

Be Gentle 2121

Chapter 2121

Luke, who was on the other end of the line, remained silent for a few seconds. He knew Luca was only looking for an excuse. Whatever she was doing now must have something to do with the Island of Despair.

Luke did not ask anyone to track her down because Rain and Gale were busy with their work. He could not trust the others.

Luke felt a little annoyed for not being able to ask someone to follow Luca after knowing that Luca was doing something the Island of Despair had instructed her to. Then, he asked, "What happened to Amur?"

"Nothing. He's recuperating his health lately and needs some herbs. It's a little difficult to find them. Someone called me and I went to take a look," said Luca. She looked down and thought that she used to be bad at lying to Luke, but she was getting better at it now.

"Have you bought them?" Luke asked caringly.

"No. The herbs were fake. I'll continue to look for them," replied Luca. She looked up and looked at the scenery outside the window.

There was another round of silence at the other end of the line. Then, Luca heard the ringing tone of the phone.

When she thought Luke had ended the call, she heard him say, "What herbs are those? Johann might be able to help."

"It'd be better not to trouble Dr. Park. I'll look for them myself," answered Luca. Even if she asked for Johann's help, it was unlikely that Johann would be able to find them.

Johann was a doctor, but he was not a specialist in naturopathy.

Besides, the medicinal herbs that Shanks was looking for were almost extinct, so Johann might not know about them.

Luke knew what Luca meant. She wanted to solve this herself. Even though Luke knew it was an excuse, he could not help but say, "Just tell me if you need any help."

"Thank you, Mr. Crawford." Luca could only thank him in a polite and aloof manner.

darkened at once, and he asked, "Lanie, Rainie, and Tommy will be sent here tonight. Will you be coming back home

go back for dinner," said Luca. She missed

in Luke's office was still ringing. Luke was annoyed. He had so much he wanted to say, but he eventually just said, "Come back earlier. Stay warm and take care of yourself

up the call after that. He picked up the receiver and

the press release about Dr. Albus' matter has been released to the media," Jason reported. He felt a little nervous as he was sure that he had heard an impatient tone in Luke's voice when he answered the like this usually happened when Luke was doing something important and Jason's call had care of the matter. There's no need to report to me." Luke hung up the call after that. He did not leave any way out for Dr. Albus. Not only did he inform everyone in the company, but he even issued a not matter if it was Dr. Albus' matter or the bidding document. He had to sacrifice one person could not be Luca.

his gaze on the computer screen. It showed that he had received an email, and it was about the person Luke had asked Ray to

was the man whom Luca met at Ray's

information stated that this man was a doctor. He did not become a doctor after he graduated but became an ordinary white-collar worker.

It was suspicious that an ordinary white-collar worker was able to afford to stay in Ray's hotel.

Luke looked at the photos and narrowed his eyes. He was pretty sure that this man was someone from the Island of Despair.

However, he had never met this man before when he was held captive by Robert on the Island of Despair back then.

He speculated that this man was the doctor of the Island of Despair. However, he was not the one who treated Luke and hypnotized him *back then...*

Luke took a screenshot of the man's photo and sent a message to Gale and Rain, who had been on the Island of Despair for a longer *time*.

It did not take long before the two of them replied to his message. They told him that they had never seen anyone like that on the Island of Despair.

"Bea..." Luke mumbled to himself while looking at the man's photo.

Did she learn those clinical skills from this man?

Luke studied the information closely. The information about this man studying in a medical school was detailed, and his graduation photos were attached too. Hence, Luca probably learned her clinical skills from his **man**.

Luke clenched his fists while he looked at the man in the **photo**.

He would never let them get away with it!

Evening time.

Luca returned to the villa earlier than *Luke did*.

had just stepped into the house. Before she could take off her coat, Tommy came forward and wrapped his arms around her thigh. "Ms. Luca, you're finally back. I missed you so

crouched down, and looked at Tommy, "Really? How much did you miss me?"

missed you very much. This much!" Tommy moved his hands far apart and made a big hand gesture to illustrate how much he had missed

brought some fruits out. She smiled at Luca and said, "Ms. Craw, Young Master Tommy has been looking for you since he finished

Luca smiled and stroked Tommy's head.

Luca's hand and said, "Ms. Craw, I'm stuck on my homework. Can you teach me,

problem." Luca took off her coat and hung it. Then, she made her way up the stairs together with

into his bedroom. After he climbed up on the chair, he patted the chair beside him and said, "Ms. Luca, sat down and asked, "Which

this, and this one." Tommy pointed at a few questions where the answers were

glanced at the questions. These were simple Mathematics and English grammar questions. Although Tommy was not as hardworking as Lanie was, these were the basics. It was unlikely that he did not know how to do such questions.

Luca had signed off on the kids' homework before. Those questions were much harder than these, and there were even harder ones. Tommy could answer all the questions himself and even got them

Chapter 2122

Luca thought that if she helped Tommy to check his homework, then Luke could sign on the last page of the workbook after he came back.

That could relieve his burden just a little.

Tommy took candy out of his pocket as he watched Luca help him check his homework. He said, "Ms. Luca, this is for you."

Luca looked at the chocolate candy and stroked Tommy's head. "No, thank you. You can keep it for yourself. But don't forget you can only eat this after dinner."

"Lizzie gave this to me. She told me that yummy candies should be given to our favorite people. So, I'm giving this candy to you, Ms. Luca." Tommy insisted on stuffing the candy into Luca's hands.

Even though Tommy loved eating chocolate candy, he insisted on giving it to Luca.

Luca smiled and asked after listening to Tommy, "Who's Lizzie?"

"She's my classmate. Her nickname is Lizzie," answered Tommy.

"I see. It seems like you're popular among your friends at school." Luca looked at the chocolate candy in her hands. Her child resembled Luke, so it was normal for him to already be popular among the girls at such a young age.

"But I don't like them. They keep following me, and I can't play with the others," said Tommy. He urged Luca, saying, "Ms, Luca, come on. Eat the candy and see if my love tastes sweet."

The kid had poured his affection for Luca into the candy, and Luca thought she would be wasting Tommy's effort if she did not eat it. Luca opened the wrapper and put the candy in her mouth. "It's sweet."

"Really? Love tastes like candy." Tommy was delighted. He smiled so happily that his eyes turned into adorable crescents.

"Yes, that's why Lizzie gave you the candy. Then Lizzie must be..." Luca teased him.

not afraid of exposing her kids to love matters. They were still young,

it was not good for the kids if parents avoided talking about these things with

what are you talking about?" Tommy interrupted Luca. "There's always snot hanging from Lizzie's nose. It's ugly. I like pretty, gentle girls like Ms. Luca. And girls who are good at

and stroked the kid's head. It felt wonderful to be able to stay by her child's side and keep him

times like this would disappear anytime.

Downstairs.

into the house with his briefcase. Rainie and Lanie, who were in the living room, saw him and surrounded him immediately. "Daddy,

He was surprised to see that Tommy, the naughtiest child, was not with them. He asked the brother and sister, "Where's your

upstairs. He's asking Ms. Luca to help him with his homework," replied Rainie. They saw Luca tutoring Tommy and helping him with his homework when they finished their homework and left their

he need tutoring?" Luke raised his brows. Although Tommy was not as hardworking and studious as Lanie was, Tommy was not a slow-witted child either. He was able to handle the difficulty of the homework

just playing dumb," Lanie explained to

dumb?" Luke raised his brows. He could not hold back his laughter at the thought of Tommy pretending to be

"Yes, Daddy," said Lanie. "Tommy came up with the idea of playing dumb. Besides, Daddy doesn't have time to tutor us. He thinks that if he does that, Ms. Luca can't bear to leave us anymore."

Luke listened to his son's explanation and shook his head helplessly.

Tommy was willing to play dumb to make *Luca* stay...

However, their mother was not dumb either. How could she not see through the trick at a glance?

Yet, Tommy still did such **a thing.**

"Then why are the two of you here?" Luke looked at the brother *and sister.*

"*Ms. Luca* isn't stupid, and we don't want to play dumb," said Lanie while trying to act cool. He told Luke what he was **thinking about.**

Luke's smile turned into a grin after he heard Lanie say that **with contempt.**

It was true. Luca was not stupid. How could she not know that Tommy was just playing **dumb?**

Tommy was so eager to make his mother stay, and that was why he came up with such a quirky *idea.*

"Well, Daddy, you'll have to play along with us later," said Lanie. Old Master Crawford had assigned the kids a mission when they were staying at Crawford Manor.

"What should I do?" Luke stared at his eldest son. He wanted to know what Lanie was up **to.**

Lanie was about to tell Luke his plan, but he saw Luca holding Tommy's hand and making her way down the stairs. Lanie had no choice but to say, "You'll know **later.**"

shot a glance at Luca and knew that this had something to do with

had only been at Crawford Manor for a night. Why did they become so full of ideas after coming

reckoned that it must be Old Master Crawford who said something

you finished your homework?" Luke asked

was pleased, and it was written all over his face. He smiled at Luke, "Of course. I finished my homework with Ms. Luca's help. Ms. Luca even helped me to check my homework. Daddy, all you have to do is to sign your name on the last page of my

shifted his gaze to Luca and said, "I'll leave it for you to sign

Crawford, you're the children's father. It'd be better if you sign it yourself. Besides, I'm not good at imitating your signature." Luca rejected. She thought that the teacher might have noticed that there was something wrong with

teachers would probably have asked to meet the parents if it were not for the kids not knowing how to write something like

her head helplessly when he heard what Luca

father told them that there was a reason why their mother was behaving this way, and he asked them to be patient. He had to figure it out before they cleared the air between them.

Luke must feel upset too. Their mother was always trying to keep a distance

Neile came out from the kitchen and reminded them, "Dinner's ready. Mr. Crawford. Would you like to have dinner now?"

Chapter 2123

A better doctor... They must be talking about Luca, right?

Luke understood at once after summing up everything the old master had told them. He turned to look at Luca.

The moment Lanie mentioned finding a better doctor for Old Master Crawford, Luca could feel their gazes fall on her.

She lifted her head and looked at them.

Tommy added, "Daddy, Ms. Luca has good clinical skills. She was the one who noticed that there was a medicinal ingredient added to Great-grandpa's stew the last time. Why don't we ask Ms. Luca to do a check-up on Great-grandpa?"

"You mean to take his pulse." Lanie turned to look at Luca after he corrected Tommy. "Ms. Luca, Great-grandpa hates seeing doctors and the equipment in the hospital. Why don't you take Great-grandpa's pulse?"

Luca looked at the three of them, then she glanced at Luke.

They had already made themselves clear. How could she decline them?

She could not...

Besides, Old Master Crawford was kind to her. If he was really feeling uncomfortable, ignoring him was not something Luca would do.

"Alright." Luca nodded and agreed to it while the kids stared at her.

Lanie nodded and put on a stern expression on his face. "Ms. Luca, we'll leave Great-grandpa's health to you."

Luca looked at Lanie's expression and turned to glance at Luke again.

The two of them were getting more and more alike.

serious expressions on their faces were almost the same. Even the looks in their eyes

were indeed father and son.

my best," replied Luca. She had no idea about Old Master Crawford's health condition. That was why she dared not to guarantee that she could handle

thought of Old Master Crawford reminded her of Old Man Rayne.

wondered if he was doing well. Although he was taking medicines to recuperate his health, he would have to do a medical check-up every once in a

could see that Luca was worried. He knew Luca must have thought of Old Man Rayne without a second thought. After all, the two of them were elders. Luca would certainly be reminded of him when they mentioned Old Master Crawford.

“Let me bring you to the Rayne family’s house when you’re free. Perhaps you can check Old Man Rayne’s pulse and health condition

was secretly surprised. How did Luke know what she was

indeed thinking of visiting Old Man Rayne and Aunt Wanda.

just did not have a good reason to do so. However, she would have a reason to visit them after Luke told her that he was bringing her to check on

I’d like to visit Grandpa Rayne too,” said Tommy. He thought of paying a visit to the Rayne family’s house when he heard

kids loved visiting Grandpa Rayne compared to Grandpa Norman.

depends on our schedule. We’ll bring you there if everyone has time.” Luke promised the kids.

down the cutlery and said, “Daddy, you can bring us there this

Luke turned to look at Luca. Luca was still busy with the research, and he thought Luca might have to work overtime this weekend.

“Ms. Luca is busy with her work lately. She has many things to do in the office,” explained Luke. Even if they were going to visit the Rayne family’s house, they would probably visit at night.

Luke had to handle M Group’s project, and he had to prepare for the development of the western suburbs.

Even though he would be accompanying the kids back to Crawford Manor, he would still have to work.

Luca nodded. Since Luke mentioned this, Luca also hoped that the kids could understand why she was unable to keep them company.

Tommy complained with dissatisfaction, "Daddy, it's okay if you're busy, but can you please reduce Ms. Luca's **work...**"

“It’s not up to me.” Luke passed the buck to Luca. It was not up to him to decide how much time Luca had to spend on her work. If Luke was the one who called the shots, Luca did not need to head to the office to hold a meeting about the research.

Luca explained, "I’m having some problems with my research, and I need to solve **them.**"

“Can’t Daddy solve them for you?” Tommy was still young. He did not know how things worked. He thought his father knew everything, and every difficulty he faced would be solved easily. “Daddy is a smart guy. Ms. Luca, let him *help you!*”

Luca turned to look at Luke.

Luke no longer tried to impress his kids by telling them that he could do anything. He confessed to Tommy, "There are people who specialize in certain industries. Ms. Luca is way better than me when it comes to research. I don't know anything *about it.*"

Tommy widened his eyes. He refused to believe that his almighty Daddy could not even help in this *matter*.

"Daddy, you're embarrassing," Tommy uttered.

was not angry that his youngest son found him embarrassing. He was easy-going and approachable in front of Luca and the

the kids, "Finish your

Luca, are you going to be busy for the next few days?"

but everything will be back to normal after the problem is solved," answered Luca. She gave the kids buffalo wings and said, "Hurry up and finish your dinner. I'm giving everyone a surprise

is it?" Tommy pulled himself together once he heard that. His dim eyes brightened up as he looked

surprise. If I tell you, then it won't be a surprise anymore." Luca pursed her lips. She suddenly realized that she had not given the kids the gifts she had bought for them in Russia.

been busy with work lately. Besides, Amur was still missing. That was why she forgot about the gifts.

ate their dinner quietly without talking when they heard there would be a surprise for

did not say another word when he saw the kids eating their dinner quietly because of what Luca said. He thought that she was the only one who could quiet the kids down.

Tommy, who was the most talkative among the three of them, was eating his dinner quietly. He did not say a word after hearing Luca's

She understood her children the most...

the three of them surrounded Luca excitedly, eager to know what surprise Luca had prepared for

Luca smiled and nodded, "Follow me."

three kids followed behind Luca and walked into

Chapter 2124

Luca took the dress from Rainie, turned to face the dressing mirror, and compared the dress to Rainie's body.

"It fits perfectly." Luca was satisfied. She was worried that the dress would not suit the child's height when she was buying the dress for her.

The children were growing up fast. The clothes that they could put on not long ago might not be able to fit them well after just a short period.

Rainie snuggled up to Luca and gave her a sweet smile, "Ms. Luca, can I wear this to school tomorrow?"

"Sure. Let me wash it for you later, then I'll dry it with the dryer. You can wear it to school tomorrow," said Luca. She took a pair of scissors out of the drawer and cut the tag off the dress.

Luca was glad that Rainie liked it. She planned to put the dress into the washing machine later.

"Thank you, Ms. Luca." Rainie planted a kiss on Luca's cheek and left with a smile on her face.

Luca did not expect Rainie to do such a thing. She was startled for a moment, then she smiled at her.

Aunt Neile showed up at the bedroom's entrance and reminded the kids, "Ms. Rainie, Young Master Blanche, Young Master Tommy, the fruits are ready. And your favorite cartoon show is about to start."

"Ah, the cartoon!" Tommy was the first to stand up when Aunt Neile mentioned the cartoon show. Then, he turned to look at Luca.

"Off you go." Luca waved her hand to ask them to leave and watch their cartoon show.

Cartoons were interesting, and they could always attract the kids' attention. Luca would not stop her kids from watching cartoons after they were done doing their homework.

Ms. Luca. Thank you for the gifts!" Tommy carried his gift along with him and ran out of
and Rainie followed behind their

were gleaming with tenderness while she watched the kids walk out of her

noticed that Luca was not planning to go downstairs, so she asked, "Ms. Luca, aren't you going downstairs to have some

a little tired today. I'm going to get some rest after taking a shower." Luca shook her head and

Then I shall leave you to it." Aunt Neile closed the door for

sat on the chair for a while before she rose to her feet and walked toward the balcony on the second floor. She turned on the washing machine and placed Rainie's dress in it. Then, she adjusted the mode.

as she looked at the machine. Finally, she was able to do something for the kids.

turned around and saw Luke standing in the living room on the second floor. She was startled for a moment and walked to the living room. She asked, "Mr. Crawford, why are

you washing?" The balcony door was left open, and Luke heard the sound of the washing machine operating.

a dress for Rainie when I was in Russia. She told me she likes it and wants to wear the dress to school tomorrow. I'm helping her wash it so that she can wear it tomorrow," explained

out that Luca had prepared gifts for the kids when Tommy told him about

He knew it was normal for their biological mother, Luca, to **do so**.

However, only the kids had gifts. She did not give Luke anything. It was inevitable that he was jealous of the *kids*.

"Thank you." Luke was grateful for every little thing Luca had done for the kids.

Luca shook her head. She would not feel tired no matter how much she did for her **children**.

Luca added, "Aunt Neile told me that you're feeling tired. Rest early."

"Okay. Goodnight, Mr. Crawford." Luca was truly tired. She was thinking of tucking herself in bed and getting a good *night's sleep*.

She could only plan what she was going to do next after getting a good night's sleep.

The next day.

Luca made her way down the stairs after she woke up in the morning. She prepared breakfast together with Aunt Neile.

Aunt Neile could not help but compliment Luca when she saw how good she was at preparing such a hearty breakfast for the kids. "Ms. Craw, you're really good at this."

"Oh, it's just a simple home-cooked meal..." said Luca as she got the plates ready. The children should be up soon.

kids will be happy to know you're the one who prepared breakfast for them when they got up later. They were talking about eating your food when they were watching TV last night," said Aunt Neile. She had already realized that Luca's cooking skills were better than hers, and every dish she made tasted good. That was why Aunt Neile was not jealous of her, and she told Luca what the kids had talked

Luca was a little surprised. She had never heard the kids

They were talking about it while they were eating fruits and watching TV downstairs last night," replied Aunt Neile as she helped

and wondered. Back then, the kids would always take the initiative to tell her what they were craving. They would act spoiled and ask Luca to make it

would not tell her these things now. It was Aunt Neile who told Luca instead.

noticed that Luca did not say anything. She knew she was being nosy, so she quickly explained, "The kids know you're busy these days, so they were just talking off the top of their

I was just wondering why they didn't tell me about it," Luca shook her head and said in a soft voice.

know you're busy with your work, and I guess they don't want you to be tired," explained Aunt Neile. It was a tiring job to prepare meals for the

was not a

felt sorry for them. Her children were still young, but they were forced to grow up and think maturely.

most adorable and innocent child was Tommy in this family. It only took a few years for Tommy to become mature. Although he was still as talkative as ever, it was obvious that he was no longer the little boy who used to be wilful and

three kids came to the dining room together after they woke up and freshened themselves up. They saw Luca serving the breakfast, so Tommy asked, "Ms. Luca, were you the one who prepared

Tommy loved Luca's cooking. He was about to say yes when Lanie said, "It's okay, Ms. Luca, this is more than enough."

Tommy shut his mouth embarrassedly.

Luke went into the dining room after coming downstairs and smelled the aroma of breakfast.

After seeing Luca in an apron, Luke knew that she had made breakfast.

"Daddy," the three children greeted simultaneously.

Luke's gaze fell on the three kids. He saw that they were eating breakfast with smiles on their faces, which gave him peace of mind.

"Good morning, Mr. Crawford," said Luca.

"Good morning." Luke sat on the chair.

Luca was about to scoop up some oats for him when Aunt Neile immediately said, "Ms. Craw, have a seat. I'll do it."

Luca sat on the seat next to Luke.

Aunt Neile ladled a bowl of oats each for the two of them and returned to the kitchen.

They were like a family of five, enjoying their breakfast in peace. Aunt Neile did not have the heart to spoil the mood.

"You didn't drive back yesterday, right?" Luke asked Luca and took a bite of his oats.

"Yes, I had to go to the suburbs and didn't know the way very well, so I took a taxi," replied Luca as she took a piece of bread for Tommy.

loved the bread she

Ms. Luca," Tommy thanked her and took a big bite of

car back to the company later," said Luke. Since she used Amur as an excuse yesterday, she should be out of excuses today, which meant that she would have no choice but to

Luca did not refuse this time as it was difficult to get a taxi at this time of

went to bed last night, she thought of where the problem might lie. However, all of the important documents were in the company, so she thought about going to the company earlier to test out her

guess was right, the research could carry

breakfast, Zander sent the children

the other hand, Luca returned to the company in

still early, so the parking lot was fairly empty. After Luca got down from the car, she went straight to the other side of the

reminded her, "The elevator is over

Crawford, I need to get some stuff from my car. You can go up first,” said Luca as she turned back and headed straight toward where her car was

watched as she got into the car and closed the door. He looked away without saying anything and went up

She was still being evasive.

Even though everyone in the company was already suspecting their relationship, she still wanted to avoid the gossip **and rumors**.

Luca sat in the car and heaved a sigh of relief after she saw **Luke leave**.

She looked at her watch and waited for about three minutes before stepping out of the car and into the **elevator**.

After reaching her floor, Luca stepped out of the elevator and ran into **Rhett**.

“Good morning, Dr. Craw.”

“*Good morning*, Mr. Link. Please bring the research-related documents to my office,” **instructed Luca**.

Rhett was intrigued as he guessed that she must have a possible lead and immediately said, “Alright, Dr. Craw. I’ll go pull up the data **now**.”

Luca returned to her office and opened her laptop after taking off her heavy *coat*.

Rhett quickly brought the files she **asked for**.

“**Dr. Craw...**” As he was about to ask her something, Luca said, “Go out first and close the door behind you. I won’t see anyone this **morning**.”

Rhett was stunned. What would the researchers **do, then**?

After seeing her open the file with a serious expression, he dared not say anything else, so he followed her orders and turned around to leave.

Luca began to focus on studying the documents *and data*.

leaving Luca’s office, Rhett returned to the conference room to see that several researchers were already

is Dr. Craw here yet?” The researchers glanced at the time. Dr. Craw should have arrived by now, but she was nowhere to

Craw has arrived. She asked for a stack of files and is working in her office.” Rhett sat in a chair and looked at the

she’s working in her office, then what about us?” asked a researcher. Their research was not making any progress at all, and they had no direction, so they needed

that Dr. Craw might have a lead. We’ll just have to wait and see,”

had no choice but to just randomly flip through files of

was almost noon, Rhett glanced at the time and wondered if he should order food for Luca. At that very moment, Luca walked into the conference room with a pile of files in

Craw," he stood up as he greeted

researchers also stood up one after another and greeted Luca.

found the root cause of the problem in the research data. Next up, we need to redo the steps for the experiment. Let's try to finish it within a week. Any questions?" Luca looked

questions." The researchers were affirmative as the problem they faced before was not knowing where the error was. Now that they knew, there was no problem

some remarks in the data files, and I've divided the work for the research. If there are no questions..."

Luca glanced at her wristwatch. "Go have lunch first. We'll officially start work after the lunch

Craw." Everyone came to life as the problem they faced was about to be resolved. They finally saw the light at the end of the

Chapter 2126

"What time does the meeting start?" asked Luca.

"Around 3:30 in the afternoon, Dr. Craw, are you sure that you're able to attend?" Mo confirmed with her once again. It was not her who wanted Luca to come over but the bunch of old fogeys at the company.

She was just conveying their message.

"Yes," Luca gave her an affirmative answer. Although she did not know the point of the meeting, if it was about Dr. Albus, she would not expect the other professors to lend a helping hand.

When it came to their benefit, friendships and all that was fake.

She hung up the phone and folded her hands together. She felt bad as she thought about what had happened to Dr. Albus.

Half an hour later, Rhett walked up to Luca's office with a lunch box in his hands. He recalled her instructions and hung the lunch box on the door handle.

"Rhett, is that you?" Luca heard sounds.

Rhett thought his movements had disturbed her and said apprehensively, "Yes, Dr. Craw. Sorry for disturbing you."

"It's okay. Come in," said Luca.

The office door was pushed open, and Rhett walked in with a bag. He was surprised to see thick files piled up on her desk.

"Dr. Craw, you should eat first," he said.

"Just leave it here." Luca lifted her chin and continued typing away on her keyboard.

left the lunch box on the corner of her

the way, come with me to Watson for a meeting at three in the afternoon. The meeting starts at 3:30 p.m.,"

"Alright, Dr. Craw." Rhett nodded.

out first and come remind me when the time comes," said Luca as she worried that she would lose track of time while

Rhett walked out and closed the door

not even raise her head and continued to work while staring at the documents as well as her computer

saw Rhett come out of Luca's office and asked curiously, "Mr. Link, has Dr. Craw had

yet. I just delivered her lunch," replied

Zoey nodded, indicating that she understood.

asked, "Why are you so concerned about Dr. Craw all of a

I'm not... I was thinking that if Dr. Craw had not eaten lunch, I would order food for her. You've seen how busy she is because of the data problem. It's not good for her to starve herself." Zoey waved her hand in a

It's a good thing we have Dr. Craw. She came back from Russia three days ago and already found the problem in the data. We were working on it for a week and couldn't even find where the problem was..." Rhett's words were full of admiration

"*She found the problem already?*" Zoey was taken aback and could not help but praise, "Dr. Craw is *too awesome!*"

"Exactly. I've learned so much from Dr. Craw. You saw how we struggled with the data problem. We wouldn't have been able to carry on with the drug research without her," Rhett expressed his admiration for Luca with a hint of resignation in his tone.

The data problem was discovered when Luca left for Russia

At the time, Luke had ordered them not to disturb her, so he worked with the researchers in the office to find out what went wrong.

He did not think that they still would not have found the problem after **her return**.

"You're right. Dr. Craw is the person in charge of the research, after all. I previously heard that Dr. Craw entered the company with this research project and that it was like her own child. Of course, one would understand their child better than anyone else." Zoey may not know much about drug research, but she still understood some of the reasoning behind *it*.

Rhett listened to her words and nodded in agreement.

Zoey glanced at the time and said, "Mr. Link, I need to go back to **work now**."

“Alright.” Rhett also turned around to swipe his card and walked into the **lab**.

After Zoey returned to her workstation, she picked up her phone and reported to Luke: [Mr. Link had bought lunch and delivered it to Dr. Craw.]

Right as she arrived at work this morning, Zoey was called upstairs by **Tina**.

She thought that Tina was the one looking for her but then realized that it was Luke. He had specifically ordered her to watch over Luca and to inform him whether she had eaten on time, if she had to work overtime, or if she had to take time off to go out for some special reasons.

It was not a difficult request, and it was requested by her boss, so Zoey agreed in an instant.

noon, she realized that Luca did not go downstairs to eat, so she stayed here to observe her. After seeing Rhett come out of Luca’s office, she intentionally snooped around to find out what was

she found out that Luca had food delivered to her, she reported it

that the message was successfully delivered, Zoey recalled Rhett’s words and immediately reported again: [Also, Dr. Craw has found the problem with the

a minute later, Zoey received a reply from

[No need to report this.]

at the message notification. He did not compliment her for reporting in detail, nor did he say she did not report enough. Instead, he said that she did not have to report on

Mr. Crawford cared about the most was whether Dr. Craw had eaten on time

the rumors that were circulating in the company were true. Luca was the apple of Luke’s eyes. Nobody could do

Zoey snickered and replied as envy inexplicably filled her

wanted a man who cared about her too, just like how Luke cared about

However...

the never before seen wife of the CEO that Tina mentioned. Although Luca was favored by Luke, their relationship would never be out in

Chapter 2127

“Ms. Lynn, I’ve already eaten. You can go by yourself.” Zoey declined Jenni’s invitation. She looked up at the office door to see that Jenni was indeed standing there.

She could not come in, yet she still insisted on standing there as if she was determined to get her to come out.

Zoey felt helpless as Jenni was not afraid to stand there and cause trouble.

There were several floors in the company that had confidential documents, such as their floor. They kept many important documents. Although losing those documents would not pose a threat to T Corporation's operations, Watson Biopharmaceutical's operations would be affected.

Therefore, the company's employees avoided the floors with important documents as much as they could as to not get themselves into trouble when the surveillance cameras were checked in case something happened.

"It's only been half an hour and you've eaten?" Jenni was doubtful.

"I brought some food from home. Ms. Lynn, I still have work to do. I'm sorry," Zoey said vaguely while wondering why Jenni was so hard to deal with.

"Zoey, are you avoiding me?" Jenni stared in the direction of Zoey's desk and asked.

To get better lighting, one wall of the office was only a meter long, while the rest of the walls were made of glass.

Thus, someone from the outside could see what was going on inside Zoey's office through the glass.

"You're overthinking, Ms. Lynn. It's just that Dr. Albus's matter is causing a huge commotion, so our department is rushing the research. We don't have much time," said Zoey. No matter what, Jenni was still an executive in the company, so she did not dare to offend her.

could do was

still skeptical. "Regardless of how busy you are, it's still lunch break right now. Plus, what does the research have to do with

the assistant. I need to help organize the information. Ms. Lynn, there are many important documents on this floor. I'd advise you to be more aware." Zoey

Corporation vacated this floor for Watson. What important things could there possibly be? If you don't want to go eat, then forget it. Let me warn you, Zoey. Don't think that because you have a stable job now, you don't have to build good relationships. I'm telling you, I had originally invited some executives in the company to introduce you to. I didn't think that you would... Forget it. Since you're so close-minded, don't blame me for not bringing you along," Jenni could not help but ramble on after being

important documents? Watson was merely one of T Corporation's

how important the documents were, could they be as important as T Corporation's

and walked toward the

how arrogant Zoey has become after she got a stable position as an assistant. Did she forget who brought her into T Corporation in the

sat in her office chair as she looked in the direction Jenni left and could not help but shake her

not believe that Jenni had her best interests at

Zoey remembered when she first graduated from college, she wanted to settle in A City and find a job here. However, even after so many interviews, she still could not get a job. Her relatives then introduced her to Jenni, saying that she worked for a big company in A City and that she could ask Jenni for **help**.

Thus, she did.

However, she did not go empty-handed. After some bribes and paying for many meals, Jenni finally said that T Corporation was hiring an assistant and that she would let her try it **out**.

She just provided her with a direction and did not take care of her at all.

Employees were not allowed to get into T Corporation through the back door anyway. Jenni was not really in a position of **power**.

Zoey only had herself to thank for passing the interview. It had nothing to do with Jenni *at all*.

It was just that Zoey found out about it much later. At that time, she truly thought that Jenni had a high-ranking position in **T Corporation**.

Zoey could not help but shake her head as she remembered *the past*.

T Corporation was her dream place to work, and she thought that Jenni was able to put in a good word for her at that time, so she was naive enough to have given her a generous bribe.

On the other hand, Jenni had shamelessly *accepted it*.

in with files in her hands and knocked on the office door. She saw Zoey stare blankly with her hands on her chin. "What are you thinking

stood up. "Tina, what brings

to deliver some documents." Tina walked into the office and placed the documents on her desk. "These documents were sent over by Watson. The front desk thought they were Mr. Crawford's documents and sent them to the secretary's office, so I brought them

the case, you should've let me go get them." Zoey was embarrassed after hearing Tina's explanation as Tina had a higher position compared to her, yet she had to personally make a trip here. That was not how it

make a difference. Why were you staring into blank space?" Tina asked with a

nothing. I just thought of the past." Zoey shook her head and did not hesitate to explain as she had been working with Tina for some time and knew what kind of person she

met Jenni at the elevator entrance just now. Did she come here to look for you?" Tina asked

asked me to go downstairs for a meal, but I told her that I had already eaten," replied

to eat with you... I bet she just wanted to gossip," Tina

so. She's been looking for me for two days in a row. I bet she wants to gossip about Dr. Craw..." Zoey could not help but shake her

Chapter 2128

"That's right. Dr. Craw's medicine is effective and doesn't come with side effects or dependence. It's much more effective than the sleeping pills prescribed at the hospital. It just hasn't entered the market yet. She made it herself and takes it as well. It's quite safe," said Zoey. Rhett had told her all of this.

As for how Rhett knew about it, she did not ask.

He must know much more than they did, Rhett was Luca's assistant, after all.

"Dr. Craw is brilliant," Tina spoke highly of her, but she had no intention of asking Luca for the medicine.

She was only suffering from temporary insomnia. As long as she cleared her mind, she would be able to return to her old sleeping habits.

"You seem to be in bad shape. If this issue persists, your work will be affected too," said Zoey as she looked at Tina's haggard appearance. If she had not known that Tina was not seeing anyone, she would have thought that she just got dumped.

"Let's talk about it some other time." Tina shook her head. She could not bring herself to ask for medicine from Luca.

However, she did want to talk to Luca about something else. Did the missing person have something to do with Luca? When she thought of this, she asked again, "By the way, is Dr. Craw in her office?"

"Yes, she is. Tina, since you're close with Dr. Craw and have spent time together before, she'll definitely help you," said Zoey.

Tina nodded. Although Amur and Luca did not share the same parents, they were still siblings. Luca must know about Amur's whereabouts.

After leaving the assistant's office, she walked up to Luca's office door and raised her hand to knock on the door.

"Come in." Luca's voice sounded.

her voice, Tina mustered up the courage to push the door open. "Dr. Craw, are you

eating while looking at documents. She looked up when she heard that it was Tina's voice and grabbed a tissue next to her to wipe her mouth. "Oh, it's you, Tina. I'm free. What's

saw her eating while looking at documents and kindly reminded, "Dr. Craw, eating like this will

big deal. What's wrong?" Luca knew that Tina certainly did not come over to chit-chat. Plus, lunch break was almost over. Even if she did come to chit-chat, now was not the

is, I have some personal matters to ask you about." Tina clasped her hands together, then stretched them out again out of

her little movements and pointed to the seat next to her. "Have a seat first, then

sat on the couch. "Why don't you finish your meal

pretty much done. You go ahead.” Luca pushed the lunch box aside and looked at the person on the couch. Tina’s nervousness did not seem to

had always been confident, whether it be at work or outside of work. Luca figured that something was troubling her, which made her behave

that thought, Luca looked Tina up and down carefully. She noticed that Tina was not looking so well as if she had not slept

adjusted her breathing and faced Luca, but she did not know where to

“Tina, have you not been sleeping well for the past few days?” said Luca when she noticed that Tina was not **saying anything**.

Tina froze. “You noticed it too.”

“**Your** complexion looks bad, and you have eye bags and dark circles. You don’t look like yourself.” Luca shook **her head**.

Tina could not help but smile bitterly. She was indeed not herself anymore. The old her used to be dashing, but now, she was like a jailbird who had to think carefully before uttering each word. With no news of Amur, it was like her sky had fallen down.

She realized that she had feelings for *Amur*.

However, Amur could not even care less about her.

Therefore, there were two possible explanations for why she could not get a hold of Amur. One, he realized that she had feelings for him and was purposely avoiding her. Two, something had happened to *him*.

“*I’ve been* suffering from insomnia lately,” said Tina after gathering her courage.

“I have medicine that helps with sleep. Do you need it?” Luca opened the drawer. She predicted that she would have to stay here in the future, so she brought a few pills to **the company**.

“**No** need. There’s a reason why I can’t sleep. You see, I haven’t been able to get a hold of my friend, so I’m anxious...” Tina gazed *at her*.

Luca could tell from her eyes.

She was worried and helpless...

pointed out bluntly, “Do you like that

no, it’s just that this friend has helped me before and he means something to me, so...” Tina quickly denied

see.” Luca knew that Tina did not want to admit it, so she just went along with

Craw...” Tina took a deep breath and said everything that was on her mind, “You actually know this friend of mine. It’s your brother, Amur. We’ve been keeping in touch, but he hasn’t replied to any of my

messages for the past few days, nor has he answered my calls. I was wondering if something has happened

Luca was stunned. Amur?

never have thought that Tina had a crush

they first met, Luca did not feel the presence of any sparks between them. When did they become so that was rude of me... I'll be leaving..." Tina noticed Luca's expression and knew that Amur had not once mentioned her in front of

wait a minute," Luca hurriedly shouted at her when she saw her stand up and was about to walk out. "I didn't expect you to be so close to

me before. That's how we have each other's contact numbers,"

Chapter 2129

As of right now, Amur was under the same circumstances as her. It was not appropriate for them to be emotionally involved with people who were not from the Island of Despair.

However, Luca was confident that she would get Eler and Amur off the Island of Despair.

"Is that so?" Tina's heart stirred slightly. If what she said was true, then Amur was not ignoring her on purpose.

He just did not have a way to contact her.

Tina felt better now. Although Luca was unaware that there was something else going on between them, it was no longer like in the olden days when one had to report to family members after making an acquaintance...

After seeing the spark in Tina's eyes, Luca smiled and said, "That's it. Not only you, but it's hard for me to get a hold of him too. He's been busy ever since he went back to Russia. He practically has no time to check his phone."

"Even you can't get a hold of him?" Tina was shocked. How busy could he be?

"He's too busy. When things have been taken care of, he'll come back," said Luca. She did not tell her not to worry, but everything she said so far was to reassure her.

"It must be tiring..." Tina could not help but let out a sigh, yet she dared not let Luca see through her heartache.

"It should be fine. He's a man. The more he puts himself through, the more he'll love his wife in the future." Luca looked at Tina and thought that she and Amur were quite compatible.

When they were still on the Island of Despair, Luca and Eler had discussed what kind of woman Amur would get together with once they left.

After all, Amur was the only man left in Eler's family.

This was why the continuation of their bloodline was important to their family.

Luca would never have thought that her unintentional act would bring two people together.

seemed to be quite satisfied with Amur, but she did not know what Amur thought

up her mind that when Amur returned safely from his mission, she would start to pull some

in agreement. Amur was different from the men around her, which was why she could not control her feelings

at the time to see that lunch break was almost over and stood up. "Dr. Craw, I'll go back to my office

Luca knew that Tina was already relieved and did not say anything

Tina was walking up to the door, she thought about something and turned around again. "Dr. Craw, I have one more favor to

is it?" Luca looked

not been sleeping well lately. Can you give me a couple of pills to aid in sleep?" Tina still asked her for the medicine at the

she knew that Amur was not ignoring her on purpose, she would still be restless as she would still miss would start imagining things, especially in the dead of night after

knew that if this persisted, it would affect her work and her life. Hence, she thought that at least she could get some rest with the help of

Luca opened her drawer and took out the medicine she had initially prepared for herself. Now that she had found the cause of the problem in the data, though, she no longer had to sleep in the

them and asked, "Dr. Craw, how much is it? I'll transfer the money

It's not worth much anyway. Plus, it's just for my personal use. It's not on the market. It's purely traditional medicine, so it's not expensive. Just take it," said Luca while shaking her

"Thank you, Dr. Craw. I'll go back to work now." Tina held the medicine in her palm.

"Alright." Luca nodded and waited until Tina had left her office before burying herself in work **again**.

At three o'clock, Rhett punctually knocked on Luca's office door.

"Come in." Luca glanced at the time and massaged her forehead. She did not realize that it was **already three**.

Rhett pushed open the door and walked in as he reminded her, "Dr. Craw, it's three."

"Alright, let's go." Luca picked up the car keys and her laptop before walking out of her office.

Zoey was sitting in her office when she saw Luca and Rhett walking toward the elevator. She hurriedly went out and asked, "Dr. Craw, where are you *going*?"

"I'm going to Watson for a meeting. Is there a problem?" asked Luca.

"No, it's just that there may be some documents that require your signature later." Zoey made an **excuse**.

"Is it urgent? If it's not, just leave them first and we'll talk about it after I come back from the meeting." Luca pushed the button for the elevator. It would take about 20 minutes to get from T Corporation to Watson. Not to mention it was snowing now and the roads would be slippery. Hence, she did not have the time to deal with paperwork right *now*.

There were many senior professors at Watson. It would not be good to keep **them waiting**.

"It's not urgent, Dr. Craw. You should go to the meeting." After Zoey found out where she was going, she helped press the elevator button.

After the elevator reached their floor, the doors **slowly opened**.

Luca walked in and nodded as she said, "I'll go over first. You can just send the documents directly to my office and leave them *there*."

"Got it." Zoey nodded.

the elevator doors closed, she took out her phone to report to Luke: [Dr. Craw brought Mr. Link along with her for a meeting at

sending the message, Zoey walked back to her office and worked on the documents while sitting in her office

Rhett arrived at the underground parking

"Can you drive?" asked Luca.

"I can, Dr. Craw." Rhett nodded.

handed him the keys. "Let's just go there together. You drive. I'm a little problem." Rhett took the

to sit in the backseat. She wanted to rest for a bit, and that was why she let

slowly drove out of T Corporation's building, and Luke's phone vibrated at the same time. Gale's subordinate had sent him

Craw has left the company's

glanced at the message and replied with only two words: [Follow

though she was going to Watson for work, he could not take the risk

sending it, he continued to work on the

Chapter 2130

Luca followed Mo's lead and walked into the conference room.

There were already two professors waiting in the conference room.

When they saw Luca walk in, the two professors said one after another, "Dr. Craw, you're here. It's been too long."

"Long time no see, Professors." After receiving the warm welcome from the two professors, Luca knew what was going on.

It seemed that the rumors from T Corporation had reached this side as well.

The two companies were not deeply associated, but somehow, gossip still managed to find its way here. Luca had resigned herself to it.

"Yes, it's been a long time. Have a seat." Dr. Linwood looked at Luca and thought that since she was close with Luke, he should not offend her.

After seeing how attentive Dr. Linwood was, Dr. Jackson was unwilling to fall behind. He asked Mo, "When will the other professors and general manager arrive? They should know that Dr. Craw's time is very precious."

"Everyone, please wait a moment. I'll go inform them again." Mo could not do anything but watch as the two professors fawned over Luca with their flattery.

This was reality.

Luca shared that kind of relationship with Luke. If they got closer to Luca, they might even be able to get more research funds in the future, which would make their research a whole

quick. We promised to meet at 3:30. Look at the time now!" said Dr. Linwood with a look of disappointment. He then smiled at Luca and said, "Dr. Craw, would you like some coffee? Let my assistant make you

thank you." As always, Luca chose to keep a low profile, so she picked a corner seat and sat down. She opened her laptop, and just then, a thought occurred to her. She asked the two professors, "By the way, what's the agenda for

Stone not tell you? How careless of her," said Dr. Linwood as he

did tell me, but the new quarter isn't here yet. Why is the manager in such a rush?" said Luca. The new quarter would only arrive after the new year, but the new year was still a

because of Dr. Albus. The company had planned to use his research as the first revenue. Now that the plan has fallen through, the manager must've called for this meeting to have us speed up the research progress to quickly increase the company's sales," Dr. Linwood explained to

noded her head, indicating

That was her guess too.

our research is nowhere near completion..." Dr. Linwood looked at her and added, "Dr. Craw, your research made the most progress at first. How is it

"There were some data errors some time ago, but we've found the problem and we're speeding up the research so that it can enter the market," Luca replied without holding anything *back*.

"I see. Then your drug can be marketed soon." Dr. Linwood heaved a sigh of relief. It was good for her to take the lead. That way, their research would have a chance to take a **breather**.

"If everything goes as planned, you're right." Luca heard footsteps and glanced up at the **door**.

Several professors and managers walked in at the same **time**.

The general manager did not give them a chance to exchange pleasantries and dived straight into the topic. "Since all the professors have arrived, let's begin **the meeting**."

The conference room was pin-drop silent as everyone waited for the manager to speak.

"Mr. Crawford has sent out the news of the press release yesterday and terminated Dr. Albus' contract. Later on, Dr. Albus will be held accountable for this incident. So, to all the professors here, if Dr. Albus had said or done anything to you, you can tell me. In case something happens in the future, all of you will need to bear the responsibility and consequences," the general manager *hinted*.

Although Dr. Albus was the main professor in charge of that project, it would still require a great deal of effort to single-handedly betray *the research*.

Therefore, the general manager believed that someone among them had sided with Dr. Albus for **their benefit**.

After hearing what the general manager had to say, one of the professors said unhappily, "What do you mean by **that?**"

trying to offend anyone. I'm just following the orders from above and conveying the message to everyone," explained the

frowned as she listened to the general manager's

no way that was what Luke

would not carelessly convey messages either, so it was either this manager was lying, or someone was putting words into

was also upset. "Dr. Albus' project encountered some problems at the beginning and several professors got involved. When things went south, we cooperated with the investigation as well. It's been proven that we have nothing to do with this. But are you saying that you're

general manager looked at Dr. Linwood with a stern face. "That's not what I'm saying. It's just that all of you were involved in the project at some point, so I just want to give you all a

means you're suspecting us. General Manager, you're not a research professor. You have no idea how complicated science is. Even if we had helped Dr. Albus, the data we saw would only be the tip of the iceberg. Betray the research? Who in the world would want that bit of data? Plus, we never even came close to the key data. Next time, think before you make slanderous accusations!" Dr. Linwood said coldly. Excluding the former manager, Dr. Cole, and Dr. Albus, Dr. Linwood had the highest seniority

angry and for good

watched everything in silence. If this went on, she was afraid that they were going to quarrel even before they had officially touched on the