

## Be Gentle 251

### Chapter 251

In the evening, the mourners who had come to pay Kevin their last respects had left. Only several people remained in the house.

The two children were hungry. Wanda brought them away for dinner.

Luke received an urgent call. He informed Bianca about it and hurriedly left.

Bianca was currently cleaning up the house.

The Rayne family house was a simple house with two rooms. She looked around her, finding her surroundings familiar yet foreign.

After all, she was only brought there when she was a teenager.

Memories of her father surfaced, though they were of somewhere else.

That was the time when Jennifer and her daughter had not moved in.

Whenever Kevin visited Bianca in the small town, he would carry her on his shoulders and call her "my dearest darling."

She remembered that she had a high fever when she was six years old, and she had faded in and out of consciousness.

Even the doctor was helpless.

She vaguely saw her father kneeling in front of the doctor and begging him to save his daughter.

She remembered how helpless and undignified her father was at that moment.

fate had given her another chance at life. Her fever went away, and she

always known that her father loved

knew her father's temperament. Her father might love her, but he was too timid to express

her father had not loved her, he would not have bequeathed the house to her in

it was exactly because of the house that Jennifer and her daughter had caused

to suppress her emotions. She glanced at her father's

could feel a twinge in her nose. "Father..." she called

had left the house door unlocked. Xavier sneaked into the house; he had changed his

Bianca's wrist and said coldly, "You'll have to follow me back

not want to cause a scene at the funeral. However, he could not take it anymore, seeing how Bianca was happy with Luke and

pulled her hand away and looked at him indifferently. "Keep your hands away from me. I don't know you that

of sorrow flashed in Luke's eyes when he heard that. "You don't have to act so weirdly with me. Should I remind you again of the fact that I am your legally

Bianca suddenly laughed.

*Bianca* was a beautiful woman. Her beauty might not be as glamorous and attractive as a blooming rose, but she was modest and refreshing like a lotus bud in a pond. Whenever she laughed, she carried a unique gentleness that differentiated her from **other women**.

Xavier's eyes flashed with passion.

He knew that Bianca was a treasure. When she was younger, she carried a callow beauty different from other women. Now that she was mature, she carried an irresistible charm. How could he give her away just like *that*?

Five years ago, he had lost **her once**.

Now that he had her in his clutches, he was not going to let go of her that easily, even if he had to bleed.

"Our farce of a marriage will be over soon," Bianca said as she calmly stared at him.

*The air* seemed to freeze at that *instant*.

*Xavier's gaze* turned turbulent. His eyes seemed to be coated with a thin layer of frost, and his handsome face began to tremble. He tightened his thin lips as though he was trying his best not to let his *temper explode*.

"**You want** a divorce, Bianca? You must be dreaming!" Xavier pinned Bianca on the table. His face was dangerously close to *hers*.

His gaze flashed with determination as he glared at her pale face. "Do you think you can successfully divorce me with Walter Long's help? So what if Walter Long has never lost a case? Not even God can help you as long as I choose to stay **with you!**"

Bianca was not in the mood to talk to him. She tried to push him away. "Get lost..."

her lower jaw and brought his face even closer. "I'd rather bind you to me with marriage than to let you go. Only death can part

gasped in fear. She looked at him with utter disdain. "You've lost your mind,

seemed to be the straw that broke the camel's back. Xavier chuckled and said, "Look at how animated you are now. I wonder... if you'll still react the same if I pin you on

Slap!

Bianca's palm landed on Xavier's cheek.

could not believe that Bianca had

How dare she?

veins on his forehead seemed to be bulging, and a layer of frost seemed to be gathering on

gripped Bianca's lower jaw tightly again, the harshness of his gaze threatening to skin her alive. "Who do you think you are? You're nothing but used goods. Who gave you the nerve to hit me?"

been spoiled since young. There was nothing that he wanted that he did

after he grew up, he was the one who slapped others, and never the other way round. Who would dare lay a finger on

the seemingly weak woman had slapped him. He would be the subject of ridicule if word got

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Even the usually docile Rainie was angry when she saw her Mommy bullied. She grabbed a mop that was conveniently nearby and smacked it on Xavier.

"Bad Uncle Xavier! You're a bully! I'll kill you!" She screamed out.

"Hiss!" Xavier felt the intense pain in his leg and let go of Bianca.

Bianca frantically ran away. Her eyes were brimming with hatred, and her lips were swollen and red with hints of blood on them.

She looked as though she was more than willing to murder Xavier.

Xavier licked his lips. His tongue was hurting.

If he did not let go of the woman, she might even have bitten off his tongue.

He looked down, and upon seeing that Lanie was still biting him, dragged the little boy away.

He rolled up his pants. Lanie seemed to have almost bitten off a piece of flesh from his leg.

'That savage whelp. He's indeed Luke's son!'

Xavier glanced at Rainie. She was trembling with fear, but she continued to stand in front of Bianca holding the mop and baring her teeth as though protecting her mother.

He smiled.

little whelps are interesting. They're as impulsive as my cousin

Crawford might seem like the noble, handsome, and elegant Prince Charming in many women's dreams, but he was actually a cruel and merciless

incredibly sharp perception and ruthless business tactics made even the most veteran swindler stay away from him. In a few years, he had brought T Corporation from the brink of ruin to never-before-seen

Corporation had its influence in all fields. The entire business world was subject to Luke's whim. The other businessmen called him "Cold-Faced

and Rainie stood holding hands in front of Bianca, protecting their mother and glaring at Xavier as though he was a wicked

was moved by their children's gesture. She found the courage to stand up

Wanda was thoroughly confused and did not know how to

as she knew, her niece was in a relationship

was what she gathered from what her niece told

at her brother's funeral, that man named Xavier Tanner had proclaimed himself to be Bianca's husband and had even shown her their marriage certificate. She did not know that her niece

Bianca and that Xavier were legally married,

'What is her relationship with Luke?

*'Is my niece having an extramarital affair?'*

"Go away now, Xavier Tanner. The Rayne family does not welcome you! I'll divorce you for sure!" Bianca said *determinedly*.

"**Do** you think that the Crawford family will accept you for who you are after we're divorced, Bianca? Old Master Crawford cares about the family reputation a lot. Do you think that he'll accept used goods like you? Stop dreaming! I'd rather die with you than let you go. Just you wait, I'll make sure that you return to the Tanner family with me." Xavier had lost **all reason**.

He took a napkin and wiped away the blood on the corner of his lips. Then, he scrunched the red napkin into a ball and tossed it into the *trash can*.

*He turned* around and slammed the door on his way out.

Wanda was startled by the sound the door made. She came to her senses when she saw her niece's **pale complexion**.

"**Are you** OK, Bianca?" She asked worriedly. "What's going on with that man? Aren't you in a relationship with Luke Crawford? Since when are you his wife? You've never told me that you're married. Should I give a call to *Luke...*"

Bianca shook her head. She seemed lethargic. "I'll tell you about it next time, Aunt Wanda. I just want to rest **now**."

*So many* things happened. The repeated blows to her psyche had caused her to *be weary*.

*All* she wanted now was some **peace**.

"Alright, go and take a rest. I'll do the cleaning up." Wanda felt sorry for Bianca when she saw how tired her *niece was*.

helped her niece walk to the bedroom, her heart ached when she held Bianca's emaciated

her brother was gone, her only relations were her niece Bianca and the two cute

would be gone soon, too. When that happened, what would happen to Bianca and two children stayed next to their mother. They knew that she was not feeling closed her eyes and rested on the bed. The ache in her chest Rainie lay on each side of their mother and held the hem of her shirt, afraid that she might her two children tightly as though they were her words echoed in her brain. They might sound harsh, but they were Crawford family's status was at the pinnacle of A City. Even if she were not married, her status was still far below not care about what other people thought and insist on marry her, but to everyone else, she was only What should she do?

...

## **Chapter 253**

Jack sized up the man who had claimed his daughter's heart. The man was robust and mature. He looked like a man who had succeeded in life.

Furthermore, the man knew that he was the Provincial Committee Secretary but had no intention of sucking up to him. He was polite but kept his distance.

Jack nodded in satisfaction. Luke was a man worthy of Leia's affection. If his daughter wanted him, then he would do his best to fulfill her wishes.

After Jack introduced Leia to Luke, he asked, "I've heard that the CEO of T Corporation is a man of many talents, and now that I've met you, that seems to be the case. I wonder if you are married?"

"I'm not married, but I have two five-year-old children."

Every gesture that Luke made caused Leia to swoon.

Jack was slightly disappointed when he heard that Luke had two children.

However, he did not mind that, seeing how infatuated his daughter was and considering the wealth and influence Luke wielded. If he married Leia, then she could eventually give birth to her own children.

Luke's wealth would be able to sustain as many children as they wanted.

Meanwhile, Leia was in a daze as her eyes were transfixed on Luke.

She wore light make-up tonight.

that Luke was more fond of women without too much make-up and that she had to present an elegant appearance to Luke. She knew how to dress up to accentuate the curves of

dressed in a silk evening gown. It was modest and elegant but at the same time carried a hint of allure. With her light make-up, she looked very

at how the other men at the same table had regarded her, she knew that she was an attractive  
her father's arm and smiled gently. "Mr. Crawford, I've heard from my agent that T Corporation is  
involved in many businesses. One of the perfumes under your brand is looking for a new spokesperson.  
I'd like to know if

how to present her most

looking at a man she was interested in, she would not look at him straight in the eye. Instead, she would  
glance at him from the corner of her eye to increase her

remembered to present the sweetest smile

was how she had captivated the hearts of many men, then left abruptly, leaving them

at her indifferently. "You are a beautiful woman, Ms. Norman, and that is why you're so popular in the  
entertainment circle. If you would like to be the spokesperson of our brand, you don't even have to rely  
on your father's connections. I believe it will be very easy for you to be selected, just by your  
appearance and talents

The other guests at the dinner also voiced their agreement.

"If you're the spokesperson of the perfume, many celebrities will definitely buy *it!*"

"That's right, Ms. Norman. Your beauty is outstanding. I've watched the movie you starred in. You're a  
real diva for getting an award in your movie debut!"

*Those people* held political positions in the city, and they were very good *at flattery*.

*Everyone* knew that Leia Norman was a horrible *actor*.

*Her performance* in her debut role was indeed spectacular, but that was because the director knew how  
to utilize her experience in her **role**.

*Leia* was raised in an orphanage. That was how she was able to portray her role in the movie perfectly.

However, she was terrible at other roles.

**Her** next movie in which she held a starring role was "A War of Seven Nations."

**The** movie enjoyed a star-studded cast. Not only were Theo Shaddock, the popular movie star, and Sean  
Lannery, the veteran actor cast to be the male leads, but a veteran actress was also paid ten million  
dollars to be Leia Norman's supporting role.

celebrities were cast to boost Leia's

the movie bombed hard at the box

and embarrassing acting was perhaps not the biggest reason. The plot was convoluted and was  
described by comments as "an earth-shakingly bad movie." It had a rating of 3.9 on IMDB. Many  
celebrities' careers

was relatively unaffected. She had strong backing from her

though her acting skills were sorely lacking, she continued to receive acting roles in many guests at the dinner knew that if they could gain Leia's favor, it would be easier for them to forge relationships with

was secretly delighted when she heard the

she reacted modestly, "It's nothing. Acting is my passion. It's all thanks to Dad that I manage to find a foothold in the entertainment

was a shrewd man, and he knew about the intricacies of relationships. He would rather not call Leia out

had invited international celebrities to be their spokespeople so that they could present a global image. Using Leia as the spokesperson would lower their

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Jack placed his wine glass on the table when he heard Luke's words.

His face was slightly red from the alcohol. "Don't worry, Luke. I'll get my men on the case. You'll receive the approval tomorrow. Remember, take good care of my daughter."

The more Jack looked at Luke, the more satisfied he was. From their conversation, he could understand that Luke was a shrewd and assertive man and would be the perfect son-in-law.

Jack had addressed him as "Mr. Crawford" earlier, but it was now "Luke."

Everyone who heard that knew that Jack was trying to play matchmaker.

Those people looked enviously at Luke. In a mere few sentences, Luke had won the rights to develop the seaside resort worth tens of billions of dollars.

However, they knew that they were no match for Luke's handsome looks and sharp business acumen.

Even though they might be envious, they knew that Luke deserved it.

"Congratulations, Mr. Crawford! With this development project in your bag, T Corporation will be pushed to greater heights," a balding middle-aged man praised him.

"Mr. Crawford, you are a rare business prodigy. You've led your company to record profits. I admit that I'm no match for you!" Another pot-bellied man in a business suit also said.

Luke flashed an ambiguous smile and raised his glass toward Jack. "Thank you for your approval, Mr. Norman. I will make sure that the seaside resort can bring the most benefit to the city."

Of course, he did not mention anything about taking care of Leia.

knew that the dinner would be one that was fraught

was surprised that Jack seemed to be trying to match Leia with

all, he never had any interaction with Leia. All he knew about her was her name and how she could not be any more popular despite the resources poured into publicity

only woman whom he loved was Bianca Rayne. He had never been interested in any other woman, much less a pretentious one like

his company for many years had honed his perception. He could tell from the first glance at Leia's eyes that she was oozing

not going to let her close to him. If anything, he would want to keep her away as far as

did not know what Luke was thinking. She was very happy at the

tenderness brimmed from her eyes as her eyes were transfixed on

that Luke had given her the assurance, her chances of scoring the spokesperson role were almost one

that Luke only agreed to it because of her father, but what about it? If she could interact more often with Luke, she was confident that she would eventually win

Late at night.

put the two children to bed. She curled up on the couch in the living room, reading a

The dim yellow light illuminated Bianca's gentle and beautiful face. It was a tranquil **scene**.

*Currently, she* was lost in the pages of the book.

**It** was a story of love and lust, and sin and redemption. The male and female lead characters were siblings of different mothers.

"This is not a love story, but a story about love." That was how Bonnie, the female lead character, had opened the book.

*Lewis*, the male lead character, was deeply in love with Bonnie. However, they were forced to separate under the pressure of morality and public *opinion*.

**In** the end, Lewis held a cup of poisoned coffee and stood in front of Bonnie. "I love you, Bonnie. I don't care if you're a good person or a bad person. I love you for who you are," he said to her sorrowfully.

**He** downed the poisoned drink without any hesitation, even though knowing that his life would *immediately end*.

**Bianca** felt down after finishing the **story**.

*Original* sin. That was the origin of love **and lust**.

Love was instinctual, but incestuous love was **a sin**.

*If* she and Luke were siblings of a different father, would she suffer **divine punishment**?

comfort was that her two children were cute

She could not believe Allison's words.

had to do the DNA test with Allison, to confirm that she was indeed not

had said that love was like a sickness. So was that why she felt like



had to be separated from Luke, she imagined that she would fall into endless

felt that she was enveloped in a

not his usual cold and aloof self. Instead, his eyes were brimming with care and tenderness. "You're already a mother now. Why are you still

Luke was worried whenever Bianca cried.

look delicate and lovely, just like in Lord Byron's

saw thee weep—the big

Came o'er that eye of

And then methought it did appear

Chapter 255 Luke Is Wildly Aroused

Bianca could feel that a hole in her heart was being filled up with bliss.

Luke was hugging her tightly.

She could hear the strong rhythm of the man's heartbeat. It was beating in sync with hers.

Luke's lips gently fell on hers.

Bianca was already the mother of two children, but she seemed to retain her charming inexperience. Her body emanated a sweet fragrance, and that had greatly titillated Luke.

"Mmh... Luke..." Bianca's body was going limp because of Luke's teasing. She came to her senses and pushed Luke away so that he did not go overboard. "You can't do it here. This is the living room... You must also be tired. Go and take a shower first."

Bianca, Wanda, and the two children were staying the night in Kevin's house.

Not only was the living room, which had been the venue for the funeral earlier, not suitable for vigorous exercise, but Aunt Wanda, who was sleeping in one of the rooms, might suddenly wake up...

If Wanda caught them in the act, that would have been more than awkward

Luke also knew that their current location was not suitable for intimacy. He heavily nibbled Bianca's supple lips and appreciated the fair and delicate skin of the woman he loved.

the intense kissing earlier, Bianca's face was tinged with a shade of

that were as clear as spring water flashed with a hint of passion, and she bit her lower lip. How could someone who looked so angelic be so seductive at the same

stroked her smooth cheek, trying hard to keep his urges down. "I've been busy the entire day. Don't you feel any pity for me? Shall we take a bath together?

Bianca blushed even harder.

"Stop messing around, Luke..."

knew that Bianca was easily embarrassed, and he stopped teasing her. After all, he was quite tired. He kissed her once more, then went into the bathroom, took off his coat, and unbuttoned his shirt, revealing the solid muscle

was as sculpted as an international male model. Any woman would go crazy over

midnight, Luke came out of the bathroom and walked gently to

the dim light, he could see the tranquil sleeping faces of Bianca and the two

the two children have a faint resemblance to their mother gave

At that moment, he could feel that all was well with the world.

*Luke gently* climbed onto the bed and hugged Bianca and the two children with his arms. All his urges disappeared at that instant, and he realized that the warmth that a complete family provided was much more satisfying than **sex**.

*Bianca* was a light sleeper. She could feel the heat he emanated as he got **nearer**.

**Instantly**, she woke up from **her dream**.

**She** felt her mouth become dry when she looked at the sculpted muscles of the man's topless body.

*She* subconsciously leaned closer to the children and coughed gently. "Have you had your shower? You should rest soon. You still need to go to work *tomorrow*."

Luke noticed Bianca's little gesture. Without saying a word, he hugged her tighter. His profound gaze was like an ancient pool of water, rippling under the moonlight and returning **to calmness**.

It was silent and mysterious, yet unfathomably *deep*.

**Bianca** could see the desires in Luke's eyes, even though he did not say a word and instead silently looked at her. She began to feel uneasy.

**After** experiencing it several times, she knew that the man would morph into a beast when overcome by **urges**.

two children on the same bed, she could not allow him to do whatever he wanted. She gulped cautiously and reminded him again, "It's already late. You should sleep..." "Mm," Luke replied with his low and

droplets seemed to gather at the tips of his hair. He looked refreshing...

caressed Bianca's hair as though he was appreciating a piece of fine silk. "Jennifer and Marie's court trial should begin on the 7th of next month. What do you intend to

impression toward the mother and daughter was thoroughly negative. He thought that just looking at them would degrade him. As much as he would like to off the mother and daughter directly, he wanted to seek Bianca's

down unexpectedly when Jennifer and Marie were mentioned. "They were the ones who caused my father's death. They'll have to pay." "Alright. I'll support your decision no matter what it is. However,

before the trial, I will have to remove Xavier from the picture. I want to give you a status, Bianca. I want you to be my wife and Lanie and Rainie's mother," Luke promised

faint body scent was like blooming osmanthus

scent tickled his nostrils, causing his urges

Bianca looked at him with her clear eyes, she could feel a warm current coursing through her

she suddenly remembered Allison's words. "Your mother said that we're siblings of different fathers. We'll be defying social norms if we go together. You should know that we can't be married. I don't think you know that my mother is indeed my father's ex-wife, and they've spent some

Luke frowned when he heard that.

Chapter 256 Daddy, Why Are You Riding On Top of Mommy?

Upon hearing that childish voice, Luke almost immediately went limp.

Lanie and Rainie had woken up some time ago. Their eyes were open wide, looking at Daddy and Mommy curiously.

Luke hastily got off Bianca's body and covered themselves with a silk blanket.

Bianca was thoroughly embarrassed. She wished that the earth would swallow her up at that instant.

Luke was both frustrated and angry when the two children had interrupted their session. However, looking at their curious and doubtful faces, he could not release his anger on them.

"Daddy, why were you riding on Mommy?"

Rainie said while looking inquisitively at Bianca, who was going to cover her face with the blanket.

Meanwhile, Lanie glared at Luke with his beautiful eyes.

He noticed that his mother's face and eyes were red...

Lanie pointed at Luke with a plump finger and shouted, "You're so heavy, Daddy, yet you're riding on Mommy. Are you bullying Mommy?"

A stifled scream from Bianca had woken him up earlier. When he opened his eyes, he saw that Daddy's body was on top of Mommy.

'How can Daddy do that?

so gentle, and she isn't feeling well. Daddy is so big and heavy. He shouldn't lie on top of

Somehow, Luke was feeling quite embarrassed.

not even a thunderstorm would wake the two children. Now that he wanted to share some intimacy with Bianca on the bed, the two children had caught them in

bullying me earlier. I felt a little cold, and that's why Daddy pretended to be a blanket and covered me... Be good children and go to bed. You have school tomorrow," Bianca said

Rainie got up, carefully checked Bianca for any bruises, and waved their little fists at Daddy as a warning to not bully Mommy. Bianca coaxed them for a while more before they drifted off to dreamland once

did not know how to react to

had supplanted his position in the

not jealous of that. In fact, he was happy that Bianca had become an important person to the two children. It meant that Bianca had successfully won over the children's

"Come here..."

the two children were asleep again, Luke wanted to bring Bianca into

could even touch Bianca's clothes, the usually gentle rabbit kicked him between his

caught unawares, and he gasped in

*Bianca's eyes were full of disdain. "Don't touch me for the *next month*."*

**She turned** around, hugged the two children, and closed her eyes.

Luke looked at Bianca's back. He would lose his mind if he could not touch her for the next **month**.

Now that he had tasted Bianca and was used to doing it whenever he liked, was he going to survive living as an *ascetic*?

**Luke** decided that he would make a new room for the children, and it would be placed as far away from their room as *possible*!

On the other end of **the city**.

**In a** nightclub shrouded by the darkness of the night and the blinding neon lights, men and women moved and swayed to the beat of the music and the flashes of the strobe light. Their bodies grazed against each other, creating sparks of passion.

*Xavier* meandered amid the dance floor, accepting the advances of the women who threw themselves at him. He was half-drunk, and he looked like *a playboy*.

'See? Women still want me. I don't even need to go after them.

'*All the* women here are charming and seductive. Most importantly, they are obedient, and they **love me**.

'Who does Bianca think she is?

'*What does* she have, other than that pure **face**?

only she doesn't know how to win a man's heart, but she also gave birth to two children to my cousin. She's only used goods and doesn't even deserve to be a footstool, so why do I insist on not letting

retreated from the dance floor, hugging a sexy woman in each of his arms, and sat down at the

quickly handed each of them a cocktail. "Here are your drinks,

pinched the cheek of the woman who was sitting on his lap, then fondled the arm of the curly-haired beauty sitting next

me, do you love me?" He

You're prettier than me. I love you just for that face alone!" The sexy woman giggled and told

other woman did not admit defeat. She landed a heavy kiss on Xavier's cheek. "You've always been generous, Xavier. We all love

heartily. He was about to make his next move when he heard the sounds of beer bottles breaking and the shriek of

his eyes and saw several hooligans bullying a beautiful woman in a tight white top and a

was already feeling horrible, but that made his mood worse. His usually-smiling slit eyes flashed with darkness

dare someone cause trouble on Xavier Tanner's

his hand, and the security guards moved into action. He did not have to bother himself with minor incidents like that, but he was in a bad mood, and he needed a place to vent

Chapter 257 How Would You Feel If That Happened To You?

Xavier sat at the bar counter under the dim lights, helping himself to a glass of dark red liquid. His injured arm was wrapped in bandages.

His thick eyelashes obscured the violence in his eyes.

"Thank you for your help, Mr. Tanner. You can contact me if you need anything." The woman sitting in front of him handed a name card to Xavier.

Xavier took the card. Eminent Advocates & Solicitors.

Shandra Cullen. Senior Lawyer.

Memories of the past came back.

Back then, Xavier went to the same university as Walter and Shandra.

Walter and Shandra were ace students of the law college, and they were also known to be a couple.

Their relationship lasted through all four years in college.

For some reason, they broke up after graduation. Shandra left the country, and no one knew what happened to her. Walter drowned himself in alcohol for a period and eventually resumed his normal life.

"What a coincidence, Ms. Cullen. I happen to be in the middle of a difficult case. I've devoted my life to my wife, but my wife wants to leave me for another man. I'm not willing to agree to the divorce. I'd like to hire you to be my lawyer for this case. You can name your price," Xavier said.

Tanner, you should know that you can't force someone to love you. Many women are willing to flock to you for your status, so why would you waste your time and effort on a woman who doesn't love you?" Shandra

sure that you've been in love before, Ms. Cullen, and you should know how it feels to love someone. It's like seeing a cake in a bakery's display, and you want to eat it very much, but the storekeeper tells you that the cake has been sold to someone else, and the baker has already passed away, so there's no way that you'll be able to taste it. You're frustrated that you can't taste it, even though you've fantasized countless times how it would taste like. One day, you find someone else eating the cake that you have been obsessed with. How would you feel if

took a drag of her cigarette, and elegantly blew a smoke ring. "You must be joking, Mr. Tanner. There are so many equally delicious cakes in this world, and you can afford to pay for any of

at Shandra and said, "Do you know who is my wife's lawyer, Ms. Cullen? His name is Walter Long, the was indeed a luminary

was the lawyer in many influential cases, such as a property dispute between the CEO of a major company and his wife, the first divorce proceedings involving billionaires in South City, and various child custody cases and property disputes among the wealthy and

He had never lost a case.

of disdain flashed in Shandra's eyes when Walter's name was mentioned, though she soon resumed I'll take the case,"

woman tapped the bar counter rhythmically with her fingers, and she slowly closed

I'll take back everything that you've taken

Xavier smiled like a cunning fox.

'You want a divorce, Bianca?

'No chance in hell!'

Early next morning.

**After** breakfast, Luke went to the company. Jason arrived to pick up the two children, but they insisted on getting Mommy to bring them to school.

*Bianca* could not bear to let her children down and agreed to bring them to school **herself**.

**The two** children went to a high-class kindergarten. Not only it *taught*

English, French, and German, it also emphasized on holistic development of a child's *talents*.

**The** kindergarten occupied a vast area. It included a swimming pool, several wading pools, a vegetable garden, an aviary, and several play areas and **workshops**.

**The children's** meals were prepared by a **professional nutritionist**.

**Luxury** cars were a common sight at the front gate.

one was lucky, they might even spot a celebrity bringing their children

witnessed a scene that morning that made her

boy pulled on the hem of his grandfather's shirt. "I don't wanna go to school, Grandpa, I wanna go home..."

old man looked at his grandson, feeling utterly embarrassed. "School is fun, right? You can have so many friends here..." he tried to persuade the little

middle-aged mother smiled and told the old man, "You can't be too soft with them. Kids are all the same when they first go to school. They'll eventually get used

her head and looked at the two children that were holding hands with

were quietly observing the scene. Bianca wondered what they

also felt sorry for them. Were Lanie and Rainie like that on their first day of

held Lanie and Rainie's hands tightly, and as they walked past the crying boy, she

teacher of the class was a

saw Bianca bringing the children to school and found out that she was their mother, she exclaimed, "You're a beautiful woman. No wonder your children are

Chapter 258 Luke's Birthday

Lanie was feeling unhappy. He did not want to stay in class.

He was a precocious child, and he learned very quickly.

His father had hired a personal tutor for him, and his intelligence was at the level of an elementary student.

However, he had to remain in that class so that he could accompany his sister.

Lanie thought that the teacher on the podium and the other children in the class were silly.

He did not like how they wagged their heads when they spoke. Rainie did the same too, but she was his sister.

He also thought that the teachers did not sing well. He would rather listen to his mother hum tunes to him and Rainie. He did not want to learn from the teacher.

He had memorized the French song after listening to it twice.

Unfortunately, the other children in the class had not picked it up, and the French teacher had to repeat it again and again.

Lanie kept his lips tightly pressed together as he looked at the French teacher patiently repeat the song one more time.

He felt uneasy when he saw their mouths open and close, and their childish voices formed a discordant chorus.

He turned his head and looked at Rainie. She was attentively repeating after the French teacher.

Her voice was shrill and young, but it was clear and melodic. He could easily pick out her voice from the other children in the class.

Lanie frowned.

not that he was worried that the other children in the class might bully her, he would not want to eyes sparkled, and he came

saw that Bianca was standing outside the window, looking at him and Rainie with a gentle smile on her blurted in his surprise. However, his voice was drowned by the singing

not hear his voice, but she could guess what he was saying from his

placed her index finger on her lips, instructing him to

pointed at Rainie, the teacher, and the other children, telling him to sing along with the French

Lanie frowned and shook his head.

smiled, though she pretended to

Then, he opened his mouth slightly and started singing the song with the rest of the

smiled and shook her head when she saw Lanie's

ensuring that her children were well-suited to school life, she took a cab and went to the

it was not too appropriate for a new employee like her to take too many

At the company.

*Bianca* stepped into the design department and saw that everyone else was at their desks working diligently.

Several well-informed female colleagues were surprised to see her arrive at *the office*.

**As Bianca** walked to her desk, she could sense that some of her colleagues were pointing at her and whispering among **themselves**.

"**Sigh**, I'd like to be so close to the boss too! Then I can come to work whenever I like..." "Too bad you don't have a pretty face like **her!**"

*Bianca* did not say anything. She sat in front of her desk, turned on the computer, and ignored the whispers.

*Even* though she might look calm, she nevertheless felt some unease.

After all, no one wished to be the subject of **gossip**.



Sue deliberately coughed, and the whispers stopped.

**She walked** over and patted Bianca's shoulder. "Don't pay too much attention to them. They're gossiping because they have nothing better to do. You should just focus on **your work.**"

**Bianca smiled** gratefully at Sue when suddenly she heard the door open abruptly.

*Clack, clack, clack.* A pair of white three-inch high heels stepped rhythmically on *the floor*.

*The woman* was dressed in a white office suit. She was walking toward Bianca while holding a *folder*.

The woman carried a unique aura. She looked beautiful and charming, but her chin was lifted high, and her gaze was arrogant.

you Bianca Rayne?" The woman towered above Bianca and

is Mavis Laviere. She had been transferred here from an overseas subsidiary and is the supervisor of our design department." Sue gently elbowed Bianca and filled her up on who the unfamiliar woman

to meet you, Ms. Laviere..." Bianca hastily stood up from her chair and extended her

name was well-known in the international design industry. Bianca had always

had graduated with a double master's degree in architecture from MIT, and she had won numerous awards in international

was very excited to meet her

did not expect that the renowned Mavis Laviere was so young and was in A

shot a glance at Bianca but did not respond to Bianca's offer of a

Suddenly, the atmosphere became awkward.

the folder onto Bianca's desk. "I don't care who was the one who hired you, Bianca, but if you're in the design department, you have to follow the rules. I've checked your attendance record, and you've come to work for less than two weeks in the past month. Do you think your father runs this

Mavis's attitude was assertive and domineering.

followed all standard procedures when applying for a leave of absence, Ms. Laviere," Bianca replied after Mavis was done

sitting two desks away, raised her hand and interjected. "Yes, Ms. Laviere, I've submitted her requests, and the department lead has

a withering glance at Nina and said, "Next time, submit your requests through me. That will be the new rule, and everyone is expected to follow it. You will receive no bonus this month,

Chapter 259 The Boss Went Into Bianca's Room and Didn't Come Out Until the Next Morning...

The reason why Bianca remembered that string of numbers so well was because, in one of their make-out sessions, she had asked him about his birthday.

She was in the throes of ecstasy when the man whispered those numbers into her ear repeatedly and forced her to commit those six digits to memory.

"What's wrong, Bianca?" Nina was confused.

Very few people knew about Luke's personal life.

That was why the majority of the workers in the company did not know about Luke's birthday. It was also not available on the Internet.

"It's nothing. Why is the password changed?" She asked curiously.

"I don't know. In any case, the password changed when the new supervisor came in. Who knows what she's thinking? I have to admit that I don't like her though. She's too domineering like a bully. I guess she's been putting up a humble guise in those TV interviews," Nina could not help but tell Bianca her opinion of the new supervisor.

'Well, she has the talent and fame to be a bully. Whatever. We'll save the talk for later.'" Bianca returned to her work.

Nina was a candid person, but it meant that she would easily offend other people.

However, she had been changing her attitude ever since she started working.

that Bianca was studying other designs and told her, "I have some designs from the seniors. You can study those instead. You'll have to study the company's previous designs if you want to blend in. I'll send some notable projects to your work

noded to her as a sign of

though Bianca had managed to find a spot in T Corporation, she had to continuously improve herself to keep up with the incredible pool of talent. If she wanted to flaunt her own style, she would have to rely on her abilities and be a better

Meanwhile, in Mavis's well-decorated personal office.

in front of the computer holding a design document in

of the corners of the document was crumpled

had only been overseas for a short period, but she had found out from her spy that Luke was having an ambiguous relationship with one of the new

said that Luke took very good care of his cousin's wife. In fact, he had even gotten physical a few times because

had rejected Yvonne Gideon, the marriage candidate that his mother had selected for him so that he could be with that

sounded incredulous, but Mavis was

desired that man for a very long time, so how was she going to allow another woman to claim his

*Mavis* was not bothered by those women who had devoted themselves to him. She knew that Luke hated those women and would not reciprocate *their advances*.

However, she could feel that Bianca was a *real threat*.

Her feminine instincts told her that there was more to Bianca than meets the eye.

"**Ms. Laviere**." The design department lead came into the office with a steaming hot cup of **coffee**.

She was Mavis's spy in T Corporation. She would observe Luke's movements and report them **to Mavis**.

However, no one knew what Luke's personal life was like. Even the spy could only find hints and scraps of information from rumors and *gossip*.

**Mavis** massaged her temples and indicated to the department lead to put the cup on the table. "What's the identity of that Bianca?" She asked.

**The** department lead remembered the trouble that Bianca had caused her, and she spilled everything that she knew about that **woman**.

"**Ms. Laviere**, you might not know that Bianca was brought into the company personally by the boss. She doesn't have any abilities, she comes to work whenever she likes, but no one dares to call her out... Last month, when our team went to the small town, a colleague saw the boss going into Bianca's room and did not come out until the next morning. The next day, everyone could see that the wench had been ravished. Even her neck was full of hickeys. How shameless..." She might have exaggerated some parts of her **story**.

*The department* lead felt smug and happy as she saw how Mavis's expression sank.

sided with Yvonne and bullied Bianca based on the fact that Yvonne was Allison's chosen candidate for Luke's wife. Unfortunately, that worthless Yvonne was nowhere to be

afraid that Bianca would seek revenge on her and cause her to lose

Unexpectedly, Mavis returned to the country.

design department lead obtained her post because she knew how to gain Mavis's favor. That was how she had become Mavis's confidant and spy in the

that, the department lead became even more

wanted to continue gossiping about Bianca, but Mavis waved her hand in annoyance and instructed her to leave the

The department lead sheepishly went away.

the document in her hands again and tried to suppress

put on an

got up from her chair, left the office, went up to the CEO's office on the top floor, and knocked on

"Come in." The man answered crisply.

Chapter 260 You're Just His Plaything When He's Bored "Do you have something on your mind, Ms. Laviere? Or are you not used to the local weather?" Luke asked curiously.

"I think I'm still not used to the weather here. I'll try to adjust myself so that I can be at my optimal condition," Mavis said coldly.

Luke nodded. "Mm. I've always believed in your capabilities, Ms. Laviere.

You can keep the document here. We'll discuss it in detail tomorrow." "Alright." Mavis turned around and left.

Luke nodded in satisfaction.

That was Mavis for him. In front of him, she had been distant and aloof, as though she desired nothing, and no earthly temptation could move her.

That was what Luke liked the most about Mavis.

She was capable, professional, and not bothered by personal matters. Those were the qualities of a perfect worker.

"Ms. Laviere," Luke called out her name right when she was opening the door.

Mavis stopped walking. With her face turned away from Luke, she smiled smugly.

She turned around and resumed her usual, aloof expression. 'Is there anything else, Mr. Crawford?"

"You've been working hard lately. The subsidiary company in Argentina under your lead has recorded several percentage points in growth. If you want a reward, you can have cash or stocks. We'll talk about it at dinner after work." "Alright." Mavis maintained her indifference.

Once she stepped out of the office, her smile bloomed like a flower.

She knew how to control her emotions, knowing that the man she loved was not fond of women who pestered him.

many women had fallen at Luke's feet over the years, but he had rejected all

the only woman who could stay by Luke's side for

The workday ended at six o'clock.

design department, Bianca was friends with Sue and Nina. She was not too close with the other

at them and left the office first, while Nina held Bianca's hand and the two women left the office

they walked, Nina told Bianca about the gossip while Bianca was away from the

know that a male employee from the finance department embezzled a few hundred thousand dollars just so that he could pay a camgirl? He was arrested the other

man from the marketing department who looks dependable, but he was actually two-timing and his girlfriends found

girl from the PR department was flirting with another guy, and her boyfriend beat her when he found

was not in the mood for gossip, so she quickly forgot about what she  
the company entrance, she saw Luke's black Bentley drive past  
was rolled down. Bianca could see Luke sitting inside, but he did not seem to notice  
Mavis was sitting in the side *passenger seat*.

A gust of wind blew past them. Bianca and Nina could smell a faint whiff of Chanel perfume from Mavis.  
Mavis sat there like a noble queen. When she noticed Bianca, her beautiful eyes flashed with  
mockery *and pride...*

*Luke noticed Bianca in the rearview mirror.*

*Suddenly*, he had a strange thought. He wanted Mavis to get out of the car at that instant and ask Bianca  
to **get in**.

*It* was the first time that he had a woman of his own. He did not know how to *express himself*.

*He shook* his head and banished that thought. Nothing was going on between Mavis and him. She had  
brought profits to the company, and he was buying dinner for her to **reward her**.

Luke and Mavis were nothing more than a boss and **his employee**.

**He** would explain that to Bianca *later*.

**Bianca had** always been understanding. She would know that business dinners were part of Luke's job.

**The black** Bentley disappeared from Bianca and Nina's view.

Nina carefully turned her head and sneaked a peek at Bianca.

that Bianca was someone special to Luke. Now that they had seen Luke ride a car with another woman,  
Bianca must be thinking of

OK, Bianca? Ms. Laviere has just returned from overseas. I believe Mr. Crawford is taking her out to  
dinner to celebrate her return. It's nothing out of the ordinary," Nina said

Bianca turned away.

pretend that she was unaffected, but she was nonetheless a woman and thus felt uneasy about the  
situation. However, she believed that she could trust

knew that Mavis was a capable and dependable employee, and it was reasonable that they went out  
impossible for her not to be worried, but she chose to believe

Bianca suppressed her worries. "The bus is coming. Let's

away was a bustling public

the middle of the public square was a

public square was a bus station. She could take bus number 52 to go

Bianca started working, she had an extravagant thought. She wanted a car of her own so that she could commute between home and work more easily. However, she did not have any savings, and she did not want to use the credit card that Luke had given her. She might feel beholden to him if she

try to save up as much money as she could. With the year-end bonus, she should be able to afford an