," said Luke. "She can prepare the potion according to the formula as long as the materials are prepared."

"Yes. We still have Dr. Craw." Ray clapped his hands and said to the bodyguard, "Head to the living room and ask for Dr. Craw's help. Just say I'm the one who needs her help. I'll send the formula to Vivian. She'll know what to do."

"Alright, Boss." The bodyguard left immediately.

Then, Luke added, "Before the potion is made, you can check the man's body to see if there's a tattoo on him. If there is, then we probably won't need the potion."

"Come on. Let's go together." Roy pushed Luke's wheelchair himself.

Luke lifted his hand to stop Roy when they reached the cellar's entrance.

"What's the matter?" Ray asked.

"I'm not interested in man's body. I think I'll leave it to you and your subordinates to check him." Luke told Ray that he did not intend to go into the cellar.

"Sure. You're a decent businessman, after all. I can understand that." Ray locked Luke's wheelchair's wheels after that. "Wait here. I'll be back soon."

pushed the door open and entered.

man looked at Ray who just came in and sneered, "Why? Have you found out who's your enemy now?"

him and ordered Hansen, "Take his pants off and see if there's a tattoo on his body. Be sure to check Boss." Hansen heard Ray and did what he asked

man sneered when he heard that Ray intended to check if he had any tattoos on him. He took it easily.

knew at once when he heard the man's response. No matter how hard Hansen tried to find the tattoo on his body, he would end up with nothing. Hence, Ray left the cellar.

his brows and asked when he saw Ray push the door open and walk out of the cellar. "That

not interested in men either." Ray shrugged his shoulders and leaned on the wall. "I think there's probably no tattoo on

let's wait for the potion," said

On the other hand.

bodyguard delivered Ray's message to

same time, Vivian also received the formula Ray sent to her and she said, "Luca, sorry to trouble you this

it must be because of Luke when the brother and sister came to ask for her

There was no way she could put it off as she felt slightly uneasy about it in her heart.

Could it really be Abel's man who sneaked into the villa?

Abel really wanted to take her **away**?

"Luca?" Vivian called out Luca's name softly when she noticed that Luca did not respond. "What's the matter? Are you *feeling uncomfortable*?"

“No. I just have to prepare the potion, right? Let’s go. Bring me to the laboratory.” Luca came back to her senses and shook her **head**.

In any case, now that the man had been manipulated, she wondered if he was sent by Abel to take her away. However, there was no way she could be taken away *now*.

“Let me lead the way,” Vivian held Luca’s arm and said passionately.

The two of them came to the laboratory. Vivian entered the password and said, “This is the lab. There’s hardly anyone who uses it. The equipment here is valuable. That’s why we need the password lock.”

The password lock unlocked as Vivian explained to Luca. Luca pushed the door open and looked at the laboratory with advanced equipment.

Vivian asked, “Is it alright to do it *here*?”

“It’ll be fine as long as we have the materials,” answered Luca. She picked up the disposable gloves, head cover, and lab coat skillfully.

“The formula is right here.” Vivian handed her the **phone**.

Luca glanced at the formula and turned to look at the medicine bottles on the shelves. “Let me see if they’re complete.”

found the medicines needed on the shelf according to the formula

equipment provided here was advanced, and the medicines were complete too. After a while, Luca found all the medicines and began to mix them up according to the formula

looked at Luca with

that the names of the medicines were more or less the same when she was looking at the formula. However, Luca was able to differentiate the medicines with just a glance. Besides, she could pour the exact dose needed perfectly. She began to

It was impressive.

an hour later, Luca was done mixing the potion according to the

handed a full bottle of potion

amazing. It’ll be great if I can become as awesome as you are in the future.” Vivian took the medicine from her. She could not help but feel

makes perfect. These are the basic skills of a pharmaceutical scientist,” Luca said lightly. She remembered how much effort she had put in just to differentiate the medicines correctly and familiarize herself with them back

did she have to remember the medicines’ names but also the ingredients and functions of every type of was the result of the hell training that Shanks gave

too humble. You're really awesome, you know!" Vivian exclaimed. She held the potion in her hand while she walked out of the laboratory together with

door was closed. Luca asked, "Are you going to deliver the potion to

Chapter 2027

"Yes, Boss." The bodyguard took the potion from Ray and entered the cellar.

Vivian looked at them with confusion. The bodyguard had entered the cellar, but they did not intend to go in. She thought of following them into the cellar to see what was going on. She asked, "Ray, why are you standing here?"

"Nothing." Ray shook his head.

Vivian replied when she saw this, "I'd like to go in."

Ray stopped her and said, "No, you can't."

Vivian frowned and looked at him. "What's wrong?"

"He's naked now. What are you going to do there?" said Ray. He had no intention of seeing that man's naked body, not to mention letting Vivian be exposed to that sight.

"I didn't know..." Vivian paused when she heard that. There was an awkward expression on her face.

Ten minutes later, Hansen walked out of the cellar. He could barely hide the excited expression on his square-jawed face. He even forgot to put down the towel in his hand. "Boss, there is one."

"Make it clear." Ray felt in his bones that there was a tattoo on that man when he saw Hansen's reaction.

It seemed like Luke got it right.

"There's a tattoo hidden on his lower back. It showed on his skin once I wiped it with the potion." Hansen took a deep breath and reported everything that happened to Ray.

Luke frowned, then he lifted his head and exchanged glances with Ray. He was from the Island of Despair, indeed.

"That man..." Ray hesitated.

he has his clothes on now." Hansen knew what Ray was trying to avoid after years of following

on. Let's go in and take a look." Ray took the

the wheelchair and intended to follow Ray in too. Luca noticed that and quietly came over to push the

Luke did not stop her.

them into the

the man who was tied up saw Ray walking in, he began to go crazy. "Kill me! Why are you tying me up here? Just kill

How did the man who was mocking and provoking him just now suddenly change into another was standing beside, said in a low voice, "Boss, he's been acting like this since I found out about the tattoo. Perhaps it's because he failed to sow discord between us and knows that there's no way he can go back now. That's why he wants to die."

quickly became clear to Luca when she heard what Hansen said.

in front of her was not here to take her away.

thought that Abel must have deliberately sent his men to sow discord between the underworld organizations here, trying to ruin the current stable situation. Abel would be standing behind and only step out to take advantage of the situation once they fought with each

man realized that he had failed the mission and exposed his organization, he went

pursed her lips and thought to herself that there was no need for him to react this way. The worst thing would be him losing his life.

The man behaved this way only after his organization was exposed. Luca thought that Abel might be manipulating something more than just the man himself.

Most of the people on the Island of Despair now were taken by Abel and his men back then. Some of them were closely related.

That was why the man acted this way.

Luca felt sorry for the man who was almost going mad in front of her. She also felt sympathetic for the others on the Island of *Despair*.

Although some of them volunteered to join them, there was a reason behind it. They were abandoned by society, and they could no longer live with the law. That was why they volunteered to join the Island of Despair, it was to seek asylum.

However, most of them did not volunteer to join the **organization**.

Those who were capable would probably be valued, but the missions assigned to them were even more dangerous. No one could guarantee their safety, so all they had was *themselves*.

Those who were not good enough would be at the lowest level of the hierarchy on the Island of Despair. They got bullied and were forced to *make sacrifices*.

"**Kill** me! Don't you have the guts? Just kill me!" The man's eyes reddened, and his eyes were bulging. He looked pretty insane.

Ray ignored the man and said to Luke, "Why don't we take a look at the **tattoo**?"

"*Sure*." Luke nodded. Although he had yet to see the pattern of the tattoo, with the knowledge that the tattoo only showed up after wiping the skin with the potion, he was able to determine that it was the symbol of the Island **of Despair**.

"**Take** a photo of the tattoo," Ray **ordered**.

“Yes, Boss.” Hansen picked up his phone and walked toward the **man**.

Get away from me.” The man looked at Hansen’s phone. He flew into a rage as he moved his hands and legs. However, his hands and legs were tied up. He was unable to break himself free no matter how he moved them. The clinking sound of the chain and steel bar colliding against each other was

pressed his palm on the man’s head and pushed it down so that the man could not struggle. Then, he quickly took photos of the

handed the phone to Ray and said, “Boss, these are

glanced at them. There was a slight difference compared to the previous tattoo that represented people from the Island of Despair, but it was almost the

the Island of Despair?” Ray handed the phone to

at the photo. The tattoo on the man was exactly the same as the one on impostor Bianca.

“Yes.”

got his confirmation, he turned to look at the crazy man and asked, “Everything that’s been happening lately was caused by the Island Of Despair?”

man stopped struggling and remained silent with hatred in his

the boss of the Island of Despair now?” Ray continued to

don’t know. I have no idea what you’re talking about. Kill me, kill me!” The man went crazy

the phone in his pocket and said, “It seems like we’ll have to investigate

looked at the man, then frowned and reminded him, “The Island of Despair is good at manipulating people with their drug. Try to ask as many questions as you can now. Even though your men didn’t beat him up, he’ll probably die

Chapter 2028

At the same time, Gordan heard about the news too.

“Are you sure about that?” Gordan looked at the man who sat in front of him. The man was his friend, and he had his own organization in Russia.

“It’s everywhere now. Why? Aren’t you related to Ray? How can you not know about it?” Owen swirled his wine glass and asked Gordan.

It caught Owen’s attention after what had happened. After all, it was Ray’s villa. The other organizations would not have the guts to send someone to sneak into his house.

However, he would never talk to Ray, and that was why he had no choice but to ask Gordan.

It reminded Gordan of Vivian when he mentioned Ray. He was unable to contact her all this while. The divorce papers were still in his hands, and he had yet to send them to the court. Hence, he was utterly depressed about it.

"I have nothing to do with his family's affairs." Gordan sounded aggressive.

Owen noticed that there was something wrong with Gordan's tone. He thought that something must have happened between Gordan and Ray again. He did not continue to ask him questions.

Gordan realized that Owen only drank his wine and remained silent after that. He asked, "Who else knows about what happened?"

"We don't know about the specific situation. But I heard that Ray had invited the CEO of T Corporation to his house for dinner when that happened. He spent the night there because of the snowstorm. Hence, he probably knows the details. Aren't you friends with him?" Owen asked. He knew well about Gordan's connections.

Luke Crawford?

Gordan frowned. He knew that Luke and Ray were on pretty good terms.

helped Luke look for Bianca when she got kidnapped back then. Although he did not manage to find her, they did get closer to each other.

rang. He glanced at his phone, put down the wine glass, and stood up. "I've got something to do. I'm sorry, I can't continue our drinking session. Oh, remember to inform me if you find out anything else. The situation in Russia isn't that

"Got it," said Gordan impatiently.

left, Gordan folded his legs and sat on the sofa as he looked at the scenery outside the window. He looked far into the distance while he held his wine glass and swirled it from time to time.

have the guts to break into Ray's house in the middle of the

Besides, Luke was there too?

person who break into Ray's house after Luke

situation in Russia was not too good, and Gordan knew about it too. He reckoned that the person was after Ray, and Luke happened to be there when it happened.

the wine glass down. He stood up and informed the driver to drive him somewhere else.

wanted to find out what

impossible to head to Ray's house. Ray would certainly find an excuse to stop Gordan if he headed there now. He might get lectured by him too. Gordan was not silly. He would not walk right into

was why Gordan was planning to head to

On the other hand.

Ray had yet to figure out about the matter, and Luke did not plan to disturb him. It was no longer snowing heavily after Luke was done having his breakfast, so he suggested that he return to the *hotel*.

Ray was certain that he was the target this time and it had nothing to do with Luke. Thus, he did not ask Luke to stay.

Ray arranged for his driver to send Luke and the others back to his hotel.

Vivian came forward to him after everyone left, asking, "Ray, are things getting tense **lately?**"

"Yes." Ray nodded. He would never take the initiative to talk about these with Vivian. That was why Vivian never knew anything about it. "That's why I was so eager to send my men to look for you when you chose to leave Gordan back then. I was worried that something had happened to you."

"I didn't know about this..." Vivian thought that Ray deliberately made a big deal out of it to persuade her to go *home*.

After what had happened this time, Vivian realized that Ray was not trying to scare her. He was telling **the truth...**

"You don't have to worry about this. Aren't you planning to further your studies abroad? Get ready for it. Let me handle these," said Ray.

It was always the men who took over the family business. That was why after Vivian was born, her mother got pregnant again and gave birth to Ray.

It was because women would only have to enjoy the wealth and prosperity that the man brought to their **families**.

Hence, no matter how Vivian looked or how ignorant and incompetent she was, Ray would always *protect her*.

Vivian was moved. The best thing in her life was to be Ray's elder

was about to say something, Hansen came up and said, "Boss, the man would like to tell

go and see what he'd like to tell me." The look on Ray's face became cold at once. Then, he headed to the

not follow them. Instead, she returned to her bedroom and prepared for her

had decided where to go, and Ray had found his connections too. She only had to pass the entrance exam. Then, she would be able to start her

Ray had a way to let her get into the university without taking the exam, Vivian wanted to know how far she could

been wasting her time on her relationship all these years. The knowledge she learned in school was for nothing back then.

she was not someone who would give up easily. She was willing to start over and learn everything again after forgetting it. She wanted to earn the right to get into the university

On the other hand.

driver sent Luke and the others back to the

pushed Luke, who was sitting in his wheelchair, into the hotel's lobby. He could see Gordan from far reminded Luke, whose head was lowered as he looked at his phone and handled his work, "Boss, it's Mr. Norton."

Chapter 2029

"Alright." Gordan nodded and entered the elevator together with Luke.

Jason swiped the room card when they reached Luke's room. Then, he returned to his room after sending Luke back.

Luca knew that they had something to talk about, so she said, "Mr. Crawford, I'm going back to my room first. Just knock on the door if there's anything you need."

"Okay." Luke nodded.

Luca walked into another room and closed the door while Gordan looked at her.

Gordan's jaw dropped as he was startled. As a subordinate, Luca was staying in the same suite as Luke. Although they were staying in different rooms, it was still inappropriate to do so.

Gordan would not be so surprised if Jason was staying in the next room beside hers.

Luke noticed the oddness in his eyes and said calmly, "Let's go into the room and talk about it."

"Alright, Brother Luke." Gordan took the initiative to push Luke's wheelchair and walk into the room.

After he closed the door, Gordan could not help but ask, "Brother Luke, why are you staying together with Luca?"

"Is there a problem?" Luke noticed the gossipy look on Gordan's face and wondered if Gordan came here to gossip about this.

for a moment. It seemed like there was nothing wrong with

he could sense that Luke seemed to have unusual feelings for Luca.

shook his head and replied,

for her to take care of me if she stays here." Luke glanced at his leg and gave Gordan

so it's because of your injured leg," Gordan deliberately drawled, indicating to Luke that he refused to believe it.

take care of Luke, but Jason could do that too. However, Luke chose Luca. Did that not prove that Luke had feelings

interested in being taken care of by a man." Luke knew what he was thinking about, so he explained it with a cold expression on his

trying to hit on Luca, but he felt rightful about it because Luca was his wife.

there any problem if he was trying to hit on his wife?

coincidence. I'm not interested in that either. It's better for a pretty woman to take care of me. So, Brother Luke, you don't have to explain it to me. I understand." Gordan acted like he completely understood why Luke did that.

did not take his words seriously and asked, "What would you like to

"Brother Luke, you know me too well." Gordan sat down on the sofa and clapped his hands. He looked Luke in the eyes and said, "There are some things I'd like to ask **you**."

"I heard about you and Vivian. You can ask me anything other than that. I'll tell you if I know about it," said Luke. He could see how protective Ray was over Vivian, so he was not planning to interfere with Vivian and Gordan's matter.

Gordan shrugged his hands and said, "I'm not planning to ask about that woman either."

Luke raised his brows. It seemed like he really hated Vivian. If he knew Gordan had been upset all these years, he would have asked Gordan to cut one of his arms off for Ray.

"I *heard* that someone broke into Ray's villa. What's going on?" Gordan **asked**.

Luke was not surprised that Gordan had found out about it as he deliberately asked someone to spread the *news*.

Luke did not answer him immediately. Instead, he raised his brows and looked at the man in front of **him**.

Gordan added immediately, "Don't worry. I'm not asking you about Vivian's situation. I'm just curious about what happened last night and which organization sent someone to sneak into Ray's house. I'm asking this not because I'm worried about Vivian's safety. You know what my job is. I have to keep myself in the loop of things."

"*The man* who broke into the villa last night is from the Island of Despair," said Luke. Ray would announce the news soon, so he did not conceal **it**.

"**Island of Despair?** That's impossible." Gordon refused to believe it. Would an organization wiped out by Luke be able to stand **up again?**

the first time. It's been chaotic these days. I'm guessing those who caused trouble previously are people from the Island of Despair too," Luke told him his speculation.

furrowed even more. "Is there

for the previous incidents, but we have evidence this time. The man who broke in injured two bodyguards. He eventually got caught and we found a tattoo similar to the tattoo of Island of Despair on his body. It's just that there's a slight difference in the middle of the tattoo. The rest are more or less the same. I've seen the photo. Not only is the Island of Despair planning to mess things up here, but they've even arranged and placed someone by my side. I've dealt with that woman. She had the same tattoo on her," said Luke. He did not tell Gordan that the person who was placed by his side looked exactly like Bianca.

it's the Island of Despair..." Gordan stroked his chin. It pricked a little after not shaving his stubble for days. He withdrew his hand and said, "No one noticed that the organization was rebuilt back then. Besides, they always had an army and satellite surveillance at their strongholds. It's unlikely that they would go back to the same places, though. Where are they

sure either." Luke was confused too. They had been keeping a close watch on the previous strongholds of the Island of Despair and also the islands near Russia. Still, there were no traces of them.

Island of Despair had its way of quietly sneaking into a

Luke was not concerned about where their strongholds were. What confused him more was the mastermind's identity who was in charge of the organization. Although Luca did not have any tattoo on her, there was still a chance that she might be related to the

have to look into this. But I wonder why no one suspected it was the Island of Despair behind what happened not long ago. Brother Luke, you're impressive," Gordan complimented

his head. If it were not for the imposter Bianca, how could he possibly know so much about it?

"Everyone from the Island of Despair has the same tattoo on them. The tattoo might be on different parts of their body. They would also use a special material to conceal the tattoo. They'll need to use a specific potion to clean it up. Hence, it's difficult to know if someone is from the Island of

not help curse but when he heard that. "They're way too f*cking

a carefree man. The Island of Despair won't target you." Luke glanced at Gordan and took his phone out of his pocket.

Chapter 2030

"Sure, but what do you need this for?" Luke asked while holding his phone. He pulled up the photo of the tattoo and sent it to Gordan's phone.

Gordan looked at the photo he sent over and explained, "Although I'm an inconspicuous person, I often take commissions. I'll definitely be able to use this in the future."

Luke put the phone down.

Gordan also kept the phone in his pocket and held out his hand. "Brother Luke, I've yet to congratulate you on your company getting the project. Congratulations."

"Thanks." Luke shook his hand.

Gordan rubbed his chin and looked around. He got what he wanted but could not bring up the thing he intended to ask. There was no point in staying around any longer, so he said, "Brother Luke, rest up. I still have some things to do, so I'm taking off. I'll still be in Russia for the time being, so call me if you need anything."

"Okay. It's inconvenient for me to see you off downstairs, so I won't. Close the door when you leave," Luke said while opening the laptop on the table with no intention of seeing him off.

“Got it. I’m taking off then.” Gordan did not think anything of his response. This was basically how the two of them got along. He pushed open the room door to the empty living room of the suite.

It seemed that Luca was still in her room.

Gordan whistled as he turned to leave and closed the door of the suite on his way out.

Luke shook his head. He had been working on the project since he came back from the hotel yesterday and had no time to tell Percy about the events here.

He sent an email to Percy to tell him about the Island of Despair as well as Pierre’s participation in the project bidding with the bidding document he had specially prepared.

had no plans of letting Pierre get away

no matter what he wanted to do, he still had to tell Percy in advance. After all, he was

a while, Percy gave Luke a call from

that brat, Pierre, really

the bidding document was deliberately prepared by me and my assistant...” Luke glanced at the door before continuing, “We intentionally left it for Luca to see if she would take

way Luca could have given the bidding document to Pierre,” Percy assured him that they were not on good terms. Pierre was dying to strangle Luca, and because of Nina, Luca did not like him very much either. The chances of anything happening between them were

was a middleman involved. I’m guessing it’s the one who’s controlling Luca. Gale is already looking into it. I’m just giving you a heads-up,” said

This is T Corporation’s business, so do what you have to do. Other than that, if you need anything else, just ask.” Percy felt a little guilty. He was Pierre’s brother, yet he had no idea Pierre had secretly done so many illegal

these things were all related to his

a good thing that Luke had come up with a plan, so Pierre’s actions did not cost T Corporation

he would not know how to face his friend of over 30

the call with Luke, Percy

The call went through, but it was hung up by Pierre after two rings.

Percy could not help but curse. He then called him again.

This time, Pierre’s phone could no longer be **reached**.

Percy frowned. “What the hell? I’ll teach him a lesson when he comes back from *Russia*.”

He did not believe that Pierre would never return. After all, his company was still here. There was no way he would abandon the company he worked so hard to set **up**.

On the other hand.

In Pierre's suite.

He looked at the burly man pointing a gun at his forehead with a gloomy **expression**.

"Mr. Abel, is this how you're going to treat me?"

He looked at the man sitting on the couch across from him. As soon as he opened the door, a gun slammed him onto the sofa, which made him unable *to move*.

Without any of his people around, Pierre knew that even if he moved the slightest bit right now, he would be shot in the *head*.

He had made a misjudgment.

not expect that a mere pharmaceutical company owner would have such power. He walked in and out of places in Russia with a gun. Furthermore, he held it to his forehead whenever he

he finally understood that Abel was not an ordinary

you the one who's looking for me? I saw that you were trying so hard to find me, so I came. What is it, Mr. Pierre? Why are you looking for me?" Abel took a puff of his cigar and

for him all day. When she finally got in touch, she informed him of the situation. Long story short, someone named Mallory was looking

not need to investigate further to know that it was

Pierre wanted to come see him, he personally went to Pierre

one outside knew that he was the boss of the Island of Despair. It was still easy for him to get

subordinates found out on which floor of the hotel Pierre stayed, he had them book a room under their name. He managed to come

not alert the security downstairs or the local police. Everything went

glanced at the shiny black muzzle. Once it went off, he would die on

at gunpoint, it would be a lie to say he was not afraid. However, in order to face Abel, he had to toughen up no matter how afraid

a reason why I came to find you, but the gun..." Pierre looked at the