

## Be Gentle 631

### Chapter 631

Seeing that he was about to hit Louis again, Susan yelled out as she loved her son, "Dad!"

She stood up and shielded Louis. Susan protected her son with her body. "Dad, Louis is weak and won't be able to stand it if you keep hitting him. If you're still angry, hit me instead!"

Susan felt the pain Louis felt when Old Master Crawford hit him. She would do anything to protect him.

When Old Master Crawford saw his daughter-in-law standing in front of Louis, he sighed heavily. He shook his head in disappointment and said, "You've spoiled this lawless son of yours! Susan, Louis is an adult. You can no longer indulge him like you did when he was a kid. It'll only harm him!"

Susan felt the irony in the situation and reacted with a smile.

Allison's son was involved in a shotgun marriage but Old Master Crawford never said anything. However, as soon as it involved her son, he blamed him for humiliating the family. It was clear that he was biased and it disgusted her!

She decided to stay calm and said in an obedient tone, "I know, Dad. I'll make sure Louis learns his lesson and I'll convince him to be responsible for Yuri. After all, Yuri is the daughter of a noble family. We can't afford to wrong her."

After she said that, Susan gave Allison a triumphant look.

Then, her gaze stopped on Bianca for a few seconds.

Although she did not say anything, her contemptuous intentions were clear as day.

Bianca knew about the conflict between Allison and Susan from a long time ago, but she did not put too much thought into it.

was uncomfortable with Susan's

the teacup on the coffee table and said, "What are you shouting for? She's just the daughter of the lieutenant governor. My son will marry the daughter of the provincial committee secretary who is many ranks higher than a lieutenant governor. The provincial committee secretary's daughter will marry Luke and that's that. My son is

fanned herself with her hands while giving Bianca a

that Bianca was not as disgusting as before. Of course, this moment also strengthened Allison's determination to find Queenie to tell her

She would never let Susan win.

was the daughter of the lieutenant governor, while her daughter-in-law was the daughter of the provincial committee

gritted her teeth thinking about Allison's arrogant attitude. "Are you still thinking about Mr. Norman's daughter? It's a pity that your dream is meant to be a dream. The Norman family is not bothered with

you. Besides, the so-called daughter of the Norman family was just an abandoned baby from an orphanage. She has no status in the Norman family. Yuri is better. She was born with a silver spoon. She's

thought that the daughter of the provincial committee secretary Allison was referring to was Leia Norman, so she felt disdain when the name was

Allison just sneered without explaining further.

she told Queenie the truth about Bianca and when Bianca regained her identity as the only daughter of the Norman family, Susan would regret

Luke could not stand the drama happening in the living room. He pulled Bianca into his arms and said, "Let's go upstairs."

*Bianca glanced* at the living room and hesitated for a moment when she noticed that Old Master Crawford was still *angry*.

"*It's okay*, Grandpa is in good health." Luke took Bianca and headed to the second floor without looking *back*.

**Even** though Bianca was a little worried, she also understood that this was a matter for Susan and Louis. It was not something she should get involved *in*.

As such, she obediently followed Luke *upstairs*.

As soon as they entered the room, Rainie and Lanie rushed over. Rainie was in such a rush that she did not have time to put on her **shoes**.

**She hugged** Bianca's thigh and acted adorably, "Mom, me and Lanie miss you so *much*!"

Old Master Crawford was managing the situation in the living room, so he had ordered the twins to stay in the room.

**The children** had high EQ and understood that it was not time to make a scene. After seeing their Great-grandpa's scary face, they stayed in the room to do their *homework*.

**However**, they were playful as any children would be. They wanted to go outside to play, but their Great-grandpa would not allow it. As such, the twins were happy when they saw their **mother**.

down while supporting her belly. She got down to her daughter's eye level and smiled while pinching her tender and chubby little face. "Rainie, your cheeks are chubbier than when I last saw you. It seems like you didn't miss me

frowned and tried to prove that she was not lying. She grabbed Blanche's hand so that her brother could testify for her. "If you don't believe me, you can ask Lanie. Lanie, do you think I missed Mom? Maybe hundreds of times in a day? Because of how much I missed you, I couldn't eat nor sleep

rolled his eyes at his silly sister. "Yes, you missed Mom a hundred times a day. You missed her so much that you've been stuffing your face with food. You're turning into a pig and no man will like

dare you?!" The little girl pointed at her brother angrily with her tender

out loud and lightly bumped her nose. "My dear little girl, you have such a hot temper at a young age. Who would dare to marry you when you grow

looked to her side and touched Bianca's belly happily. She said in a cute voice, "I don't want to marry anyone, I want to stay with you and Daddy forever! I'll take care of the

made the whole family laugh, and even Luke had a smile on his

her daughter's head affectionately and smiled softly. "You're my

she was almost eight months pregnant now, she had never asked about the baby's sex. She thought it was unnecessary and would be happy whether it was a male or

hoped that the baby in her belly was a cute little girl like her

## **Chapter 632**

When Leia saw Allison, she thought that Allison was there to see her and there was a burst of joy in her heart.

She opened the door and welcomed Allison warmly. "Aunt Allison, why are you here?"

Allison used to have a good impression of Leia. After all, she was not only sweet but always brought all kinds of luxuries for her every time she went to see her. However, since the video of her seducing Dr. Hoover was leaked out, her fondness for this woman was gone.

After such an accident, she felt that Leia was no longer worthy of her son.

Allison walked in and smiled nonchalantly when faced with the overly enthusiastic Leia. "Leia, where's your mother? Is she home?"

"My mother is suffering from a neck injury and is resting in her room. Is there anything that I can help you with?" Leia told Allison the truth.

She knew that Allison had a bad relationship with her mother and the two had not been in contact for many years. Why would Allison want to see her mother now?

Allison did not seem like she was here to visit her mother as she did not bring any gift baskets.

This was the first time Allison has come to the Normans' residence. She was taking a look around.

The Normans' residence was luxurious but not tacky.

There were gorgeous crystal chandeliers, 18th-century Western-European court-style carpets, exquisite sculptures, romantic flower arrangements, and an expensive-looking pure white piano in the corner.

of this home was to

several beautiful ancient ink landscape paintings hanging on the wall. Allison could tell at a glance that they had been done by

her lips and shifted her

always thought that Queenie

her eyes, women should only care about their beauty and take good care of themselves. Writing and drawing were nothing but

did not know Allison's intentions. She took a brand new pair of guest slippers for Allison and handed them to her. "Aunt, these slippers were newly bought by the nanny. You can change into

Allison's thoughts were interrupted.

recalled that Leia had mentioned Queenie's neck injury. When she changed into the slippers, she could not help but raise her gaze to look at her. "What's wrong with your mother? Why is her

told Allison about what had happened at the fashion

It was unsure whether she was taking pleasure in Queenie's misfortune or if it was just a random

*After* she changed into the slippers, she followed Leia to Queenie's **bedroom**.

On the second floor, Leia knocked on the door of the room a few times before asking politely, "Dad, Aunt Allison has come to visit Mom. Is it convenient for us to come in now?"

"**Come** in." Jack's calm and powerful voice came from the other side of the door.

*Hearing the* familiar voice, Allison's heart skipped *a beat*.

When the door opened, Jack's majestic face was **revealed**.

*The moment* Allison saw Jack, her heart throbbed a little faster.

*Years* went by and Jack was nearly 50 years old now. However, he was still as handsome as ever. His sharp eyes and tightly pressed thin lips highlighted his majestic aura. Women used to be obsessed with him, and she had been one of them when she was young.

Time had not left a trace on *Jack's body*.

*After years* of being involved in politics, he had become even more attractive.

Jack nodded slightly at Allison and said nothing as he returned to Queenie's **side**.

Allison and called out to her in a surprised tone, "Allison, why are

she saw Jack holding Queenie's hand, Allison's attitude turned to rage. The flame of jealousy in her heart raged when she thought of Zachary's indifferent attitude

a deep breath, slowly walked to Queenie's bed, and saw the bandage around her neck. She pretended to be concerned. "I heard that your neck was injured, so I came by to check on you. Queen, how could you be so careless? You should bring more bodyguards with you when you go

was stunned. Since losing contact with Allison, she had rarely heard Allison talk to her in this tone. In a daze, she zoned out and thought of the time when she was a young girl. When they were kids, Allison had often followed her and talked to her in a gentle tone just

looked at Allison and said, "I'm fine. It's just a

squeezed her bag tightly as she reminded herself of why she was

for a moment, she still could not help but say, "Queen, I came here today to talk to you alone. Mr. Norman, can you please give me and Queen some privacy? I won't take too much of

Norman glanced at Allison. He was surprised, but when he saw Queenie nod at him, he calmed down and said to his wife, "I'll be in the living room downstairs. Call out to me if you

"Okay." Queenie nodded.

reason, Leia's right eye twitched a little. Her sixth sense told her that Allison had bad intentions against

### **Chapter 633**

Allison's words seemed to hit Queenie's heart like a heavy hammer.

Finding her biological daughter was her lifelong ambition.

She excitedly grabbed Allison's arm and spoke incoherently, "What... What did you say? Where's my daughter now? Allison, as long as you tell me... my daughter's whereabouts, I guarantee that the projects under your son's company will run normally."

Allison frowned unhappily and tried to shake Queenie's hands off. She said unhappily, "Queen, you don't have to be so excited to learn about your daughter's whereabouts, do you? Are you trying to kill me?"

Queenie was a little at a loss as she stared at Allison's arm that she had made red. "I'm sorry, I didn't mean to do that. I just want to know where my daughter is. Please tell me, okay?"

Queenie's gentle, charming eyes were currently full of pleading, pity, helplessness, and expectation. It somehow made Allison feel distressed.

The two of them had grown up together. Queenie had always been proud and never once begged others for anything.

Meanwhile, Allison had always been outshone by Queenie. Her greatest wish was to see her yield to her!

However, seeing Queenie succumbing to her now, there was strangely not an ounce of satisfaction in her heart!

Looking at Queenie's clear eyes, she felt particularly embarrassed instead!

To hide her embarrassment, Allison coughed and tried to keep her voice a little more steady. "I did work with Vyen to switch out your biological daughter because I was jealous of you. I admit I was wrong. I wanted to throw the baby girl away, but when I saw her pure eyes, my heart softened and I took her home instead of throwing her away."

Allison tried to recall what had happened more than 20 years ago.

time, she had wanted to throw Queenie's daughter away but seeing her eyes that were so similar to Queenie's and how the small baby innocently smiled at her, Allison brought the baby back to the Rayne momentary soft-heartedness had created an

baby grew up and was involved with

did not know whether to laugh

tightly clutched the blanket as she held her breath and asked with difficulty, "Where's... the child now?  
Is she

...

Leia crept up holding two steaming cups of Earl Grey tea on

had a feeling that something was wrong, so using the excuse of bringing tea, she went upstairs with the intention to

as she was about to knock on the door, she heard her mother's sobbing voice. The conversation made Leia prick up her ears sensitively, and her hand that was about to knock on the door froze

'The child?

'Who's that?'

Leia's hand trembled. She even spilled some of the tea but had no time to bother with it.

**She listened** intently to the conversation in the room.

*"The child is fine now. You've met her more than once, and she's **already married**..."*

*In the room, Allison was furious at the thought of her son's protectiveness over **Bianca**!*

**"She's not** only working in a big company but has also married the best bachelor in town. She has two beautiful children with another bun in the oven. She's living the comfortable life of a young mistress. Queen, your daughter is lucky..."

**Queenie's** head seemed to be filled with lead. For a moment, she had no idea who Allison was talking *about*.

**She** asked in confusion, "You said I've met the child? But why don't I have the slightest impression? What's her name? What does she look like?"

**Allison** said with some disdain, "As smart as you are, you're always confused when it comes to finding your daughter. How can you be so stupid, Queen? Think about it. Of all the people you've been in contact with, who resembles you *the most*?"

'Bianca looks just like Queenie...'

**When** Allison first saw Bianca as an adult, she had been so shocked that she could not even close her mouth.

*After all*, the two of them were so similar in appearance and temperament. However, Queenie was still confused about the matter. **How amusing!**

*Leia*, who was outside the door, could hear a thump in her head when she heard what **Allison said!**

head felt as though it had almost

knew that the woman Allison was talking about

had thought that Bianca's identity would be hidden forever, but unexpectedly, Allison was exposing it so  
felt as though she had fallen into an ice cave. The cold made her shiver all over, and she only felt that  
everything she had tried so hard to hide was all out in the open  
gone to so much trouble to have all evidence of Bianca's identity erased to prevent something like this  
from happening  
the truth was out without warning  
felt defeated, flustered, nervous, and feared what lay ahead of  
should she do if Bianca returned to the  
was desperate to burst into the room and choke Allison so the secret could rot in  
knew that it was already too late even if she stopped the  
in bed, Queenie tried hard to recall which girl resembled her after hearing

## **Chapter 634**

Hearing the noise, Leia hurried into the room.

She saw Queenie falling to the ground in dismay and hitting her head on the bedside table.

Some blood oozed from her mother's fair forehead. It looked like she had been hit hard.

"Mom!" Leia quickly put the tray on the table nearby and carefully helped her mother up from the carpet. She said worriedly, "You're still very weak and can't get out of bed at all. What are you doing out of bed?"

Queenie's head was buzzing from the impact, and for a moment, her mind went blank.

However, after a few seconds of dizziness, her consciousness gradually became clear.

Thinking of what Allison had just said, she struggled to hold on to Leia's body while forcing herself up. She pushed her daughter to the door. "Leia, go stop Aunt Allison. Ask her not to leave first. I have so much to ask her..."

Leia was naturally reluctant.

She took Queenie's arm and said with concern, "Mom, she's gone. Whatever you need to talk to her about can wait until you've recovered, okay? You're in a bad state and need a good rest."

"No, I must talk to her now." Queenie was also a very stubborn person.

She obstinately pushed her daughter away and went downstairs without wearing her slippers.

just reached the spiral carved staircase when she saw Jack coming

his frail wife standing on the marble floor with bare feet, and the man's stern but handsome

strode up to Queenie and picked her up around the waist. He could not help chiding, "Queen, why did you come downstairs? Don't you care about your

put her arms around Jack's neck. Seemingly half-crying and half-laughing, she frantically said to him, "Jack, you know what? I've found out where our daughter

was stunned for a moment. His dignified expression

seeing his wife's pale, colorless face, he gave her a reproachful glance. "You can't take your health so lightly even if you've found out where she is. Have a good rest. We'll talk about our daughter when you

into Jack's chest with a happy, jubilant smile on her face. Her eyes crinkled and she spoke coquettishly to her husband, which was a rare act. "Jack, don't you want to know who our daughter is? I want to see her right

at Queenie and gave a low sigh. He carried his wife to the bedroom. "I'll be overjoyed if we do manage to find our daughter, but you still matter the most to me. We've already found out where she is anyway. She won't disappear in the meantime, so what's the rush? Besides, you're the one who's going to accompany me all my life, not our daughter. Queen, take good care of yourself for

Queenie closed her eyes

was lucky to have a husband who loved her so much and to have found her biological daughter in her remaining

**The** married couple was immersed in a world with only the two of them and did not notice the disappointment, contorted, and sinister expression on Leia's face. They had completely ignored her...

...

*Bianca* was at work when she received Kirby's emergency *call*.

*Learning* that something had happened to her aunt, she hurriedly asked Tom for a day off and informed Luke about it before hurrying to **the hospital**.

She hated going to the hospital.

The environment there was very depressing, and the smell of disinfectant in the rooms made *people uncomfortable*.

*However, the* person in the hospital was *her aunt*.

Although they were not related by blood, they were as close as if they were biological aunt and niece. She did not want anything to happen to her aunt.

*When* Bianca arrived at the hospital, a group of people was praying on the **verdant lawn**.

*The* priest, dressed in a loose black robe, was surrounded by a group of family members.

mournful and solemn under

cross on the priest's chest shone brightly in the sun, and his voice was compassionate and soft but still held power. "Almighty and merciful Lord, you are the source of life. Bless the sick with hope and faith to face the tribulations of their illness. Give them strength to endure their

thought about what Dr. Lake had said about her aunt's health and listened to the priest's prayer. Suddenly, she felt the urge to

only had one immediate relative left. She would not let anything happen to her aunt no matter

...

Ward.

ward was spacious and bright. As it was a private high-class hospital, the service and facilities here were naturally the

warm sun shone through the window and onto the hospital bed, making the whole space look bright and transparent but a little bit

Bianca entered the ward, Kirby, who was wearing a white coat, was lecturing Wanda

was not cooperating. She was extremely stubborn and ignored what Kirby was saying, leaving her

### **Chapter 635**

Wanda leaned back against the pillow with a look of desperation and grief on her face that seemed to have seen through everything.

Looking at her niece's overly worried face, she only smiled sadly and gave her a silent shake of the head.

Although she had rested for a few days, she still looked like a plant drained of water—lifeless and utterly pale.

After she pulled the curtains, Bianca took out a bunch of red grapes from the fruit basket and rinsed them in the water fountain nearby. Then, she carefully picked them one by one and put them into a small fruit container before bringing them to Wanda.

"Aunt Wanda, have some grapes."

Bianca handed her a bright red grape. "I know that your mouth would taste bitter when you're having an infusion. Eating something a little sweeter can help. I always like to eat some sweet fruits when I'm sick."

Wanda could not bear to ignore her niece's kindness. She opened her mouth and swallowed the grape.

The sweetness of grape juice washed away the bitter taste in her mouth.

Wanda said listlessly, "No matter how sweet the fruit is, I only feel bitter with what a mess my appearance has become..."

Bianca sat next to Wanda, gently took her hand, and consoled her, saying, "Aunt Wanda, you'll get better now that medical technology is so advanced. Believe me..."

Her aunt's undesirous face was clearly a refusal of the operation. Bianca wanted to comfort her but did not know what to say.

laughed bitterly. "The risk of death from breast cancer is one of the lowest of all cancers, but it's cruel not because it kills; it's because it robs women of their most beautiful and most maternal parts. You know how much I care about my appearance. I can't bear to see even a small scar on my body, let alone remove my... My... Do you think I'll still be a woman if I don't have

and dared not even utter a

felt a twinge in her heart at the sight of her aunt like this and clutched her aunt's

hard to pull herself together. Perhaps because she was too upset, she took a grape from the tray and stuffed it into

and sour taste seeped into her taste buds and made her feel a little

into her niece's eyes and said, "Bea, I can't accept the surgery and myself for being incomplete. You don't know, he's a perfectionist and doesn't like women with flaws. I can't turn into a woman he's disgusted

Wanda, you're refusing to do the operation because of Uncle?" Bianca was shocked and could not seem to have a lot on her mind. Is the 'he' she mentioned the uncle whom I've only remembered meeting this uncle once in

he had come to pick up her grandfather to take him to Japan. He had left quite an impression on

After all, as a small town girl at the time, Bianca had never seen such a handsome, mature, and elegant man. She had thought he had stepped out of **a painting**.

At that time, her uncle had treated her aunt very gently. Perhaps he loved everyone related to her aunt because he loved her, so he was also very gentle to Bianca. He had dotingly called her 'little girl' and left her a sum of money when he **left**.

*Bianca had* a good impression of her uncle but did not expect such a huge change to happen afterward...

*Wanda* forcibly pulled herself together, held Bianca's hand, and said bitterly, "Bea, if I had a daughter, she would be as old as you now. Obedient, gentle, virtuous, beautiful... He wants a daughter the most. I don't think we would have gotten to where we are today if we had a *child*..."

Tears slipped out of Wanda's eyes.

**She was** already a woman in her 40s, but her face was still as smooth as porcelain. Her skin was as delicate as before without a trace of blemish. You could not even see the crow's feet in the corners of her eyes.

**How** could her perfect aunt endure her body being incomplete? If it were Bianca, she would not have been able to accept it *either*.

However, when Bianca recalled that her aunt's illness could not be delayed any longer, she bit the bullet and said, "Aunt Wanda, you have to do the operation. Otherwise, I'll go to Japan and ask Uncle to **come over**..."

"Bea, you don't have to persuade me anymore. I know what my health is like."

**Wanda's eyes** were deep and lifeless. She agonizingly closed her eyes. "I'm content to have survived until now. You don't have to waste your effort in going to Japan to find your so-called uncle. He's married, and his son is already a few months **old now...**"

a bolt from

seemed to understand the reason why her aunt no longer had the desire to live. The man she loved deeply was married to another and this was probably the root of her despair. However, she did not understand why her aunt refused to do the operation for that unfaithful man when he was already married and had children with another

to persuade her aunt, but she finally gave up when she saw her pale,

Aunt Wanda have a good rest first. I'll think of a way to make her go for the

...

other side, the Norman

obediently stayed at home and rested, but she could not help thinking about

her health had allowed it, she would have gone to her at

phone on her, she tapped the contact list over and over again, looking at a particular number. She had even memorized it by heart now because she had tapped it

It was Bianca's phone number.

## **Chapter 636**

The hospital.

She had no idea if it was because the air conditioning in the room was a little low, but Bianca felt a little chilly.

She carefully covered Wanda with the blanket and turned up the temperature of the air conditioner. Then, she sat beside her aunt and quietly watched the woman who had fallen asleep while receiving her infusion.

Although Bianca's face seemed calm, she was worried.

'How on earth can I persuade Aunt Wanda to have the operation?'

While she was lost in thought, the ding of her phone notified her that she had received a few Facebook messages.

Worrying that it was about work, Bianca quickly took out her phone and clicked on it. Apart from several notifications that automatically popped up from the Facebook pages she had subscribed to, there was also a message from Queenie.

Bianca curiously clicked it and Queenie's message popped up before her.

Queenie: [Mrs. Rayne, this is Aunt Queenie. I hope you don't mind me disturbing you. I like the style and design of the house you designed for my father-in-law very much. Recently, my company has been looking for a group of excellent architectural designers, and I would like to invite you to join us. Are you interested?]

Seeing that Queenie was asking about work, Bianca would never turn down the idea of expanding her work.

Therefore, she answered patiently and politely.

Bianca: [I'm glad you like my designs, Aunt Queenie. I'm also happy that you can give me such an opportunity. If possible, I would be honored to serve your company. By the way, are you feeling better now, Aunt Queenie?]

Bianca hit the send button.

just texted Queenie when she received a reply within

[In that case, that's settled then. My body's alright, and I've had enough rest these two days. Bea, when do you think you'll be free? Let's talk about the specific details in person. Well... Are you free this

not wait to meet Bianca even though she had not yet fully

not wait to see her

at her aunt who was receiving an infusion in the hospital bed. She thought about her aunt's condition and

Queenie, I'm a little occupied right now. Can I take a rain check? I'm at

was about to say she was taking care of her aunt who was very sick in the hospital. However, before she could finish typing the message, her finger accidentally touched the send button and the message went straight

little dry in her mouth, Bianca casually put down her phone and went to the table to pour herself a glass of warm water. She wanted to moisten her

did not expect the phone she had put aside to suddenly vibrate as a series of Facebook message notifications

took a few sips of water and picked up her phone again once her tongue was not

was shocked when she opened her

**It** was a series of messages from Queenie.

Queenie: [Bea, why did you go to the hospital? Are you not feeling well? Are you alright?]

*Queenie:* [Are you ill? Which hospital? Is Luke with you?]

Queenie: [Can you send me the address so I can go *visit you?*]

*The* anxious, zealous tone puzzled Bianca. In her mind, Queenie was a woman of elegance and poise. She had always been polite and distant with her. They did not seem to be that close, did they?

*Although Bianca* knew Queenie was her biological mother, she thought Queenie had no idea **about it**.

'*Why* is she speaking to me in such a friendly, concerned tone?'

This feeling seemed like the ardent concern of a mother for her daughter, which made Bianca feel inexplicably moved. However, it also left her at a **loss**.

She hurriedly sent a message.

**Bianca:** [Aunt Queenie, you've misunderstood. I'm not sick. It's my aunt who's seriously ill. I'm fine. I'm currently taking care of her in the hospital, so I can't leave for the time being. The cooperation may have to be postponed for a while until my aunt gets better. I'm sorry...]

*Queenie* was instantly relieved when she saw that Bianca was not sick. [As long as you're alright. There's no need to hurry with the cooperation. We have a long time ahead anyway. Take good care of your aunt in the hospital and take care of yourself as well. You're pregnant, so don't wear yourself **out, okay?**"]

words automatically left a warm smile on Bianca's mouth. [Okay, got it. Aunt Queenie, thank you for looked at the two words 'Aunt Queenie' Bianca sent and felt stumped. 'She's my biological daughter but calls me 'Aunt'. When can she intimately call

...

Entertainment company.

Leia!" Leia's assistant rushed in from

was powdering her face in front of the mirror when she saw her assistant rushing in. Her temper, which had been repressed, became even

scolded him right away, "How many times have I told you? Knock on the door before coming in. Why can't you ever

it was so urgent that I forgot..." the assistant said as he gasped

at her assistant's tired appearance and curled her lips. "Forget it. What's the

got you a period drama the other day, but someone else took your second female

When did this happen? The director called me yesterday and told me to go to the set tomorrow. That's impossible!" Leia's face almost contorted with anger when she heard that someone had stolen her

was at a low point during this period as she had been caught up in all kinds of scandals, which hurt her innocent lady-like

## **Chapter 637**

Linda's office.

Leia rushed to her office with her skirt in hand, asking right away, "Linda, how did someone steal my role? Why did the director say that I've been replaced when the drama is about to start filming?"

Linda looked distressed as well. "How do I know? That's the arrangement from the higher-ups. Leia, you've been causing too much trouble lately! You're too brash..."

God knew she thought her career would soar since she was managing an actress who came from a formidable background and status. However, she did not expect that the innocent image she had worked so hard to create for Leia over the years would be ruined by Leia herself. Who could give her an explanation for this?

Leia slammed her hand on Linda's desk and looked at her sarcastically. "Brash? I've been low-key enough these days. How am I brash when I've been resting at home for so long? Linda, have you been slacking off? Look at the roles you've gotten me. They're either annoying second female leads or roles in some cheesy internet dramas. This is greatly belittling my value. If this goes on, I won't even be able to keep my place in the B-list, let alone get promoted to the A-list."

Linda's expression immediately changed after hearing Leia's criticism. "Leia, you should know better than anyone how I've treated you over the years... If I hadn't been cleaning up so many messes behind you, do you think your screen goddess image would've survived all these years? If you hadn't been so arrogant and dramatic lately, would you have been reduced to this? Your reputation has already plummeted. No directors, producers, or investors dare hire you. I even had to shamelessly beg for the small roles you despise, yet you're calling me lazy. In that case, you can find another agent."

Leia instantly felt a little guilty when she saw that Linda was mad and serious.

Leia pulled herself together and explained, "Linda, I'm sorry. I was so angry because someone stole my role that I ignored your feelings. I know it's hard for you too. I won't do it again."

To be honest, Linda was really nice to her. Whether it was Linda's means or contacts, she was incomparable to the other agents.

The most important thing was that Linda knew her so well that she would never get used to another agent.

softened a little when she heard Leia

her head and reminded her, "Leia, don't you think... the scandals you've been embroiled in these days are rather baffling? The studio has already issued a statement to clarify that it wasn't you in the video of you seducing the chief physician some time ago. It's just that the person in the video looks similar to you. As for the newly surfaced negative news, I'm sure someone must be messing with you behind the scenes. I had someone investigate it in secret but we found nothing even after investigating up and down. It's unusual... I've thought about it. It must be because the mastermind has a strong background. Think about it. Have you offended

'Offended someone?'

be honest, Leia had offended only a few people, but there were

entertainment industry, Leia had indeed snatched several famous actresses' roles by using her background, but they had far less powerful backgrounds than her, so they could only endure it when she stole

could confidently say that no one in the entertainment industry dared to mess with her due to her parents'

it's no one in the entertainment industry, then it can only

she had secretly set up Bianca more than once and Luke's sinister, cold eyes, as well as the way he had watched with a half-smile as white snakes bit her after ordering someone to kidnap

Leia felt goosebumps all over her.

'Could it be him?'

*Leia* even took two steps back in terror. Her eyes were wide open as if she was stuck in the **horrible memory**.

"What's come over you, Leia?"

Linda worriedly tugged on Leia, only to hear her terrified **scream**. "Ah!"

**Linda** was shocked by her scream. She patted Leia on the shoulder, only to see her eyes staring blankly at her, looking resentful and helpless.

"*Linda*, I know who's messing with me behind the scenes. It must be him. Yes, it must be him!"

"*Who* is it?" Linda had a bad **feeling**.

"*Luke!*" Leia said through gritted teeth, "I have a lot of issues with Bianca. I've done some bad things to her. She must have instigated Luke to retaliate against **me!**"

Linda was stunned when she heard it was *Luke*.

*Then*, she said with a headache, "It would be terrible if it's him. Unless your father does something, we have no other way."

said, "Linda, in this situation... I have a feeling my dad is vaguely against me. Besides, he has never liked me working in show business. I don't think he'll help me. My mom usually dotes on me, but what you don't know is that she still listens to my dad when the chips

again and hinted to her somewhat intentionally. "Then you should find a backer as strong as Luke. Isn't the Blatt family's third heir interested in you? Leia, you must take advantage of the opportunity, or you'll be

desperate reluctance, Leia still nodded firmly with a gloomy

she throw in the towel before the

...

only stayed in the hospital for two days before Wanda asked her to go home, saying that the private hospital had a good environment. Plus, it was bad for the pregnant woman and the baby to stay in the hospital for

she threatened Bianca to go home and rest or she would go on a

did not leave her a choice, so she could only consult

two experienced caretakers for Aunt Wanda who took turns to take care of Wanda. Only then did Bianca leave the hospital while feeling

In the mansion.

### **Chapter 638**

Luke stared at Bianca's face with a doubtful expression. He could not help but chuckle when he saw how serious she was.

He tucked her hair behind her ear and said gently, "You should accept Mrs. Norman's hospitality to you. She's your birth mother after all. It's better than giving you the cold shoulder, isn't it?"

He thought that his woman was intelligent, but she could be confused sometimes.

Bianca buried her face in his chest and said, "I know that Mrs. Norman is my birth mother, but she doesn't know that I'm her daughter. I'm afraid that I can't control myself if I interact too much with her..."

Luke scraped the bridge of her nose with a fingernail and smiled. "Why are you so unconfident about yourself, hmm? You don't have to worry about anything. After all, she..."

Before he could finish his sentence, his phone started to ring abruptly. It was an unknown foreign number.

Luke answered the call.

Someone was panting heavily on the other end of the call as though trying to catch their breath.

"..."

In a rare display of patience, Luke waited for a full minute. However, no voice came from the other end of the call.

He was about to hang up when he heard a familiar voice. "Save me!"

The voice belonged to Gordan Norton.

was surprised. The grip on his phone tightened subconsciously. He looked at Bianca, who was looking gently

thought for a while and went to

spoke softly, but there was undeniable anxiety in his voice. "What's going

captured by the Russian mafia, and they're detaining me in Moscow. Their boss requests for you personally, and I don't have any

the first time that the usually casual Gordan sounded

very fast, as though he was a trapped beast struggling to

you get involved with the Russian mafia?" Luke

shone through the window onto his white shirt. The warmth of the sunlight did not reduce the coldness in his

not have the time to explain to Luke. He could only hurriedly say, "This is serious business. If you don't come, I think I'll die here... Ahh...

of agony seemed to pierce through the phone and ring in Luke's ears. He had an ominous feeling

Gordan?" He yelled at the phone a

"**Hey!**" The phone seemed to have changed hands. A young man with an attractive voice spoke.

Then, he continued to speak in Russian, "Mr. Crawford, your good friend is in my hands. He did something wrong. He violated my darling, and he needs to be punished. If you don't come and pick him up, I'll send him back to you in a *bodybag*."

A hoarse voice repeated the same thing in English in case Luke did not understand *Russian*.

**There** was a crack in Luke's usually composed countenance.

He replied in fluent Russian, "I don't know what my friend did, but I will go over as soon as I can. I hope that you can keep him alive before I **arrive**."

*The other* party seemed surprised that Luke could speak Russian fluently. Then, he smirked coldly. "I've heard so much about you, Mr. Crawford. I eagerly await your arrival."

*The other* end hung up. In the next second, a long phone number appeared on *Luke's phone*.

**Luke** also hung up. He was in a bad mood. After reading the message, he instantly called Jason to book him a flight to Moscow.

Gordan was in a perilous situation. The other party wanted Luke to go *over today*.

**Gordan had** helped him before, and he promised Gordan that he would do three favors for *him*.

*Luke* was not one to betray his friends. He had to save Gordan's life, even though the situation might be extremely **risky**.

to gamble his life to repay that debt

saw Luke's grim expression and heard that he called Jason to book a flight ticket for him. She became anxious. "What's going on, Luke? Why are you rushing to Russia? Did something happen

looked at Bianca's anxious face and explained to her briefly. "Gordan got into some trouble there. He's in the mafia's hands now, and I'll have to

widened and stared at the man's stern but handsome face. "Will it be dangerous? Can you not go? Who is

heard of that term on television, but she did not expect them to exist in

might be hard, but she did not have too many social experiences. She only vaguely heard that someone was asking for her husband's help through the phone, and she

not want Luke to risk his life. She felt terrified

to go. Gordan helped me before," Luke

not understand. "Can't you send someone else there? Maybe you can ask Percy

sky outside became gloomy and cloudy in

have much time, silly girl. They want me to go

### **Chapter 639**

Bianca stood in a daze in front of the window. The scene of Luke's car speeding away replayed in her mind.

She felt both sad and angry.

She was also aggrieved that the man did not care about her feelings at all.

Bianca knew that Gordan had risked a lot when he saved Luke. Not only did Gordan perform plastic surgery on his face, but he had also taken the fall for a crime he did not commit.

She knew that Luke was duty-bound to save Gordan, but did he ever spare a thought for him and the children?

Gordan might have gone to prison because of Luke, but Luke eventually found a way to free him as well as get the Italian mafia to stop hunting him down. Was that not enough?

The more she thought about it, the angrier she became. She hugged her knees and buried her red face between her legs.

Even though she was angry, she could not help but feel worried. What if something really happened to him?

The caretaker saw that Bianca was in a bad mood. She put the vacuum cleaner in her hands down, then went over to comfort her. "Should I help you back to your bedroom, Madam?"

Bianca nodded woodenly and walked back to the bedroom herself.

Her thoughts were muddled, and she needed the rest.

However, she did not feel any better even after lying on her bed.

It was already fall.

fragrance of hazels wafted into the bedroom, and the branches were swaying gently outside of

a sunny day with fine weather, but Bianca felt  
remained glum for the rest of the day, and she did not  
not call her for the entire day. She tried calling him, but his phone was turned  
night, Bianca had a nightmare that Luke was stabbed. Blood was pouring out of his mouth, and his entire  
body was covered in  
crying loudly in her dreams, shouting his name loudly and begging for someone to save him, but no one  
heard her or saved  
dreamed that they were walking hand in hand on a busy city street. Suddenly, he said, "I have to go and  
deal with something. Wait here for me, and I'll be back  
until sunset, but still, he did  
dreamed that he was shot at a  
could not dodge, and the bullet entered  
"Ahhh!"

up from her nightmare. She was panting and drenched

**A single** lamp cast a dim yellow light in the dark *night*.

*Unable to* sleep, she took out her phone and dialed Luke's number again but could not get **through**.

Her anger and despair had turned into worry and fear. She felt that she was turning **numb**.

**Bianca** looked at the bright moonlight outside. She put her palms together and *prayed earnestly*.

'I hope you'll be fine, Luke.'

...

After a ten-hour flight, Luke landed in Moscow in the afternoon.

He turned on his phone. A string of missed calls and messages told him how worried Bianca was *for him*.

*Luke* wanted to call her, but he remembered the time difference. It should be late at night where  
Bianca *was*.

Guessing that Bianca would be sleeping, and thinking that calling or messaging her now would only  
make her worry, he decided not to **disturb her**.

The airport was crowded.

**Luke** was wearing shades, but that only added to his mystery. Many beautiful Russian women were  
attracted by his unique bearing, handsome features, *and height*.

Some women even attempted to strike up a conversation with him, but his bodyguards blocked them,  
and they could only shrug disappointedly and **walk away**.

of people walked out of the

manager of T Corporation's Russian branch, a mature middle-aged man, and his assistant came to pick them

walked behind Luke while reporting the intelligence on Ray, the Russian mafia boss. "Mr. Crawford, Ray is a cruel and merciless man. He is involved in smuggling, dealing drugs, and trading illegal firearms. He doesn't have a good reputation even in the criminal underworld. He has extorted many corporations and conglomerates in the past, but fortunately, we are under the protection of the Russian government, and he has not targeted us. I'm afraid that it will be dangerous for you to go alone. Should I dispatch a few more of

shook his head and refused. "I'm going into Ray's turf. It won't matter how many people I

was why he did not bring anyone except for Sean and four

did not have any interactions with Ray, but Percy had fought him over control of

warned him that Ray was a violent and merciless individual, and even he was at a disadvantage. He warned Luke to be extremely careful and gave him four of his

not have any grudges against Ray, not even on

hoped that he could resolve the issue

made a phone call to Ray. Once the call went through, he took the initiative to introduce himself. "I'm side chuckled. "You're a candid man,

"I'm at the airport now. Can I have your

## **Chapter 640**

Security was tight in the double-storied mansion. Men in black were stationed every few feet apart.

Ray was waiting for Luke in the first-floor foyer of the mansion.

Luke had expected that the cruel and merciless Ray was a stern old man or a violent middle-aged man, but he was surprised to find out that Ray was quite young.

Ray was tall and well-built like most Russian men, but he had a warm and gentle smile on his face.

Luke found it hard to associate a gentleman like that with the feared Mafia boss in the rumors.

While Luke sized up Ray, Ray was also silently observing Luke.

The man who had expanded his business across the continents had outstanding looks. He might be a mere businessman, but he carried the bearing of a noble. It was impressive that he remained calm despite the perilous surroundings.

The two men sat down opposite each other in the foyer. The atmosphere was stifling.

Ray took out a cigar and handed it to Luke. "You've come a long way, Mr. Crawford, so I'll keep this short. Your good friend slept with my only elder sister Vivian, and now he doesn't want to take

responsibility. I would have chopped him up and fed him to the dogs, but my sister insists on marrying him, while he would rather die than marry her. I'm giving him two choices. If he marries Vivian, I'll let them go. If he insists on not marrying her, I'll spare his life because you're his good friend, but I'll chop off one of his hands!"

Luke sat calmly on the couch. He blew a smoke ring and nodded.

The rules of the criminal underworld were cruel.

knew that Ray was already being merciful for giving Gordan a second

Ray signaled to his subordinate.

man was brought to the foyer and tossed on the floor. His body was covered with blood, and his face was heavily bruised

was gravely injured, but he continued to swear at Ray. "Ray, you son of a b\*tch, kill me if you dare! I'd rather die than marry that cow of an elder sister of

when Gordan's gaze fell on Luke, he instantly became guilty and

did not expect things to become so serious. He thought that the woman he slept with was an ugly girl without money or influence, but he did not expect that she was Ray's elder sister. He had to trouble Luke to come from afar to

stubbed out his cigar and told Ray, "I'd like to talk to my friend

that Luke might convince Gordan to change

his hand, and the men in black left the foyer in a single

glared at Gordan coldly. "So what's your plan? If you marry Vivian, this story will have a happy ending. If you don't, Ray has promised that he will spare your life, but you will lose

"I won't marry that cow, Luke! Don't you know how ugly she is? Even when I was sleeping with her, my eyes were closed the entire time... Actually, I have a lover back in the country. We've been on and off for almost ten years, and she's several months pregnant with my child. Luke, even if I were to marry, I will only marry her and not this *cow*..."

**Luke's usually** gentle gaze turned ice-cold when he heard that.

*He* sent Gordan flying backward with a kick. Gordan was already injured, and the kick caused him to spit out a mouthful *of blood*.

*Luke's* leather shoe stomped heavily on Gordan's handsome face while he scolded, "You already have a lover back home, but you flirt with other women elsewhere. I shouldn't have paid for your plastic surgery!"

Gordan took in all the abuse without offering any resistance. He admitted that he was *guilty*.

Even so, he knew that his good friend would *help him*.

**Ten minutes** later, Ray returned to the foyer. Luke looked at him profoundly and said with extreme reluctance, "I'm sorry, **Mr. Ray.**"

As soon as he finished speaking, more than ten guns were aimed at their *heads*.

*Ray* was enraged. He grunted coldly and tossed a sharp dagger in front of Gordan.

*Luke* picked up the dagger. He placed it near his wrist and said impassively, "My good friend is a stubborn one, Mr. Ray. He's a natural-born playboy, and he has a terrible character. Your elder sister won't find any happiness with him, and she deserves better. However, I owe my good friend a debt of gratitude, and it's my time to repay it. If you want a hand from him, I'd rather you take mine."

Sean's expression changed drastically. "Mr. Crawford..."

face turned pale and he shouted nervously. "No,

his head and him. Then, he lifted the dagger and brought it down to his

...

A City.

"Luke!"

once again woken up by a nightmare. In her heart, her unease

first thing she did after she woke up was to check

calls or messages from Luke. That made her feel even more

breakfast was tasteless, and she barely finished it. Nina came over and invited her to go