

Be Gentle 521

Chapter 521 There Will Be A Massive Storm

Bianca had never seen Luke being embarrassed. She could not help but take a dig at him. "I expected that you'd be an ace student since you're young, but..."

She shifted her gaze onto the test papers with single-digit scores.

The two children covered their mouths and giggled as they looked at their father.

They had never seen such low grades before.

In kindergarten, the lowest-scoring student in their class at least had a double-digit score. They had never seen a single-digit score before.

"Daddy, Big Bro and I both scored 100 marks in the test last week. We always get 100 marks!" Rainie looked at her father smugly as she chewed on gummy candy.

"Daddy, Mommy says that you have a doctorate from Harvard University. Why are your grades so bad? You even left this essay blank..." Lanie pointed at Luke's writing test and looked at him slyly.

"That's because you've never seen what I can do when I work really hard. When I got to high school. I'm always at the top of my grade, and no one could ever beat me. When I was working on my doctorate, even my supervisor was impressed by my performance." Luke snatched the test papers over and told them about his glamorous academic past.

He was slightly frustrated at himself for keeping his elementary and middle school test papers. He should have destroyed the evidence long ago.

"Is that so?" The two cute children looked at their father, not ready to believe him.

Luke was speechless when he saw the suspicious gazes of his children. He was not going to quibble with them.

in front of his children made him truly feel that he was in a

Daddy is blushing!" Rainie pulled her brother's arm, pointed at Luke's reddish face,

You're even making fun of your

grabbed Rainie and lifted her high in the air, which caused her to shriek in delight. "Ahh! So high! Bad Daddy! I won't make fun of you anymore, put me

warmth in her heart when she saw Luke and the twins

the lively and

her heart wrenched when she thought about the engagement

It would be a massive storm.

o'clock the next morning, the sun was shining

rays of sunlight shone into the bedroom through the
opened her eyes, she was greeted by a sea of

The environment was comfortable and tranquil. It did not have the bustle and noise of the **city**.

Bianca wanted to move but could not. She was pressed tightly against the man's *chest*.

Luke's arms hugged her waist. She could not move *a muscle*.

Bianca blushed when she thought of the intimate scenes from the night *before*.

After more than two months, her legs were almost fully recovered, and Luke was finally permitted to have his fill. As much as he tried to restrain himself in consideration of Bianca's injuries and the baby in her womb, Bianca was nonetheless worn out from the exercise.

Bianca felt sore and pain all over her body, as though she had been run over by a car. She wondered if it was a good idea for the man to restrain his urges for so *long*!

Luke was still sleeping, but his long and muscular legs were kept far away from Bianca's injured right leg. That showed the amount of care the man had *for her*.

Bianca carefully looked at Luke's sleeping face. Sharp and bold, it was an extremely handsome **face**.

His sleeping face was extremely charming. His long eyelashes drooped like little **fans**.

Bianca looked at him obsessively. She could not help but touch his facial features and think that the father of her children was extremely **handsome**.

Luke had always been a light sleeper, and he was alert whenever he slept. He abruptly opened her eyes and instantly saw that petite, fair, and beautiful face.

"Good morning." Luke's gaze turned gentle. He looked at Bianca's dry lips with a loving gaze and gently touched them. "Are you thirsty? I'll go get a glass of water *for you*."

draped his pajamas over his body, got out of bed, and poured a glass of warm water

when he was about to hand the glass to her, his phone started

glanced at the call notification but did not instantly answer it. Instead, he watched as Bianca finished the glass

seeing that Bianca's lips were moistened, he went out of the room to answer the

he returned, he told Bianca that he had to go out for a

serious expression, Bianca thought that the Norman family was telling Luke to hurry to the engagement
expression sank a little, but she did not ask any questions. Instead, she nodded

was in a hurry. He did not explain his reasons to Bianca. After brushing his teeth, washing his face, and putting on his clothes, he quickly drove

ready at about

Bianca and the children had their breakfast, she helped the children with their homework in the living room. Luke came back to the

Chapter 522 That Made Bianca Even More Surprised!

Bianca carefully observed Luke. His sculpted face was handsome and exquisite, his bewitching eyes were narrow and icy, and he exuded a unique masculine charm.

That face undoubtedly belonged to Luke Crawford. Bianca would never forget that face.

However, Bianca wondered why that familiar face would give her such an unfamiliar sensation.

Luke also stared at Bianca without saying a word. His gaze was profound as it landed on her fair and petite face.

The man was Gordan Norton, who had disappeared for the past few months. He was currently wearing the same face as Luke Crawford, and he was observing Bianca and the two children in the mansion with some interest.

"Luke?" Bianca asked doubtfully when she saw that he did not say anything.

Her instincts told her that something was not quite right about the man.

"Luke" reflexively touched his face and smiled ambiguously when he saw Bianca's shocked gaze upon him. "Mm," he replied.

The two children did not notice anything strange about the curious interaction between the adults.

Seeing that her father was back home, Rainie rushed over and wanted to ask for a hug. "Daddy..."

Before she could take two steps, Bianca grabbed onto her arm.

She looked at the man from head to toe once more. "He's not your Daddy, Rainie," she said sternly. "Are you saying, Mommy? He is my Daddy!" Rainie's eyes opened wide as she stared at her "Daddy" in the living room. He did not say a word. He remained silent, apparently in his

thought. He stood up, extended his right hand, and spoke, "It's my pleasure to meet you." Bianca was even more shocked when she heard the man's voice. She did not shake hands with him. "Did the man look extremely similar to Luke Crawford, but his voice was the same. Even twins could look and sound

like him but you are..." It took Bianca a long time before she found her voice.

She took her right hand and shook hands with Gordan. "You look exactly like Luke. This

is my brother." "Of course. I had to redo my face to match his. Of course we look alike. I still think that I'm more handsome, cool, and manly than Luke Crawford though. Don't you think so, Sis? My name's Gordan

at Bianca playfully, which made Bianca

She had never seen Luke wink at her with a serious face, and she could not help but *giggle*.

Luke probably had told her about Gordan before, and he said that Gordan was the reason they went to the peach garden. However, she stayed in the suite and did not meet **Gordan**.

She found out that Gordan was a master swindler, and his face was disfigured because he had crossed an Italian mafia boss.

She had thought that the man deserved pity, but perhaps that was not **the case**.

Gordan might have the same face and voice as Luke, but their personalities were total *opposites*.

Luke was cold and aloof, but the man was outgoing and playful. He was not depressed like how Bianca expected a disfigured **man would**.

"I think that Luke is more handsome." Bianca did not show any courtesy to *Gordan*.

To her, Luke was irreplaceable, even if someone looked exactly like *him*.

"Is that so?" Gordan shrugged. "You're saying that on *purpose*!"

Bianca stared at Gordan again. She could not help but ask the question that she wanted to ask for a long time. "Did Luke ask you to change your appearance because you're the key factor in solving the problem of the CD? n

Before Bianca could finish the question, Gordan was impressed by the speed at which she had arrived at the conclusion. 'You're very smart, Sis!' He thought.

When Gordan first saw Bianca, she was dressed plainly and did not wear any makeup. He thought that the woman looked too young and naive, like a college student.

was quite surprised that the calculative and wise Luke would find such a simple woman to be

did not expect that the plain-looking woman was intelligent

was a master of disguise. As Luke Crawford, he had sat in the CEO's office of T Corporation. Jason, Luke's most trusted assistant, and Mavis did not notice that he was a

did not know that women are especially astute and sensitive toward the men they

loved Bianca, and his affections would naturally flow from his

without saying a word, Bianca could feel the warmth in

when Gordan looked at Bianca, he was analyzing and judging her. There was no affection in those cold and composed eyes, and that had made

At the hotel.

lavish red carpet extended from outside to the interior of the hotel. Many reporters and paparazzi were already waiting on

the hotel lobby. There were important politicians and officials, elite businessmen, and celebrities from the

the engagement ceremony of Luke Crawford, the CEO of T Corporation, and Leia Norman, the daughter of Jack

two very influential families in A City. Everyone wanted to curry favor with

Chapter 523 Queenie Was Angry, Frustrated, and Distressed

Like a proud princess, Leia held Luke's elbow and walked along the soft red carpet into the hall.

All the guests were gathered there.

Luke smiled elegantly and nodded at the people who greeted him.

He pressed his lips in response to the congratulatory messages, but there was a hint of mockery in his smile.

Countless cameras captured the loving scene, bearing witness to the union of the two influential families.

The Crawford and Norman families sat at separate tables. Every one of them was joyous.

Old Master Crawford, dressed in a navy blue suit, seemed to be in good spirits. The joy on his face was evident. 1

Originally, he had thought that his grandson would not proceed with the engagement after negotiations failed. That had made him unreasonably angry.

He was a control freak. He even thought of resorting to underhanded means so that his grandson would comply. 1

To him, a union of the Crawford and Norman families could only bring them benefits. He would not allow Luke to give up the opportunity for another woman.

He had even hired someone to take him by force, but before that person could make a move, Luke had returned to Crawford Manor, said that he had thought it through, decided that monetary benefits were more important than love, and would proceed with the engagement.

Old Master Crawford was overjoyed.

unhappy person in the hall was

at the impeccably dressed Luke and was deep

in formal clothes, Luke was more handsome and mature than usual. No one in the hall looked as noble as

Queenie had an ominous feeling that made her

her daughter, was holding that man's elbow. Her eyes exuded pure bliss, and one could easily see that she was irredeemably in

the opposite. He should be happy at his engagement ceremony, but he seemed indifferent. There was not a single hint of a smile on his

man's heart did not belong to her daughter at

Leia was obsessed with that man and would not listen to

sighed. As Leia's mother, all she hoped was that Luke would not make her daughter sad. She would support her daughter so that Leia could have a place in the

and Leia stepped up to the circular stage in the middle of

was decorated with bouquets of flowers. A golden microphone was placed in

was a famous personality in

His congratulatory words and witty quips earned him thunderous *applause*.

The emcee handed the microphone to *Luke*.

Luke stepped away from Leia and stood in the center of the *stage*.

Camera flashes illuminated the man's handsome features.

At that moment, Leia was **very nervous**.

She did not expect Luke to confess his affection for her like what he did to Bianca, but she hoped that Luke would at least say something nice. 1

They knew each other for a very long time. They had only become a couple relatively recently, but she thought that it had been a long time. She could not wait to marry him.

Today, they would be engaged!

Leia tried to maintain her calm. Her heart was thumping hard, and at the same time, she felt ecstatic.

If the most outstanding man in A City would go down on one knee and propose to her, that would be an extremely **envious event**.

Leia looked at him with a gentle and loving gaze.

Her heart was at her throat when she thought of how he was going to propose to her. Her hands clenched her dress tightly, and she did not realize that her dress was *crumpled*.

was cold. He shot a glance at Leia and did not even look at her eyes. Then, he turned to look at the

the microphone and started speaking with his pleasant and resonant voice. "Thank you, everyone, for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend my engagement ceremony. I would like to announce

could not hide her joy when she heard

she saw Luke's right hand dip into his pants pocket, her face was brimming with

must be taking out a

of them had chosen the engagement ring together. It was a big diamond with a unique
a deep breath to prepare herself for what was to come. She composed herself, flashed the brightest
smile, took several steps forward, and stood next

Luke placed his hands into his pockets and did not take anything out. Leia was quite disappointed
she have to wait a little

She was burning with anxiety!

shot a glance at Leia's face again. She could feel her scalp

Luke's resonant voice rang out in every corner of

Chapter 524 Bianca Is My Weakness!

When Leia looked at Luke's icy gaze and heard the whispers among the guests, she realized that the man
was not joking!

No one would make such a tasteless joke at their own engagement ceremony.

Leia's face turned pale at an instant.

She did not expect that sudden turn of events at all.

She was expecting bliss, but it turned out to be ridicule.

All her hope had turned into despair!

She stiffly lifted her dress, walked in front of Luke, and begged him softly, "Luke, we've never quarreled
or fought. If there's a problem, treat it as all my fault. If you don't like any aspect of me. I'll change for
you, alright? Don't call off the engagement. After we're engaged, you can do anything you want.
Please... there are so many guests and media reporters here. I don't know what they'd say. Can't you
spare some dignity for me and my family?"

Leia had a pitiful expression as she stared at Luke. Tears were almost falling from her eyes.

She admitted that she loved the man in an undignified way.

However, she still clung to the hope that the man would change his mind and continue with the
engagement.

face was frigid. He leaned close to Leia's ear. To others, he was whispering sweet nothings to
could hear every cruel word. "Do you think that I really want to marry you, Ms. Norman? If you hadn't
threatened me with the CD, would I have bothered to put up this act? To tell you the truth, every
minute and every second spent with you was agony. My only wife shall be Bianca Rayne. You're not
worthy of

a chill from the top of her head to the tips of her toes.

were trembling, and her voice was shaking. "Do you mean... all your affection toward me is all

remained impassive. The slight mockery on his lips

Leia needed to know. 1

seemed to guess what the man was trying to say. She continued, "You know everything. You know that I've threatened Bianca to leave A City with the CD. You don't want to hurt her, so you pretended to be my boyfriend and even promised to marry me. Everything that you have done leads up to your revenge today. You want to humiliate me in front of everyone, right?"

was profoundly dark, like a frozen pond. When he looked at Leia, she could feel chills coursing down her very smart, Ms. Norman. You know that Bianca is my weakness, and that's why you threaten her with the CD. She loves me deeply, and she would not burden me with troubles, but you've miscalculated, and I ended up knowing the truth. Of course, with your current status, you can do anything you want in A City, but you shouldn't have tried to meddle in Bianca's relationship with me, and you shouldn't have used such underhanded tactics to make me marry

froze Leia's blood. Her face was pale, and her body was

He knew everything. 1

She had been so stupid. She thought that the scant affection that he showed her was genuine, but everything was *a sham!*

Other than despair and agony, Leia felt the anger of *humiliation!*

The socialite circle in A City was not very big, and the Normans and Crawfords were renowned families. The media had considered Luke Crawford and Leia Norman to be a match made in **heaven**.

Leia did not know how to handle the big "surprise" Luke had **given her**.

She had humbled herself because of love, and what she got in return was humiliation and *betrayal!*

The hall was deathly silent.

Everyone's gazes fell upon the couple on the stage. Some were shocked, some were mocking, some were sympathetic, and some were amused...

Jack abruptly stood up from his seat and quickly walked in front of the stage.

He glared at Luke and spoke harshly, "If you have no feelings for Leia, you should have said that earlier, and we can cancel the engagement in private. What's the meaning of you announcing your intentions at the ceremony? Do you think that you can bully my daughter, or do you think that you can afford to cross the Norman family?"

rare that Provincial Committee Secretary Norman lost his temper in public. After all, he was known for being friendly

how angry his speech and demeanor were, they know that he had truly lost his

The cameras pointed toward his face.

the same time, the reporters wondered if T Corporation would suffer because their CEO had offended the Normans in

sorry, Mr. Norman, I've thought long and hard before reaching this painful decision, but I have to honestly say that I'm not a match for your daughter. I will compensate for your losses, but I cannot allow this mistake to continue." Luke might sound apologetic, but his expression was one of

angrier. He grabbed Leia's elbow and announced to the media, "The engagement is canceled today because my Leia can't be bothered to marry Mr. Crawford. My daughter deserves a better man! I'd like to see how you will get another wife, Luke Crawford!"

was quite impressed with the talented young man, but Luke had disappointed him instead. Not only had he humiliated Leia in public, but he had given such a

Jack was extremely disappointed!

my wife. We're no match for the Crawford family's exquisite tastes! This shall be the end of the relationship between the Norman and the Crawford families!" Old Mr. Norman stood up angrily from his seat, dusted his sleeves, and prepared to leave with

Old Master Crawford wanted to stop them

Chapter 525 Luke Was Brought Away!

After the people from the Norman family left, the media reporters flocked to Luke. They bombarded him with questions, and their cameras did not stop flashing!

"Mr. Crawford, will the cancellation of the engagement today negatively affect the relationship between the Crawford and the Norman families?" "Mr. Crawford, it goes without saying that you are the perfect match for Ms. Norman. What is the real reason for the cancellation of the engagement?" "Mr. Crawford, T Corporation will be launching a series of products soon. Aren't you worried that the cancellation might affect its sales?-

The reporters shoved their microphones in Luke's face. Their cameras accurately captured his expression.

Luke loosened his tie, and his Adam's apple moved. The impatience on his sculpted face was evident.

His grandfather had passed out. He was not in the mood to deal with all the reporters.

He shot an icy gaze toward the reporters that were taking his photos.

Instantly, everyone fell silent.

Luke was the renowned Cold-Faced Devil in the business world. He might look gentlemanly, but everyone knew that he was merciless. His gaze was like that of an angry beast, and it sent chills down people's spines.

Several reporters even subconsciously took a few steps back.

Everyone could sense the hostility that emanated from his body.

in from all directions and shoved the reporters away, making way for Luke that, Jason handled the chaotic seated in a guest seat. A faint smile appeared on her face as she observed the delicate hands fondled the crystal wine glass as though fondling the body of her beloved lifted her glass, smiled beautifully, and toasted her
It was the perfect ending.

was happier than her that the engagement ceremony was called
Leia Norman was out of the picture, only Bianca Rayne remained as
sank a little when she thought of
woman did not have an elevated social status like Leia, but she was a
However, she had the time. 1

Every woman had her weakness.

Mavis believed that she would be able to make Bianca *leave Luke*.

She was the only woman who deserved to stand by Luke's **side. 2**

At the Norman residence.

After Leia arrived home, she instantly locked herself in her room and refused to see anyone, even Queenie, who repeatedly banged on the door.

Queenie knew that her daughter could be obstinate at times. She was afraid that Leia might do something stupid, and she got Jack to pry the door *open*.

Leia was lying silently on her bed. Her face was as pale as **a ghost**.

A sharp fruit knife was aimed at *her wrist*.

There was an obvious gash on her wrist. It was bleeding, but it was only skin deep...

"*Leia!*" Queenie shrieked in panic and quickly snatched the knife from her daughter's hand. She turned around and screamed at Jack, "Why are you standing there like an idiot? Quickly go and get antiseptic and bandages for **your daughter!**"

Jack was not happy about the situation. He frowned and went to fetch the **first-aid kit**.

embarrassing it was for a Norman to commit suicide just because of a

daughter should have been more strong-willed and dignified than that. Even if Luke had called off the engagement, the best way to deal with it was to live glamorously and proudly so that he would eventually regret his decision. She should not have attempted to give up her life because of a man.

What idiocy!

felt sorry for her daughter but was also disappointed by how fragile

can you be so silly, Leia? What should I do if something happens to you? I don't want to lose you!"

Queenie hugged Leia tightly. Warm tears fell onto Leia's neck, but they could not warm her

was not in a good

though her mother was crying, she replied numbly, "Mom, Luke doesn't want me, he doesn't want

was angry when she heard that her daughter was still thinking of

still thinking about that heartless man?" The usually soft-spoken Queenie was scolding Leia loudly. "If he had a shred of affection for you, he wouldn't have humiliated you in public. Haven't you seen his true colors? I've already warned you that you shouldn't get too close to him, but you don't listen, and I turn out to be right. I've been wondering why he would suddenly break up with that Bianca Rayne and want to marry you. It turns out to be a ploy! He's gone

her head. Her gaze was cold

shuddered. She had never seen her gentle and sensible daughter exhibit that look on her face. 1 "This isn't over yet, Leia. Your Dad and Mom will make sure that the Crawfords receive their just desserts," Queenie said

Chapter 526 Luke Crawford Is Too Arrogant!

Luke faced the people from the Public Integrity Committee with an indifferent expression. He loosened his tie and ignored them.

A group of bodyguards surrounded him and prepared to escort him away.

"Hold it right there, Mr. Crawford! You are suspected to be involved in a major bribery case. Please cooperate with us and follow us back to the headquarters for investigation."

Amid the tumult, a young officer squeezed past the crowd and stood in Luke's way.

Jason was standing next to Luke.

He wore a pair of gold-rimmed glasses and smiled gently, but the words that came out of his mouth were a stark contrast to his expression. "Mind your words, Sir. Mr. Crawford has always been honest in his dealings, and slander is a serious crime."

Jason quickly sized up the officer from the Public Integrity Committee. He seemed young, perhaps in his mid-twenties, and he had a round and plump face. Jason could tell that he was a new recruit.

He could not help but be impressed by how that newbie yelled at his boss.

The young officer was furious when he saw that Luke was ignoring him." Luke Crawford! Do you think that you're still T Corporation's CEO? You're a criminal now. Please cooperate with us with our investigations!"

sank all of

you would like to arrest our CEO, please show us the warrant of arrest!" He said coldly, "If you don't have any documents, how dare you, a lowly officer, barge into

shot a glance at the officer's plump face. Without saying a word, he prepared to get into

to visit his grandfather at the hospital. He did not want to waste his time with those people, much less a young officer's rank was not high enough to meet him, much less take him away for investigations.

everything went according to plan, Gordan should be at the Public Integrity Committee headquarters by him helping, Luke had nothing to worry

young officer saw that Luke was about to walk away, he reached out and wanted to grab him. "How dare you not show any respect to public officers? Don't leave and follow me!" "Let me warn you, our CEO is a very busy man, and his time is more precious than yours. If you don't have any evidence, I can sue you for harassment. Our CEO doesn't have the time to waste on your tomfoolery!" Jason said

he saw that the young officer was about to grab his boss's hand, Jason quickly grabbed his wrist and pinched a certain point. With a crack, the officer's wrist was dislocated from its

have a warrant of arrest, produce it now. Otherwise, please leave. Watch your manners when you're in T Corporation!" Louis, who was following behind them,

After Jason broke the officer's wrist, he grabbed his collar and tossed him *aside*.

"How arrogant! All of you shall be charged!" The young officer gritted his teeth as he grabbed his wrist, though he did not stop **cursing**.

A man in his thirties who looked more dependable and mature stood in front *of them*.

"Mr. Crawford, I apologize that we have to disturb you during your working hours, but we have received orders from the higher-ups that we need to bring you back for an investigation. Please cooperate with us. Otherwise, we will have to use force," *he said*.

Luke glanced at that man impatiently with his cold *gaze*.

He waved his hand slightly, and the bodyguards instantly surrounded the officers. Meanwhile, Luke sat in his **Rolls-Royce**.

The officers were furious!

Luke was too arrogant!

Jason drove the car steadily.

picked out a sheet from a stack of newspapers and handed it to Luke." Today's paper,

browsed through the newspaper with a

bulged on Luke's forehead. Jason almost could not tolerate his awesome

Jason could not help but shudder.

older than Luke, and he had worked for his current boss for many years, but he found it hard to remain calm when his boss

on the television in

channel in the city was reporting on Leia's attempted suicide. Not only that, but they also reported on Luke's past relationship with her, how Luke had harbored another woman in secret, Leia's grievances for being dumped unceremoniously, and so on.

television, Leia was lying dispiritedly on a

was wrapped in bandages. She cried as she spoke to the reporters, "My love for him is genuine, and I've given him my everything. I love him more than I love myself, and I would give up my life for him. I didn't expect him to treat me this way, but this is what I get. I don't blame him. I can only blame myself for not being able to convince him to walk down the aisle with me. Even so, I'd like to tell him this: No matter how you treat me, I will always love you, and I'll be here waiting

tearful lament evoked pity in millions of

Chapter 527 Big Changes Are Coming To A City...

In the hospital.

"Unforgivable! This is unforgivable!" Right after Old Master Crawford came to, he saw that every channel on the television was reporting negatively on his grandson. He was so angry that he flung the bowl of medicine that the nurse brought in.

The black liquid splashed all over the floor.

The nurse stood there stiffly and helplessly, not sure what to do.

"You've just woken up, Father. The doctor said that you shouldn't be emotionally agitated..." Susan was trying her best to comfort his father-in-law, but she was laughing up her sleeve, i

Her decades-long existence in the Crawford family was fraught with misery. She blamed Old Master Crawford for not controlling his son.

If Old Master Crawford had been strict with Zachary, he would not have been so brazen to bring Allison back home.

What was worse than accepting Allison into the family was that the old man had allowed that b*stard child to take over the family business.

control over T Corporation was almost total. Susan, the legitimate Mrs. Crawford, and Louis, the legitimate son, only had a measly percentage and not even the

had always been angry and resentful toward Old Master Crawford, but she was helpless to do

devoted her life to serving the Crawfords, and she had never done anything to betray them. When she first married Zachary, she had even convinced her father to invest in Crawford Industries. Part of T Corporation's success could be attributed to

she did not get anything despite her contributions. Why should she have to suffer such vindicated when she saw her father-in-law lying sick in bed because of Luke's

suddenly stood up from her chair and yelled at Susan, "I say, Susan Armstrong, what's the meaning of this? You know that Father is in a bad mood, yet you purposely turn on the television and show him such disturbing news. What are you thinking? How pretentious. You pretend to be filial, but you're much more malicious than anyone else!" "Pah!" Susan sneered and retorted, "Father said that he's bored staying in the hospital with nothing to do, so what if I turn on the television to entertain him? Is it my fault that I want to cheer him up a little? I didn't expect that your son's sordid news would be all over the TV. Your son has really done it this time, Allison Tanner. He called off his engagement with Jack Norman's daughter in public. Mr. Norman might be forgiving, but even he would not tolerate this humiliating episode. Hah, I'm sure that Mr. Norman will take his revenge, and big changes will come to A very frustrated about her son's public rejection of

that Susan was mocking her son brazenly, she became even angrier." I can't help it if Leia Norman loves my son. He's too outstanding! He can afford to reject her love, and she still loves him anyway! What can he do about it? Unlike your son. He messes around with women, but they're all low-grade trash! How can your son compare to my

nurse listened to the argument while wiping the black liquid medicine with a

She thought that the high life was glamorous and extravagant, just like how romance novels portrayed it. She had not expected that politics between two women could be so intense.

She realized that not any random woman could enjoy the high life. If they did not know how to scheme, they might be *eaten alive*.

Susan could not find a retort to Allison's words.

She had emphasized the seriousness of Luke's rejection, but Allison had somehow turned that into how outstanding her son was.

What a shameless woman!

Susan turned around and looked at her son, who was sitting next to Old Master Crawford while playing a game on his iPad. She pinched his ear and said angrily, "Louis, aren't you dating the governor's second daughter now? Bring her home tomorrow. If she's not bad, then you'd better propose to her. I want a grandchild!" "..." Louis was *speechless*.

He was only sitting there minding his own business. How did he get involved in their argument?

"*I'm still* young, Mom. Can't this matter wait for two more years..." Louis saw that his mother was glaring fiercely at him, and his tone became sheepish. "I know. Mom. I'll bring her home some time soon so that you can look at her."

Louis was thinking was, Tm not going to bring that woman

had the looks and the figure, but she was a bad-tempered control freak. He could not stand being

her son's shoulder, satisfied by his answer. She shot a disdainful glance at Allison. "Hmm, isn't my son talented? He can even court the governor's daughter. She's the real daughter of the governor, unlike some girl picked up from the orphanage!" "You..." Allison was at a loss

had just broken up with the daughter of the Provincial Committee Secretary, but Susan's son was dating the governor's daughter. She gritted her teeth with

Crawford cooled down when he heard that his second grandson was dating a

why didn't you tell us that you're dating someone? Bring your girlfriend home some time, and let us check her out. You're not young anymore, and your elder brother is going to have his third child. You should learn to settle

grandson had disappointed him greatly, and he had to place his hopes on his

"I know, Grandpa..." Louis replied reluctantly.

'Hell if I know!'

Chapter 528 Why Would "Luke Crawford" Turn Himself In?

The setting sun was like a burning flame, shrouding the lake surface with color and lighting up the mansion like the scene of a dream.

Bianca sat peacefully next to the artificial lake, resting her cheek on her hands. She felt bored as she looked at the fish swimming in the lake.

The nurse quietly stood by her side.

A string of footsteps walking toward Bianca broke the silence.

Bianca saw Luke walking toward her while facing away from the sun. She smiled happily, but her tone was doubtful. "Why are you back so early?"

Bianca knew that Luke had been very busy lately. He would usually come home almost close to midnight, and sometimes he would reek of alcohol because of the business dinners he had to attend. She felt sorry for him.

The nurse nodded politely when she saw her employer approach. Then, she discreetly went away and gave the space to the lovers.

Luke walked in front of Bianca's rattan chair and sat down.

He loved to hug her in his arms. He thought that it was an intimate action.

soft and fragrant body was

saw the news today. I didn't expect that Leia would attempt suicide. Are we in the wrong?" A hint of guilt flashed in Bianca's eyes as she looked at

her small hand, caressed her smooth hair, furrowed his brows, and sighed slightly. "She brought this upon herself, and she only has herself to blame. It's not like she doesn't know that I have no affection for her, but she insists on clinging to me. There's no reasoning with

hugged his neck and said worriedly, "The incident at the engagement ceremony will ruin the relationship between the Crawford and Norman families. Now that the public opinion is against you, it'll negatively affect T Corporation. Mr. and Mrs. Norman love their daughter so much, and they definitely won't take this lying down. I'm afraid that they might find trouble with T Corporation, and there's still that CD. I'm afraid that Leia would do something rash in her desperation. She might hand the CD to the authorities or expose it through

without saying that civilians should not cross people with

matter how wealthy a civilian might be, they would not have the influence or clout of

be the leader of T Corporation, a multinational company with immense financial resources, but he was only a businessman, and he was not as powerful as Jack

how big his corporation might be, it would all amount to nothing if he was found guilty of

is a self-centered woman. Do you think that she would commit suicide? It's all just an act to garner attention. As for the CD, don't worry about it. It's all within control. Even if Leia exposes the contents of the CD, I have a countermeasure for it. The worst thing that could happen is a dip in our share prices, but that won't last for too long. Financial losses are nothing; I'll make that money back

"Bea, I'm not afraid of anything, but I'm afraid that you're hurt when you're with me. I'll give you a legal status in the future, and you can stand proudly by my **side**."

Luke's low and resonant voice was like fine wine. His earnest feelings were reflected in his **eyes**.

Bianca lifted her head to meet his gaze. What she saw was a bottomless abyss from which endless **love sparked**.

"I'm not hurt, really. Even if I don't have a status, I'm happy as long as I'm with you. To me, loving someone means loving, tolerating, and trusting their everything. I don't need a reason to love you." Bianca smiled brightly as she leaned onto Luke. Her eyes were charming and beautiful like crescent moons.

Luke kissed her lips and held her *hand*.

The man's hand was bony and solid, while hers was soft *and smooth*.

The man's fingertips were warm, but hers were slightly cool.

The contrast between the big and small hands **was perfect**.

It was symbolic of their love. No matter what their differences might be or how many obstacles there were, they did not let go of each other.

At the Public Integrity Committee headquarters.

officers in uniform, one male and one female, were seated at a round conference

man was in his thirties. He seemed stern and

woman was in her late twenties. She was not very beautiful, but her demeanor was quite

was sitting in front of them. Currently, he had a brazen grin on his face, and his legs were crossed. Occasionally, he would cast a seductive wink at the female officer. The male officer wanted to

was rare for the female officer to meet such a handsome and elegant man. His skin was smooth and perfect, like a

have been charmed if not for her strong mental

a menace!' She cursed in

you said true, Luke Crawford? If the investigations prove that your statement is false, do you know that it is a serious crime to take the fall for someone else?" The male officer said

had many doubts. They had received incriminating evidence that Luke Crawford of T Corporation had given a bribe to the former City Secretary that had fallen from grace. Even before the media got hold of the news, someone with almost the same name as Luke Crawford surrendered himself to the Public Integrity Committee and said that the man who had bribed Mr. Schmidt

Chapter 529 The Man In Front of Him Is A Devil!

They were in utter disbelief when they found out that the man in the conference room was not Luke Crawford, the CEO of T Corporation, but Luke Crawford, the general manager of a medium-scale company.

'How uncanny!

'How could two people look and sound so alike, and how could their names be so suspiciously similar?'

With the facts laid in front of them, they had no choice but to believe it.

Half an hour later, a group of police officers entered the conference room, bringing with them the disgraced Mr. Schmidt in handcuffs.

Peyton Schmidt was a man in his fifties. He still carried the demeanor of someone in a position of power for a long time, but his face was haggard, his eyes were lifeless, and his body was shriveled. It seemed that prison life took a toll on his physical and mental health.

"Look at that man, Peyton Schmidt. Is he the Luke Crawford whom you have dealings with?" The male officer asked sternly.

Peyton lifted his head weakly and started to carefully examine the handsome and cavalier man in front of him.

When Peyton looked at that face, his clouded eyes sparkled to life.

Scenes from the past flashed in his mind.

Over the years, he had accepted bribes from countless people.

lost count of the amount of ill-gotten gains

had used certain tactics to prevent himself from being exposed as well as implicate everyone who had

had secretly recorded every act of

not remember most of the people who had bribed him, except for Luke Crawford, who had left a lasting

not only because Luke Crawford was the youngest person who had bribed him, but the young man also had an unforgettably

ago, Peyton was the City Secretary of A City, and his future was

young and handsome man had come to look for him with a briefcase full of

man was polite, intelligent, and eloquent. His goal was to acquire several plots of

experienced politician, Mr. Schmidt knew that the tea leaves were but a

was even more surprised when he saw the neat stacks of banknotes under the tea leaves. That was five

Peyton could only find it incredible!

He had asked the young man the purpose of acquiring those plots of land. Without skipping a beat, the young man said that he intended to go into the property business. He wanted to build high-class residential units and a large-scale commercial **center**.

Peyton had wondered if the young man was insane. It would be a waste of five million dollars to acquire those barren plots of land and develop **them!**

Those plots of land were very far away from the city center, and surrounding them was nothing but muddy marshland. How was he going to develop it into a commercial *center*?

Peyton had planned to build a wastewater treatment center **there**.

However, he was only in charge of receiving the bribes and changing the zoning.

All he had to do was take the money and grant the plots to Luke. He did not have to care why Luke wanted those plots of land.

Moreover, Peyton did not stay in A City for long. In a little more than a year, he managed to pull some connections and got himself promoted to the capital. His influence began to spread there, and he stopped paying attention to A City.

Several years passed in the blink of an eye, and subway lines extended toward the outskirts. The plots of land that Luke acquired happened to be at the intersection of several subway lines and a BRT terminal. Because of that, multiple developers began to scramble for those unremarkable plots of land.

However, it was already too late. Luke had already controlled 90% of that area.

The other developers could only lament that they did not have *the foresight*.

In a short few years, the barren land was developed into a bustling area of tall skyscrapers and buildings with unique facades. Thanks to Luke's leadership, it had become one of the busiest new commercial areas in A City. Flagship stores of major international brands were everywhere, leading the forefront of urban **life**.

ago, average housing prices in the area were only about eight or

average prices of the high-class residential properties were around one hundred thousand and were

ten years, property prices of that area increased by

though Peyton was in the capital, he would occasionally pay attention to the development of A City. He was impressed by Luke's foresight, and he did not expect that the young man's far-reaching vision would cause T Corporation to expand

someone exposed Peyton's misdeeds in an act of revenge, and he was sentenced

thought that he would never be able to return to A City, but he did not expect to be brought to A City from the capital a few days ago. The police wanted him to confirm that the young man before him was the Luke Crawford who had bribed him ten

a strong impression of Luke Crawford, and he could instantly tell that the young man was indeed the Luke Crawford who had bribed him many years ago. However, he was shocked that the man in front

Crowford with an "o" and not

officers exhorted Peyton to recall whether the young man's name was spelled with an "o" or an "a" on

with an 'a.' I remember it very clearly," Peyton said while deep in

was very sure that Luke's name was spelled with an

Chapter 530 Bianca's Doubts

The major case involved Luke Crawford, A City's business mogul, and Peyton had provided conflicting statements. The higher-ups of the Public Integrity Committee paid a lot of attention to the case.

However, they could not find anything that pointed to Luke Crawford.

The man in the incriminating video matched Luke Crawford's appearance.

Also, Peyton insisted multiple times that the name on the contract was Luke Crawford with an "o." Of course, Luke Crawford's identity was genuine. He was an orphan without any relations, and his background and work experience were plain for all to see.

GC Corporation, the implicated company, had existed for ten years. The legally appointed representative for the company was indeed Luke Crawford.

Gordan produced the contracts that proved the transfer of ownership of those plots of land from Luke Crawford of GC Corporation to Luke Crawford of T Corporation.

Gordan spoke eloquently in front of the judge and jury, describing the details of the transactions and answering all the questions without skipping a beat.

As an internationally wanted scammer, Gordan could even fool the Interpol. Deceiving the Public Integrity Committee was nothing.

The Public Integrity Committee did not give up, and the investigation lasted for a long time.

The transfer of ownership contracts turned out to be genuine too.

other contradicting evidence, a verdict

the press statement presented to the public: Peyton Schmidt's bribery case has nothing to do with Luke Crawford of T Corporation. The other guilty party in the case is Luke Crawford of GC Corporation.

Considering that Luke Crawford has turned himself in and has been cooperative in the investigation process, he shall be sentenced to fifteen years in prison, and all his assets shall be

news instantly caused intense public discussion in A

that was the news of the arrest of GC Corporation's Luke

bribery case was nothing out of the ordinary; such dirty deeds happened in every city. What the public found the most surprising was that Luke Crawford, the guilty party in the case, looked so similar to Luke Crawford of T Corporation, and even the name was almost the same. Most of the public discussion was focused on that

case remained on the headlines for quite some time, mainly because Luke Crawford was an influential figure in A City. Many reporters flocked to T Corporation to conduct interviews with Luke, but his secretaries declined all of them, saying that the CEO was a very

a long time before things

In the mansion.

crescent moon that hung low in the sky and the sparkling stars adorned the

quietly in front of the floor-to-ceiling window, enjoying the night

She had a faint smile on her face. Her charming face seemed gentle under the soft **lamplight**.

She could hear Luke and the children doing the dishes happily in **the kitchen**.

Occasionally, Rainie would speak coyly, and Lanie would make fun of his father. 'That's not how you wash a plate, Daddy. You've used too much washing liquid. Even Rainie does the dishes better than you...'

Lanie reprimanded his father like a little adult. 'A man should learn how to do the housework instead of relying on the caretakers. If you don't know how to cook, you should do the dishes to make up for it. Mommy won't have to be so tired if you help with **the housework**.'

Luke thought that what his son said made sense. He learned how to wash the plates and cutlery from his children, and he had fun *doing it*.

The way how the father and the children interacted and trash-talked with each other made Bianca smile with *satisfaction*.

However, she still had doubts.

Luke had been too busy lately. He would come home late and immediately hug her and fall *asleep*.

Bianca did not want to bother him with her **questions**.

However, the question persisted like a weed. She was determined to get an answer.

Luke and the two children came out of the kitchen after having done

took his sister to the room to help her with her homework, and Luke and Bianca returned to

placed a stack of books on her knee. The books were upside-down, but she was lost in thought and did not notice

He walked up to her, bent over, and gently pinched her nose. "What are you thinking, silly girl?" "I'm thinking... is that the end of the incident of the CD? I thought it would be a lot harder. I even have nightmares that you were taken away..." Bianca lifted her head and looked at

was Gordan Norton willing to undergo plastic surgery to match Luke's face, and why would he go to prison

did Peyton Schmidt change his statement so abruptly, and would the case be reopened

many more questions that she had kept in her heart. She wanted to ask

so many questions, silly girl. Don't doubt it. You can consider the case settled. Leia has no more dirt on us." Luke smiled

moon outside the window cast its glow on the land. It was as gentle as the woman next to

gaze would inevitably soften whenever he looked