

Be Gentle 781

Chapter 781 She Had A Bad Feeling

Bianca's tears looked like beads of pearls that fell from the corner of Bianca's eyes.

Luke leaned over and gently kissed the teardrops at the corner of her eye as he said, "It's okay, I'll take care of this. I've gone through so many life-and-death situations. This won't knock me down. The worst-case scenario is that I'll have to start over from scratch. If I become a pauper, you won't look down on me, will you?"

Bianca's tears were salty and bitter.

He knew that she was worried about him. His woman had always been strong, and her tears at that moment contained fragility, helplessness, and her concern for him.

Bianca's lips were trembling as she grabbed his arm fiercely, saying, "Luke, I'm serious. How are you still in the mood to joke around?" Luke lowered his head and kissed her from the corner of her eye to her lips. "Silly, no matter how terrible the storms are, as long as you're by my side, nothing else matters. Trust me."

His sexy thin lips were like the warm sun in a clear sky. They were also warm and smooth as they gently landed on her lips. He treated her so gently as though he considered her as his treasure.

Bianca felt the warmth on his lips and his tight hug.

She suddenly said with a red nose, "Luke, even if you become a pauper and even if you're penniless, you'll still be my husband and the father of our children. I love you. No matter what happens, the kids and I will stay by your side..."

her tightly as if he was afraid that she would suddenly disappear into

looked into her clear eyes. Although they had been together for many years,

pure and flawless just like the lake in Crescent Bay. They were not stained by any impurities at all. He sighed inaudibly. He initially thought that his return would bring her a stable and peaceful life, but he did not expect that bad things would happen one after another. He had to deal with the mess. Otherwise, their lives would never be

patted Bianca's head and whispered to her, "Rest in here for a little. I'll deal with the situation

finished speaking, Bianca's

stroked his stubborn and handsome face, saying with tears in her eyes, "A lot of people are gathered outside. They say that they want to get justice for the victims and have many dangerous weapons in their hands... Luke, can you please not go out now? It's

not care if anyone thought that she was being selfish. She was a wife who was worried about

Everyone had their weaknesses.

sympathized with the victims, but if the situation would endanger her beloved man, she would naturally choose to side with her

Luke kissed her forehead again and rubbed her hair that was wet from the rainstorm. "Go to the bathroom to wash up or your cold will worsen. Don't worry, I have you and our children to think of. I won't let anything happen to me..." He took Bianca to the floor-to-ceiling window where they looked at the ant-like troublemakers below. He said with a cold face, "If I don't make an appearance, everyone will think that I'm nothing but a coward who's hiding after T Corporation was involved in a major accident. The situation will only become worse. Also, did you notice that several suspicious people are also gathered here just to make trouble? They're likely to be involved in the collapse of The Galleria... So, I have to go *down*..."

Bianca recalled that when she arrived at the entrance of T Corporation, the few men who took the lead were deliberately provoking the anger of the masses. Their faces looked so ordinary that their faces were easily forgotten. However, when she gave it some thought, those men had been inciting the people's emotions and making them hate T Corporation even more. It was indeed suspicious.

Bianca put her arms around Luke's neck. Although she was reluctant, when she thought of the seriousness of the situation, she said, "Then... Then you have to *protect yourself*."

Luke rubbed her neck and answered, "I *will*."

He turned around and wanted to leave, but Bianca gripped his sleeve tightly. "Luke, you have to be careful, promise me. Everyone downstairs is going crazy and they even smashed the glass door. I... I saw that several senior executives were seriously injured... I'm afraid..."

Luke pinched her nose and said, "Yes, I'll be careful. You're well aware of my capabilities. Others won't be able to get close to me..."

He glanced at the situation below and it seemed like it was getting worse. He pulled her hand away, turned around, and strode **out**.

The door of the CEO's office was heavily shut.

Bianca put her hand down. She was cold and tired. Her head felt dizzy, and there was an indescribable chill that enveloped her *body*.

a bad feeling that something terrible was about

could not help being flustered and wanted to go after

was always elegant and gentle, had the urge to curse for the

for the keys in the CEO's office but was unable to locate

remembered that the secretary department had a spare key. She called the secretary department, and her voice was full of anxiety as she said, "Tina, come to the CEO's office immediately. I accidentally locked myself in. Can you come up and open the door for

Tina, who had always followed her orders, went against her this time and said, "Sorry, Ms. Rayne. Mr. Crawford just gave us an order to not allow you out of the CEO's office. Otherwise, he'll fire us

furious and shouted, "Tina, aren't you afraid that I'll fire

and said calmly, "Sorry, Ms. Rayne. If you were still the CEO of T Corporation, I'd execute your words as if it were a sacred decree. However, considering that Mr. Crawford is now the decision-maker, please take pity on us. We don't want to be unemployed..." After that, Tina ignored Bianca's furious roar on the phone and hung

dropped the phone irritably and strode to the floor-to-ceiling

Chapter 782 Evil Plan

Minimal light shone through the dark tomb. The only thing visible was the body of the tall and fierce figure that was seemingly shrouded in spots of light. It was rather peculiar.

The man's voice was hoarse like a ghoul's. "All of the evidence in The Galleria has been destroyed?"

The thin but capable subordinate smiled slyly, answering, "Of course, Boss. We've been with you for so many years, don't you trust my capabilities? Before choosing to target The Galleria, I did my research and studied hundreds of internal structure diagrams of the commercial buildings under T Corporation. None of them had any major problems, so it was not easy at first. However, during the investigation process, I found a flaw in The Galleria. The Galleria has a flat structure, which has many advantages, but it's extremely sensitive and the planning must be precise. The initial chief architect of The Galleria was Wesley Jacobson but he suffered a myocardial infarction and passed away halfway through construction. Later, the new chief architect who was appointed was Declan Kennedy. Although he was talented, he was also prideful and loved taking credit. Soon after the foundation of The Galleria was grouted, he demanded a drastic change per his requirements. The design was modified. This caused the appearance of The Galleria to look more majestic and spectacular, but the internal structure was not very strong. So, this gave us an opportunity... We entered The Galleria pretending to be internal staff without anyone noticing and planted the explosive in the weakest base of the building. The explosive we used was the latest in the market. It's colorless and odorless. It evaporates soon after exploding, leaving no trace of evidence. When the explosive was triggered, the volatility led to the entire building collapsing. Even if they conducted investigations, they

would only think that the problem was with the internal structure of The Galleria. It'll be the chief designer, Declan Kennedy, as well as the high-level executives of T Corporation who will be implicated. The authorities will never suspect that it had anything to do with us!"

The man looked conceited and arrogant. He was proud of his job well done. However, when he glanced at his ferocious boss in front of him, he was taken aback and his attitude turned cautious once more.

"It took some time for me to recruit the people who are leading the protest, but rest assured, they're tough and we have something against them. Boss, you don't have to worry that they'll turn against us."

ghostly shadow gave a faint hum as a response before saying in a chilly tone, "You've been working hard, Monkey. Don't worry. As long as you follow my orders obediently, I'll be sure to treat you well. Your reward for this time will be double what it used to be. However, you still have to pay close attention to Luke Crawford's every move. He's very cunning. Maybe he'll find a way out of this. I don't want to see that happen! This time, it has to be the end of

understand, I'll get to it right

soon became quiet in the tomb. The only thing that was left at the tomb was the sound of wind blowing and a pair of terrifying

...

night fell, Leia watched the news on the TV which was reporting on the collapse of

series of negative news had put the famous T Corporation at risk. The once prosperous area had become devastating. The bloody scenes of broken arms and legs, as well as the sorrowful wailing of the victims' families, filled the screens. Although it was censored, the cruel scene was still shocking to anyone watching the

nothing as she looked at such

She blew on the nails that she had just painted. She had a sneer on her face and felt that it was karma!

Leia was gloating and felt faint **joy**.

Bianca had taken away her status as the beloved eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman. She even snatched away her beloved man. Even so, Bianca did not have the luck to enjoy it. God's punishment had finally come! T Corporation would be in serious trouble after such a serious accident at The Galleria.

Not only would Luke be punished and be ruined but he may even *go to jail*.

Leia thought of the terrible experience she encountered in the drug rehabilitation center. She refused to believe that Luke and Bianca had nothing to do with it.

Before Bianca appeared, she had always pretended to be a nice person in front of everyone. In the eyes of others, she was an innocent female star who had never gotten into a scandal. However, the image that she had worked so hard to build was torn down after Bianca came into her **life**.

Leia thought that Bianca was her mortal nemesis and the source of all **her pain**.

her in misfortune, Leia

if her adoptive parents were in positions of power, they would not be able to conceal the tragic accident that had happened. Not only was the news spread throughout the country by the local media, but even foreign media were rushing to report on it. If this was not handled properly, not only will T Corporation be attacked by public opinion, but

parents were likely to be

late at night, but Jack and Queenie had not returned yet. Leia was slightly upset knowing that they must be busy dealing with Bianca and Luke's

Leia believed that even if her adoptive parents wanted to help, they would not be able to do anything. Thinking of this, she could not help but

had been many days since she returned home from the drug rehabilitation center, yet this was the first time Leia felt so peaceful in

Leia fell asleep, a shadow quietly approached the Norman

Chapter 783 Isn't He Only Slightly Injured?

Leia could not help but break out in a cold sweat.

Her door had been specially made. How did Wayne get in? Leia instinctively wanted to shout for help, but as soon as she opened her mouth, her lips were sealed tight by Wayne. Her cry for help became fragmented. The night light in her room emitted a faint green light in the dark, reflecting Wayne's hideous face. It made Leia fear for her life.

"You... What do you want from me?" Leia struggled desperately, but she was too weak.

"I want... you! My boo, do you miss me?" Wayne was so strong that it seemed like he was crushing her chest and sucking all the oxygen from her mouth.

His touch disgusted Leia.

However, his skillful teasing gradually turned her on.

Leia's pajamas were torn into strips and thrown on the floor.

Under the dim light, Leia's tears slipped from her eyes. One could not tell whether it was from joy or humiliation.

Ten intense minutes later.

Leia, feeling her smooth jade skin and taking in her faint feminine fragrance... He could not help but sigh. "It feels good to hold a woman! I spent so long in that dark black hole and finally got

frail, and after the intense affair, her whole body was shaking. However, seeing Wayne's satisfied expression and thinking of how he was wanted by the whole country for his criminal offenses, she could not help but grow apprehensive. She lay on his chest, her delicate body on his pecs. She knew Wayne liked it when she did

his shoulders, she cautiously asked, "Wayne, where have you been? Do you know that the entire A City is looking for you now? Are you okay?" Leia thought that if she could find out where Wayne was hiding, she would be able to secretly report his

place.

as long as Wayne was brought to justice, she would be able to end his reign on her once and for

at Leia coldly. He was well aware of her tricks. He squeezed her jaw tightly, and his cold voice sounded.

"It seems that you've forgotten how to be a good girl after not seeing me for a few days. Don't try anything. You can't bear the consequences! I'm telling you, no one in this world can catch me! Even in the worst-case scenario, I'll make sure you go down with me before I get caught! So, my baby, you have to remember where you stand. We're in the same boat, for better or

forced to raise her cheeks, her eyes meeting Wayne's cold gaze. His killing intent made her shrink slightly as she uttered, "Yes, I... I know. Wayne, I'll never leak your whereabouts. After all, we're one. You can

good to hear. I'll stay here with you for the next few

Leia was shocked, and her face turned pale in an instant. "Wayne... Wayne, it's not good for you to stay here. After all, there are a lot of people who come and go in this house, so someone might notice you. It's not worth the *risk*..."

She would never dare to keep such a heinous villain in her home.

Wayne was a wanted criminal. If her adoptive parents found out that she had taken in such a criminal, she would never hear the end **of it**.

Wayne closed his eyes and yawned nonchalantly. "My *Leia* is so smart, so you'll find a way. You won't let me down, will you?"

Leia looked at Wayne's annoying face and held in her *anger*.

Why should this heinous murderer stay in her room?

However, she was in no position to fight him. Wayne was a horrible man. He might torture her with all means possible if she rejected him...

...

T Corporation.

injured and taken to the

Bianca heard the news, she was

she had a bad feeling and her whole body was cold. She did not expect that something bad would happen to him despite her repeated warnings. Jason picked Bianca up and drove her to the hospital. They took the elevator to the VIP

they were almost arriving at the floor where Luke was, two nurses in uniforms suddenly rushed over and said, "Sorry, this elevator is temporarily out

Bianca stared at them in shock. She had a bad

of the nurses smiled apologetically and said, "I'm sorry, we'll be welcoming a few surgical experts from Country M later. The director specifically requested for this elevator to be cleared so that the experts can head straight to the intensive care unit as soon as they arrive at the hospital. Would it be okay for the two of you to take the normal

and answered, "We understand, no

nurse said gratefully, "Thank you for

Jason went to the

Chapter 784 Why Is My Son Hospitalized But Her Son Is Alive And Well?

Jason looked at Bianca with a guilty look as his dry lips twitched.

He wanted to say something, but in the end, he shook his head and said, "Madam, the boss is not doing so well. The protest downstairs suddenly turned into a riot that went out of control. Boss was injured while managing the scene. He has several broken bones..."

"However, that was not the worst thing that happened. During the riot, the boss was hit by a steel pipe on the head to save an innocent child. At that time, his head was not bleeding but he was unconscious... After checking, they found a blood clot in his head. Dr. Johann is the best at surgery, but he's abroad now and it'll take a while for him to come back. We can only call in a few world-renowned surgical experts. No one knows what will happen after this..."

Bianca felt like she was suffocating as though her blood had turned into boiling water. She felt horrible.

No wonder Luke had locked her in the office and insisted that she was not allowed to go out. No wonder she had a bad feeling...

Were those signs that something bad was about to happen to Luke?

Operating room.

had been on for more than three

was waiting outside the operating room, felt increasingly uneasy. She had been silently squatting at the door of the operating room, her pale face filled

shoulders were clearly trembling, but her back was still straight. Jason had persuaded Bianca many times, asking her to sit down and wait, or to at least lean against the wall. However, she stubbornly refused each time and kept staring at the operating room as if as long as she stayed there, Luke would come out of the operation safe and

the operation went on, members of the Crawford family arrived one after

Crawford and Allison were the first to

Master Crawford trembled with every step he took and was supported by the driver and caretaker. He almost had a heart attack when he heard that Luke was hospitalized. He would not be able to survive if it were not for his insistence to see

Allison was livid! As soon as she arrived, she started screaming at Jason, "Mr. Doyle, what's the matter with my son?! It hasn't been long since he came back to T Corporation, how could he have gotten hurt? Who was the bastard who hurt my son? You're Luke's best subordinate, why didn't you protect him?" Jason smiled bitterly and answered, "Madam, at the time, the situation was out of control. There were many minors and elderly people at the scene. The boss strictly ordered us not to let anyone harm them... I was by his side, doing my best to protect him, but the crowd was furious and I was quickly squeezed away from him. The boss was accompanied by bodyguards, but there were too many people and the situation got out of control. He was injured because he wanted to save the life of a child..." Allison's gorgeous face was almost distorted as she continued to shout, "Those pariahs who dared to hurt my son should all be shot! I don't know what Luke was thinking. It was just a kid, it's no big deal! We could've just paid the family off. How could he ignore his own safety?! Is he trying to piss me off?!"

Old Master Crawford was already in a terrible mood. After he heard his daughter-in-law screaming, he was so angry that he wanted to wave a cane and hit her. "Alison, it's best that you keep your mouth shut! We still don't know anything about Luke's condition. As his mother, do you think that it's appropriate for you to be yelling outside the operating room?!"

*This was the good wife of Zachary Crawford, a b*tch.*

Thankfully, the VIP ward had strict security and there were no reporters at the scene. If the reporters photographed Allison insulting those people, the image of T Corporation would only continue to drop. Allison was frightened by Old Master Crawford's stern expression. She did not dare to say another word and flinched off to the **side**.

However, when she saw Bianca curled up at the entrance of the operating room, Allison's suppressed anger was about to explode once again!

Just as she was about to scream at Bianca, Susan and Louis **arrived**.

Susan had not wanted to come, but as the eldest daughter-in-law of the Crawford family, she had to make an appearance. She also wanted to come over to see if Luke was dying.

usual, she was expressionless. Maybe because she had been more religious for the past half a year, so the corners of her lips would always maintain a smile that was not a smile. It made her usually unapproachable self seem a little more friendly. However, it was also because of her somewhat smile that Allison was pissed

looked at Louis, who was holding Susan's arm, from the strands of his hair to the soles of

was like a poisonous snake's, making Louis

at Allison coldly, hid Louis behind her, and said contemptuously, "Why are you staring at my son with such a hateful expression? It wasn't Louis who caused Luke to have an accident. What are you

at Louis with hatred as her slender eyebrows became tightly knitted together. She said, "Susan, Luke and Louis were both at the scene when the accident happened. Why is my son seriously injured and has to be hospitalized but your son is standing next to you, alive and well? Did you have something to do with this? Are you trying to kill my son so that your son can inherit T Corporation?" Susan looked at Allison as if she was mad and sneered disdainfully. "Something's wrong

she ignored Allison and walked in the direction of Old Master Crawford with

stared at Susan's arrogant back, but she was too lazy to argue because her words were

Chapter 785 An Exceptionally Long Night

Susan turned her head and saw the glaring scratches on her son's handsome cheek.

A cloud of haze flashed through her eyes!

Susan positioned Louis behind her and looked at Allison condescendingly. Her gaze was like a sharp arrow drenched with venom as she said, "Allison, I heard that your son was injured and as the eldest daughter-in-law of the Crawford family, I brought Louis here to visit Luke. I didn't expect that you'd

scratch my son! I'll forgive you this time considering what you're going through, but let me warn you, keep to your lane. Otherwise, I'll make sure that you'll regret it!"

Allison was well aware that Susan was a tough woman and she had a strong family background, so now that she was angry, Allison knew to back off.

Allison glanced at the scratches on Louis' face and then at her sharp nails. She stepped aside knowing that she had lost.

Old Master Crawford was so angry that he could not speak.

His grandson was in the operating room. It was still uncertain whether he would live or die. Now, his other grandson had been scratched by Allison.

The cane in his hand trembled with anger.

However, in the end, Old Master Crawford sighed and weakly said to Susan, "Susan, you should take Louis to see the doctor. It won't be good if the injury gets inflamed and leaves a scar."

Susan nodded slightly and said softly to Old Master Crawford, "Okay, I'll take Louis to the doctor. If there's anything, call me."

Susan said that, she grabbed Louis by the arm and was about

did not want to leave. "Mom, I'm a man. The wound on my face is nothing. It won't kill me, don't worry about it. I want to wait until Luke wakes

glared at him fiercely and said, "There are so many people here, it doesn't matter if you're here or not. Besides, you kind-heartedly came to visit him but his mother so viciously hurt you and blames her son's injury on you. There's no point for us to stay here. Follow me immediately. Otherwise, I don't mind using coercive

saw that his mother was burning with rage and knew that she was in a bad mood now, so he could only do as she

passed by Bianca, Louis noticed that she was squatting at the entrance of the operating room, looking like a lonely and sad little

not help but feel a pain in his heart as he thought of the situation that Luke was

broke free from Susan's restraint and walked to Bianca. He whispered,

that Luke is in surgery and it's uncertain when he'll recover, you must take care of yourself and don't let yourself fall ill too. You also know that I'm nothing but an average Joe. Since Luke won't be around, the burden of T Corporation has fallen on you. Take it easy..." Bianca kept silent the entire time, her delicate and pale face was

woman's straight shoulders suddenly collapsed as though she was touched by his

wanted to comfort her more, but he did not know what else

For him, Luke was the closest person to him in his life and his beloved elder brother. Although the two of them had different mothers who were always at each other's throats, their relationship was as thick as blood. It was not affected by their mothers *at all*.

He also hoped that Luke could recover as soon as **possible**.

...

Soon, it was late at night, but the lights in the operating room were **still on**.

Old Master Crawford was in poor health and staying up until midnight was his limit. Bianca asked the bodyguard and the driver to forcibly send Old Master Crawford **home**.

Susan forcibly took Louis back.

Allison, who had shed a few tears when she first came, remained seated on the **chair**

in the corridor and used her phone to browse through shopping sites. When it got late, she could not hold on anymore. She asked the nurse to find her a VIP resting room and went straight to *sleep*.

In the end, Bianca was the only one still waiting at the entrance of the **operating room**.

Jason went outside and bought two takeaways, one for himself and the other for **Bianca**.

did not have any appetite to eat, so she shook her head and turned Jason

felt helpless. He placed the takeaway in front of Bianca and said, "Madam, you're human too. You can't keep going on like this. You should eat some food so that you'll have the stamina to go on. Otherwise, the boss will feel distressed when he wakes up and sees you like this. Didn't Second Young Master say that the burden of T Corporation has fallen on you? If you go down too, no one in the company will be able to stand up to the

face looked up at Jason, her lips trembling as she said, "Okay,

took the box of takeaway from Jason and sat down on a chair beside her. She gobbled it down without even looking at the food in front of her. She barely chewed; she was just eating mechanically, swallowing even the tears from her

always been her support, but now that he was gone, she seemed to have lost her

could not go on like this. She had promised him to fight by his side, instead of being someone who relied that he was down, she had to

Johann, who was in a white coat, hurriedly rushed

felt relieved the moment she

not have the time to talk to her and only gave her a 'rest

Chapter 786 She Had Another Tough Battle To Be Fought

Outside the window, the moonlight was gently shining in.

The moonlight shone through the white curtains brought a sense of comforting beauty to this dark night.

The intensive care unit was quiet at night, except for the ticking sound of the oxygen generator. Under the soft lights, Bianca affectionately gazed at Luke. The white wall lamp provided her with an unobstructed view of Luke's face. His handsome face seemed to have aged a little.

His lips were a little dry and there were some visible cracks.

Bianca picked up a clean wet towel, placed it on his lips, and gently wiped them. Luke had always managed his stress on his own, protecting Bianca and the kids from all of that. However, he did not know that his actions were hurting her. She was his wife; she was supposed to face his troubles with him and fight by his side.

Bianca thought to herself, 'When he wakes up, I have to bring this up with him.'

The dizzying white light enveloped Bianca's busy figure.

At that moment, she was sad but also firm.

was like quicksand, slipping between one's fingers bit by bit. Bianca felt like her heart was torn to pieces when she saw that he was still

took his hand that had never been pierced with a needle before and stroked it

palms were large, and his fingernails were

was obsessed with cleanliness, and even in a harsh environment, he insisted on

was not sure since when this indomitable man became

...

the first ray of sunlight shone into the ward, Luke was

who was well-rested, yawned and walked into the intensive care

When she saw that Luke was still unconscious, she frowned and got annoyed at Bianca. "What's the matter? Didn't Johann say that Luke will wake up at dawn? Why hasn't he woken up yet?" Allison was used to shouting at people with her rude and loud voice. The silent and peaceful ward became noisy in **an instant**.

Bianca frowned and said, "Can you please keep your voice down? Luke just went through a long operation and hasn't had much to eat. He needs rest. Please, can you not disturb him?"

Allison glared at Bianca angrily and then arrogantly wrapped her hands around her chest, saying, "I'm Luke's mother! It's my right if I want to talk to my son. What's wrong with you? You're the unlucky b*tch who brought my son bad luck. Otherwise, why would Luke be involved in accidents one after another? What else can you do besides shed a few fake tears? I don't expect you to be of help, I'm just hoping that you won't make things worse. Bianca, your dad is the Provincial Committee Secretary. He has powers and contacts to help Luke out of this miserable situation. Why can't you ask him for help?"

Bianca stopped stroking Luke's face.

She stared right into Allison's eyes, making her feel uncomfortable. Allison refused to give in and continued shouting, "What are you looking at?! I'm telling you, this time, your parents have to come forward for T Corporation. Even if they won't do it for Luke's sake, you're their biological daughter and he's your husband. After such a disaster, are they too embarrassed to stand up for us?" Bianca's eyes suddenly turned solemn. Her gaze swept through Allison's face and then gently fell on Luke's calm *sleeping face*.

"You don't need to worry about this, I'll take care of everything. My parents will help as much as they can. Don't worry about that."

Allison screamed, "What do you mean by as much as they can? Your father will be able to sort out an issue as small as the collapse of a shopping mall. I don't care! No matter what, they must ensure that both Luke and T Corporation will walk away from this unscathed! Otherwise, after Luke wakes up, I'll ask him to divorce *you!*"

Bianca could not be bothered to argue with her. She rubbed her temples tiredly and said, "I'll do my best! Can you please stop screaming? Otherwise, when Luke wakes up and sees you like this, do you think he'll *feel better?*"

care of him. I'll go outside to get some air." Allison snorted coldly and left in her seven-inch

was sick of the smell of disinfectant in the

only came to the hospital just to look good in front of Old

long after Allison left, Jason knocked on the door of the intensive care

in a large bag carrying a variety of

he was startled when he saw Bianca's haggard face. "Ms. Rayne, did you get any sleep

could not help but glance at the family rest bed in the ward and saw that the quilt was still neatly folded. Obviously, Bianca had not even laid on the family bed last night. Rather, she stayed right next

hair was tied up with a rubber band that loosely formed a bun

Chapter 787 She Did a 90-Degree Bow To The Crowd

T Corporation's press conference.

In the washroom.

Bianca looked at herself in the mirror. Her clean face was pale and haggard, while her messy long hair was casually draped over her chest.

The fitted suit wrapped her slender body perfectly. Bianca tied her hair up into a ponytail, and she gently stroked the diamond necklace on her chest.

It had been a wedding gift from Luke. At this point in time, it gave her unlimited courage and confidence.

She smiled at herself, rinsed her face with cold water, and cheered herself on!

It was just a press conference. She would get it done for her husband.

...

Outside.

it was the authoritative media companies or the small media outlets that usually survived on entertainment news, all of the influential media in A City was present. Even some well-known international news media had

the channels that originally broadcasted dramas or entertainment channels all switched to the live broadcast of T Corporation's press

websites on the internet were also preparing to broadcast it in

the screens on the streets and mall were preparing to air the reporters asking questions during the press conference. After all, the news of the collapse of The Galleria had caused hundreds of lives. It was too shocking and

10.10 a.m.

venue of T Corporation's press conference was overcrowded. Considering that the management of T Corporation had suffered attacks from civilians in the past, hundreds of police and security guards were dispatched to maintain order on the site. They blocked out the irrelevant people and kept them outside the safety

reporters blocked the crowded corridor. They were exchanging information with each

hall was too noisy. They had to shout to hear what the other party

on the platform were empty as the person in charge had not yet arrived. Many people were guessing that the management of T Corporation was scared to face the public after such a

The other tables were filled with microphones that had logos from various media outlets.

Countless reporters were carrying cameras. They had set up their equipment and aimed it at the scene of the press conference.

Everyone was curious who would be the person in charge that would appear considering that Luke was injured and hospitalized. T Corporation was now a mess. They were **taking**

bets on the excuses that would be used to push the responsibility away from T Corporation.

The management of multinational corporations had always denied responsibility and blamed it on irrelevant parties instead. The reporters anxiously looked at the watches on their wrists.

It was time for the press conference, but no one showed up.

After another five minutes or so, under the protection of a security team, *Bianca*,

who was wearing a black suit, entered the room while surrounded by many **highlevel directors**.

In an instant, the flashes from the media went off **non-stop**.

reporters flocked to the scene, and it almost went out of

guards had long been psychologically prepared. They immediately stepped forward to intercept the reporters who were like flies. They escorted Bianca to

security guards said in a stern tone to the reporters, "Stand back! Back off! Please maintain order at the press conference. Otherwise, we don't mind

flashlights frantically went off at Bianca, the dazzling lights making her squint her

...

At the same time.

Mrs. Norman sat in front of the TV where they looked at their weak and helpless daughter who was surrounded by spotlights and reporters. Their hearts were overwhelmed with sadness as they stared at her pale face on the screen. As it was a live broadcast, the reporters were using their best equipment. The highdefinition video was so clear that Bianca's pores could even be seen. She was wearing a black suit, her face looking gentle and calm. However, she looked tired. Under the flashing lights, she was no longer as energetic and bright as she used to be. Her beautiful face revealed an indescribable melancholy, but her eyes were still pure

she had been away from work for a few months, she held herself

she faced the aggressive reporters to address the scandal T Corporation was embroiled in. At that moment, she was sitting on the speaking platform with a solemn expression, but she carried with her an unignorable grace. She had the kind of demeanor that

Chapter 788 She Seemed Frail but Strong at the Press Conference

Bianca faced the reporters' antagonistic questions by brushing away her sideburns and speaking in a solemn voice.

"No words can express the guilt in my heart while faced with such a major tragedy. As the owner of The Galleria, I admit that T Corporation cannot shirk our responsibility in this incident. However, we cannot conclude if there is an element of sabotage in the accident. We have already set up a special task force that will cooperate with the police on the investigations. I would advise the general public not to worry. The investigative process shall be fully transparent, and we will give everyone a satisfactory explanation!"

After she said that, there was a commotion among the reporters.

The reporters jostled among each other to be the first to ask questions. They bombarded Bianca with all sorts of weird and tricky questions.

They lifted their microphones as high as they could and shouted their questions out loud. The scene at the press conference was utterly chaotic. No one could hear what each other was saying.

In this day and age, any company would not hesitate to push the blame to another party whenever a major accident happened. They were afraid of taking on responsibility.

job of a reporter was to dig for the truth. Of course, they were also interested in any tasty tidbits that they could report! "Everyone, please calm down. We'll take questions one by one!" Jason said loudly into the microphone. "The reporter from PNBC, you may ask your question first. As for the other reporters, please calm down. You will get your chance to ask

reporter from PNBC stepped forward, pointed the microphone at Bianca, and asked directly, "Ms. Rayne, do you really believe that there is an element of sabotage in this accident? There was no forewarning before the collapse of The Galleria, and furthermore, the security measures in the shopping mall have always been tight. Are you trying to divert public attention by lying?" Bianca looked straight into the reporter's eyes. "I have explained earlier that investigations are still undergoing. One day, the truth shall

investigations reveal that an internal problem caused the collapse, then my husband Luke and I will resign from the company and promise never to be involved in any business. You can take my word for it! Every one of you here can be my witness! If we find out that someone has sabotaged us, I will not forgive the perpetrator, and they shall pay for their crimes by blood. Either way, there will be justice for all the victims of

Everyone exclaimed in surprise!

reporters were whispering to each other. The higher management of T Corporation at the press conference was staring at Bianca with a look

had the most incredulous expression among all of them. Her beautiful face was viciously contorted. What right did that arrogant woman have to make a promise on Luke's behalf? If she wanted to resign, she could have done it on her

was an eminent figure in the business circle of A City. His departure from the business would be like a shining pearl buried in the depths of the ocean. No one would be able to see his brilliance anymore, and that would be a fatal blow to

The only person at the scene who could maintain his composure was Jason. The PR crisis this time was especially serious, and the spokesperson could not make any excuses. He knew that Bianca must have assessed the situation carefully before making that promise. If Bianca did not handle the crisis well, there was no hope for T Corporation to restore its *reputation*.

The reporters' incisive questions continued to pour **in...**

"Ms. Rayne, Mr. Luke Crawford has not made a public appearance since the accident happened. Are you sure that you are speaking on his *behalf*?"

"Ms. Rayne, the tragic arson incident of Greenview Regalia from two years ago is still fresh in everyone's minds. If we look at the two cases, can we conclude that T Corporation employs subpar construction methods and materials? How would you convince the public that that is not *the case*?"

"..."

The incisive questions gushed forth like *a geyser*.

waited to see that seemingly delicate woman named Bianca Rayne sputter and

not expect to see her heave

became heavy, tears welled up in her eyes, and she suddenly

took out a napkin to wipe her red and swollen eyes, then faced the camera and said, "I know that T Corporation is facing a crisis of public confidence after all the accidents in the past two years, but we believe that the evidence can speak for

Luke Crawford, has insisted on using the best construction techniques and materials ever since he took over the business. You might be caught up on the two incidents because of how recent they were, but may I bring your attention to the Great Fort Chaney Earthquake that happened six years ago? "In that tragedy, the casualties numbered in the hundred thousands. Almost all the buildings in Fort Chaney were destroyed, but the office buildings, apartments, and schools built by T Corporation remained almost unscathed. The worst damage

suffered was some tilting, but none of them collapsed or crumbled. Tens of thousands of lives

all of you accuse us that our buildings are subpar because of separate incidents without even waiting for the results of the investigation. Even sentencing a criminal to death row requires evidence, but all of you deliver the unfair verdict based on your imagination. Isn't that unfair to us?" Everyone was reminded of the great tragedy that happened six years ago. Indeed, all the buildings became ruins, except for those built by T Corporation. Some construction experts even said that it was a

Chapter 789 His Slender Fingers Touched Bianca's Face

Luke had been sleeping for two days. When he opened his eyes, the first thing he saw was Bianca holding his hand.

The curtains were half-drawn, and the sunlight that came through the window created mottled patterns on the floor. He could hear birds chirping outside.

His hand was slightly cool. The soft and tender hand that enveloped his hand was warmer, and it carried a familiar fragrance.

Bianca looked at Luke in a daze.

He had been unconscious for two days, but for Bianca, it might as well have been

two years.

The stray strands of his mustache were like sprouts next to his lips. He seemed unkempt.

He was not in his best condition, though his gaze was animated.

their eyes met, Bianca greedily relished the fact that Luke was filled with vigor once more. eyes misted

his hand tightly and said softly, "You're finally awake, Luke. How are your injuries? Does it hurt?" Luke looked at her determinedly. "It doesn't hurt. I'm fine. It's only a minor injury." Bianca tried to maintain

her smile, though her tone of voice was stern. "You've broken so many ribs, and they had to do open brain surgery on you. Even Johann said that you nearly became vegetative. You call that minor? Do you think that you're Superman,

fingers gently caressed Bianca's face and her dry lips. His heart wrenched

woman had stood by his side for many years. If she had married an ordinary man instead, she would have

that he would be able to protect her by marrying her, but he did not expect that his protection would fail at certain

kissed Bianca's forehead. All those words that he wanted to tell Bianca

sigh that escaped his

The door to the ward opened.

Johann happened to witness the intimate scene. A hint of mockery appeared in his eyes, and he joked, "Ooh, you just woke up from a coma, and you're already at it. I say, Bro, aren't you a little too impatient? Careful that your wounds become **infected**."

Bianca blushed slightly. She felt like a schoolgirl whose teenage crushes were exposed by her teacher.

She wanted to retreat from Luke's embrace, but Luke held her tightly in his arms.

He narrowed his gaze at Johann, and there was a hint of iciness in his previously warm voice. "If you have nothing else better to do, you can go and stay in Africa for a few days."

Johann's mischievous smile faded away when he saw the threat in Luke's gaze. "I say, Bro, can't you be a little more grateful? Who was the one who risked offending a royal family and immediately returned from Western Europe when he heard that you're in a critical condition? Now that I'm of no use to you, are you planning to burn this bridge?"

Luke glanced at his wristwatch impassively. "You have ten minutes to perform your *examination*."

Looking at the man's ice-cold gaze, Johann pressed his lips together and wasted no time in examining Luke's *body*.

Bianca said worriedly while looking at Johann's serious expression, "How is Luke's condition, Dr. Johann?"

minutes later, Johann looked at the data on his apparatus and nodded satisfactorily. "Mm, the surgery is a success, and he'll be as good as new in a few days. By the way, your husband's constitution isn't normal. Any other man would have already kicked the bucket if they sustained such heavy injuries... but your husband should completely recover within a month." Bianca breathed a sigh of relief. "Thank

would not have recovered so quickly if not for Johann's amazing

smiled and shook his head. He chatted with them for a while more and gave them some pointers on how to take care of Luke before leaving the ward and giving the couple some privacy. People came to

visit Luke at the hospital ward. Some were higher management of T Corporation, while others were Luke's

repercussions of the Galleria incident were grave. Many of T Corporation's business partners had chosen to keep their distance, while some even publicly denounced

every one of those people. In the future, T Corporation would most likely refuse to do business with them. At the same time, Luke remembered all the business partners who visited him. Not only had they shown T Corporation concern in its moment of crisis, but they also proved themselves to be genuine friends. He would repay them the favor. Percy with Nina as well as Jim with Scarlett came to visit, bringing presents. It had been many days since the last time Bianca met Nina

quite happy to see each other, and they retreated to a corner to chat. Meanwhile, Luke, Jim, and Percy remained in the ward. No one knew the details of their discussion or any plans they made, but all of them had grim expressions on

number of visitors lessened an hour later. Suddenly, Mavis

was probably from the company. Her usually impeccably groomed hair was slightly disheveled, and her makeup was not as meticulous as before. Luke was resting on the bed with his eyes closed. He needed the rest while he

Chapter 790 He Is A Disaster

Bianca was not interested in getting into such meaningless quibbles with Mavis. Moreover, Luke really needed to rest.

She indicated to Mavis to step outside of the ward to talk. After they went out, Bianca gently closed the door so that Luke would not be bothered by what was happening outside.

Mavis glared at Bianca, angry at her ingratitude.

How could she be in the mood to eat tarts when the CEO was so heavily injured?

If it were her, she would have been so worried that she would not be able to eat or sleep.

Mr. Crawford's love was wasted on Bianca Rayne!

Mavis pressed her crimson lips together, and her beautiful face was wracked with anger. "Why do you have the appetite to eat now, Ms. Rayne? T Corporation is in chaos now, and the CEO is seriously injured. You look so relaxed when everyone else is so worried!"

The sarcasm in her words was palpable.

on the wall and gave Mavis a side-eye. "In your opinion, Ms. Laviere, how should I react to this situation? Should I be flustered? Exhausted? Helpless? Disoriented? Or should I go around begging for sympathy? I'm sorry that my reaction isn't what you expect it to be. I know that T Corporation is in chaos now, but its leader needs to remain composed to bear the company's responsibilities. If I appear in front of the public looking sickly and depressed, those immoral media outlets would be piling baseless accusations on T Corporation. You've been in the business for longer than me, and I thought you should understand that better

is my husband and my children's father. I don't think there's anyone in this world who's more concerned about him than me, but does that mean I have to worry myself sick? Should I starve just because he can't eat? If that were true, then I would have failed as his

doesn't need a weakling now. My husband might be assertive and dominant, but he's not Superman. Sometimes, he needs someone who can help him overcome the obstacles at work. I don't think I need you to tell me what I should do,

at a loss for a reply, but she could not help but retort, "So it turns out that your love for Mr. Crawford isn't genuine after all. You only say that you care about him, but your actions

not help but laugh. "You can assume all you want, Ms. Laviere. I can see that you care for my husband very much, but has he ever shown any care for

eyes widened abruptly. That question was like a dagger that stabbed through her heart. It hurt a lot, but she did not have the courage to remove the

"I'm not the same as you!"

took Mavis a long time before she found a reply. "Mr. Crawford is my idol. I have admired him since I was young, and I don't ask for anything in return as long as I get to stay by his side. All I want is to work with him. Even if I love him, I don't need his love in return. If you hadn't appeared, the woman standing next to him could have been

voice was shrill, amplified by the grievances she had borne for so many years. To other people, Mavis Laviere was distant, aloof,

In front of Bianca, she could not control herself, and her tone of voice betrayed her emotions.

Bianca knew that she had found Mavis's sore spot. To her, Mavis was nothing more than a *clown*.

She had to admit that Mavis was a very capable woman at work, and for a time, she had even envied her. To Luke, Mavis was special. He had always brought her on his business trips, and he sounded appreciative whenever he talked about her.

For a while, that had made Bianca jealous.

After they got to know each other better, Bianca realized that her worries **were unfounded**.

Luke would not talk to Mavis about anything other **than business**.

Bianca trusted him.

At the moment, Bianca flashed an elegant smile at Mavis. "All you want is to work with him? I'd be a real idiot if I believed in that nonsense, Ms. Laviere! Unfortunately *for*

real idiot here is the woman who remains indulgent in her fantasies even though she knows that her crush doesn't like her and that he's already married with children. Please get help, Ms. Laviere. You'll only embarrass yourself if you keep on doing

complexion turned pale all of a sudden. She glared at Bianca while gritting her teeth, but she could not find anything

calmly, "It's been more than ten years, Ms. Laviere. That's how long you've been working for Luke. Ask yourself honestly, has he shown any affection to you outside of work? Knowing how loyal my husband can be, I wouldn't stand a chance if that were the

limit to how deluded someone can be, Mavis. Also, don't tell me that you love or admire my husband. I will take offense to that. That's all I have to tell you for now. I hope you'll remember what

turned away and casually walked back into Luke's

stood on the spot. Her entire body was tense. Though she tried to relax her finger, they were trembling uncontrollably. Her love for Luke over the years had never diminished. Bianca's words had exposed her truest emotions, which caused Mavis to be humiliated. At the same time, her hatred toward

does that woman know? She's only so brazen because Luke

would she know that I've left my hometown to follow in Luke's footsteps or the opportunities that I have given up because of him? How would she know the time and effort I've spent in

woman loves Luke more than