

Be Gentle 491

Chapter 491 She's Already Mrs. Crawford Except By Name

Mavis stayed in the hospital ward for some time.

The indulgent way Luke treated Bianca suffocated Mavis!

Eventually, she left the hospital ward, carrying her jealousy and hatred with her.

After Mavis left, Sue, Tom, and Nina arrived one after another bearing presents.

They greeted Luke, then asked Bianca how she felt.

They felt somewhat awkward with their boss's overbearing demeanor present.

Seeing that his presence caused unease in his employees, Luke excused himself, saying that he had to smoke. He would give some space for Bianca's colleagues.

you suddenly end up in a car crash? It's so serious, too." Nina asked while holding Bianca's hand. She was unhappy as she looked at Bianca's leg in a

an accident. I got hit when I was crossing a road. I'm fine now, don't worry." Bianca had trivialized the car crash that had almost claimed her life, so that her colleagues would not have to worry

was pregnant with twins for six months. Her stomach was abnormally big, and she looked like she could not maintain her balance as

waist, she advised Bianca, "You should be more careful when you cross the road. There are so many more cars on the road now, and you'd accidentally run into one if you're not careful. I'll be delivering the babies in three months, but I didn't expect that you'll be hospitalized before me. I wonder which wretch didn't pay attention when he's driving?" "Please sit down and have a rest, Sue. You shouldn't tire the babies." Bianca was worried that Sue might be exhausted carrying the two babies. She gestured to the chair next to

stomach was indeed making her tired. She sat down on the

so, her hands did not stay idle. She started to peel an apple for Bianca while speaking, 'With an injury like that, it'll be at least another three months before you can walk again. Just focus on resting and hand your unfinished work to

"You're such a workaholic, Sue. You work so hard even though you're pregnant. You should start looking for a good husband; you wouldn't have to work so hard that

at Tom. "I have perfectly healthy arms and legs, and I can make money on my own. Why do I need a man? Most men are unreliable. They can promise you the world at first, but when they find a better woman, they'd ditch you without hesitation and repeat the same thing to her. Tch, I'd rather improve myself than gamble my future on

Bianca agreed with Sue's sentiment. "Sue's right, Tom. Reality won't go easy on us just because we're women. It's up to us to be self-reliant. We work so hard not because we want to be rich, but because we want to be recognized for what we *can do*."

Tom jokingly applauded her speech. "Alright, alright, my ladies. Looking at how determined you are, I'm ashamed to be a man. It looks like I'll have to work harder too. Otherwise, you intelligent and beautiful ladies will leave me behind. I'd love to work with you on the urban reconstruction project, Bianca, but it seems like you'll have to rest for a long *time*."

Bianca helplessly touched her right leg in a cast. "No one could've predicted the accident. Never mind, I can work from home even when I'm recuperating. I'll always be available if there's anything to discuss."

Nina handed Bianca a peeled orange. "You should just rest at home. Are you planning to be self-reliant like Sue?"

Sue tut-tutted Nina before Bianca could answer. "What's wrong with being self-reliant? Bianca is smart and ambitious, and most importantly, she is talented. She has the capability to be self-reliant. I think that among the three of us, she'll be the fastest to be **promoted**."

Bianca grinned sheepishly. "I only want to do my best, and I don't have any plans for anything else. Right, I should share a piece of good news with all of you. I'm already three months *pregnant*." *i*

The three people were shocked by the sudden *news*.

Nina was the first one to shriek. She playfully pinched Bianca's shoulders and looked at her with disbelief. "When did that happen, Bianca? Why didn't you tell us? Very well, you really know how to keep **a secret**!"

the half-peeled apple away and stared at Bianca's stomach. 'Wow! You suffered such a serious crash, but the baby is safe? That baby must be very lucky! Congratulations, Bianca. It must feel good to be pregnant again. After you give birth, my baby will have a

was male. He could not empathize with Bianca like the other two female colleagues, but he congratulated her

Bianca was not married to Luke yet, everyone knew that Bianca was already Mrs. Crawford in every aspect except by

On the other side...

Master Crawford and Susan were not at home and the twins were at school, Allison invited Leia over to have a tour of Crawford

played the role of the matriarch of the household, while Leia was Luke's future wife. They went into various rooms until they finally arrived in front of

out an electronic access card and told Leia, "My son is a clean freak. He wouldn't let any woman enter his room. Now that you're about to be my son's girlfriend, I'll let you in to take a

Leia lowered her head shyly.

Chapter 492 The Two Children Did Not Show Her Any Courtesy!

Leia felt disappointed when she saw that Allison could not open Luke's room door.

She hid away the mockery in her eyes and put on an empathetic expression. "Looks like Luke is a cautious person, and he really doesn't like any strangers entering his private space. Moreover, I'm not his girlfriend yet, and I don't think I should intrude upon him. Otherwise, Luke would be angry if he finds out. I don't mind him being angry with me, but I'd feel guilty if he blames you." "You're right, Leia. When you become Luke's fiancée, he would bring you into his room even without me telling him. I'll eagerly wait for that day to come," Allison said with a smile.

The more she interacted with Leia, the more she thought that the young woman was the ideal daughter-in-law.

'Look at her. She's not married to Luke yet, but she's always considerate of her future mother-in-law. 1
'It would be great if I have such an obedient daughter-in-law that sides with me.'

Leia continued to ask, "Aunt Allison, has Luke been very busy lately?"

She had gone to T Corporation to look for Luke multiple times, but she had never been able to meet with Luke. Luke had also kept his whereabouts a secret, and Leia could not find any information from the receptionists, no matter how she threatened or bribed them. Without any other option, she went to Crawford Manor to look for him.

son is busy with some urban reconstruction project lately, and he's so busy that he doesn't even have time to rest. He's lost a lot of weight, and I feel sorry looking

not hard to captivate a man's heart as long as you know the technique. My son is a very career-focused man, and he's a little slow on the uptake when it comes to relationships. You'll need to take the initiative. You're a good match for him, and as long as you stay determined, I believe that you'll eventually win over my son." "When I was with Luke's father, other women used to flock around him, but they only lasted for one month at most. I'm the only one who stayed with him the longest. Do you know why? It's because I know what he

reminded that Allison used to be an impoverished dancer. Using her son, she managed to become the matriarch of the Crawford family, and her status in the family was even higher than Susan Armstrong, the original Mrs. Crawford. Leia was impressed by her

I'll do my best," Leia said submissively. "When will Luke come home, Aunt Allison?" "The Crawford family will gather for dinner on the 15th of every month, no matter how busy they might be. It happens to be the 15th today. My son will definitely come home." "Oh, it's my Grandma's birthday today, and I'll have to visit her at her house. If Luke comes home late today, I'll have to find another opportunity to

and Leia went downstairs and continued chatting in the living

about luxury brands and beauty tips. Allison did not know any topics other than

knew from her parents that Zachary Crawford was a

She wondered how a shallow woman like Allison managed to beguile him.

'Luckily, Luke inherited his mother's looks and his father's intelligence,' Leia **thought**.

A luxury car drove into the grounds of Crawford Manor. The children had come home from school, and Luke brought them into the living room.

A hint of gloom flashed past the man's handsome face when he saw Leia, but he soon resumed his usual coldness. "When did you come over, Ms. Norman?" "Not too long ago. I'm here to visit Aunt Allison. Did you pick up Lanie and Rainie from school?" Leia looked obsessively at the man.

It seemed that he was becoming more handsome the more she looked at him.

His eyes were brilliant like diamonds, exuding a dazzling charm even without illumination.

twins, who were holding their father's hands, frowned unhappily at the sight of Leia. They did not even greet

Leia was the baddie who wanted to snatch their father from their mother. They were not going to be friendly toward

a little awkward when she saw the two cute children ignored her, but she did not give

took out two sets of children's clothing from her large handbag and handed them to the children. "Lanie, Rainie, I've bought a set of clothes for each of you. Try them on and see if it fits!"

opened the packaging. They were a set of stylish biker clothes for the boy and a pretty princess dress for the

not take it. He looked at Leia with a gaze similar to Luke's." Thank you for your present, Aunt Norman, but Rainie and I have too many clothes. We can't wear them all," he said politely while maintaining his

not show any courtesy at all. "Mommy bought a similar dress for me last month, Aunt Norman. I prefer the one she bought for me." "It's okay. You can tell me what clothes you like, and I'll buy them for you." Leia's smile was starting to become

Chapter 493 Queenie's Heart Skipped A Beat When She Saw Them

A City in the evening was as bustling as usual. The luxury car drove on the road at a moderate speed.

Luke would be sending Leia home personally.

The man's side profile was impeccable. He waited at the traffic light without saying a word.

As Leia looked out of the window at the crossroad traffic, her lips were curled upward in secret delight.

It was only about an hour's drive from Crawford Manor to the Norman residence. Even so, she was happy to be with Luke even for one minute.

Luke's hands were on the steering wheel as he waited patiently for the traffic light to turn green. He looked straight ahead. "I wonder what your grandmother likes, Ms. Norman. I didn't have much time to prepare her present, so I plan to give her a genuine Rousseau painting from my collection. I hope she will like it."

Leia said gently, "My Grandma is the same as Grandpa; they both like to collect famous paintings. She'll definitely love your present. Thank you for attending Grandma's birthday party, and I apologize for the extra expense."

Leia desired for Luke to attend her grandmother's birthday party. If they appeared at the venue together, they would be the most popular couple.

at Leia's delicate face intently and suddenly smiled. "Do you like me, Ms.

thumped hard, though her voice remained gentle. "You should've realized that, right, Luke? I thought I've made my intentions obvious enough... Haven't you realized what I've done for you? There was once where I sent you chicken soup every day, and now I often go to Crawford Manor. I want to be friends with everyone in the Crawford family, and it's all because

looked at the man eagerly, though she could not help but feel diffident

determination in her clear eyes

turned his head slightly, and his penetrating gaze stared straight at Leia's soul. "Do you like me that much? I guess I'm a

twinkling street lights outside illuminated Luke's handsome face, giving his sculpted features a hint all too obsessed with his

in the entertainment industry, she had seen all sorts of handsome men: cool ones, gentle ones, and funny ones. However, the man seemed to combine every positive aspect of those

was like a riddle that Leia was willing to devote the rest of her life to

A *hint* of disgust rose in Luke's eyes when he saw how Leia was staring at him without speaking.

However, he managed to hide his true emotions well. "If you like me that much, how about we try dating each other?" His voice was resonant and charming.

'What?'

It was the first time that Leia had lost control of her emotions in front of Luke. Her mouth was opened so wide that she could fit an egg inside it. "Did you just say... we try dating each other? I... I didn't mishear, right?" "You didn't mishear, Ms. Norman. It's just that normal women can't accept many of my quirks. I hope that you can forgive me for that, Ms. Norman." Luke smiled.

"**Don't** say that, Luke. You're the most outstanding man that I've ever seen. I've always wished that I could be by your side forever." Leia was trying to calm her *breathing*.

She even pinched her thigh hard.

When she winced from the pain on her thigh, she truly believed that Luke had said that he was going to date **her**.

She was still caught in a daze even after they arrived at the Norman residence. She only came to her senses when Luke brought her into the banquet hall, and everyone looked at her admiringly.

The Norman residence was usually quiet, but it was very lively today.

might not be as crowded as Old Mr. Norman's birthday party a few months ago, but all the guests were

those guests came because they wanted to suck up to Old Mr. Norman and

Luke's elbow and excitedly walked into the banquet hall. She felt as though the day's festivities were and Mrs. Norman were surprised when they saw their granddaughter come in with Luke, but they did not

Queenie was shocked when she saw

'What's going on?

I tell Leia to stay away from that man? Why doesn't she listen to what

Norman knew that Bianca's rejection of Luke's proposal at the engagement ceremony was a humiliating event for the illustrious Crawford family. Old Master Crawford would definitely not be able to tolerate

did not know what happened between Luke and Bianca, but she could never be part of the Crawford family, no matter how outstanding she

Chapter 494 When He Saw Queenie, He Thought That He Saw Bianca

Leia held her breath as she waited for Luke to give his reply. She was afraid that he might say no.

He was her poison, and there was no cure.

Luke did not expect Old Mrs. Norman to ask that direct question. A hint of contemplation appeared on his gentlemanly face.

He skillfully deflected the question. "Old Mrs. Norman, Leia and I have only just started dating. Our personalities are very different, and it will take a while for us to adjust to each other. However, now that we've agreed to be together, I'll treat her the best I can. Marriage is a serious matter. Of course, I'll bring her to meet my family when the time is right.

Old Mr. and Mrs. Norman nodded satisfactorily.

Leia smiled modestly when she heard his answer. Her face was like a tulip in full bloom.

The man had publicly acknowledged their relationship. It was like a dream.

"Grandpa, Grandma, I'll bring Luke around."

getting their tacit approval, Leia's delicate arms went around Luke's arm. She lifted her chin and said with a smile. "Let's go, Luke. I'll introduce you to my

could not wait to tell everyone that the most outstanding man of A City belonged to Leia

that there would be paparazzi hiding somewhere in the party, and she wanted to show her intimate affection to Luke in a way that everyone

first reason for doing so was to showcase her unique charm that managed to captivate the most elegant and extraordinary

she wanted to show that she was already taken so that no other man would

wanted to push that

extremely disgusted by the thick stench of perfume that she wore. It was very different from Bianca's refreshing

certain circumstances, he had to put up an act with Leia. He went around the hall with her and accepted the praise from the

Leia appeared to be modest, but her eyes were brimming with pride and *intrigue*.

There were many more beautiful and graceful single women at the birthday party who were infatuated with Luke. However, Leia beat them all and claimed him as her **own**.

Those women were losers.

Luke could not be bothered to call out Leia's self-indulgent parade. He looked at her as though looking at a **clown**.

At a corner of the hall, Queenie was dressed in a modest gown and a shawl. She was chatting with Shakira and other friends while sipping a cocktail, but her eyes were transfixed on *Leia*.

It had been half an hour, but she had not finished her *drink yet*.

"Do you have something on your mind, **Queenie?**"

Shakira noticed that Queenie's daughter was standing intimately with Luke Crawford. She said with a smile, "Leia is a grown-up now, and she has already found a man she loves. I can see that you and your husband should be preparing for her marriage soon. I have to admit that Leia has good taste in men. I've had many interactions with that Luke boy. He's ideal in both appearance and character. You don't have to worry that Leia might be bullied."

Queenie shook her head slightly and frowned. "I know that Luke is an outstanding boy, Shakira, but I don't think that he's suitable for Leia. That boy is too detached, and a typical woman wouldn't know what he's thinking. Jack and I have been too protective of Leia, and she is too naive. She wants to seek love, but she doesn't understand that love and marriage are two different things. You and I are experienced in this, and I can tell that Luke doesn't have that spark of love for Leia. Do you think that Leia can find happiness in this unrequited love?"

next to Shakira was a woman with a coquettish face. She patted Queenie's shoulder and said, "Don't worry too much about it. Marriages among socialites are rarely based on true love; all they need is material satisfaction. You and Jack have found each other and maintained a blissful wedding, but there aren't many people as lucky as you. A man's heart isn't made of stone, and I believe that Luke would eventually soften up to Leia. That'll happen even faster if they have a

lady in the group sneered and gave her opinion. "Don't listen to her nonsense, Queenie. How can you have a marriage without love? I'm a good example. My husband and I married in an arranged marriage, and I regret to this day that I went through with it! There's no love between us, so he goes out drinking every day and comes home smelling of a different woman's perfume. He even said that he found true love and doesn't come home for long periods. That seductress's son is two years older than my

daughter. I would've divorce that b*stard long ago, if not that I have to remain in this marriage so that my daughter gets

listened to the varied opinions of her friends, she looked at her daughter, who was leaning on Luke's shoulders, and was beginning to

was her treasured daughter and spiritual sustenance for many

would not allow any man to do her daughter any

that Luke loved Bianca

man had professed his love for Bianca in front of them. He was going to marry Bianca, regardless of his were proof of Luke's earnest love for

Chapter 495 A Wave of Destructive Anger Surged Within Luke

Queenie stared at Luke from head to toe. Her gaze was as sharp as radar, but she could not help but be impressed by the young man's outstanding character.

Unlike the other males present at the party, Luke was dressed casually in a white shirt and black pants. Even so, that did not diminish his noble demeanor.

The man's body seemed to emanate a cold air, telling everyone to stay away, but at the same time, his charm was irresistible.

His overbearing demeanor was a stark contrast from his spotless appearance. No wonder women would be obsessed by his looks.

However, that did not mean that he could deceive her daughter.

At that moment, Leia was blinded by love. She thought that by gaining Luke's affection, she had gained the world.

Queenie could not see a single trace of affection in Luke's eyes.

"Mrs. Norman." After Luke got over the shock of how Queenie looked similar to Bianca, he walked over and greeted her.

Leia was still hugging his arm, and he rested his hand in his pocket. He did not look impudent, but instead, he looked casually elegant.

like to ask you something, Mr. Crawford. I wonder if you have completely dealt with that episode with Ms. Rayne at your engagement ceremony. Leia is my only daughter, and she is still young and inexperienced. As her mother, I have to be responsible for her future happiness." Queenie was smiling gently, but her gaze was

tell that she was probing him with his

on Luke's arm became

has always been a sensible woman. Now that Luke is willing to come with me to Grandma's birthday party, why can't she see that I'm determined to be with him? What's wrong

to convince Luke to date me, but Mom seems to be undermining my efforts. What does she plan to do?'

"It's all water under the bridge, Mom. Why must you mention the past? If Luke has already decided to date me, it means that he's already gotten over that incident. I love him, and he's willing to stay with me. That's enough for me. Who can say what will happen in

smiled brightly at her mother, then gently shoved Luke. "Tell my Mom, Luke," she said with mock

were drooped. Leia could not see his expression clearly, and she did not know what he was

She frowned and continued, "Luke..."

was speechless. His sexy lips were gently

silence made Leia uneasy. She desperately wanted the man to give her mother his promise. She was afraid that her mother would be angered and object to their

Queenie could discern what was *going on*.

The man did not even do a good job putting on an act. How could she be relieved if he dated her **daughter**?

She smiled and said, "Mr. Crawford, if you're sincere in dating my daughter, then I hope that you can show your sincerity with your actions. *Otherwise...*"

Before Queenie could finish her sentence, Luke interjected with his resonant voice. "I don't think that you'll be convinced by mere verbal promises, Madam."

Luke was smiling gently. He displayed two rows of impeccable teeth, which was a pleasing sight.

His hands caressed Leia's hair intimately.

Leia was taken aback by Luke's display of "love."

When she came to her senses, she became delighted but at the same time bashful. On an impulse, she hugged Luke's muscular waist with her *arms*, 1

Instantly, he could feel a wave of destructive anger growing in him. i Trying to hold back the disgust, he reciprocated *Leia's actions*.

turned slightly ashen, and her gaze became

she was not going to argue with her daughter in public. All she could do was shake her

turned around and returned to

patiently went around the hall

on reminding himself that he only had to tolerate it for a short while more. He was not going to let his in the hospital ward, Old Master Rayne and Wanda were crying

old man hugged Bianca while tears fell from his clouded eyes while cursing the perpetrator that had injured his beloved granddaughter. It was a heart-wrenching

on the other hand, felt guilty for what happened

she had not told Bianca that Old Master Rayne was ill, Bianca would not have rushed out of the house so

took out a napkin and wiped away her grandfather's tears. "You shouldn't cry, Grandpa. Your eyesight is already failing, and it'll become worse if you cry. See,

Chapter 496 She Was Still Angry!

Old Master Rayne and Bianca chatted for a while more. He felt slightly more relieved when he was sure that his granddaughter was safe.

Wanda looked at her niece lying calmly on the bed and was reminded of that episode at the engagement ceremony...

She could not contain her curiosity anymore and asked the question, "Bianca, what happened between you and Luke at the engagement ceremony? Why did you refuse his proposal? I know that you've been a sensible person, and you wouldn't make such a rash decision unless you're in big trouble. Can you tell your aunt the reason?"

Bianca was slightly at a loss when she heard the question. "I think I panicked a little at the event. I'm afraid that marriage is a one-way street, and after I'm married, I won't be myself anymore. I know many women who are capable and self-reliant, but after marriage, they're stuck in the kitchen taking care of their kids. I don't want to be like them and lose my personality and values..."

Blanca lied.

She did not want her grandfather and aunt to worry about her.

Her grandfather had ill health. What if his condition worsened If he found out about the CD?

Her aunt had a short fuse. If she found out about the truth, she might go and look for Leia on an impulse and worsen the situation.

not suspect that Bianca was

all, Bianca had been an honest girl since she was

Wanda felt that Bianca had been too capricious for rejecting Luke's proposal because of that

shook her head and sighed. "I say, your Grandpa must have spoiled you. How can you change your mind so easily on such an important decision? Moreover, marriage is sacred. How can you think of it as a

with my failed marriage, I might not be qualified to give you any advice. I still think that a marriage of love is a beautiful thing, and I trust in Luke's character and capabilities. Looking at how loving he was even before you two are married, I don't think he'd bear to see you

an ambiguous faint smile on her face; it seemed bitter but at the same time helpless. "I know that I'm wrong, Aunt Wanda. I've always faced my problems alone, and I'd rather suffer myself instead of sharing

them with someone else. I know that it's not the same now, and if I'm ever in trouble again, I'll tell Luke or at least discuss it with you and Grandpa. I won't act that rashly anymore." "That's enough, Wanda. My granddaughter has just survived a car crash and is in need of some comfort, yet you're reprimanding her. I will support my granddaughter's decisions, no matter what she does. Even if she breaks up with Luke, I don't think that we should worry about

is beautiful, well-educated, and capable. It's not going to be hard for her to find a good significant other. Look at the Crawford family. How many of them are in their right minds? Luke's mother is the worst one. Our Bianca will definitely have a hard time if she marries Luke." Old Master Rayne doted on his granddaughter and thought that everything she did was the

her, Father, and that's why she's like that. Sigh, I don't know what to say about you

Wanda coughed gently and continued her lesson. "A woman can be capricious, Bianca, but there's a limit to it. Once you establish your boundaries, you will find love and marriage fresh and exciting." "Mm, I'll remember your words, Aunt Wanda."

Bianca nodded like an ace student. "Right, Aunt Wanda, Nina went out to buy me dinner earlier, but I wonder why she's not back yet, and I can't seem to reach her on the phone. Can you help me go out and check on her?" "Mm, alright. I'll look for her outside the hospital, and I'll call you if I see her." Wanda got up and walked outward. "What do you want to eat, Father? I'll buy some food for you too." "I'm not really in the mood to eat. Just get me anything convenient. Buy some dessert for Bianca. She likes sweet stuff." Old Master *Rayne said*.

"Okay."

Outside, Nina was heading back to the hospital, holding a big plastic bag of food. As she walked past the parking lot of a shopping mall, she saw Pierre coming out of a *luxury car*.

After that, a charming woman came out of the car. She had a voluptuous figure, and her hair was permed in a wave.

The woman seemed familiar. Nina realized that she was Cecilia Sunford, Pierre's fiancée and the arrogant woman who had humiliated her when she was forced to undergo an abortion at the **hospital**.

When Nina saw Cecilia holding Pierre's elbow and they walked happily into the mall, she remembered the agony she had suffered in the hospital and the baby that she was forced **to lose**.

Those were cruel reminders of how the despicable coup[le had **treated her**.

Nina was furious!

had gone through so much pain and suffering because of him, but he did not seem to feel guilty

was wrenching in pain. It was not because she loved the man, but because she was disgusted that the man had

Pah!

toward the "loving" couple. She could feel her anger

did not want to be involved with the man anymore, and she was not hoping that she would receive any compensation. However, she was not going to let him off that

she wanted was justice for her

she glanced at Pierre's luxury car, her lips curled upward into an

Chapter 497 She Could Not Understand Rich People...

Even though she was stunned, Nina was not one who would be easily infatuated by handsome men.

Moreover, the man's grip was strong, and it was causing her wrist to hurt. She wanted to push him away. "Who are you, you hooligan? Why are you grabbing my wrist?"

Percy narrowed his eyes. He glanced at the mess on his younger brother's favorite car, then glanced at Nina. "Don't you know that you've already broken the law? You'll have to bear legal responsibility for vandalizing another person's car." His tone was ice-cold.

Nina did not want to admit to it. "I say, why are you such a busybody? Did you see me vandalizing the car? Let go of me now. Otherwise, I'll sue you for harassment!"

Nina had been paying attention to her surroundings when she was working on the car. No one had walked past her, and it was a blind spot for the security cameras.

She thought that she had been lucky.

Now that she was done vandalizing and no one was there to catch her in the act, all she had to do was not admit to it.

"You're still trying to deny it? I have the evidence." Percy chuckled and showed her his wristwatch.

He pressed a button, and a video played on the screen of the high-end watch. It showed the entire process of Nina vandalizing the car.

Earlier, Percy and his subordinates had just finished a routine inspection of the mall. When he walked past the parking lot, he noticed that someone was vandalizing his younger brother's car.

saw that the young female vandal had hatred and resentment in her eyes. As she sprayed Pierre's car, she was also

thought that she looked plain and immature, but her angry expression was rather animated and interesting. He was especially amused by the way the young woman

why he did not immediately stop her. Instead, he secretly recorded a video of her

under her breath when she saw the evidence Percy presented.' Damn, I was

of watch is that? It can even

I don't understand rich people...'

she was afraid and her face was beginning to turn pale, she tried her best to remain calm. "So what if you have evidence? The owner of this car has made me suffer greatly, and I'm only doing a simple act of revenge. Take me to the police if you dare. We'll see who'll get into trouble when the police

looked at Nina from the tips of her hair to the sole of her

looked young, and she was unadorned with makeup. She seemed barely legal. As far as he knew, Pierre liked voluptuous women without any substance. Since when did Pierre have a change of

his gaze lingered on Nina's

'**Hmm, she** might look young, but all the important parts are properly developed. Very properly developed, too.' "Where you are looking, you pervert?" Nina was shocked when she noticed where Percy *was looking*.

She kicked him forcefully. "Don't you have anything better to do?" 'How *brazen!*'

Percy almost broke Nina's wrist right then and **there**.

"This is the first time that a woman kicked me. Do you know what happened to the person who got violent on me?" He *said gloomily*.

"*What, did* he disable you down there?" Nina glanced at Percy's crotch mockingly while trying to endure the pain on **her wrist**.

Perhaps that was why the man was acting that *way*.

Percy suddenly laughed softly, as though Nina had told him a big joke.

Nina's heart beat faster when she saw his charming **expression**.

The man's appearance was beautiful. When he smiled, he took her *breath away*.

Nina quickly averted his gaze so that she did not have to look at that bewitching **visage**.

gritted her teeth like a gladiator. "I don't care what relationship you might have with the car owner, but I've already vandalized the car. What do you want? I'll just pay him

stopped laughing, though he was smiling curiously. "This Bugatti Veyron is my present for my younger brother. It costs thirty million dollars. You only have to pay ten percent of that." "So you're the elder brother of that animal? I can see that you're about the same as him!" Nina grunted disdainfully while calculating how much money she should

of thirty million is

'Damn!'

had taken all her money, and she did not have any savings in the bank. Where was she going to find that amount

Assault!" Nina noticed several passers-by. She yelled at them while trying to kick Percy, planning to run away while he

did not expect that Percy was extremely agile and dodged her
grabbed her collar and dragged her toward Mallory Tower, as though she was a small and
go of me. What do you want? Help..." Nina shrieked to attract the attention of the
her, Good Samaritans were rare. A couple shot a glance at Nina and went on

Chapter 498 Could It Be Bianca Rayne?

Bianca had met Percy several times, but she did not have too many interactions with him.
Percy was an excessively beautiful but sinister man. He could inspire fear even when he was smiling.
She had heard that Percy was the master of A City's criminal underworld.
Naturally, a man like him would be inhumanly cruel.

She still could not understand how Nina could have crossed Percy on her way to buy food.

Feeling extremely uneasy, she decided to give Luke a call.

Her legs were broken, and she could not go there herself.

Percy was a good friend of Luke, and Bianca thought that Luke should be able to reason with him. There
was no other way than to trouble Luke.

Bianca called Luke and told him about the situation. Luke gave his promise that he would ensure that
Nina would be safe.

Bianca could hear that Luke was in a crowded place. Occasionally, she could hear music.

you doing now, Luke? Why is it so noisy over there?" Bianca could not contain her

was standing at the most secluded corner of the hall, but music could be heard over the phone anyway.
"I'm at a party now. I'll call Percy soon and get him to release Nina. I'll immediately come back to you
after the party." "Alright. Don't drink too much," Bianca said

know. Rest well. I'll bring you and the children to a vacation after you've recovered." Luke's cold
expression became gentle when he was talking

far away, Leia noticed his loving expression. Jealousy and suspicion erupted like

closer to Luke. She deliberately hugged his elbow and said loudly, "I've been looking for you, Luke. Dad
and Mom want us to go over there. The banquet is starting soon. Everyone is waiting for

the phone, Bianca could clearly hear Leia's

she gripped her phone, she could feel pain in her heart, as though it was being pierced by countless
that Luke was only putting on an act, but she could not help but

to contain her sorrow, Bianca said to Luke gently, "You should join the banquet, Luke. Come back soon.
I'll wait

Luke could give a response, Bianca instantly
expression instantly darkened when Bianca hung up on

His gaze was filled with violence as he looked at the deliberately innocent Leia.

Leia's heart thumped hard.

Luke had seemingly morphed into a beast with its fangs bared that could tear her into pieces in an instant. Subconsciously, she began to shiver.

"*What's wrong*, Luke? Why are you looking at me with that scary gaze..." Leia bit her lip and said coyly as she hugged his elbow.

She did not expect the man to look so scary only because she had interrupted his **call**.

She was sure that he had been talking to a woman. More than that, it was a woman he cared **for**.

'Could it be Bianca Rayne?

'Is she still alive?'

When Leia arrived at that thought, all color drained from her face, and the smile on her face **stiffened**.

The destructive rage lingered on Luke's handsome face for a split second. After that, he resumed his **usual elegance**.

He discreetly distanced himself from Leia and said coldly, "My employee got into trouble with the CEO of Mallory Corporation, and I'll have to handle it now. I'm sorry, Ms. Norman, I don't think I can stay at the party anymore. I'll go and tell Old Mr. and Mrs. Norman. I hope that you can *forgive me*."

exasperated. Her woman's intuition told her that there was more behind

employee of his company got into trouble, his assistant or anyone in higher management should be able to

the CEO have to go

though she was dissatisfied, she forced a modest smile on her face." If you're busy, then you should go. Grandpa and Grandma should empathize with you. It's just that I've prepared a special segment later in the party, and I wish that you could've joined me..." "We have a long way to go ahead of us, Ms. Norman. I'm sure I'll have the chance to witness your talents in the future. Now, please excuse me,"
Luke

said goodbye to Old Mr. and Mrs. Norman, Leia held his elbow and sent him out of

their way out, everyone looked at Leia enviously. That had made Leia feel superior, not only because of her social status as the daughter of an influential politician, but also because she was together with the extraordinarily

wanted to shove away the woman who had clung to him tenaciously like

about the number of times he had to shower so that he could wash away the cloying scent of perfume on

could sense that Queenie was looking at his interactions with Leia, so he did not

could tell that Jack's wife might seem gentle and frail, but she had a

he could do was to straighten his back and let Leia walk him out while being showered with

Chapter 499 Even Luke's Smoke Rings Seem Dissatisfied!

When Luke brought Nina to the hospital ward, she still had faint streaks of tears on her face. It seemed as though she had suffered a huge fright.

Bianca was instantly furious when she saw Nina's expression.

She grabbed Nina's elbow and examined her from head to toe. "Did Percy bully you? How could that scoundrel..." She did not hide the anger in her voice.

Then, she looked at Luke with an accusatory gaze, as though blaming him for not protecting her friend.

"He didn't. Percy only pulled a prank on her. He did not do her any harm." Luke spread his arms and looked helplessly at Bianca. He did not sound like he was lying.

He was friends with Percy Mallory for many years, and he understood Percy's distant and frigid character.

Percy might be ruthless, but he had no interest in women. Violating a woman was something that he would never do.

After all, with his looks and wealth, countless women tried to court him.

If he were not interested in a woman, he would not hesitate to throw them out, even if they took off all their clothes and climbed onto his bed.

Luke did not lie

remembered that there was a beautiful woman from a wealthy family who had admired Percy for many years. One night, she sneaked her way onto his bed, but before she could touch him, he sent her flying with

only did the woman break half of her ribs, but Percy also bankrupted her family business in a fit of

made the woman the subject of ridicule in upper society, and also caused Percy's admirers to put an end to having any impure thoughts about the

could injure a woman in his anger, being his wife would be nothing but

not know that. All she knew was that her best friend had suffered a fright under

she be so frightened if Percy hadn't done anything?" She

told her niece to calm down, then poured a glass of water for Nina and gently patted the back of her hand. "At least you're back in one piece. How did you get into trouble while buying food? You have a good character. Who could have been

knew that Nina and Bianca were

The young woman had a cheerful and direct personality, which was totally different from her gentle and introverted **niece**.

Nina might be rash sometimes, but she had a kind heart. Wanda quite liked her.

"**You're** Bea's good friend, child, and I've treated you like my granddaughter, " Old Master Rayne said endearingly, "You have to tell us your troubles so that we can *help you*."

Tears welled up in Nina's eyes as she took the glass of water from Wanda. "Thank you, Grandpa Rayne and Aunt Wanda... I'm fine, Bea. Fortunately, Mr. Crawford came in time. Percy Mallory didn't do anything to me. **Really.**'

Nina was moved by the amount of genuine care the Rayne family showed her, even though they were not related **by blood**.

Her family was like a bunch of leeches. They only cared about how much money she had for them, and they would not show her an ounce of care even if she were dying from *sickness*.

"*It's* good that you're fine." Bianca breathed a sigh of relief and continued asking, 'How did you manage to cross Percy Mallory? What happened?' "I met Pierre and his fiancée at a nearby mall. After they left, I vandalized their car, but Percy caught me in the act. He detained me and asked me to compensate him with ten percent of the car's value. The car is worth thirty million dollars, and I couldn't afford to fork out three million dollars. I'm sorry, Bea, I've caused trouble for you and Mr. **Crawford...**"

Indeed, she did not have the money to pay for the brand new *Bugatti Veyron*.

Nina knew that she should not have troubled Bianca, but she had no other choice. She did not know that Bianca was acquainted with Percy, but she knew that Luke was friends with Percy. She was hoping that Bianca could talk to Luke so that Luke could ask Percy for **a discount**.

She suffered a huge fright because of Percy's horrific collection of pets in his house: menacing African pythons, glowering Tibetan mastiffs, and so on

probably hit a soft spot while they were arguing, and the man tossed her into a dark room full of snakes. Nina had a phobia of creepy- crawlies, and she almost wet

shown her that the snakes were harmless, but Nina could not forget the disgusting feeling of being wrapped by those slimy

face changed several colors after listening to what Nina had to

of how Pierre had harmed Nina and said helplessly, "You're not the one at fault, Nina. Pierre deserves to be taught a lesson. I thought you're too kind to him for only vandalizing his car; I would've doused it with gasoline and threw a lit match. Too bad that there are legal consequences for

Luke was speechless.

did not know that the gentle woman he knew could be

"Bea, I..." Nina felt bad.

thought that Bianca would reprimand her for being rash, but she did not expect that Bianca would be on

had always felt guilty about what happened to Nina because

Chapter 500 Passionate Kisses Rained On Her

Luke flicked the cigarette elegantly on the ashtray. "Find him and the mastermind, no matter what it takes."

His voice was soft and frigid. It sounded melodic but at the same time spine-chilling.

"Yes." Jason nodded.

He knew that his boss was truly angry this time.

Luke returned to the ward.

Old Master Rayne was old and in ill health. Wanda sent him home first.

Bianca comforted Nina for a while more until the latter calmed down completely. Then, she asked Jason to send her home.

Only Luke and Bianca were left in the ward.

Bianca stared at Luke. Even though he was dressed in casual clothes, his demeanor remained noble. His sculpted features became even more mysterious and charming under the light.

was dazzling, but he had attracted too

could not help but think of the coy and feminine voice while he was at

wanted to ask about that woman, but she opened her mouth and eventually decided to

had said that she would put all her trust in him. If that were the case, there was no reason for her to

noticed her hesitance. He strode over, sat down on the bed, and hugged her frail body in

had become a source of comfort for him. As long as he hugged her, he could feel warmth in his

to be a part of his blood. Every single movement affected his

you still worried about Nina? Don't worry, Percy did not harm her, except for scaring her for a bit. With me around, Percy won't go overboard," Luke said as he hugged Bianca endearingly. He thought that he was still worried

I know. Thank you for today." Bianca hugged him tightly as though she was afraid of losing

Bianca very well. He could tell that she was afraid of something when she was hugging him so

He lifted her chin, and indeed, he saw a hint of sorrow in her clear *eyes*.

He was taken aback, but he suddenly remembered that Leia had interjected when he was on a phone call with Bianca at **the party**.

He landed passionate kisses one after another on Bianca's forehead.

As he kissed her, he explained, "It's Old Mrs. Norman's birthday today, and I went to attend her party at the Norman residence. When I was talking to you on the phone, the female voice you heard belonged to Leia. She was hugging my elbow, but I've already taken multiple showers before I got here. I've already cleaned myself of her scent. You can smell me. Do I smell of *shower cream*?"

Luke explained seriously. He rolled up his sleeves and put his forearm next to her nose. Bianca felt a lot better after listening to his *explanation*.

She took Luke's hand, caressed his slender fingers, and smiled gently. "I trust you. I've said before that I trust you no matter what you do, and I won't be easily suspicious like before. It's just that I can't help but feel uneasy even though I know that you're only putting up an act. I guess love is like that; I hope to possess your everything, and I'd feel jealous even if someone were to look at **you**."

Love is a strange thing. It joins the passionate hearts of two people and plants a curse between them. Sometimes love is sweet as mulled wine, but sometimes it is bitter like medicine. A person in love experiences happiness and bliss, but at the same time pain and agony.

Luke caressed Bianca's delicate cheek. Her skin was so smooth that he could not spot any *pores*.

After planting a deep kiss on her cheek, he promised to her, "I know that you're feeling uneasy now, but I'm feeling the same too. Every second spent putting on an act with that woman is agony. After I settle this, I'll hold a magnificent wedding ceremony for you, and you'll finally become Mrs. Crawford." "Mm." Bianca buried her head in his chest. She was smiling like a blooming flower. 1

next day, the twins clamored to visit their mother in

Luke brought them to the hospital.

held her brother's hand and stood timidly in front of her mother's bed. Her pink and tender face was stained with

called out, and her tears fell like two

Bianca beckoned at her daughter.

came in front of her, Bianca wiped away her tears. "Don't cry, my darling. Mommy's

was only five years old, and she nonetheless felt uneasy about seeing her mother injured. When she saw her mother's legs in a plaster cast, she bit her lower lip

guilty about causing her mother to be hurt. If she had not insisted on going to the bathroom, her mother would not have to be run over by a

and her twin brother lacked a mother's love since they were young. Bianca's appearance in their lives filled that gap in

her mother, but she had caused her mother to be run over by