

Be Gentle 691

Chapter 691

In the never-ending blue ocean, two bloated bodies were floating nearby. The ferocious waves washed them near the deck.

It was a man and a woman.

However, their features were swollen after being soaked in seawater. They were barely recognizable.

After screaming in horror, Nina shouted at the bodyguards to rescue the two floating bodies and see if they had any chance of surviving.

However, the bodyguards would never take action without Percy's order.

It did not help that the two bodies looked extremely bloated and obviously dead. The bodyguards did not follow through with Nina's instructions, so Nina quarreled with them.

When Percy arrived, he saw Nina screaming at his bodyguards to save the floating corpses.

Nina saw Percy walking over and immediately ran to him. She took his arm and pulled him to the edge of the deck. "Percy, get your bodyguard to rescue the two people! They might still be alive. We have to save them!"

Percy frowned. He was never someone who went above and beyond for others.

There were many floating corpses in the ocean every year. He would be exhausted if he salvaged each one.

He could tell at a glance that the two floating corpses had been seriously injured. They must have been in some serious trouble before their deaths, trouble that he did not want to be involved in.

looked at the two floating corpses and said coldly, "They're already dead. What's the point of saving them? I can't be bothered about

so angry that she wanted to push him away, but Percy remained motionless even after Nina gave it everything she

are you so cold-blooded? Is human life worthless in your eyes?" She kicked Percy's calf hard and felt as though she had kicked a cold iron block. She gritted her teeth in pain but Percy was

glanced at her with a cold expression. When he saw that she was alright, he turned around and wanted to

you're not willing to save them, I will!" After she said that, Nina took off her coat and gritted her teeth, about to jump into the

a matter of life and death, so she could not bring herself not to

the two floating bodies seemed to be dead, what if... What if they were

Percy immediately grabbed her.

limp body fell back on his rock-hard

extremely displeased when he saw how insistent Nina was to save the two corpses. He said in a cold and stern tone, "What nonsense! Mallory One, Mallory Two, go, save those

Mallory One and Mallory Two, who had just been screamed at by Nina, jumped into the ocean as soon as they received Percy's orders.

The two floating corpses were salvaged. The doctor on the boat checked on the man and the woman.

Both of them had been badly injured.

The man had three gunshots in his chest, a bullet in his leg, and his back was embedded with bomb fragments. The woman's condition was slightly better. She was shot in the abdomen and there were two stab wounds on her thigh. She had no other wounds.

However, it was unclear how long they had been floating in the ocean. It certainly had not helped the inflammation on their wounds, which looked **disgusting**.

Nina pulled on the doctor's white coat anxiously and asked, "Doctor, are they still alive?"

The doctor sighed and said with disbelief, "They've been floating in the ocean for at least three days. The lady's injuries are less severe and most of them are not fatal. That's how she's still surviving even after being out in the ocean for so long. This gentleman, however... His condition is not looking optimistic. He's suffering from two fatal injuries to his lungs. The ocean water didn't do these wounds any good. His chance of survival is almost zero, but this gentleman has strong willpower. He still has a pulse, he's still alive. This... This **is incredible!**"

"Craw... Mr. Craw... Quick... Quick..." the man suddenly uttered **something**.

However, he was too weak and his voice was as soft as a **mosquito hum**.

Nina, who was closest to the man, could not hear much even if she tried her *best to*.

'Who is Mr. Craw? Their enemy?'

doctor looked at the survivors as though they were monsters. He said, "Oh my God, if this were an ordinary person, even if they weren't injured, being out in the ocean for so long would've killed them. It's a miracle that these two lived to see the light of day considering how serious their injuries

not surprised. He had suffered injuries much more serious than this and was still alive and well, so why should they

told you that they're still alive. I've always believed that miracles can happen. Now, do you believe me? Doctor, you have to help them. After all that they've been through, they must have extraordinary willpower and unfulfilled wishes. Or else, they wouldn't have

talked to the doctor and then gave Percy a triumphant

and cold heart was touched by her delicate expression. Out of the blue, his heart

he maintained his stern face and looked like an iceberg that could not be melted at all. He said, "You can save them, but you have to eat. Otherwise, I'll have them thrown back into the ocean! Now, go eat your

over in a commanding posture while staring

command was not to be

Nina was annoyed.

Chapter 692

Moscow.

Bianca went to the site of Luke's incident.

She went although she knew that two years had passed and it was unlikely that there would be any evidence left.

Gordan took Bianca, Selena, Vivian, and a dozen bodyguards there.

The site of the incident was deep in the mountain forests.

The road was windy like a giant python, and they passed by rows of towering ancient trees that were full of vitality. However, because of how remote the site was, the surrounding environment looked secluded and gloomy.

"Sister-in-law, we're here." Gordan stopped the car somewhere with a wide view.

After Bianca and Selena got out of the car, they looked around.

Bianca's heart felt like it was filled with lead. She was so upset that she began to tremble uncontrollably.

'This was where Luke was attacked...' Just thinking about it overwhelmed her with sadness.

The area was low-lying and surrounded by mountains. Compared to other places where the trees were lush, the trees here were sparse. Bianca noticed that some trees had been charred on their branches and trunks. There were even some bullet marks on the bark.

to where Bianca stood and said with a heavy tone, "Sister-in-law, where you're standing now is where Luke's car exploded. Looking at the bullet marks on the tree bark, there must've been a fierce gunfight before the explosion... This place is low-lying and suitable for snipers to ambush. It has been two years since the crime scene has been cleaned up by the government. After I heard about Luke's accident, I rushed here immediately. The investigation revealed that he most likely was targeted by a sniper. After being shot, the sniper blew up his car to hide

she heard what Gordan said, Bianca felt like she was stepping on a spreading fire instead of dried

back the tears in her eyes as she thought of the bloody scene where Luke was shot and then blown up. Suddenly, she dug through the leaves on the ground with her hands as if she had

clean and slender hands were digging through the musty soil. She was mumbling to herself while eagerly looking

are you doing?!"

noticed Bianca's anomaly. She was shocked and wanted to stop her, but Bianca pushed her away. Her eyes looked a little crazed as she said, "Selena, get out of the way! Luke must've left something on the scene of the crime. I know him. He has always been meticulous. I'm sure he would've left clues

even if Luke had left clues, it's likely that whatever he left has been long gone. Moreover, he had been ambushed. Even if he was quick on his feet, he couldn't have known what would happen to him that day... I did my due diligence after the incident and didn't manage to find anything. It has been so long since then. All evidence must've perished by now. It's impossible to find anything useful

heart was heavy as he grabbed Bianca and said, "Bianca, wake up! Don't do

Bianca's shoulders violently to snap her out of it. Bianca regained some of her senses after getting shaken by

deeply regretted not coming to the scene of the crime immediately after Luke's

However, T Corporation had been a mess at the time. If she had left then, the legacy that Luke worked so hard to build would be *torn apart*.

To protect T Corporation, she chose to stay in A City with great sorrow to attend to the affairs of T Corporation on behalf **of him**.

Bianca had never let go of the guilt of not being able to visit the site where Luke's **accident occurred**.

After Luke's accident, even her rival, Mavis Laviere, had put down everything on hand and rushed here to pay her respects to him. However, Bianca, Luke's lawful wife, failed to do so in time. That became her biggest regret.

That was why after the situation at T Corporation was stabilized, Bianca rushed over immediately. She chose to come even when she knew that it might **be pointless**.

'Luke, I'm sorry. If I had gotten here in time after your accident, would I have a better chance of *finding you*?'

Bianca's tears fell drop by drop onto the scorched **leaves**.

She clenched her right hand into a fist and smashed it into the soft ground that was covered with moldy leaves and dead **branches**.

Her hysterical and sorrowful appearance made the others shed tears too.

"**Bianca**, don't do this. Luke wouldn't want to see you hurting yourself like this." Vivian wiped her tears, half-kneeling in front of Bianca. She persuaded her **gently**.

silent, but tears spilled over and flowed down her face like a

Suddenly, she felt something hard.

was surprised and quickly dug through the dead leaves. She did not stop even when dirt got into her her gaze locked on an area of soil. Finally, under a rotten leaf, she found a ruby the size of a pigeon

carefully placed the gem in her palm and observed

shone through the gaps in the leaves of the dense forest.

ruby was octahedral and shone brightly. It reflected a little blue-green color and was shockingly

Vivian saw the gem, her eyes widened in surprise as she said in disbelief, "Wow, what a beautiful gem! Isn't it the one and only 'Hope Diamond'? I've always wanted it, but my brother said a mysterious buyer bought it. How did it appear here? Hey... I think there might be something engraved on

shone on Hope Diamond and it became a little more transparent. It gradually revealed a few

saw those words, she was in shock and clutched her panicking

Chapter 693

Inside the cabin.

The door was kicked open and a group of men in black armed with heavy machine guns stormed in!

It was clear that the fat red-haired and vicious-looking man was their leader.

He patrolled around the cabin and did not find the man he was looking for. He only saw the two children who were trembling with fright.

He stepped forward and grabbed Bobby's neck with one hand. He lifted him easily.

Then, the leader asked Bobby in a vicious tone, "Boy, have you seen this man?"

He winked at his subordinates and they immediately took out a scroll. The person in the painting was Luke.

Bobby was choked till he was almost out of breath. His eyes were rolled back in horror as he tried to scream, "Help... Help me!"

When Nova saw Bobby struggling, she cried out and said, "Let go of Bobby! Who are you? Let go of my brother... We don't know the person you're looking for... We... We've never seen him..."

Nova had never lied before.

However, she knew that this group of men had bad intentions so Nova lied for the first time in her life. Her gaze was shifting about. She did not dare to look at the men for fear that they would find out she was lying.

She wanted to rush forward to save her younger brother, but the two tall men held onto her slender shoulders, making it impossible for her to move an inch.

were elite assassins trained on the Island of Despair. The leader could tell that Nova was lying at a
threw young Bobby against the wall like a piece

was injured when he bounced off the wall and landed on the floor. He fainted after he coughed up

Nova fell into anxiety and helplessness as she called out to

fought against the men's tight grips to get closer to her brother, but before she could do anything, the leader walked up to Nova and raised her chin. He observed her tanned but exquisite

what a little beauty!" The leader's rough hands left a small cut on Nova's

ignored the pain and looked at her brother worryingly. When she met the leader's unkind gaze, she was so frightened that she punched and kicked him. However, her efforts were

man clamped onto Nova's slender wrist and almost crushed her. "Little beauty, I have a bad temper and I'm not a fan of liars, especially women liars! Since you don't want to tell the truth, then I don't mind gifting you to my brothers! Brothers, this kid is your reward. Have

was like a sharp knife that reached Luke who was hiding below the

cruel and revolting scenes flashed through his

burning with rage and was ready for a

He had always been a protective man. Luke had no issues with the assassins coming for him, but they must not touch those who had helped him. The two innocent children were desperately trying to protect him while he was hiding below the boat. How could he call himself a man if he stayed **put**?

He jumped up from the bottom of the boat and approached the cabin silently like **a ghost**.

The man guarding the door heard the movement and immediately grabbed a gun. He walked toward Luke and said, "*Who's there?*"

As soon as he took a step, Luke put him in a tight chokehold and killed the man on *the spot*.

Luke snatched his gun and threw the man into the *ocean*.

He quietly approached the cabin door and saw Nova through the crack in the **door**...

Luke clenched his jaw and swore that he would make sure each of these men got what they **deserved**.

He kicked the door open and barged *in*.

He shot at the men angrily with the **machine gun**.

The two men who were going to assault Nova were killed with a single shot. They fell on the ground with their eyes wide open, their blood all over Nova.

"*Ahh!*" When Nova saw the dead men, she screamed in shock and curled up in the corner.

"Who are you?!" The leader was taken aback. He turned his head and saw Luke with a gun. His expression **immediately changed**.

excellent marksmanship. One bullet would take one life, and absolutely no bullets would

assassins quickly raised their guns and aimed them at Luke. The bullets aiming for him were numerous and fierce. Luke avoided all of the shots by quickly having his back against

hit the door

looked like a beehive when they were done, while the glass windows were shattered and pieces of them were scattered on the

leader was baring his teeth. He shouted at his group of men while shooting at Luke, "Brothers, kill him! As long as we get our hands on Shawn, regardless if he's dead or alive, we'll be rewarded

the assassins were in close proximity to each other. The assassins decided to drop their machine guns as they had become a heavy burden. Instead, they swarmed toward Luke, fully prepared for

eyes were filled with hostility as he got ready

got close to Luke and he immediately grasped their necks with both his hands. He twisted their chin upward and heard two crisp cracks. He broke their necks and threw their bodies to the ground mercilessly.

like a ninja, he got to the leader in an instant and gave him a spin kick. The leader, who was about to attack him, was flung onto the glass

leader fell heavily onto the glass shards. He gasped in pain from the countless fragments embedding into wanted to stand up, but his body, which was suffering from a serious internal injury, was limp. It made it difficult for him

Chapter 694

When he was in Marbella Village, Luke had not contacted anyone, including Bianca.

Marbella Village was isolated from the world and was still using the barter system to trade. It was fairly backward when it came to information and communication.

Moreover, the League of Shadows had eyes and ears everywhere.

If he contacted Bianca, he was sure that the League of Shadows would be able to trace his whereabouts within half a day.

The League of Shadows was known to be brutal and inhuman. If they learned that Luke was alive and reached out to his contacts, they would kill them.

He could not bear to put the woman he loved so much and their children in harm's way.

...

Moscow.

Vivian took Bianca and Selena shopping. They went to Aviapark, a well-known shopping mall in Moscow.

Aviapark was known as one of the world's top ten shopping malls, comparable to Champs Elysées in Paris.

attraction of the shopping mall was the eye-catching arches and the beautiful musical

the shopping mall, there was a dazzling array of global luxury brands as well as Russian special handicrafts, clothing stores, department stores, and plenty of others. It attracted locals and tourists from all over the world. Everyone was gleaming with

carried Tommy and walked around the mall with Selena

Dozens of plainclothes bodyguards shadowed them.

women were known to be some of the most beautiful women in the world, and there were many of them in the mall. Vivian was walking beside two beauties. In sharp contrast, she looked like a walking black fat

male or female, would take a second look

everyone's eyes fell on Bianca, they would be surprised and praise

she was holding a baby, because of her innocent yet mysterious appearance, many men still tried their luck with her. However, their efforts were unfruitful as they were put to an abrupt end by Selena fiercely gazes fell on Vivian, they were of mockery. Some of them even pointed at her and laughed.

Bianca and Selena did not notice anything. Selena even held Vivian's hand in excitement as though Vivian was her sister. She pulled her along to have a look around the mall.

Vivian walked behind Bianca and admired her slender figure. She said to Selena enviously, "Selena, Mrs. Crawford is so beautiful. Look at how popular she is. So many men turn their heads for her and try to strike up a conversation with her... On the other hand, I don't even have the confidence to look up when I walk..."

Selena held Vivian's chin and lifted her head as she said domineeringly, "Bianca is a beautiful woman, but that's not why people are staring at her. What sets her apart is that she's confident in everything that she does. Vivian, even if a woman's looks are average, as long as she's full of self-confidence, her aura will still radiate. However, you always walk with your head down. Your posture is so stiff and *cowardly!*"

When Bianca heard Selena having a girl talk with Vivian, she turned her head and encouraged Vivian as well. "Yes, Vivian. Your appearance can make a world of difference. Look around, there are so many fashionable clothes and luxurious accessories. Let's shop our hearts out and give you a makeover. I'm sure you'll like it. I'll buy you what you like."

Vivian shook her head lightly and then waved her hand in a panic as she said, "No, Bianca, how can I let you spend money when you're a guest of mine? I would never hear the end of it from... Don't worry, I have a lot of money. I can buy you anything your heart desires."

Bianca handed Tommy, who had fallen asleep on her shoulder, to a female *bodyguard*.

Then, she took Vivian's hand and smiled. "Since you're addressing me as Mrs. Crawford, that means you acknowledge me as your sister-in-law. How can I let you spend money? Of course, I'll pay for **you**."

Bianca was touched when she heard Vivian say 'Mrs. Crawford'.

It reminded her that she was Luke's wife.

from Block A to Block

a luxury store in Block F, Bianca chose a set of clothes

Vivian seemed reluctant. Her gaze never left the dress, however, and she said, "Sister-in-law, thank you for your kind thoughts but I think it's better to forget about it. I'm ugly... No matter how nice or expensive the clothes are, they won't look good on me. I'm just... helplessly ugly.

and looked at her in the mirror. "Your skin is pretty good, but you don't know how to present yourself. You'd look great if you dressed up a

liked Vivian because of her temperament and

flipping through a fashion magazine and joined in on the conversation. "There are no ugly women, just lazy ones. Vivian, you have to focus on your fitness and take care of your appearance. Look, your skin doesn't have any acne or spots. It's much better compared to my acne-prone skin, so hurry up and buy some beautiful clothes to dress

and touched her cheek in disbelief. "Mrs. Crawford, do you think so

"Of course! Didn't you notice that every girl we passed by was

embarrassedly and said,

Chapter 695

Kassy had a dazed look of suspicion the moment she saw Bianca. 'Why does she look so familiar?'

However, she was sure that she had never seen her before this.

Just as Kassy was about to take a second look at Bianca, she received an urgent call.

When she saw the caller ID, Kassy's brows wrinkled further.

When she answered the phone, her face changed abruptly when she heard the news. "Yes, Godfather, I'll come back right away!"

Kassy was no longer bothered with the dress nor Bianca. She rushed off in her ten-centimeter high heels.

Bianca was impressed that Kassy could walk so smoothly and quickly even in high heels. Professional models would be ashamed if they could see her.

Bianca, who was immersed in her thoughts, did not realize that she had a narrow miss with danger earlier.

...

Women's friendships were easy to form. Shopping made the three women, who were initially not close with each other, grow a sisterly bond.

was changing out of the dress in the fitting room, Bianca had already paid the bill and bagged her old clothes. She was waiting for Vivian outside the store with

at Vivian who had completely transformed her appearance and nodded in satisfaction. "This dress suits you very well. I've already paid,

as she heard that Bianca had paid for her dress, Vivian freaked out and immediately took out her phone. "Mrs. Crawford, I... I can't make you pay. I'll transfer the money

held her hand and said, "Since you're calling me Mrs. Crawford, I should do what a sister-in-law should do. This money means nothing to me. Besides, you gave me and Selena such valuable gifts earlier. If you insist on paying me back, we'll return your

had no choice but to thank Bianca again and again. "Thank you,

grabbed Vivian's arm and walked forward. "Vivian, we're all good friends now. Let's walk around and continue

of them continued shopping. Each of them bought a few more clothes.

up and followed the adults around without crying or

guy was interested in some weird toys, and he had fun playing

luxury store, a men's Gucci belt with very exquisite workmanship caught Vivian's eye. It had 16 carats of sapphire and was priced at 269,000 US dollars. It was the only one available in the

Vivian liked the belt at first glance and kept staring at it intently.

Seeing how much she seemed to like it, Bianca said, "If you like it, buy it."

After she said that, Bianca took out a black card and intended to pay **for it**.

Vivian waved her hands again and again as she said, "No, Mrs. Crawford. I want to buy this belt using my own money..."

She grabbed Bianca's card and prevented her from paying. Bianca **gave in**.

After Vivian paid for it, she blushed as she told Bianca, "Mrs. Crawford, this belt is for Gordan..."

Bianca jokingly said, "You're a good wife to Gordan. I can see that you love him very much."

Selena rolled her eyes and poked Vivian's head with her finger. "You're such an amazing woman, so why would you marry someone like Gordan? He's pretty much useless except for being handsome. I don't know what you see in *him*."

"Please... don't say that about Gordan. He's great. He looks good, sings well, and can also play the guitar and the piano. He's very clever and is a quick learner... When he laughs, my heart feels warm..." Vivian blushed, her words and demeanor showing just how protective she was of *Gordan*.

Selena curled her lips and said, "Okay, Gordan is good at everything. I can't stand how silly you're being. He's using you! Vivian, if this goes on, he'll eventually harm you! "

had a loving smile on her face as she replied, "No. Although Gordan doesn't love me nor is he gentle with me, he's my husband. The two of us are going to be together for a lifetime. I believe that as long as I treat him well, he'll be touched by my efforts one

she saw how fond Vivian was of Gordan, Bianca shook her

woman who had fallen in love would have a negative IQ. An innocent woman like Vivian would give up everything without a second thought when she fell in love with a man. Even if she knew that the other person was only using her and even if her heart had been broken over and over again, she would still flutter like a moth to him. He was her light.

thought that Vivian could do

a playboy. He was wonderful to his brothers and friends, but when it came to romantic relationships, he was a

was not optimistic about Vivian's persistence, but she understood that it was not her place to say something. Bianca decided to talk to Gordan about how he should treat

they were tired from walking, they went to the food area to get

of them ordered a fruit platter. A pineapple served as its base, while the soil was made out of grapes, kiwi, cantaloupe. Orange slices acted as petals while the stems were made out of strawberries. Lemons were carved into leaves. It was beautiful and

on a bench in the mall while eating their

bench was in the middle of the aisle and there were a lot of shops on both sides. The surrounding traffic

Chapter 696

Bianca was unsure what had happened. A minute ago, they were just talking about going to a spa and a hair salon. However, out of the blue, Vivian insisted on heading home immediately.

She held Vivian's hand and asked worriedly, "What's going on? What happened to Gordan?"

Vivian shook her head gently and kept quiet. Her brother's roar echoed in her mind, "Come home now! Gordan is a bastard and I'm going to kill him! He brought someone home to mess around with. Are you going to do anything about it?!"

At that moment, Vivian's heart felt like it had been stabbed by a sharp knife.

Intense shame overwhelmed her, and she was not sure what to do.

She did not believe it and even explained to Ray on the phone, "Ray, this must be a misunderstanding. Gordan... He... He wouldn't do this to me. Wait for me, I'll come back right away. Before I get home, please don't hurt him. Otherwise, you'll never hear the end of it from me!"

Even in a situation as such, Vivian was still on Gordan's side and defended him.

Bianca could only look at Selena for help.

She did not understand Russian, so she was unsure of what Vivian had told Ray on the phone, but Selena understood.

Selena looked at Vivian, whose head was buried in her knees, and bit her lip distressingly. "I don't know exactly what happened, but from what I heard, it seems that Gordan has wronged Vivian..."

Bianca sighed heavily and held Tommy a little tighter. She wanted to comfort Vivian, but seeing how pitiful she looked now, she kept her mouth shut.

'Let's go back and see what's going on.'

...

home was a large and luxurious high-end villa with a unique and

loved his sister so much he only gave her the best

interior was as magnificent as a

as they arrived, they saw Gordan who had been badly beaten up and was kneeling on the ground with a gun on his

European beauty with blonde hair and blue eyes lay on the ground. She was naked and had a hole in her chest. The carpet around her was dyed with a striking red

sat on the sofa, his handsome face looking

row of bodyguards was lined up behind him. The atmosphere in the room was solemn and

the ashtray on the coffee table, there were more than a dozen cigarette butts. It was obvious that Ray was in a bad

was not the first time that Bianca had seen a gun, but it was her first time seeing such a

she knew that Ray held the title of the godfather of the Mafia, she was still scared when she saw the murdered woman in front of her. She pressed Tommy's face close to her chest to prevent him from seeing the

who had always been bold, turned pale with fright. She had never been exposed to this side

Vivian could tell that Bianca and Selena were uneasy, so she held their hands tightly as she said, "Sister-in-law, Selena, it's okay, I'm **here**."

"**Ray**, why are you here? Why didn't you call me before you came?" Vivian walked up to Ray and stood between him and Gordan. She was speaking to Ray, but her gaze kept falling on Gordan.

*She was afraid that the bodyguard would accidentally fire the gun and hurt **her man**.*

*There were a few large gifts on the coffee table in front **of Ray**.*

Maybe because of the fight earlier, the gifts had been torn open, revealing the *presents inside*.

They were all jewelry and food that Vivian liked.

Vivian was disconsolate. She was trying her best to smile, but her tears fell as she asked, "Ray, why did you bring me so many gifts? Is today a special **day**?"

These were her two favorite men in the world. One loved her so much while the other one would only hurt her deeply. She did not want to see them be in a conflict, let alone lose either of **them**.

When he saw that Vivian was in tears, the murderous look on Ray's face relaxed a little as he said, "You forgot? Today is your birthday."

It had not been their choice to be born into a Mafia family. Their world was cruel and filled with bloodshed. The fierce internal struggle for power had turned the two of them into orphans. They had lived on the streets when they were young with only each other to rely on.

Vivian had once brought him to beg on the streets. If Vivian had not abandoned her dignity to support Ray, he would never *have lived*.

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Ray, Vivian was his sister and also his half mother. They were

that son of a b*tch, dared to betray his

within him and he could not wait to blow Gordan's

through the gifts on the table and said, "Ray,

pearl necklaces, diamond rings, jade bracelets, preserved fruits, and specialties from all over

looked at the gifts one by one as tears wet her eyes. Ray was the only one in the world who

did not speak, but when his gaze fell on Gordan, it was full of hatred and hurt. If looks could kill, Gordan would have died thousands of times

Gordan looked like he was not bothered and acted indifferent

glanced at the gun in his

been in charge of the Mafia for so many years and countless people had died in his hands. The only reason he had not shot Gordan was because of his

He wanted to kill the bastard!

had a good impression of Gordan. He even questioned whether such a perverted and irresponsible man would treat his sister

Chapter 697

Bianca's silence made Ray think that she would not interfere in his decision, so he vented all his anger on Gordan and intended to beat him to death.

Ray was known to be cruel. If he wanted someone dead, he would be merciless and hold nothing back.

Gordan protected his head with his hands as he curled up into a ball. He endured it at first.

Eventually, it was unsure whether he could no longer stand the pain or if it was because he felt embarrassed in front of Bianca...

He suddenly grabbed Ray's hand. His blood-stained face snarled at Ray as he shouted, "Kill me if you want to! I'm not afraid of you just because you're the godfather of the Mafia! If Luke were around, you'd never dare to lay a finger on me. Your sister is so ugly that she makes me lose my appetite every time I see her. Who the f*ck would want to marry her?"

"At that time, what happened between us was consensual. She should thank God for the rest of her life that I took her virginity. How could you force me to marry her? If it weren't for this ugly monster, Luke wouldn't have come all the way here to negotiate with you! You almost cost Luke an arm and you even f*cking forced my ex-girlfriend to have an abortion! You forced me to marry this shameless girl!"

Gordan roared.

Ray was furious at how unapologetic Gordan was. His punches and kicks became heavier.

Bianca was taken back.

not aware that so many things had happened to Luke in Moscow. He even almost gave up an arm for that moment, she felt flustered

be that brotherhood was more important to Luke than his wife

vomiting blood as he tried to get up, but he fell after being kicked by Ray

covered in blood and his handsome face

he continued to curse at Ray as if he wanted to push the man to

furious and felt bad for Vivian. She clapped her hands and praised Ray, saying, "Scumbags deserve to be beaten

sure that this was not the way to go. Gordan had to learn a lesson, but if he was beaten to death by Ray, she would never be able to face Luke. Gordan was Luke's best friend and had saved his life countless times before. She was sure that Luke would not want Gordan dying in Ray's

when she was about to speak, Vivian could no longer stand back. She cried and rushed forward, hugging Ray's thigh tightly as she said, "Brother, please stop hurting him. Gordan is about to be beaten to death by

She knew that if Ray could not settle his grievances with Gordan, he would most likely just shoot him.

That was why she did not stop Ray earlier when he first started beating up Gordan. However, when she saw that her man was about to be killed, she had to act quickly.

Vivian, who had always been gentle, kind, and never once raised her voice, said firmly, "Ray, no matter what Gordan has done, he's my husband. Even if he has done something wrong, I'll forgive him. Please let him go. We're already husband and wife. No matter how angry you are, you can't change that. I'm his wife and I plan to spend the rest of my life with him. He's your brother-in-law. Are you going to kill him and make me a widow? If you dare lay another finger on him, I'll die in front of you right *now!*"

Vivian picked up a gun on the ground and pointed the muzzle at her head. She said resolutely, "I'm a woman of *my word!*"

Ray was silent for a moment. He snatched the gun from Vivian's hand, took a step back, and put the gun in **his pocket**.

Then, he gave Gordan one last kick. Ray then endured his anger and walked out the door.

When he reached the entrance, Ray turned around and threatened Gordan again, "Gordan, listen to me. I'll spare you this time for the sake of Vivian and Bianca. Next time, I won't show mercy! My sister is the most beautiful and kind girl in the world. She's the person I love the most. If you dare to do such nasty things to hurt her again, I promise you that you'll meet **your end!**"

When he met Bianca's gaze, he paused for a second and said sarcastically, "How can such a wonderful man like Luke have a bastard friend like *Gordan?*"

I'll see you off." Bianca did not respond to what he said. She merely followed Ray out of the villa. She was filled with guilt as she said, "Sorry,

still burned, but he knew that Bianca was innocent. He eased his tone and said, "Don't worry too much about Luke. Now that you have a clue, you'll find him sooner or later. I don't think that Gordan will change. Please do me a favor and have a chat with him. Otherwise, I'll kill him

apologized and said, "Mr. Ray, rest assured that Gordan has learned his lesson. I'll talk to him. Vivian is a kind and simple girl. Gordan is indeed not worthy

and then waved to Bianca. "Go back. Don't worry about sending me off. Although Gordan seems to be badly hurt, I didn't hurt his vitals. He might have to lay in bed for a month or two to fully

watched Ray leave with his group of bodyguards. She was envious of how he

was lucky to have a brother who did everything to

...

sports car was as fast as a meteor. Explosive rock music was blasting in the

speeding and turning the steering wheel arbitrarily. She kept thinking about the woman she had seen in the mall

Chapter 697

Bianca's silence made Ray think that she would not interfere in his decision, so he vented all his anger on Gordan and intended to beat him to death.

Ray was known to be cruel. If he wanted someone dead, he would be merciless and hold nothing back.

Gordan protected his head with his hands as he curled up into a ball. He endured it at first.

Eventually, it was unsure whether he could no longer stand the pain or if it was because he felt embarrassed in front of Bianca...

He suddenly grabbed Ray's hand. His blood-stained face snarled at Ray as he shouted, "Kill me if you want to! I'm not afraid of you just because you're the godfather of the Mafia! If Luke were around, you'd never dare to lay a finger on me. Your sister is so ugly that she makes me lose my appetite every time I see her. Who the f*ck would want to marry her?"

"At that time, what happened between us was consensual. She should thank God for the rest of her life that I took her virginity. How could you force me to marry her? If it weren't for this ugly monster, Luke wouldn't have come all the way here to negotiate with you! You almost cost Luke an arm and you even f*cking forced my ex-girlfriend to have an abortion! You forced me to marry this shameless girl!"

Gordan roared.

Ray was furious at how unapologetic Gordan was. His punches and kicks became heavier.

Bianca was taken back.

not aware that so many things had happened to Luke in Moscow. He even almost gave up an arm for that moment, she felt flustered

be that brotherhood was more important to Luke than his wife

vomiting blood as he tried to get up, but he fell after being kicked by Ray

covered in blood and his handsome face

he continued to curse at Ray as if he wanted to push the man to

furious and felt bad for Vivian. She clapped her hands and praised Ray, saying, "Scumbags deserve to be beaten

sure that this was not the way to go. Gordan had to learn a lesson, but if he was beaten to death by Ray, she would never be able to face Luke. Gordan was Luke's best friend and had saved his life countless times before. She was sure that Luke would not want Gordan dying in Ray's

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Chapter 698

The sun was setting.

Luke drove a fishing boat on the surface of the sea. From afar, he could see a luxury cruise ship.

The cruise ship was brilliantly lit. There was a party going on.

He had been to such occasions before. He knew that people from the upper layers of society loved to host tacky events like those to flaunt their family's wealth.

He narrowed his gaze and thought of an idea.

Instantly, he abandoned the fishing boat, dove into the sea elegantly like a swordfish, and swam toward the cruise ship...

In the VIP cabin of the cruise ship.

A young and handsome man was dressed in the classic English style. His skin was more delicate than a female, and his deep blue eyes and sculpted mixed-blood features inspired romance.

He stood tall and straight like a noble in front of the window, looking down at the hall while slightly frowning.

He seemed like a gentleman, but his thin lips were slightly pressed together in disapproval.

In front of him was Shanna, a sweet, charming, and graceful blond-haired beauty. She also had deep blue eyes.

at the food in front of her and said fawningly, "Anand, I've made French toast, Cornish pie, and walnut tarts for you... Please try them and let me know how

paused, seeing that Anand did not move. She pointed at another plate and said, "I've heard from Mdm. Mahachitra that you love pastéis de nata, so I baked some

was French, but she spoke impeccable English because she loved

glanced at the golden-yellow custard tarts and prepared to sit down. Shanna instantly pulled a chair for

few people know that Anand was the son of the richest person in India. Despite his elevated social status, he preferred working among the regular employees in a company to experience so-called

were generational friends with Anand's. However, their wealth or influence was far inferior to Anand's family. That was why Shanna's mother had taught her since young that she should try to capture Anand's heart so that she could eventually marry him and become the future

was a little girl, Shanna's mother had hired the best culture and etiquette tutors for her. Even after she had a mind of her own, all she thought was how to get on Anand's good

party on the cruise ship was supposed to pave the way for their eventual

left them in the VIP cabin in hopes that they would get to know each other better. Shanna was obviously overjoyed, but Anand thought that it was all

always treated Shanna as a younger sister and nothing more. He had told her that repeatedly; not only did she not listen, but she intensified her advances toward him. Anand was frustrated, but he did not know how to utterly discourage

"I don't think that we're a match, Shanna. Faris is better. He..."

Faris was Anand's cousin. He had been trying to court Shanna and had been hounding **her incessantly**.

Shanna interjected before Anand could finish his sentence. "You don't like these, Anand? I'll prepare something else for *you*."

"It's fine, Shanna. You did a great job." Anand looked helplessly at the delicate desserts on the **table**.

They were even more well-made than those found in dessert cafes. Anand could tell that Shanna had spent a lot of effort in perfecting **them**.

However, he was not interested in *tasting them*.

Despite having left A City for a long time, his heart was still attached to the beautiful woman he met in that city -- Bianca Rayne.

Bianca was an enigma to him. She was elegant, pure, and seemingly frail and delicate like a flower in a greenhouse. However, when it came to working, she became assertive and aggressive like a totally different person. She was unforgettable.

Anand was frustrated when he remembered that Bianca was already married to another man and even bore children with **him**.

His love could not bloom. It had already died when the seed was planted in the soil.

He wondered how that woman was doing.

for a while, Anand decided to lay the cards on the table with Shanna. "Shanna, I'd rather not continue to deceive you, but I've always treated you as a little sister and not a lover. Even if we marry each other, we will not find any bliss. Would you rather devote the rest of your life to a man who doesn't love you? Moreover... I already have a girl I like, and she has promised that she will marry me. Please don't waste any more time on me. You won't find the happiness that you're looking

for with Shanna. The woman he loved was already married with children, and she did not like him at all. However, that was the only way to get Shanna to give up

on me. That's impossible. You must be lying to me. That can't be true..." Shanna's delicate face turned
shook her head hard as tears fell from

his eyes. He wanted to flip the table and cry hysterically, but she did not do so because of
her hands were clenched tight. Suddenly, she turned around and ran out of the room
sighed as he watched

her go. She was a good girl. It was perhaps best for her that she gave up on him today. Otherwise, maintaining the lie would only cause

him to wonder if he did he know that those careless words nearly put Bianca in a deadly peril someday in the

...

Chapter 699

"Where do you think you're looking?" The man behind Anand spoke hoarsely, and his grip on Anand became tighter.

Anand dared not look around, but he saw that the man had rolled up the sleeve of the arm that was pinning him. Terrifying scars crisscrossed the muscular arm.

Anand suddenly remembered that Bianca's husband had been missing for two years. When he wanted to visit Bianca, she had rejected him, and he did not pursue the matter further.

Where had Luke Crawford been in the past two years? What had he been through?

No one would know.

From what Anand could see, he could tell that Luke had been suffering.

Otherwise, the wealthy and noble Luke would not have so many scars.

Suddenly, a servant knocked on the cabin door. "Mr. Anand, were you quarreling with Ms. Shanna earlier? Madam wants you to meet her in the front hall..."

Anand could feel something hard and tubular press into his waist.

"Listen to me if you want to live. Tell her that you're occupied now." Luke's tone of voice remained as icy as ever.

Anand smiled but did what Luke said anyway. "Yes, I know. Please tell my mother that I'll change my clothes before going over."

"Yes, Mr. Anand."

did not sense anything suspicious and

was pleased that the hostage was willing to cooperate. That saved him a lot

he could ask his hostage about where the cruise ship was heading, Anand suddenly turned around and said with a smile. "Long time no see, Mr. Crawford. Do you still remember

icy demeanor cracked when he saw Anand's face.

He knew who that man was.

in A City, Anand had tried to court Bianca. When Luke found out about it, he threatened the man to stay away and even contacted the Mahachitra family in India to take Anand away from A

always thought that his father was behind the decision of summoning him back to inherit the family

never knew that Luke was behind all

held Anand hostage in an emergency. He did not see the man's face

he realized who the hostage was, he put his gun down but remained alert. "I'm sorry, Mr. Anand, please pardon my intrusion, but there is a good reason behind it. Where is the cruise ship heading? Can I come along? I'll be sure to repay your debt in

about it, Mr. Crawford. It's a big ship, and it could carry

Anand shrugged carelessly.

To him, Luke was undoubtedly an outstanding man. Otherwise, Bianca would not be so devoted to him.

Anand was a gentleman, and he had become more mature and reserved after two years. If he could not obtain the woman he loved, he did not mind protecting her from the *shadows*.

He took out two shot glasses from the cabinet, filled them with whisky, and handed Luke one. "Where have you been in the past two years, Mr. Crawford? Don't you know that Rayne nearly lost her mind looking for *you*?"

Luke's heart wrenched when Bianca's name was mentioned. He was obsessed with reuniting with her.

Considering his current situation, he spoke helplessly, "How *is she*?"

"*You* should be able to guess how she is now. When you first went missing, T Corporation nearly imploded. I wanted to help her, but she declined my offer. She single-handedly brought the company back on track. You should know how hard it is for someone without any business or management experience to do that. Moreover, she was pregnant with your baby while juggling company business, and she had to bear with the loss of her husband... I wonder how she managed all that."

Luke tried to hold back his feelings of guilt. He reached out his muscular arm toward Anand. "Can I borrow your *phone*?"

"What?" It took a while for Anand to process **Luke's request**.

He quickly took out his phone and handed it to Luke. "Here, *use it*."

"*Thanks*." *Luke* brusquely took the phone and dialed Bianca's phone number with a trembling finger.

He threw caution out of the window when he heard Anand's words. He was going crazy thinking about that woman.

if he could not meet her now, he would be satisfied listening to her

if Robert could trace the call, he could only trace it back to the Mahachitras. Even the Indian government dared not cross that influential family, and Robert would stay away

...

Moscow.

broke five of Gordan's ribs. Gordan had to be hospitalized, and Vivian attended to him in

went to visit. On the other hand, Selena hated that man, and she stayed at home to tend

to persuade Gordan in the

not know if Gordan would listen to her, but she had done all

amiable toward Bianca but was cold

to keep a distance from Vivian, as though Vivian was the one at

was helpless, but she believed that Gordan would eventually come to his senses and accept Vivian's

Chapter 700

When Bianca heard that voice, she felt an invisible hand grip her heart, and the pain caused her to tremble uncontrollably.

Tears started to fall. "Luke... is that you? Is that really you, Luke?"

The woman's stifled sobs were very soft. Like a wisp of smoke, it traveled through the phone and entered Luke's ear.

It was as though he could see Bianca's crying face in front of him.

Luke's heart wrenched, but he forced himself to stay calm. "Don't cry... It's me. I'm still alive. Listen to me. I'm in a risky situation now, and I can't contact you too often. Otherwise, you and the children will be in danger. I can't tell you too much now, but when I get home, I'll tell you what happened to me over the past two years..."

Now, she was like a flower blooming under the sun, but he could only look at her from the shadows. He wanted to pluck that flower, but he could not risk exposing himself.

Bianca wanted to stop crying, but she could not stop her tears. "Alright, we'll wait for your return... Luke, do you know that our third child is born? He's a boy, and he looks exactly like you. His nickname is Tommy. Lanie and Rainie have been very good too. They never let me worry. Grandpa fell sick after he knew that you went missing, but he's still healthy. T Corporation is operating normally. I've managed to protect your legacy..."

They were husband and wife, and Bianca knew the things that concerned Luke the most.

he could ask, Bianca told him everything that he wanted to

my wife." Luke's resonant voice entered Bianca's ear. "Trust me. I will come back to you

tried to keep her voice low and steady, but her trembling lips betrayed her emotions. "Where are you now, Luke? I brought Tommy to Moscow to look for you, and we're staying in Ray's house now. Are you still

expression changed drastically. "You brought Tommy to Moscow?

shouldn't I? You went missing in Moscow, so I thought I could find some leads here..." Bianca

felt aggrieved when Luke had responded

to speak hastily. "Listen to me, Bianca. My disappearance two years ago is related to a secret organization of assassins named the League of Shadows. They are cruel and merciless, and they have taken me captive for the past two years. I only managed to escape from their clutches a few days ago, and they've been trying to hunt me down. If they find out that you and Tommy are in their territory, you'll be in

Bianca shook her head in disbelief.

Now that Luke had told her about his perilous situation, her tears started flowing again. "What's going on? If what you said is true, does that mean you're in bigger danger? How can I save you?"

Luke could imagine how weak and helpless Bianca was right *now*.

He tried to calm himself down and spoke to her, "You don't have to worry about me, silly girl. I'll be fine. You'll have to take care of yourself and Tommy. Now that you're in Russia, the people from the League

of Shadows might already have set their eyes on you. Remember what I'm about to tell you: Ray is a powerful figure in Russia. Even though I've only met him once, I can say that you can count on him. We're considered friends, and you can seek him *for help*.

"There's also Gordan, that b*stard. He might be frivolous when it comes to women, but you can rely on him for everything else. If you tell them your situation, they'll be able to help you. I'll try to come back to Moscow as soon as possible, but in the meantime, you should stay with Ray and not go anywhere else. The League of Shadows has eyes everywhere, and I can't imagine what would happen if you fell into their **hands!**"

Bianca sobbed. "Alright, I'll listen to whatever you say, Luke. All I hope now is that you return to me safely..."

"I will return to you. If everything goes well, I will come back to you soon. I can't tell you too much when I'm using someone else's phone, but you have to remember what I tell you. I love you, *my wife...*"

"I love you too, Luke. The children and I will wait for your return."

Bianca ended the call reluctantly.

Tommy sleeping peacefully on the bed, she planted a heavy kiss on his face. "Son, your Daddy is coming back to us soon. You'll be able to meet

...

luxury car without a license plate stopped next to the road under

window rolled down, revealing a charming and seductive pair

woman wore sunglasses, even though it was late at

night wind scattered the woman's blond hair, which made her look

found out anything about that woman?" *Kassy's* voice was soft and gentle as she spoke