

## Be Gentle 641

### Chapter 641

At the shopping mall.

Nina tried on one outfit after another but did not find one that she liked.

It was rare that Nina was so excited over shopping, and so she did not disturb her. She sat on the couch, feeling rather bored.

Half an hour later, the sales clerk was still recommending clothes for Nina.

Bianca strolled over to the men's section nearby.

She saw an elegant black windbreaker on display and reached out to touch it.

An observant sales clerk noticed her. She quickly walked up to Bianca and asked eagerly, "Madam, are you planning to buy it for your husband? This is the latest limited edition design, and it looks very well on tall men. How tall is your husband?"

"He is six-foot-four and weighs 160 pounds," Bianca answered without thinking.

The sales clerk opened her mouth wide. "Wow, your husband is probably a model! You're beautiful, Madam, and I believe your husband must be handsome too. The windbreaker must look good on him."

Bianca smiled. The string of zeros on the price tag was a few times her monthly salary.

However, she bought it without hesitation. Luke liked clothes of that style.

The sales clerk processed Bianca's purchase. Looking at the way she swiped her card, the sales clerk could tell that Bianca was wealthy but kept a low profile. She brought Bianca to the women's section and continued to introduce the newest designs.

you want to buy some clothes for yourself, Madam? We have some new designs for maternity clothes, and there's one that suits

wagged her hand at the sales clerk while touching her stomach with her other. "There's no need, thanks. I have enough clothes at home. I'll also be delivering the baby next month, so there's no point in buying too many

about these designs? They're suitable for women who have just delivered a baby..." The sales clerk was persistent. She continued to introduce other designs for

"I'm good, thanks." Bianca tactfully declined.

woman, Bianca naturally loved beautiful clothes. However, the clothes there were not cheap. She did not hesitate to buy clothes for her man, but she would think twice before buying clothes for

was how it felt to be in love. One would give their everything for the

...

did not buy anything. The clothes were too expensive, and she was only trying them out for

got out of the shopping mall, Nina brought Bianca to

did not expect to meet Xavier

Xavier walked over, Bianca was looking at the traffic outside thinking of

She came to her senses when Nina gently tugged her **elbow**.

She was slightly surprised.

*The* Xavier Tanner in front of her looked like a different person. He was just as handsome as before, but there was a difference to his bearing. Instead of being carefree, he seemed to be reserved and **taciturn**.

**Bianca** could never forget the harm that Xavier did to **her**.

**She** looked at him wordlessly and did not know what he was thinking.

Xavier sat down opposite the *two women*.

**Nina** knew what Xavier did to Bianca. She did not hide her displeasure toward him, but Xavier was not bothered.

**He stared** at Bianca's bulging stomach and said, "You're delivering soon, *right?*"

"Mm, there's about fifty more days to the expected delivery date." Bianca smiled gently whenever her baby was *mentioned*.

**It** seemed as though she was enveloped by a warm light that made her holy and **dazzling**.

**"Congratulations that** you've found the happiness you want. Do you still hate me?" Xavier said with much difficulty.

**Bianca** smiled gently. "I used to hate you, but I don't feel anything now. We are but strangers to each other now, and there's no point in hating a *stranger*."

had hated Xavier to the bone. If not for him, there would not be so many obstacles between her and Luke. However, as time passed and Bianca and Luke became more intimate, the hatred toward Xavier

immersed in the bliss of her husband's love every day, and she did not have the spare time to hate someone whom she had removed from her

Bianca's words made Xavier's heart wrench.

had cared for her so much, but she had treated him as

was nothing more ironic than

...

same time, in a VIP

important figures from the Tanner and Lerche families were gathered there to discuss Xavier and Melissa's

dishes and fine alcohol filled

through lunch, Xavier said that he wanted to step out for a smoke. Now that lunch was almost over, he had not returned

people from the Lerche family were not happy, especially

## **Chapter 642**

Bianca did not want to talk to Xavier. She felt that the atmosphere was too awkward.

She had tactfully declined Xavier's attempts at striking up a conversation, but Xavier continued to talk as though he did not understand Bianca's words.

Nina was exasperated. She wanted to shoo him away, but she did not want to embarrass Bianca.

Just when the atmosphere could not have gotten any more awkward, they heard a shrill and coy voice. "I say, Cousin Xavier, I tried to look for you, but it turns out that you're having an intimate rendezvous with this seductress! How could you? You promised me that you won't ever look for her, so what's going on now?"

Bianca's expression changed slightly. She turned to look in the direction of the voice and saw Melissa, whom she had not met for a long time. Melissa was dressed in a glittering gown, and she wore delicate make-up on her face. She was walking toward the table while twisting her waist.

Xavier's expression changed drastically the moment he saw Melissa.

He bore an inexplicable disgust toward Melissa and did not even want to look at her.

Melissa ignored all of that.

She walked up to the table and brazenly hugged Xavier's elbow.

spoke to Bianca loudly as though she was bragging, "Xavier, our families are in the middle of discussing our engagement. Let's go back, our parents are waiting for

shoved Melissa away unhappily and said coldly, "That's enough, Melissa. Who wants to be engaged to you? To be frank, I've never wanted to be engaged to

widened her eyes incredulously and continued to drag Xavier away. "Xavier, you... you must be kidding, right? If you don't want to marry me, then what does my devotion mean to you? Didn't you say that you'll accept me if I can change my capricious personality? I've already changed so much for you, so how can you go back on your promise? I know you like me. Otherwise, you won't allow me to get close to you,

glanced at the almost maniacal Melissa, then at the elegant Bianca. His frustrations from being tormented by Melissa suddenly erupted at that

glared at Melissa and shoved her away. "Look at you now, and you said that you've changed! I don't know where you got the idea that I like you. I can swear to god that I've never liked you one

speaking very loudly and moving agitatedly, and his voice echoed in the open dining area. Many diners turned their heads to look

waiter noticed the commotion and jogged away to find the

was prideful and conceited. She could not accept the fact that Xavier had told her in public that he did not

gaze fell on Bianca's bulging stomach in front

*Instantly, she* released her fury on Bianca. She pointed her finger at Bianca and started to yell, "Did you become like this because that shameless b\*tch seduce you again? She's already pregnant with another man's b\*stard child, and you intend to pursue her? *You...*"

**Awkwardly**, Xavier tried to stop her. "Don't be unreasonable. Let's not involve other people in our matters. This has nothing to do with *Bianca!*"

**Suddenly**, Bianca splashed a glass of water on Melissa's face. Her delicate make-up was ruined, and she shrieked, "How dare you, you *b\*tch!*"

*Bianca glanced* at the flustered Melissa and put the glass away. "I splashed water on you because I hope that you can calm down. You should know what you can say and cannot say. There's nothing between Xavier and me, so don't impose your filthy ideas on us. Also, you ought to watch your words. Don't bark around like a mad dog."

**Then**, Bianca glanced coldly at Xavier. "Rein in your *woman, Xavier.*

"Let's go, Nina."

*Nina* glanced contemptuously at Xavier and Nina, then flipped the bird at **them**.

**Melissa was** used to being pampered. She had never been humiliated like **that before**.

Melissa saw that Xavier's eyes were still transfixed on Bianca who was about to leave. When Bianca walked past her, Melissa abruptly stretched out her leg and tripped Bianca.

not expect that Melissa would harm her like that in public. She was caught unprepared and her feet had happened too suddenly, and Nina did not manage to catch her

"Bianca!"

shouted in panic. She reached out but did not even touch the hem of

broke out in cold sweat. Her first response was to protect her stomach with her arms. She was already eight months pregnant, and she could not afford to have any harm come to

thought that she would fall on the floor and was mentally prepared for the worst. She did not expect that before she hit the floor, a delicate but warm arm forcefully blocked her from hitting the

Her eyes met a gentle gaze.

It was none other than Queenie.

not one to sit still at home. After recuperating for two days, she went to work on

**Chapter 643**

Melissa covered her cheek that was throbbing in pain, and she looked at Xavier in utter disbelief.

Tears welled up in her eyes, and she shrieked. "How dare you hit me! This is the second time that you hit me because of that b\*tch!"

Xavier's expression was ice-cold. "That's enough. You caused a pregnant woman to fall. Don't you know that your action might result in the loss of two lives?"

Melissa cackled loudly, not feeling any remorse for what she had done. She grunted coldly and said, "She deserves to die anyway. That's for..."

Bianca took a deep breath to calm herself down so that her emotions would not affect the baby in her womb. However, her eyes brimmed with killing intent when her gaze shot toward Melissa.

Melissa instinctively took a step backward because of fright. However, she was not going to back away. Instead, her hatred toward Bianca became even stronger when she saw Xavier being protective of Bianca.

Melissa raised her hand and prepared to slap Bianca, but a slender and elegant woman stood between them and grabbed her wrist.

"Who are you?" Melissa shrieked.

The woman looked wealthy and pampered, but she was unexpectedly strong. Queenie twisted Melissa's wrist, and Melissa thought that her wrist was going to break.

"Ahh! Let go of me! How dare you... ahh!"

The agonized wails echoed in the restaurant.

usually warm gaze was ice-cold. "I don't know who you are, Miss, but how dare you create a disturbance in my restaurant? I will not tolerate anyone bullying my customers, let alone a pregnant woman. Don't you know that a pregnant woman might give birth prematurely if she falls? Don't you know that you've committed a crime? I have the complete security footage of the incident earlier. Call the police, Mr. Wharton. Let the police deal with this

immediately dialed the phone number of the

call went through, he passed the phone to Queenie. "Madam, Superintendent Liszt wants to talk to

threw Melissa's wrist away, took the phone, and said coldly, "Superintendent Liszt? I'm Queenie Ziegler. There is a murder attempt in my restaurant. Please send someone over as soon as

backward on her high heels and fell

her wrist, and she nearly cried out in

did not know the identity of the woman who suddenly appeared, but that woman's forceful demeanor made her

cameras had caught the exchange earlier, and the police would be on their way. She knew that her parents would be able to bail her out from the police station later, but today was an auspicious day. She was about to be engaged to Xavier, and heaven forbid that the police take

pleading gaze landed on Xavier, and she said weakly, "It's our engagement today, Xavier. Can you bear to see the police take me away? I was overcome by a fit of rage. I won't be so impulsive anymore. Please help

looked at Bianca, then at the crying Melissa. Feeling annoyed, he spat, "You deserve

...

The police arrived very quickly because Queenie had personally called **them**.

When the police escorted Melissa away, Mrs. Lerche rushed out of the private room like a madman and tried to scratch and claw at the police, trying to block their way out. She even started hurling verbal abuse at Queenie and Bianca.

**After realizing** Queenie's identity, and after Mr. Lerche slapped her and her son glared at her, Mrs. Lerche shut her mouth in panic and could only watch helplessly as her daughter was **brought away**.

"Are you OK, Bea? I should take you to the hospital for an examination." In the lounge, Queenie was still worried about Bianca's condition. She insisted on bringing her to the **hospital**.

Bianca's heart softened when she saw the worry on Queenie's face. She took Queenie's hand and comforted her, "Thank you, Aunt Queenie. I know my body very well, and I can say that I'm **fine**."

*Bianca was grateful that Queenie had stood up for her, even though Queenie might stand up for any of the customers in her restaurant.*

Queenie's heart wrenched when she saw that Bianca was so thoughtful. She wished that she could give her birth daughter a tight hug.

**However**, she did not do so after considering their identities. She reached out and lovingly smoothened Bianca's hair. "You have to tell Aunt Queenie if you need anything. Don't be a stranger **to me**..."

Then, she imparted a lot of pregnancy advice to **Bianca**.

Bianca listened to all that with a smile and occasionally nodded. Aside from gratitude, she also felt a hint of *joy*.

much as she tried to deny it, she nevertheless craved a

...

Moscow.

tip of the sharp dagger was embedded in Luke's wrist. The table was splattered with

not even wince, as though the dagger had cut a lifeless

of blood and an uncanny silence filled the foyer. The atmosphere was

penetrating gaze stared at Luke

was no emotion in Luke's obsidian eyes, though Ray could tell that it was only the calm before the  
his chin and considered the pros and cons of offending

That man was cruel.

## **Chapter 644**

Even though his hand was saved, Luke thought that he had failed. Gordan should not have agreed to the marriage.

If only Gordan could hold on for a few more minutes, Luke believed that they would not have failed in the last step.

Luke could guess what Ray was thinking. Ray, as a man standing on the pinnacle of power, should be smart enough to weigh the pros and cons of offending Luke.

Luke was sure that Ray would not burn bridges with him, no matter how much he loved his sister. After all, T Corporation was under the Russian government's protection.

As the leader of the Russian mafia, Ray would not brazenly challenge the government.

That was why Luke gambled that Ray would not want him to cripple himself. Gordan had been too impulsive.

Luke shook his head and looked accusingly at Gordan.

Gordan did not show any regret. "I won't change my decision."

If marrying an ugly woman was all it took to save his good friend's hand, he would not hesitate to do so.

Ray was very satisfied with the outcome. He saw how cruel but loyal Luke could be at crucial moments.

Criminal overlords appreciated people like that. Very soon, Ray and Luke became sworn brothers.

were satisfied at the end of

doctor came to treat

wrist was a bloody mess, and he had lost a lot of

the skilled doctor soon stopped the bleeding and bandaged the

Ray invited them to the most luxurious hotel in town and hosted a banquet for

was the first time Luke met Vivian,

spat out the wine in his mouth. He expected a woman with a beautiful name like "Vivian" and a handsome younger brother like Ray should have decent

saw her, he finally understood why Gordan would rather die than marry

Eastern European, but she did not look like one. Instead of being tall, healthy, and beautiful, she was short and skinny like an underdeveloped

was not as fair as the typical Caucasian, but rather dark and splotchy like a moldy piece of bread. Furthermore, her fashion sense

good point about Vivian's appearance was probably her sea-blue eyes. They were not very big, but they were lively and animated. Other than that, she did not seem like a match for the tall and

**No wonder** Vivian remained single at thirty years old even though she had a wealthy and influential younger brother. Luke began to pity Gordan and wondered if Ray took all the good points from their parents while leaving the bad points *for Vivian*.

**He** could not help but compare Vivian to Bianca at home. Bianca was so much more *beautiful*.

Bianca's beauty was not the flashy type but rather modest and long-lasting. She would not take anyone's breath away, but she was a sight for sore eyes. After living with her for some time, Luke felt that the joy of seeing her had permeated his bones and touched **his soul**.

*To* him, she was the most beautiful woman.

*He* would grow tired of looking at other women, but not her. She was the softest spot in his heart.

*He wondered* what Bianca was doing at that *moment*.

...

At the Norman residence.

Queenie was in a good mood today. She had managed to convince Bianca to come over to her house to talk about a design *collaboration*.

Bianca could not decline the invitation. After all, Queenie was the one who saved her at the restaurant. Moreover, she knew that Queenie was her birth mother, and she wanted to know more about her mother's **daily life**.

*The Norman* residence was a three-story mansion surrounded by **gardens**.

Bianca to the

the rooms on the third floor was a feminine bedroom that was furnished like the scene of a dream. There was also a rooftop

two women sat down next to the coffee table in the rooftop garden and started chatting

garden had many plants. Vines spread out over the entire trellis, while the winding path covered in cobblestones was flanked with pots of rare chrysanthemums. It was the season in which chrysanthemums were in full bloom, and each plant was adorned with flowers of different colors. It was a

that Bianca loved the garden. She explained it to her gently, "I designed the layout of this garden, Bea. What do you



took in the refreshing fragrance of the chrysanthemums and said truthfully, "It's beautiful, Aunt Queenie. I can feel my stress melt away, and I'm relaxed and could tell from Bianca's eyes that she loved the could see the faint smile on Bianca's face when Bianca looked at she would not trade that smile for smiled and said, "Actually, I designed this garden for my not quite understand. She looked at Queenie, confused. "Leia must be so lucky to have you as her mother, Aunt Queenie. You love her and pamper her

## **Chapter 645**

A long time later, Queenie coughed gently and composed herself.

Bianca handed her a paper towel while gently wiped away her tears with her other hand. "Don't be sad, Aunt Queenie. I believe that things will be better."

Queenie was reluctant to turn her gaze away from Bianca's face. Suddenly, she grabbed Bianca's hand as though afraid that Bianca might disappear suddenly. "I've never met my birth daughter before, but she's the same age as you. I believe that she'll be as pretty, sensible, and talented as you..."

Bianca felt bad that Queenie was crying.

However, she was embarrassed by Queenie's praise. She lowered her head and tucked her hair before saying, "I'm not as good as you think, Aunt Queenie. I have many bad points."

Queenie massaged her temples and said caringly, "I like you, no matter how many bad points you might have."

Bianca stared at Queenie. She was at a loss.

She could not understand Queenie's sudden change in attitude.

Other than feeling surprised, she was also clueless.

Of course, Queenie noticed Bianca's embarrassment. She blamed herself for being too reckless.

There was still time.

Now that she knew that Bianca was her birth daughter, they would eventually be reunited someday.

alleviate Bianca's anxiety, Queenie made up an excuse to comfort her, "You saved my life that day, and I'm really grateful for that. If not for you, I might not have the chance to talk to you privately today. You can say that I owe you my life. If you have any difficulties, you must come and tell me. I'll help you out if

"Don't mention it, Aunt Queenie. Anyone else would have attempted to save you in that situation. You've just recovered, and you should rest at home instead of overworking

caught in a daze when she saw Bianca's

looks exactly like a younger version

...

returned home with Charmaine following

in front like an arrogant princess, while Charmaine followed her like a sidekick and helped her carry was watering the flowers downstairs. When she heard the two young women come in, she put the watering can down and greeted them, "You're back, Ms. Norman. Are you here to visit, Ms.

Mom at home, Ms. Lang?" Leia asked as she walked toward

pointed at the third floor and said, "Madam is at home. We also have a guest in the house. She's a beautiful

skipped a beat when she heard that a pregnant woman was

intuition told her that the person was most likely

*She could* not help but turn her head toward the third *floor*.

**The** third floor was usually locked. Leia knew that her mother had always kept that place tidy, and her mother would go up there whenever she was in a bad **mood**.

**She could** not help but feel jealous about the woman whom her mother brought to the third-floor secret garden.

From where Leia stood, she could not see if there was anyone currently *up there*.

*Leia* stopped walking. She turned around and asked the caretaker anxiously, "How does that woman look like, Ms. Lang?"

**The caretaker** thought for a while. "She has big eyes and an oval face, and her skin is very fair. Right, I heard Madam call her *Bea...*"

*Leia's* fingernails dug into her palm as she glared viciously at the third floor.

"**Leia**, did your mom really bring that seductress home?" Charmaine noticed that sudden change in Leia's mood, and she knew about Leia's grudge against Bianca. She could instantly guess *the reason*.

"Hmph!" Leia grunted coldly and walked straight into *the house*.

Charmaine hurriedly followed behind.

*Leia* went back into her room and slammed **the door**.

"**You don't** look like you're worried at all, Leia!" Charmaine was confused.

could Leia remain composed when her rival was in the

expression was gloomy. "What's the point of worrying? Should I cry and complain to my mom? Or should I chase that woman away? Heh, that'll only make my mom

said carefully, "Does your mom know that that woman is her birth daughter? She's such a schemer. Otherwise, your mom wouldn't bring her home. By the way, Leia, is that woman really your mom's birth daughter? Can't she be an impostor like

gloomily. "That woman is indeed my mom's

had secretly taken their hair samples for a DNA test. They were indeed biological mother

if they're biologically related? Aunt Queenie has raised you for so many years. No outsider could step between you and your mom. No matter what they say, you're still the true Ms. Norman. That seductress won't change anything even if she reunites with your mom," Charmaine comforted

her gaze. "Let's go and meet that

...

On the third-floor garden.

and Queenie talked a lot, though Bianca did most of the talking while Queenie listened

asked a lot of questions about Bianca's life. She wanted to know how her daughter had been over the past two

told her many stories of her childhood, which made Queenie cover her mouth and

## **Chapter 646**

Leia hid away her animosity, then walked up and leaned against Queenie.

"I'm back, Mom. Do we have a guest?"

"Aunt Queenie..." Charmaine called out weakly behind Leia.

Even the usually wanton Charmaine had to behave in front of the noble Queenie.

Queenie frowned when she saw Leia and the other young woman in heavy makeup.

She was not fond of Leia making friends with women like Charmaine. She felt that Charmaine had passed on many bad habits to Leia.

However, considering that Leia and Charmaine were good friends, Queenie nodded at Charmaine and said gently to Leia, "My company needs to hire a new batch of architects, and I love Bea's designs. That's why I invited her over to talk about work."

Leia's gaze fell on Queenie's hand that was holding Bianca's hand. She was unhappy when she saw that.

Bianca happened to notice Leia's gaze that was filled with hatred and resentment.

Seeing that, Bianca smiled gently at Leia, though there was a hint of provocation in that smile.

Usually, she would not have done that, but she was quite willing to see the conceited Leia being angered.

As expected, Leia pretended to be unbothered, but the jealousy and frigidity in her gaze were obvious.

Bianca could only find it incredibly ironic. Queenie was Bianca's birth mother, and for so many years, Leia had taken what should have belonged to Bianca. What gave Leia the right to glare at Bianca that way? Why should Bianca allow Leia to occupy her position in the Norman family?

had a better personality, Bianca did not mind staying away from the Normans. However, Leia was a scheming and sinister woman, and she was afraid that her birth parents might be spending their time and effort raising an ingrate. Worse yet, Leia might actively

not notice the tense undercurrents that flowed between the two

pulled Leia in front of Bianca and said lovingly, "Leia, Bea is a really talented woman. She's older than you, and you should greet her as your elder sister. Once the collaboration is confirmed, Ms. Rayne will come to our house often, and the two of you will meet each other more often. You need to be on good terms with Elder Sister, alright? I know that you're prejudiced against Bea because of Luke, but you can't force Luke to love you, and it's already in the past. One day you'll understand what

Queenie, her adoptive daughter might have made a mistake, but that was maybe because she was impulsive. Queenie believed that Leia was still the kind and innocent girl that

sentiments for Bianca were different. She felt joy, pity, excitement, and guilt, and she hoped that she could make up for lost

genuinely loved both the girls, and she hoped that she could give her everything to the  
would eventually return to the

hoped that she could bridge the relationship between her birth and adoptive daughters. She knew that Leia must be bearing a grudge against Bianca because of Luke, but she believed that Leia would

to see her two daughters live together

Leia was unhappy about that.

did not show her true feelings on her face. Instead, she nodded. "Mm, I understand,

was happy that Leia showed some sense. She smiled at Bianca, "I've pampered Leia too much, Bea. She might be capricious at times, and she might be candid in her words, but she's not a bad

"We'll see about that, Aunt Queenie," Bianca smiled ambiguously and said profoundly.

*It seemed* that Queenie, as intelligent and discerning as she was, had not seen through Leia's guise yet. It would be up to Bianca to tear away Leia's pretentious façade.

*Queenie glanced* at her watch. "It's getting late, and I should prepare lunch for all of you. Let's go downstairs, Bea. Leia, bring Elder Sister for a stroll around the garden later."

**She** took Bianca's hand as though it was the most natural thing and went **downstairs**.

*Other* than Luke, no one had held her hand like that ever since she was a grown-up. Queenie was protecting her with her arm as though leading the way for a small child. Bianca felt warmth in her heart.

'Is this how a mother's love should feel?'

*Bianca* could feel tears welling up in *her eyes*.

*Leia* was extremely unhappy when she saw her mother holding *Bianca's* hand and ignoring **herself**.

*Ever since* she grew up, *Queenie* had rarely held **her hand**.

**Overcome** by jealousy, *Leia* deliberately twisted her ankle and fell down in front of *Queenie*. "Ow!"

"**What happened** to you, *Leia*?" *Queenie* instantly let go of *Bianca* and rushed ahead to help *Leia* up.

*Charmaine* could not help but grin. '*Leia* is such a schemer,' she **thought**.

looked at *Queenie* with puppy eyes. "I was thinking of something earlier, and I didn't notice where I was going. I'm

*Leia* up and shook her head dearly when she saw that *Leia* had scraped her knee. "You're as clumsy as you were when you're a child. You always make

crouched down and gently massaged *Leia's*

shot a demonstrative gaze at *Bianca*, as though saying, "See, Mom still loves me. Don't ever think of taking her away from

had the urge to laugh out loud when she saw how childish *Leia* was. She could not bear to hurt herself in an effort to one-up

was genuine. Her knee was swollen and

...

Moscow.

with *Gordan's* incident, *Luke* rejected *Ray's* offer to tour the city, reprimanded *Gordan* once more, and prepared to catch the return

drive to the airport from *Ray's* residence was more than

to pass through a steep and winding mountain

off-road vehicle sped on the narrow asphalt road, passing by ancient trees that grew out of cracks on the mountain

## **Chapter 647**

Intense pain spread from *Luke's* head to every nerve ending in his body.

The bright red blood was a shocking sight.

*Luke's* eyes widened, seemingly in disbelief that he would be shot. The coldness that was spreading through his limbs also told him that the fall season in Moscow was a lot colder than A City.

*Luke* did not know which of his enemies would assassinate him in a foreign country.

As the owner of a multinational conglomerate, he was not a merciful person and had driven many to bankruptcy.

He had experienced his fair share of threats, but those were only child's play.

His head was so painful that it felt like it was going to explode. He was beginning to see hallucinations.

Sean and Mallory One's panicked screams and angry howls were fading in his ears.

The last image he saw was Bianca's fair and beautiful face.

...

On the top of a hill.

Wayne, wearing black shades, was dressed in a black combat suit that accentuated his burly figure.

and terrifying demeanor

him, about ten of his subordinates were lying in ambush, wielding an assortment

smirked smugly as he blew the smoke from the barrel of his

him was a blond female dressed in the same black clothes. The combat suit could not hide her curvaceous body, but the sinister look on her beautiful and charming face

He Знаешь, что ты делаешь? Ты убьешь Всех! (Do you know what you're doing? You'll get everyone killed!)" The blond woman blurted a string

at Wayne's head with a pistol, and she was ready to

on a mission to assassinate a certain high-ranking official. The intelligence reports showed that said official would be traveling on this road, but before he arrived, the leader of the mercenaries fired a shot at an innocent civilian. That was almost certainly going to botch

whistled playfully at her, twisted her wrist, and the pistol fell into his

the blonde woman's smooth face while choking her neck with his other hand. "Don't think that I won't lay a finger on you just because you're that old geezer's woman. I'll kill you all the same if you cross me! Don't ask me why I killed that man. I don't need a reason to kill a man!" He said

his first time being obsessed with a woman, but when he was making out with that woman in bed, she was calling out Luke's name repeatedly. The incredibly possessive Wayne had never felt so humiliated

wanted to kill Luke for a long time. However, the man wielded a lot of influence in the country, and he was always cautious. Wayne never found a good opportunity to make a

did not expect to find Luke in the middle of his ambush. That was the perfect

Kassy felt weak as Wayne choked her. She felt as though Wayne really wanted to **kill her**.

"Are you sure that the man is dead?" Kassy's anger gradually diminished under the man's violent threat.

"Of course. I'm a sharpshooter, and I never miss," Wayne **said arrogantly**.

Kassy did not say anything in case she further offended that terrifying *man*.

**She knew** how violent that man could be. Anyone who angered him would be *instantly dispatched*.

**Kassy** had an ominous feeling when she looked at the man who had been *shot*.

It would be no problem if the man died. If he did not, she had a premonition that he would return the favor tenfold.

...

**Bianca helped** Queenie cook in the kitchen. Queenie did not want her to be affected by the oil and fumes and insisted that she take a break in the **living room**.

However, Bianca relished the time she got to spend with Queenie and insisted on **helping**.

**Queenie** could not convince Bianca to go away and let her help with cleaning the ingredients in the *dry kitchen*.

washing the spinach, Bianca suddenly felt a sharp pain in her stomach. It was so painful that she

That was abnormal.

would not be so painful no matter how violently the baby in her womb

Bianca's left ear also started ringing...

an ominous feeling. She supported herself with the table, and her face turned pale as though coated with a layer of

'... Luke?

'Could Luke be in trouble?'

Bianca searched around for her phone. She had left it in the living room so that it would not disturb her work in

had been keeping an eye on Bianca. She noticed that there was something wrong with Bianca's complexion. Instantly, she handed the cooking to the caretaker and rushed out of the

held Bianca's arm and asked her out of concern, "What happened, Bea? How do you feel? Do you want to take a rest in

to catch her breath, and the pain in her stomach subsided a little. She clutched the hem of Queenie's sleeve and begged, "Aunt Queenie, my

at Bianca's worried expression, Queenie could tell that there must be something urgent. She helped Bianca walk into the living

## **Chapter 648**

Queenie could see how anxious Bianca was. She glared at Leia accusingly, then handed her phone to Bianca. "You can use my phone for now, Bea."

"Thank you, Aunt Queenie." Bianca took the phone and dialed Luke's number.

Luke's phone was turned off.

Bianca was incredibly anxious. Her breathing was shallow and labored.

She did not give up and kept on dialing Luke's number. However, the result disappointed her.

She tried dialing Sean's number but could not get through either. That made Bianca even more anxious.

Following that, she dialed Jason's number.

Jason picked up after a few seconds. "Yes, Ms. Rayne?"

Bianca spoke frantically, "Mr. Doyle, do you have any other way of contacting Luke? I can't reach him on his phone, and I don't know what's going on."

"Don't worry, Ms. Rayne. I'll contact the staff in the Russian branch, and I'll give you a reply soon," Jason comforted her.

"Mm, please hurry! I broke my phone, and you can call me back on this number."

"Yes, Madam."

remained uneasy after the call

helped her sit on the couch and said to her gently, "Don't be too agitated, Bea. Luke will be fine. You have to take care of the baby in

sat down on the couch. She dug her fingers into her scalp and tried to calm herself down, but it was all of no

Leia was still whispering to Charmaine, but she seemed visibly nervous, and she ate the chips at a stole glances at Bianca, and her ears were pricked to eavesdrop on what

Luke had been merciless to her, she felt uneasy whenever his name

minutes later, Queenie's phone started ringing. It was only ten minutes, but Bianca thought that it had been a very

grabbed the phone and asked, "Do you have any news about Luke,

silent for a few seconds, and there was a gravity in his voice. "Ms. Rayne, the staff there could not contact Mr. Crawford. There might be an accident. I'll have to fly to

covered her mouth when she heard that Luke might be caught in an accident. She tried hard not to cry.

"No, how can that happen to Luke? He promised me that he'd return

a tentative guess, Ms. Rayne," Jason said sternly, "Don't worry, I'll book a flight to Moscow now. I'll contact you as soon as I have any news. Mr. Crawford told me that if he could not be contacted, I should calm you down and tell you that he will return to you no

*Bianca's shoulders* trembled after the phone call ended. She was enveloped in sadness.

Queenie gently hugged her. "Bea..."

Bianca could not hold it in anymore. She started sobbing. "Aunt Queenie..."



*Tears welled up in Queenie's eyes when she saw how sad Bianca was.*

**She** took a napkin and gently wiped Bianca's tears away. "Silly girl, don't be too sad before you find out the truth. You should control your emotions and wait for Luke's news. What if Luke comes back and you've fallen sick? That's not worth *the trouble*."

*Bianca* took a deep breath and came to her senses. Her eyes remained bloodshot, though she felt embarrassed because she had shown her ugly side to Queenie. She wiped her tears sheepishly. "I'm sorry, Aunt Queenie. I've made a fool of myself."

"It's fine. Everyone has their moment of weakness. When I was your age, I didn't know how to control my emotions and cried a lot too," Queenie said with a smile.

*Bianca felt* better after Queenie continued to comfort her.

**Aunt** Queenie was right. Luke was temporarily out of reach, but that did not mean that something bad happened *to him*.

**All she** could do now was to wait patiently.

**Queenie looked** at Bianca's frail body and gently patted her shoulder while feeling sorry for her. She thought that she would invite Bianca over more often to make it up **to her**.

...

In the outskirts of Moscow.

was five hours later when Gordan found out that Luke

arrived at the mountains, he could only find several charred bodies and

saw Luke's off-road vehicle. Only a blackened

it was a smoking corpse of Luke's build. It was burned beyond

onto the corpse in despair. "Luke!" He roared

flipped the corpse over, and blisters instantly formed on his hands and arms because of the extreme heat. However, he stubbornly hugged the corpse in his arms. When he glanced at the corpse's face, he realized that it was someone he did

placed the charred corpse down, clenched his fists, and punched a tree trunk. "Who? Who the hell

shook, and leaves fell while blood seeped out from his

watched uneasily at Gordan's angry face. She did not want him to hurt himself, and so she walked up to him timidly, "Your... your hand is

## **Chapter 649**

Bianca was knitting a sweater in the mansion. She had to keep busy to distract herself from worrying.

After waiting on tenterhooks for two days, she did not receive good news about Luke. Instead, Jason came to visit her at the house.

Behind him was an overly handsome man.

The two men dragged themselves into the living room with solemn expressions on their faces.

Bianca's already haggard eyes from not sleeping well became bloodshot when she saw Jason.

She put the knitting needles down and rushed up to Jason. She looked behind the men but did not see Luke.

Bianca grabbed Jason's elbow and asked him, "Where's Luke, Mr. Doyle? Why isn't Luke with you?"

Jason's eyes were moist. He turned away and averted Bianca's gaze.

Behind him, Gordan fell on his knees with a plop.

"What are you doing?" Bianca was surprised by that man's sudden actions.

Gordan explained to Bianca, "I'm Gordan Norton, Sis. Luke ordered me to change my face not long ago."

"So it's you," Bianca said.

Luke had told Bianca that Gordan went under plastic surgery again, changing his appearance back to the time before he was disfigured. Bianca had not seen that face before.

impression was that Gordan was bewitchingly

did not have the time to appreciate the face. "Luke went to Russia to save you. You came back, but where is he? What happened to him?" She

his face in agony. "I'm sorry, Sis..." He sounded

don't want your apology. I want to know where Luke is!" Bianca yelled, unable to control her

was shaking. "Luke, he's... he's missing... his car was bombed, and most of the people who went along with him died. I didn't... find any

shocked when she heard the news. She instinctively took a step

body was almost going to pass out, but she continued asking, "Did you find Luke's

Jason's tone was also suffused with sorrow. "It was a big explosion that resulted in a fire. Every corpse was disfigured. We couldn't identify

also could not believe that his boss would leave him

boss was a natural-born winner who had extraordinary intelligence and capabilities. He should be able to get out of any perilous situation, but how was he gone just like

to admit what he saw was true. His boss

I don't believe that he's dead until I see his body!" Bianca

"I don't believe it, I don't believe it..." She mumbled over and over again as though **hypnotizing herself**.

Looking at the extremely sad Bianca, Gordan covered his face. His shoulders were shaking, and his heart was wracked with guilt and regret.

**Jason tried** to compose himself and placed a charred ring in Bianca's hand. "Madam, we found this at the scene of the accident. You can verify if it belongs to *him*."

**Bianca's face** turned pale when she saw **the ring**.

**She snatched** the ring from **Jason's hand**.

*The ring* was already charred, and part of the exterior was already molten. She could vaguely see the diamond-encrusted pattern **on it**.

**When she** picked the ring for Luke, he complained that it looked too *feminine*.

**Bianca loved** the design. She explained to him that the floral patterns signified an *eternal promise*.

*Her lips* shuddered when she stared at the incomplete ring in her hand.

She touched the ring she wore on her right hand. Those two rings were supposed to be a pair.

Suddenly, Bianca's vision blurred.

*She did* not want to cry, but tears fell from her eyes anyway.

not here to wipe her tears. No one would take pity on her

lowered her head. Teardrops fell like a string of pearls from her eyes to

of her tears made her come to her

was then she realized that her slippers fell off when she rushed over

the icy floor chill her to

saw it, he would have playfully scolded her, then carried her to the couch, massage her feet until warmth returned, and put on soft and comfy slippers

Now, he was gone...

felt that her head was going to explode. She did not hear what Jason and Gordan were telling

slowly shuffled to her bedroom without saying a

She felt so tired.

her vision went black, and her body

gave out, and her frail figure fell toward

## **Chapter 650**

Seeing that Bianca was awake, Allison choked her neck with both of her hands and shook her. Her venomous gaze was like a knife that threatened to stab her.

Bianca was already weak. She instantly became dizzy after being shaken about.

Before she could see clearly what was in front of her eyes, she fell into unconsciousness once more.

She felt very tired. She wished that she could close her eyes forever.

In her dreams, she saw Luke once more.

The man's back was tall and straight like a pine tree. Her heart thumped faster at that sight.

She ran toward Luke and called out his name.

Luke turned around.

The man's tightly pressed lips smiled gently at the moment he saw her.

Tears welled up in Bianca's eyes. She dared not touch him, lest he disappeared like a reflection in the water.

Luke's gaze was loving and indulgent.

slowly walked toward her, held her hands, and kissed them gently with his lips. "Can't you take care of yourself when I'm gone, silly

Bianca's eyes were blurry with tears.

wanted to reach out and touch him, but before she could touch his fingers, he

"Luke!"

woke up from her dreams and found that she was still in

light cast a shadow on Queenie that was slumped on the

did not bother wondering why Queenie was taking care of her in the hospital. Her mind was occupied by the thoughts of

was all her dream. It was only

covered her mouth as she looked at the night sky and sobbed

that I can go back to the time before you left. If I had known that this was going to happen, I'd hug you with all my might and never let you

teardrops fell. Bianca was losing control of

She tried to keep as quiet as possible, but Queenie, who had been sleeping lightly, woke *up*.

*Queenie* turned on the room lights. Everything in the room was basked in a warm yellow **glow**.

*She saw* Bianca's eyes that were filled with tears and hugged her. Her bloodshot eyes also began to moisten. "Trust me, Bianca. This will soon pass."

**The warm** light and Queenie's gentle voice brought Bianca to **her senses**.

"Why are you here, Aunt Queenie?" Bianca said **hoarsely**.

*Queenie* straightened Bianca's sweat-drenched hair and looked at her concernedly, "I happen to be free, and I heard that you're in the hospital, so I came to visit. Should I make something for you to *eat*?"

**The VIP** hospital ward had an *attached kitchen*.

*There were* all sorts of fruits, vegetables, and seasonings in the fridge. They were suitable for a *recuperating patient*.

Bianca shook her head and said weakly, "I'm not hungry, and I don't feel like eating anything. There are nurses to take care of me in the hospital, Aunt Queenie. You should go home in case Mr. Norman worries about you. I'm fine, but you should take care of yourself; you just got discharged not too long ago."

"*Good girl*. Your Aunt Queenie is well and healthy. I'll go and make some egg drop soup for you, at least eat something. I'll cook something delicious for you tomorrow," Queenie patted Bianca's head and gave her some more advice before heading to **the kitchen**.

Bianca watched as Queenie made herself busy in the kitchen. She felt a twinge in her nose when Queenie patted her *head*.

gaze fell on the bed next to hers. The twins were sleeping soundly

brother hugged the sister, and their faces were almost touching. Occasionally, they would blow a bubble from their pink and tender

was a warm and touching scene, but Bianca clutched her chest

man had abandoned his wife and children. What should she

...

later, Queenie returned from the kitchen with a steaming hot bowl of egg drop soup in

down on the bed, ladled a spoonful of soup, and gently blew on

the spoon close to Bianca's lips when the soup cooled. "Have some

no appetite. She gently pushed Queenie's hand away. "I really can't eat, Aunt

looked at Bianca's vacant expression. She put the bowl and spoon down and said softly, "Bea, Luke is no more. Are you planning to go after him? Look at you now. You're not strong at all. Is that how a mother should behave? Have you spared a thought for the twins and the baby in your womb? Wouldn't you want to ensure that Luke's legacy

glanced dejectedly at Lanie and Rainie. She placed her hand on her stomach and