

Be Gentle 761

Chapter 761 Wreck This Bridal Boutique!

Luke went into the guest room. He saw his clothes, used and brand-new, arranged neatly in the closet. His shoes were placed on the shoe rack, and his toiletries in a bag.

He could not help but grimace.

Not only did his wife not speak to him, but she also moved his belongings into another room. How dare she!

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Bianca went around the city, busy surveying for a suitable location for her company. Now that she had decided to embark on this journey, she realized that starting a business was not as easy as she thought, even after being CEO of T Corporation for two years.

After all, T Corporation was a corporation with established business and management practices. Even though the workload was heavy, Bianca found it manageable.

On the other hand, starting a new company meant that she had to start from scratch, whether it be about financial and human resources or other aspects. She did not want to involve T Corporation in her new company.

If she did that, it would be no different from relying on Luke.

she wanted was to distance herself from that man as much as she

online and searched for some listings. The scale of the company would not be too big at the start, so she only searched for offices with less than 3,500 square feet of space. Soon, she shortened her list down to three options. The first was located downtown and had modern furnishings. The location was ideal, surrounded by the central business district, the financial street, and the technology hub. Of course, the rental was

second was located slightly farther away in the suburbs, and the price was more affordable at about thirty thousand dollars a month. The lighting was excellent, and the scenery was great, not to mention that it included amenities such as a shared conference room, a pantry, and

final one was located in the Nordlong Lake District. The office space was

previous two, and the furnishings were modern and complete. The price was the lowest at about twenty thousand dollars, though its only shortcoming was that it was very far away from the city area. Even though there was a direct rail line, it would take about

her options carefully and eventually contacted the landlord of the second

year of rental plus other fees cost Bianca about five hundred thousand dollars

had made a lot of money from the profits and dividends of T Corporation over the past two

She could not be bothered to count the number of digits in her bank account balance.

She would rather not use the money because it was related to Luke, but she needed a lot of funds in the starting stages of her company, and it was not the time to be too *stubborn*.

She decided that she would pay the amount back once the company was on **track**.

Now that the location was decided, Bianca thought of getting office supplies for the business.

She went to the wholesaler with Nina to purchase office **supplies**.

She did not ask Sue to come along because the date of Sue and Jason's wedding was getting close, and the couple was trying out wedding dresses for their shoot. Bianca felt genuinely happy for Sue. She and Nina could see that Jason's love for her over the past two years **was genuine**.

They had convinced Sue to get married earlier, but Sue was afraid of committing. Moreover, Jason's ex-wife and son remained an **obstacle**.

Eventually, Jason's earnest advances managed to convince her to get married. Perhaps it was also because Sue did not wish for her daughters to grow up without a **father figure**.

...

the bridal boutique, Sue's face was reflected in a European-style oval mirror carved with floral gown covered a large area of

skin was fair, and it looked fairer when contrasted against the whiteness of the gown. She wore exquisite makeup on her face, and her beauty was

dressed in a white suit. He could not take his eyes away

that the woman was already very beautiful. Once in the wedding gown, he felt as though she could captivate his soul. Sue tried several gowns on, but every one of them looked good on her. She shone like a brilliant

felt that his mouth and throat were dry. He wanted to drag her to the church now so that they could be pronounced husband and

Sue was not satisfied with the gowns she

time she came out of the dressing room, she was dressed in a French-style gown with a boat neckline and a monarch train. The form-fitting cut accentuated the charming curves of her body, and the color of the gown emphasized the fairness of her skin. She looked like she was a goddess walking on top of the

Chapter 762 Fighting for the Husband

The security guards of the bridal boutique rushed up with their batons when they saw someone trying to cause trouble.

However, they were no match for those gangsters with weapons.

Soon, the security guards were all sprawled on the floor, wailing in pain and clutching their injuries.

Jason protected Sue in his arms and glared at his ex-wife. "What do you want, Bailey?"

Bailey sat on the couch and looked at the "loving" couple with a sinister gaze.

One of them was her ex-husband, while the other was the "mistress" whom she envied. Her brown eyes were shooting countless invisible icicles at them!

had the urge to burn down the bridal boutique. As for the woman who stole her husband, she wanted to chop her into tiny bits! "Why, my dear ex-husband, are you angry that I've interrupted your photo session with that mistress of yours? Do you remember that our son is still heavily sick? Not only did she bear two of your b*stard children, but now you want to marry her. Where does that put me? Let me tell you, as long as I'm alive, I won't allow you to marry

in the bridal boutique opened their eyes wide when they
at Sue with nosy

could not believe that the seemingly loving couple was actually a disloyal husband and

body went taut when he heard Bailey's words. He carefully escorted Sue to somewhere safe, then walked in front of Bailey and towered over her. "I didn't want to argue with you because you're Shane's mother, and I don't want to mention the horrible things you've done to me in front of everyone. I want to protect your reputation, but that doesn't mean you can humiliate me and Sue. We've already divorced five years ago, and I've only gotten together with Sue two years ago. Don't involve her in

Bailey became even angrier when she saw that Jason was protecting Sue.

She grabbed a crystal photo album on display and flung it at Jason. "I don't care. You are Shane's father and my husband. We were once married, and don't think that you can shake me off just like that! You told me that you're going to remarry me, and I've waited for you for so many years, but you ended up marrying that woman! No, I

want you to marry me again!" "That's impossible. I'd rather not marry for the rest of my life than marry you again!" Jason dodged.

The crystal photo album fell on the floor and shattered into a million pieces.

The manager of the bridal boutique got to know that someone was here to cause trouble. He sashayed in front of Bailey and said, "Miss, we can talk if there's anything. I'll help you solve any problems..."

Bailey glanced at the manager arrogantly. Her contempt was obvious. "Get lost. It's none of your business here! Another word from you and I'll burn down your store!" She shot a glance at her underlings. They came over, beat up the manager, picked him up, and tossed him out of the door. The other staff of the bridal boutique fell silent when they saw that.

They looked down, and no one dared to **stand up**.

Sue looked at Bailey, whose lingering presence continued to torment Jason. Her face became paler and paler by *the moment*.

lips curled up into a

shouldn't have agreed to marry you. You can't even deal with your ex-wife!' Sue picked up a bouquet of flowers used as a prop and threw it at Jason's feet. "Looks like we're not going to get our photo shoot done today, Jason Doyle. You ought to clean up your mess first," she said coldly. Jason knew that Sue was angry. He was worried that if she left, she would call off the

he grabbed her hand. "Give me some time, Sue. I'll handle all this to your

sank. She pounced onto Jason and firmly grasped his arm. "I was wrong, Jason. It's all my fault. I shouldn't order you around like a servant or humiliate you in front of my family, and I shouldn't have had one-night stands at the nightclub while we were married... I've changed now. My temper has gotten better, and I've never gone to a nightclub ever since. Please forgive me, at least for Shane. I love you, and I don't want to lose

unconvinced. "You've said that countless times, but you forget your promise the next day, and you even become worse. It looks like you'll never change. We're really not meant for each other, Bailey." Bailey's eyes became bloodshot. She pointed at Sue while ordering the men in black, "Cripple that b*tch Sue Carter and ruin her face! I'd like to see how she'd seduce my man without a beautiful

men in black who were smashing up the store turned around and glared at

Chapter 763 A Female Guest in the House

Bianca had just come out of the shopping mall and was about to go into her car when she received a call from Luke. "It's the 15th today. Let's go back to Crawford Manor and have dinner. Where are you now? I'll go and pick you up."

Considering their current standoff, Bianca wanted to hang up immediately. However, she thought of her three children. She bit her lip and replied coldly, "You don't have to pick me up. I can drive there myself. I'm a little busy now. See you later."

She hung up before the other party could reply.

In T Corporation, Luke's eyebrows twitched as he stared at his phone. Then, he sighed.

The woman was becoming more and more brazen. He knew that Bianca was in the midst of starting her own company, and he had the intention of helping her.

Bianca might have experience with managing a company, but she did not have the experience of starting one.

He expected that she would come and ask him for help. However, the woman never once asked him for advice, no matter how difficult the obstacles might be.

She remained as stubborn as ever. It would be a long time before she would forgive him!

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Meanwhile, Bianca sped along the road in an attempt to release her anger.

Nina was sitting in the side passenger seat, and her heart was already in her throat. "What's up with you, Bea? Traffic is so heavy now, and you ought to be careful..." Bianca was usually steady and cautious when she drove. Nina enjoyed riding in her

car.

She did not understand why Bianca was driving as though she was gambling with her life.

Bianca glanced to her right. She noticed that Nina's face was pale, and she was clutching the seatbelt tightly. It was then that Bianca realized that she had been ridiculous.

She looked at the cars around her and heard the screams and curses. Instantly, she slowed down and said to Nina apologetically, "I'm sorry, Nina. I'm not in a good mood today, and I can't control my emotions. It's my fault. Sorry for frightening you"

Nina placed her hand over her heart that was still beating wildly. "Oh my, who made you angry? I bet the boss would crush them to bits. You shouldn't be so reckless even though you're angry, isn't it? You were never like this before, and you've been acting weird recently. Don't tell me that the boss is the one who made you angry? That shouldn't be, Mr. Crawford is famous for doting upon his wife..."

Bianca shook her head. "It's a long story. Never mind, let's not mention him and talk about you instead. How are things between you and Percy Mallory? Is he treating you well?"

The smile in Nina's expression faded instantly, and she grimaced mockingly. "How can things be? He's willing to pay, and I'm willing to take his money. It's a purely monetary transaction that benefits the both of us, and I can't complain about how he treats me. He'll eventually tire of me, and I'll once again be free. Isn't that how things usually are?"

Bianca was dejected when she heard that her best friend was treated that way. It was the same as when she sold her body to Luke Crawford.

She had tried to speak up for Nina in front of Percy, but Percy had a mind of his own. Luke did not want to meddle too much into his friend's personal matters.

Bianca knew that Luke prioritizes tangible benefits over emotions. He would not endanger his relationship with Percy because of Nina.

Bianca sighed. "Take care of yourself, Nina. You must tell me if you need anything."

She could never fully repay her debt of gratitude to Nina, and she felt uneasy when she saw that Nina was unhappy.

Nina flashed a toothy grin at her, seemingly unperturbed. "Maybe that's my fate. You don't have to worry about me. I might be unlucky for now, but who knows if my luck would change in the future? I think I'm lucky to have a sugar daddy like Percy Mallory instead of some fat and oily middle-aged man. At least he's handsome and amazing in bed. I couldn't have found a better deal."

Bianca felt even more uneasy after hearing that. "Nina..." Nina gently leaned on her shoulder. "Alright, alright. Let's not talk about unhappy things. Our happiness is the most important. Nothing can stand in our way as long as we're happy."

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When Bianca returned to Crawford Manor, she saw Old Master Crawford enjoying his tea, the three children playing together, and Allison sitting on the couch, chatting with a young and beautiful woman.

The young woman had an oval-shaped face, big eyes, a tall nose bridge, and supple lips. She wore a pink dress, and her hair was tied up in a cute bun. She was charming when she smiled, and she looked like she was in her prime.

Bianca wondered who that unexpected guest was.

Old Master Crawford was the first one to greet Bianca. He pointed at the young woman and said, "You're back, Bianca. This is Maxine, your mother-in-law's niece. She's here from the capital, and she'll be staying over for a few days." "Oh, nice to meet you." Bianca smiled at the guest and took off her shoes. She had just removed her shoes and was about to pick up the slippers when Tommy, who had been playing with blocks on the carpet, quickly ran toward Bianca. The little boy picked a pair of slippers from the shoe rack and handed it to Bianca. "Your slippers, Mommy." "Thank you, Tommy. Good boy." Bianca gently kissed Tommy's head. She was moved by her son's gesture.

The young woman named Maxine looked at Bianca curiously and brushed her hair. "Aunt Allison, is she... Luke's wife?"

Allison glanced at Bianca contemptuously. "Mm," she replied coldly. Maxine took note of her aunt's expression and discreetly sized up Bianca.

Looking at her figure, she could not imagine that Bianca was already a mother of three children.

Bianca's eyes were big and clear, and her lips were petite and supple. Not only was her skin fair and well-maintained, but her figure was also curvaceous. She might be dressed in casual clothes, but she exuded elegance and grace...

Chapter 764 She Is Still Trying To Match Him With Other Women

Maxine turned away from Bianca and looked at Allison once more. She pointed at the two exquisite gift boxes on the coffee table and said, "I bought these presents for you and Grandpa, Aunt Allison. I hope you'll like them."

The sweet smile on Maxine's delicate face made Allison smile. "You didn't have to bring any presents, Maxine. The climate in A City is very different from the capital. Are you used to it?"

Maxine stuck out her tongue and began to unwrap the gift box. "I'm used to it. I can adapt to different environments easily. I've even gone on an expedition to the North Pole with my friends. I'm fine here."

Bianca glanced at Maxine again.

She did not expect that the young woman who seemed frail and delicate dared to explore the North Pole.

Allison exclaimed in surprise, "As expected of a girl who grew up overseas. Your courage and constitution are exceptional. What... did you bring?" Maxine smiled sweetly and carefully detached the ribbon.

first box contained a carved briarwood tobacco pipe, while the other contained a sky-blue mink presented the pipe to Old Master Crawford with both of her hands. "I heard that you're fond of tobacco, Grandpa, so I brought a pipe

bloomed on Old Master Crawford's face. "Thank

bashfully and presented the mink coat to Allison. "I don't know your favorite color, Aunt Allison, but I think that sky-blue should suit your fair skin.

good in it. Do you want to try it

worn sky-blue before. I wonder how it'll look..." Allison could not stop grinning. She took the coat and draped it on

was a dressing mirror in the corner of the living room. She spun around in front of the mirror and found that the size and color matched her body type. That made her look even

A flattered Allison, "You look so fashionable and pretty in this mink coat, Madam. You look barely thirty years old." Caretaker B added, "You really have a good eye for fashion, Ms. Maxine. The coat suits Madam perfectly." Maxine laughed magnanimously. Allison could not help but be impressed by her noble demeanor and impeccable

'*Sigh*, if only Luke married Maxine! Why did he have to marry Bianca, who brings him nothing but trouble?'

When she thought of how her son had been cold and distant to her because of Bianca, she glared at Bianca resentfully, and the smile on her face faded *away*.

Bianca understood that Allison was prejudiced against her.

Allison would compare Bianca to any female guest at Crawford Manor. Bianca ignored her mother-in-law's condescending remarks and played happily with *the children*.

Luke came home at around noon.

When he stepped through the door, he was dressed in a pressed black suit and a fitting white shirt that displayed his lean and muscular **body**.

The man was as handsome as a deity. One could tell that he was an extraordinary individual from his **face**.

could feel her heart beat faster the moment she set her eyes

tugged Allison's arms and asked, "That's Luke, right, Aunt

eyes seemed to have turned into heart shapes as they were transfixed on that handsome man. Her gaze followed him as he walked across the living room toward Bianca, who was playing with the children.

Luke sat down next to Bianca. The couch sank slightly from his weight, and his warm breath tickled

wanted to move away, but Luke held her waist. He whispered into Bianca's ears. "We'll call it a truce when we're back at Crawford Manor, alright? We wouldn't want Mother and other outsiders to look down on us. If you have anything to tell me, we can do it back

to resist, but she realized that anything out of the ordinary that she did might make her the subject of ridicule. She had no choice but to give

at the blushing Maxine and smiled knowingly. "That's Luke, my son. Luke, this is your cousin Maxine. Do you remember her? You carried her when she was a baby. Come over here, and I'll introduce you to

can remember what happened so long ago? Stop bringing unrelated people back home, Mother. Otherwise, people might think that we're a homeless shelter." Luke spoke without looking at Maxine. His gaze remained transfixed on Bianca. Maxine's expressions turned unpleasant instantly. "Aunt Allison..." She bit her

glared at Luke. "How can you say that? She comes from a wealthy family in the capital. She's here in A City because she's looking to get an internship in a major company. Now that Maxine's here, you should arrange a suitable position for her in the company so that she can gain some working experience for the next six months." Maxine came from a family of politicians. Her grandfather and father were important people in the

Chapter 765 She Felt That Her Body Was Cold All Over

Allison could feel anger rising when her son had embarrassed her in front of a guest.

She was about to open her mouth when Maxine gently tugged her elbow and smiled sweetly at Luke. "If that's the rules of T Corporation, then I shouldn't ask for special treatment. I'll apply to the company and go through the interview process. If I succeed, I'll do my internship at T Corporation. If I fail, I won't give you any trouble."

"Mm." Luke looked at Maxine with some surprise. He did not expect her to say that.

He had no recollection of that cousin at all.

He did not care about her supposedly influential background either. In fact, he was not fond of any of his mother's relatives. They had never helped Allison when she needed them the most.

After he took over T Corporation and brought the company to prosperity, Allison's relatives started sucking up to him. He hated materialistic and opportunistic people like those.

Maxine's heart started beating faster when she saw Luke looking at her.

She smiled at her, and two faint dimples appeared on her face.

watched as the two people spoke. She suddenly felt that Maxine's smile was an eyesore. She sighed inaudibly and sat quietly on the couch. No one knew what she

faint ray of sunlight landed on Bianca's face, which illuminated the microscopic hairs on

were placed in a vase on the coffee table. It formed a beautiful and serene picture with Bianca's

caught in a daze as he looked at the scene. He held Bianca's hands tightly and felt that there was nothing more that he would ask

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Soon, it was mealtime.

meal was a lot more sumptuous than usual, perhaps because there was a guest. The Crawfords had hired a professional chef to prepare the meal: Venison bourguignon, poached sturgeon, fresh garden salad with caviar, truffle and

alone were tantalizing, and the plating was simply a joy

not have the appetite to eat. She took a few bites of the salad and could not eat

Luke knew that Bianca was not in a good mood. He tried to coax Bianca **to eat**.

He knew that Bianca loved soup. He took a small bowl and ladled half a bowl of *fish*

soup for her with some fish. "You've been losing weight recently. You should eat more. This is wild carp. I know that you like **it...**"

The gazes of the people around the dining table fell on Bianca. She could feel her scalp **tingle**.

Rather than embarrass Luke, she stuffed the fish in her mouth.

The wild carp was tender and delicious. That made her appetite better.

Before Maxine came to A City, she had heard about how Luke Crawford doted upon and pampered his wife. When she witnessed how that demigod of a man coaxed his wife to eat as though she were a child, she was nonetheless shocked and, at the same time, a *little jealous*.

She had two elder brothers who had families of their own. As far as she knew, her sisters-in-law were submissive toward their husbands and took care of them as though they were their masters. She had never seen a man treat his wife **like that**.

he was an extraordinary man, and he should have enjoyed his wife's tender care instead of the other way round. Yuri glanced coldly at her brother-in-law and his wife. Her dissatisfaction toward Louis grew even more. Louis was spoon-feeding their daughter. Yuri was beginning to feel jealous toward that little girl. After all, her husband was not going to treat her well. She had tried throwing tantrums and threatening her, but that had no effect on Louis. She hated his behavior, but she was

pretended not to notice his wife staring daggers at him. He fed his daughter another bite and carefully wiped a food stain on the corner of

pretended that nothing that happened around the dining table had anything to do with

her plot to kill Bianca's third child failed and she received serious warnings from Old Master Crawford and Luke, she began to be a devout follower of religion. She held a rosary in her hand at all times, as though she had shed herself of any mortal concerns. Allison spoke to Maxine when she saw that the young woman was being ignored. "You're too thin, Maxine. You ought to eat more meat. If you're too thin, you'll face problems when delivering

blushed, a little embarrassed by the hospitality she received from her aunt. "I'm almost full, Aunt Allison. I can't eat that

it's not a lot at all. You'll be prettier if you eat more." Bianca glanced coldly at Allison's antics and picked some food for her

three children were almost full, Bianca took several more bites of her fish soup and felt that she was done as

felt extremely tired. Her mother-in-law had never treated her well ever since she married Luke. The only person in the household that was kind to her had deceived her for a stupid reason. She did not know why she had persevered. Her emotions had been exhausted. When the two lines appeared on the pregnancy test kit, her mind went blank. After conducting a more thorough test at the hospital, the doctor confirmed that

pregnant. The pregnancy test kit might have been faulty, or there was some other reason that a false positive was

Chapter 766 His Sideburns Are Graying

Bianca's vision was becoming blurry. She tried to curl up as much as possible, but her lower abdomen still hurt.

The pain was becoming more and more intense. Her tears were threatening to fall.

Bianca felt that she was becoming more and more affectatious.

She used to grit her teeth and bear with it even when she was at her lowest point. Ever since Luke returned, her tears fell a lot more easily. She would find herself crying every few days.

Her womb used to be a lot healthier. She had never experienced period pains.

She attributed the decline in her health to her depression in response to Luke's disappearance while she was pregnant with Tommy. She could not snap out of her despair, and she lost a lot of blood when she delivered the baby.

Ever since then, her health declined, and her period pains would cause her much agony.

Even so, Bianca did not regret giving birth to that precocious child.

The child brought hope to her life. He was the proof that Luke and Bianca had once loved each other.

Bianca could smell the stink of blood in the air. She wanted to get off the bed to find a pad in the bathroom, but she was unable to move because of the intense pain.

flowed from between her legs and stained the sky-blue bed sheets

felt colder and colder, and her head was

...

living room, Luke had just poured a glass of warm water for Bianca when he received a phone call

sounded stern but at the same time pleading. "Have you sent that troublesome woman home, Luke? Maxine has just arrived in A City, and she's not familiar with

about you bring her around?" Luke tried to hold his temper down as he replied impatiently, "I'm very busy, Mother. I don't have time to waste on irrelevant people. Don't we have a driver at home if she really wants to go around town? He's very familiar with the roads of A City, and he can be her tour

really like to pry open his mother's brain to see what

and Bianca were already legally married for more than two years. His mother might not recognize the marriage, but she would not be able to ignore Luke's affection toward

so, she never stopped trying to match her son with other

not have been so kind to Allison if not that she was his

Luke could not understand why his mother was so resentful about Bianca's presence.

To be frank, Bianca was beautiful, understanding, knowledgeable, and respected her elders. She might occasionally have tempers, but she was a perfect wife when all things were considered. Even Old Master Crawford had no complaints about her, so why would his mother keep on **dismissing her**?

Was it because of her grudge against Queenie in her younger days?

Luke narrowed his eyes coldly. If his mother insisted on being stubborn, then he would not have to be kind to her!

In the bedroom.

Because of the pain, Bianca's palms were damp with cold sweat. She curled up like a shrimp, and when she rolled over, she nearly fell off **the bed**.

*A pair of strong arms caught her in time and hugged her tight in his **embrace**.*

Bianca thought that her lower abdomen was going to explode. The man behind her was hugging her too tightly.

She could not take the pain anymore. "It hurts..." she moaned weakly.

Luke's hand felt something wet.

was visibly stunned when he saw the patch of redness. Knowing that it was her period, he gently placed her on the bed, ignoring the fact that the blood had dirtied

felt embarrassed, as though she was a child who had wet her

on her was not mocking at all. Instead, it was filled with care. She was not sure how to feel

found loose-fitting pajamas and underwear in the room. Then, he carried her into the bathroom and gently bathed her with warm water. He replaced her pad, changed her clothes, and returned her to the bedroom. He placed her on the bed and tucked

opened her eyes, she saw Luke's taut lower jaw and

eyes began to blur with tears when she thought of how Luke had gently cleansed her in the bathroom without showing any hint

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the caretaker to make some ginger tea. He fed her the tea, took off his coat, and laid down next abdomen felt a lot better after drinking the tea, though her expression toward Luke remained her gently. "Does it still hurt?"

Chapter 767 Those Crisscrossing Scars On Luke's Body

Luke reached behind him and felt his back. Those scratch marks were rapidly swelling up.

He gasped softly and looked at Bianca in his arms with a cold and profound gaze.

'Does she have cat claws for hands? They're so sharp, and she doesn't hold back!'

He decided that he would cut her fingernails soon. He would not give her any "tools of punishment" because he would be the only one to suffer!

Luke gazed into Bianca's eyes, and his voice was as gentle as spring water. "Does it make you feel any better? If you're still angry, you can scratch, claw, and pinch me however you want. I'll do anything for you if it makes you happy..."

He laid sideways and bared his chest at her.

Then, he placed her little claws on his flat stomach.

Of course, Bianca saw her "handiwork" when the man showed her those bloody gashes on his back...

She turned away guiltily.

did not mean to use so much strength. After all, the man deserved it for deceiving

should I do so that you won't be angry, my wife? I can do whatever you want me to do. You can hit me, or you can scold me. It's better than you giving me the silent treatment. I'll eventually go insane if you don't talk

spoke, he took Bianca's hand and used to slap his

movements were too abrupt, and Bianca did not have the chance to

several loud slaps and the sound of wind being stirred. Those sounded painful

felt her palm turn stiff when it recoiled from

dull pain made her come to her senses, Luke had already been slapped several

it, Luke Crawford! You maniac..." Bianca pulled her hands away in embarrassment and

at his reddish cheeks and thinking of how he had punished himself abruptly, Bianca felt both pity and anger in her

Luke smiled faintly.

He lowered his head and landed his boiling lips on her fair neck. "Have you forgiven me? If you haven't, we can continue."

Bianca glared at her. She clutched the blanket tightly and said to him hoarsely, "What do you want? Don't think that I'll forgive you so easily. You've been very childish, **and...**"

Luke took in whatever she said.

He smiled knowingly and said, "I know that you've already forgiven me. Let's make up, shall **we?**"

He kissed and gnawed her as though he was the one punishing her this time.

Bianca reached out and grabbed the hair behind his head.

'She's a vicious one! Has she been waiting to take revenge on me all this while?' Luke thought.

The muscles on his body went taut, and his movements became more violent.

was already feeling unwell. She pouted when Luke treated her roughly, and she felt that her tears were about to fall. "Luke, you b*stard, you torment me even though you know that I'm feeling unwell... Are you doing this on purpose? I shouldn't have fallen in love with you, you baddie..." Luke rubbed his chin on her neck and smiled indulgently. "Sorry, my dear. It's been so long since we last made out, and I couldn't control myself. You should know that I've been a good boy ever since you gave me the

her hand away, glared at him, and threw a pillow at him. "How long has it been? About a week, right? If you can't control yourself, how did you

in the two years that you've been away? Were you making out with other

his head. He smiled ambiguously but said

him, not willing to give up yet. "Tell me, how many women did you make out

furrowed his brows and teased her. "Hmm, there are so many. I'm

Bianca was about to cry from anger. Her shoulders were trembling, and her face and neck were red. "Get off my bed! I don't want you anymore... if you can't remain loyal to me, then I don't need to be loyal to you. I'll go look for other men now and gain

she could finish her sentence, Luke blocked her mouth with

on her supple lips, pinned her down on the bed, and gently slapped her bottom several times. "Another word of that, and I'll make sure that you can't get out of bed after your period. Do you

her gaze in aggrievement. "You only know how to bully me.

Chapter 768 Try To Fail Her!

Seeing that Bianca was about to cry, Luke reached behind her and gently massaged her back. "It's already in the past. I didn't want you to see my scars because I don't want you to worry. It's fine, the scars don't hurt anymore... I would give up everything just to see you again."

Hearing those words, Bianca suddenly hugged his neck tightly, and tears welled up in her eyes. "I'm sorry, I shouldn't have given you the silent treatment, and I shouldn't have suspected you. You've treated me so well, and maybe it's because of that that I can't bear any imperfections in our relationship. I'm at fault too. Sorry." Luke smiled gently and tousled her hair. "You don't have to apologize to me, silly girl. I..."

He did not finish his sentence because he felt a pair of soft and supple lips on his bare back.

"Bea..."

'Does she know what she's doing?'

"What are you doing?" Luke growled softly, "You're playing with fire."

Bianca gently held his shoulders and kissed every hideous scar on his back with the utmost devotion.

were itchy. Luke could feel the fires of passion heating up in his

that Bianca was feeling unwell, he would have turned around and pinned her under

lips touched Luke's skin repeatedly, and her slender fingers massaged his scars. Luke could smell her feminine scent emanating from behind him. It was like a cat's paw tickling every corner of his

bit her lip as she got off his back and fell into his lap. "I won't give you the silent treatment from now on. If we have any disagreements, I'd rather argue and fight over them. It won't be as torturous as not speaking to

nodded. "Alright, whatever you say. Let's not give each other the silent treatment. Even if we argue, I'll be the first to

were about to get intimate, Luke's phone started

got off the bed and answered

man was only dressed in a pair of black briefs. Those naked muscle lines were very

Bianca blushed. She turned her head away, grabbed a pillow, and peeked at her husband talking on the phone.

He had an ambiguous smile on his face that exuded confidence. "What do you propose, Mr. *Francois*?"

Bianca could not hear what the other end of the phone was saying, but Luke was not paying his full attention to the *call*.

There was a hint of brazen viciousness in his expression. "It's true that you signed the contract with Bianca Rayne, my wife, but the two-year time limit is up, and you've only completed sixty percent of the project. I've given you a six-month extension, but the project hasn't wrapped up yet. It's taking too long..." Bianca became alert when she heard her name being mentioned. She paid closer attention to their **conversation**.

At the same time, she tried to recall who that "Mr. Francois" who had signed a contract with her was.

After all, she had signed countless contracts in the two years she was CEO of T Corporation. Other than the major ones involving huge amounts of money, she could not remember most of them.

While she was deep in thought, Luke chuckled coldly and said, "That's how I operate. I tend to stick to the promises I made. There's only so much more time that I can give you... If it doesn't work, then it looks like we'll have to go the **legal route**."

noticed that Bianca was staring at him, as though she wanted to know the contents of the conversation. He beckoned at her with

sat on his lap while wrapped up in the

to the phone speakers, and Bianca could instantly hear the man on the other end of the call pleading nervously. "It's not that I don't want to keep to my word, Mr. Crawford, but my site has suffered two major accidents in a year. The Environmental Protection Agency and the building inspectors have been very strict over the last two years, and we were issued the stop-work order for half a year for no reason... Our company has been facing financial difficulties, and I can't even pay my workers. A lot of them have quit, and there's nothing I can do about it... I hope that you can empathize with

end paused for a while before he continued, "How about this, Mr. Crawford, if you can let this slide, I'll transfer one-third of the ownership of my company to you once the project is complete. What do you think? My wife is already nine months pregnant, and she'll be delivering any time soon. I also have to spend a lot of money every month on my father-in-law's cancer treatment. Can you make an exception, please?" "Huh," Luke replied nonchalantly. He hugged Bianca tightly and started to pinch her while he spoke coldly, "Mr. Francois, I'm a businessman and not a philanthropist. If everyone is as untrustworthy as you, I'd be operating at a loss. There's no negotiation. My lawyer will pay you a visit at your office tomorrow..." The man on the other side sounded like he was about to cry. "Mr. Crawford, I can guarantee that this'll be the last extension I need. If I go back on my word again, it's not too late to pursue legal action. My wife is about to give birth soon, and I don't want to cause her to overthink. Half. I'll give you half of my company. Please give me another

smiled slyly like a fox. He pecked Bianca's tender lips and pretended to sigh. "If that's how it is, then I guess I can make an exception for you this time. There's no next time. Since your wife is about to give birth, I'll give you an extra extension of two months. Finish the project in eight months, or else!" "Thank you, Mr. Crawford. I'll be off to work now. Let's meet up for a drink another day..." The man sounded

the call ended, Bianca looked at Luke in confusion. "What's going

her, and they lied down on the bed. "It's nothing that you have to worry about. I'll tell you after your period ends. Rest well

not ask any further questions. She felt relieved as she lay in his

Chapter 769 Midnight Phone Call

Jason did not understand why the boss did not want that young woman named Maxine to pass the interview.

According to the preliminary assessment, Maxine's results were considered one of the best among the candidates.

Jason knew that his boss did not like other people questioning his decisions. He nodded and said, "I know what to do, Mr. Crawford."

It was all too easy to sabotage an undesirable candidate.

"Mm," Luke replied. He noticed that Jason's arm was bandaged and asked him,

"What happened? How did you hurt yourself?"

Jason smiled awkwardly and made up an excuse. "It's nothing. I got into a minor car accident while I was driving. I'll be fine in a few days."

He did not tell his boss that he was hurt when his ex-wife brought a bunch of hooligans to the bridal boutique to beat him up. It would have been hard to explain.

Luke did not ask too many questions either. "If you're injured, then you should rest at home and come back when you're feeling better. Don't worry, I won't dock your pay." Jason smiled but insisted, "Don't worry, it's just a scratch. It won't affect my performance."

Luke wagged his hand at him to indicate that he could leave, then focused on his work again.

a call from Allison as soon as he got back to

Doyle, is there a girl named Maxine who's applying for an internship at the company? Let me tell you, she's my niece. You'll have to make sure that she passes. Otherwise, I won't go easy on

shook his head helplessly. The mother wanted Maxine to pass, but the son did not. What was going

It was quite a headache.

so, he replied formally, "Madam, it'll be up to Ms. Maxine's personal ability to earn a spot in the company. Also, it's up to the HR department to decide if she gets the job. Don't worry. I'm sure that Maxine is an outstanding individual, and she'll be successfully

did not give up. "Maxine has a master's degree from a renowned university. Of course she's capable! Let me warn you, don't think of pulling any tricks. Otherwise, you'll pay for

ended the call at that instant, and Jason could only smile

could not afford to offend either of them, but if he had to pick a side, he would definitely side with

...

Late at night.

After sorting out their conflict, Bianca and Luke were once again fully immersed in the bliss of love.

They clung to each other like conjoined *twins*.

They laid down side by side on the bed, telling each other their secrets. Eventually, fatigue overcame them and they fell *asleep*.

Around midnight, Luke's phone rang and woke him up.

Bianca remained fast asleep. She clung to his arm like a kitten.

Luke gently tousled her hair, tucked her into the blanket, and picked up the phone from the bedside table.

his brows when he saw the call notification. It was from Jason. Jason was a principled person. He would not contact Luke on his personal number unless it was absolutely

so, Luke was unhappy that he was woken up. He pressed the answer button and said impatiently,

Sue and the two girls are missing. I can't find

voice could be heard from the other end of the call. "Can you ask Mrs. Crawford if they were in contact? Does she know where

instantly sat up. "Why would she have gone missing? Wasn't she taking care of the children while you were at work? Does the caretaker at home know where

was a veteran employee in T Corporation. She had placed a lot of importance on

that she would return to work shortly after delivering her twins. To everyone's surprise, Sue decided to be a full-time mother and stayed at home to take care of her and Jason's twin daughters. Occasionally, she would produce some designs for T Corporation on a part-time basis. "She doesn't. Early in the evening, Sue told the caretaker that she would bring the twins to the nearby playground, and the caretaker didn't have to follow her. However, they hadn't returned since. I've search all the playgrounds and parks in the area but didn't find them. Her phone is also switched

on a second. I'll

Chapter 770 The Sounds From the Room...

Bianca instantly hung up. She seemed angry as she did so. Luke gently held her cheeks and kissed her. "Why are you so angry? You should control your emotions, my wife. It's not worth it to lose your temper over someone else's business."

Bianca nodded and tried to calm herself down, though she could not help but say, "I thought that Mr. Doyle is an assertive man looking at how he is at work, but I didn't expect him to be so unreliable. He's been dragging his feet when it comes to the problem with his ex-wife, and Sue is the one who has to suffer. Sigh... Sue is unlucky to marry him."

"It's up to them to sort it out, and there's only so much that we can do for them. If Jason can't remove the biggest obstacle between him and Sue, then he won't get anything in the end."

"Mm. I'll try to contact Sue," Bianca replied, then went through her call records.

She received a call from an unknown number earlier in the afternoon, and she guessed that Sue must have changed her number.

There were few unknown numbers in her call records, and she soon found the number and dialed it.

About ten seconds later, the call was picked up. "Hello?"

The clear yet slightly hoarse voice indeed uniquely belonged to Sue. Bianca lifted her voice slightly. "Is this your new number, Sue? I can't get through your usual phone number. Where are you now? Are you OK? Are Kari and Teri with you?"

sounded both tired and lazy at the same time. "What could possibly happen to me, silly? What were you thinking? Don't worry, my dearest daughters are right next to me, and I'm staying with Nina. Why did you decide to call me in the middle of the night?" "That's because Mr. Doyle called us to ask about you!" Bianca said exasperatedly. "What's going on between you and Mr. Doyle, Sue? Did his ex-wife bully you? Why didn't you tell me

not have too many interactions with Bailey, but she knew that the woman was no pushover because of her family. She did whatever she wanted without any regard for morals or

be at a disadvantage when dealing

smiled. "It's only a minor episode that's not worth mentioning, Bianca. Don't worry, I can handle it myself. I'm staying over with Nina for the next two days, and we'll move out when we find a new place. I'll give you my new address by then, and we can meet up and chat. It's already getting late, and you should rest. I'll talk to you another

a lot more relieved when she heard that Sue was alright. "Alright, Sue. You should rest too. I'll drop by for a visit if I'm free tomorrow. Good

...

lavishly furnished bedroom, Sue ended the call, and the fake smile on her face

Sue's pale complexion, then turned her head to see the two cute little girls who were soundly sleeping on the

Her heart wrenched.

Sue might seem indomitable, but she had a soft heart. Taking care of her twin daughters and having to be vigilant at all times took a great toll on her over *the past*

two years.

Nina held Sue's cold hands and wanted to *speak*. "*Sue...*"

Sue did not say a word. Her hands were trembling as she recalled that day when Bailey tried to snatch her daughters **again**.

Nina knew what she was thinking and held her hands tighter. "You and the two girls can stay here with me. The security measures here are better than the typical neighborhood. It's a waste for me living alone in this big house, and I'd love to have **some company**."

"Thank you, Nina. I'll be imposing upon you for the next few days. We'll move out when we find a suitable place." Sue looked at Nina, and her lips trembled slightly. Her loving gaze fell on the two baby *girls*.

Nina reached out and hugged Sue. Her heart wrenched when she could not feel the warmth on Sue's body. "Don't be silly. We're not strangers. I wish that you'd stay here **for longer...**"

knew how scary that Bailey woman could

be a disaster if Kari and Teri fell into her

Sue's

on the luxurious furnishings in the room. "Would it be inconvenient for you if we stay here?" Nina lived in a bungalow in the city center, where land prices were astronomical. The house itself was worth a few million dollars, not to mention the extravagant furnishing and decorations. Sue, as a middle-class worker, could only dream of living in such a place. Sue knew that Nina's family conditions were not any special either. She could not have afforded that

heard from Bianca that Nina was currently dating Percy

was extremely wealthy, and he spared no expense in pampering his women. However, Sue could not help but feel that the luxurious mansion was more like a gilded cage that

wavered when she heard Sue's

laughed heartily and patted Sue's shoulder. "Don't worry. My boyfriend gave me this mansion. He said that I can use this place however I want. You, Kari, and Teri can stay here for as long as you