

Be Gentle 791

Chapter 791

Chapter 791 Queenie Came to Visit

When Luke woke up again, he saw Bianca sitting next to him on the bed. One of her hands was gently caressing his palm, while her chin rested on her other hand as she stared at him.

She was unbelievably beautiful under the warm sunlight. Her face was fair and soft, and her eyes were clear and animated.

Her eyelashes were thin and long. When she blinked, they flapped like two nimble butterflies.

However, there seemed to be an inexplicable melancholy in her gaze.

He could not help but frown. He did not wish to see her worry about something.

Bianca smiled gently when she saw that Luke was awake. "Are you hungry? It's about to rain outside. What do you want to eat? I'll have it delivered."

Luke shook his head and patted his bed. "I'm not hungry. Come and lie down next to

Bianca let go of his hand and went to pour a glass of warm water for him. "Your lips look dry. You should drink some water."

Luke took the glass and gently sipped the water. He looked at her, noticing that there was something not quite right with her expression. Bianca chuckled when she saw that Luke was looking intently at her. "Why are you looking at me like that? Is there something on my face?"

Her voice was very pleasant.

She was born and raised in the south, and so she had a peculiar drawl to her syllables, like water flowing in a brook in spring, or like a gentle breeze. Luke thought that his wife was the most beautiful woman in the world. He took her hand and placed it on his chest.

bandages, Bianca could feel the rhythmic beat of his heart. Bianca was afraid that she might accidentally touch his wounds. She wanted to pull her hand back. "Your

Luke kissed her soft hair and spoke gently, "I might recover faster if you touch my

was amused by his childish actions, though she could not help but feel dejected when she was reminded of Mavis's brazen behavior earlier. "You bring me nothing but trouble. You might be married with children, but women can't help but fall for you. What should I do about

are you thinking?" Luke gently flicked her forehead. "Why do you suddenly say that? Don't you trust sleeping earlier and did not know that Mavis came to

quarreled with Mavis outside

to the ward did a good job of insulating sounds from the outside. That was why he did not know about the tensions that ran between the

pinched his arm and said angrily, "No, I trust you, but I hate those women who are as pesky as flies... Sigh, my husband is an extremely charming man, and that's why many women fall for him. If I'm angry because of such a petty matter, then I'd be living in jealousy for my

at her in puzzlement. "What

"It's nothing..."

Luke pinned her down on the bed in the middle of her sentence. "You shouldn't lie to me, **my darling.**"

Bianca did not struggle in case she accidentally touched his wounds. She hugged her neck as she said coyly, "It's really nothing. My husband has a face that would make any woman fall for him. I'm afraid that some other seductress might steal his **heart...**"

She did not tell Luke that Mavis came earlier. He might have had no affection for that woman, but Mavis had been by his side for more than ten years, witnessing his growth from an unknown entrepreneur to the CEO of a multinational conglomerate. She probably occupied a unique position in his heart. Luke was an intelligent man, and he should know that Mavis admired him. He might be pretending that he did not know about it because he did not want to ruin their working relationship. Bianca decided that she should help him solve **that problem.**

Luke was Bianca's wife now. Mavis had no right to covet him.

Bianca felt relieved when she thought *about that.*

Luke was not sure how to react when he heard those words. "Silly girl!" 'She doesn't know how much I love her. Why is she always thinking of **such nonsense?**

'Is it because she doesn't feel secure with me?'

...

came to the VIP hospital ward at about five o'clock in the

handed an insulated container to Bianca. Her heart wrenched when she saw that her daughter seemed to be more and more haggard by the day, and her son-in-law lying on the hospital bed. "I made some food for you, Luke and Bea. You should

the container and led her mother to sit down at a chair. "Why did you come over, Mom?

gaze wavered slightly. "Your dad is... pulling some strings. The accident at The Galleria is too serious, and if it comes to it, we still have an escape route... Don't worry about the accident, Luke. You should rest well for now. There has to be a solution for this, no matter how difficult it might

took a sip of the bone broth that Bianca brought to him in a

broth tasted delicious, but Queenie's words left a bitter aftertaste in his mouth. Mr. Jack Norman was known for his honesty and impartiality. He had always hated getting things done by relying on connections, but he had made an exception for what happened to T Corporation. He was moved, but at the same time, he

"Thank you, Mom... and Dad too."

uneasy about it too. His father had been an honest politician for all his life, and he was about to retire soon. She felt guilty that she let her parents worry about their problems, but she was helpless about finally realized that her parents were always there for

Chapter 792 Someone Is Outside the Door

Leia was half-naked on the bed with Wayne.

She was panting heavily after the vigorous session when Wayne abruptly covered her mouth. "Shh..."

"What's wrong?" Leia glared at Wayne unhappily while her limber body crawled onto Wayne's chest.

"Someone's outside!"

Wayne was acutely aware of his surroundings, even when he was making out with a woman.

Leia broke out in a cold sweat, and she struggled to get up. "My mom must be back. Let go of me, you b*stard!"

Even though the door was locked and Queenie would not barge in, Leia was scared that someone might catch her in the act, and she was even more afraid that her parents found out that she was harboring a wanted criminal. Instead of letting her go, Wayne cackled sinisterly. His movements became even more vigorous. "I'm in the middle of something now. Even God will have to wait until I'm done!"

Leia could not believe what she heard. She thought that the man was insane.

Her sharp nails dug into Wayne's shoulders, but that only made him even more excited.

Leia's lips entered her oral cavity, stopping her from making

not going to be done so

Leia was in utter panic.

could not take it any longer. She tried to push him away while squeaking softly, "My mom is outside. I... can't let

sank. His thick and bushy eyebrows furrowed unhappily, while his hand gripped her waist even more tightly, and he entered her more violently despite

losing her mind. That man could be so reckless when he was

might be shameless, but she wanted to maintain her reputation in the household. What should she

the room, Queenie seemed to have heard some noise from inside. She thought that she heard a masculine voice, but the door was well-insulated, and she could not tell if she

to knock on the door. "Are you in the room, Leia? What are you doing inside? I need to talk

afraid that her mother might find out what was going on. She replied to her while panting, "Mom... ahh... I... I'm still... resting... I'll open... the door for you soon,

Queenie could not help but be suspicious. She continued asking, "Are you alone in the room, Leia? Why did I hear a male voice? Did you bring... a guest **home**?"

She knew that Leia was once obsessed with Luke Crawford, but that man had hurt her. Queenie sincerely hoped that Leia would find a man that truly loved her so that she could leave that relationship behind her. Queenie would be happy for Leia if she brought a suitable significant other to meet **her**.

She and Jack were not conservative. They would be happy for their daughter as long as she believed that the man was truly meant *for her*.

Leia was scared out of her wits when she heard her mother's words.

Her mind snapped out of the euphoria. "N... No... Mom... I'm not feeling very well now... just... wait for a while, and I'll open the door..."

Queenie remained suspicious, but she did not say anything about it. "Alright, you should rest if you're not feeling well. What do you want for dinner? I'll cook whatever you like."

"Anything... will do... ahh... I like anything that you make..." Leia said *hoarsely*.

"Alright," Queenie replied, then went downstairs.

Leia breathed a sigh of relief as she heard her mother's high heels go down the **stairs**.

sprawled over Leia's body, moved even more vigorously. A long while later, he growled satisfactorily, and his sweaty body fell on Leia's body. Leia frantically pushed his burly body away. "My mom is back, Wayne. She can't find out that you're here. Otherwise... otherwise, I'm finished! Stay here in the room, and I'll bring you something to eat. You should... rest

replied lazily with his eyes half-open. He closed his eyes and began to

was like paradise compared to when he was on the run. The woman would feed him good food, and he could make out with her whenever he wanted. He would not mind living

put on her clothes as quickly as possible and tidied up the messy room. She covered Wayne's body with a blanket, hastily smoothened her hair, and prepared to

she opened the door, she saw Ms. Lang standing outside the room like a phantom. "Ms. Leia, Madam wants to know if you'd like some soup

inadvertently fell to the

had been very secretive lately. She never let the caretakers into her room, and she would sometimes bring her meals

surprising thing was that her appetite had suddenly increased

amount of food she brought into her room every meal was enough to feed two adult men, but the plates were always licked clean every time. Ms. Lang was incredibly curious about what was

nearly passed out because of Ms. Lang's sudden appearance at the

Chapter 793 She Has To Get Rid of Ms. Lang

Queenie was washing vegetables in the kitchen, but her mind seemed to be elsewhere. She was in a horrible mood.

She wondered why her two daughters had been fraught with obstacles recently.

First, her younger daughter was caught taking drugs and detained in the drug rehab center. Then, her elder daughter's husband got into an accident.

The Galleria's collapse was no small matter. T Corporation would be ruined if the matter was not handled properly, not to mention that Luke, as its CEO, might be sentenced to prison. During her hospital visit, she noticed that Luke was not in a good physical condition, and she wondered if he had thought of a solution yet. Jack might be trying his best to pull some strings, but he was about two years away from retirement, and his relations in the political scene were already starting to distance themselves from him. Also, Jack's impartial attitude had made him many enemies over the years. Leia, her younger daughter, had always caused her worry. Her personality had changed completely ever since she got out of the drug rehab center. She seemed to be afraid of crowds, and she locked herself in the room all day. She even rejected any invitations to go shopping.

If only she did not have to worry so much about her daughters!

She washed the bones, scraped off any meat, tossed the bones into the boiling pot, then added various seasonings to make soup.

Then, she minced the meat, mixed it with chives, chopped carrots, and some salt, then stirred it into a fine paste. She was going to use that as the filling for the dumplings she was about to make.

in soup made for a hearty meal. Queenie loved dumplings, especially the ones she made herself. She loved cooking, and she would be satisfied if her cooking could make her husband and daughters

cook in the kitchen whenever she was troubled. That served as a distraction from whatever was

that, she mixed the ingredients and prepared the dough with a rolling pin. When Ms. Lang stepped into the kitchen, she saw Queenie's hands deftly churning out paper-thin dumpling skins. They were arranged neatly on the

smiled and stepped forward. "Do you need my help, Madam?" "It's fine, Ms. Lang. There are several stray pieces of laundry on the living room couch. Please put them in the washing machine." Ms. Lang was about to leave when she suddenly remembered the uncanny scene she saw in Leia's

hesitated if she should inform Queenie

that Ms. Lang was thinking about something and asked, "What's wrong, Ms. Lang? Is there something?" Ms. Lang remembered Leia's icy gaze, hostile expression, and most importantly her brazen threat. She gulped and decided not to tell Queenie about it. Even so, she tried to hint at something. "It's nothing, Madam. I... I noticed that Ms. Leia seems to be troubled by something recently, and she always looks tired. You might want to pay more attention to

don't worry. I'll take care of her," Queenie

"I'll be off to do the laundry then. Please call me if you need me," Ms. Lang nodded politely at Queenie, then turned around and left the kitchen.

At the kitchen entrance, she bumped into someone with a pair of eyes as sinister as a venomous *snake*.

That was Leia!

Despite her shock, Ms. Lang greeted her, "Ms... Ms. *Leia*."

"Mm," Leia replied coldly and ignored her as she stepped into *the kitchen*.

Ms. Lang thought that she was lucky for not telling Queenie about what she saw in Leia's bedroom. Otherwise, Leia might overhear that and would make sure that she would not be able to work in the Norman residence anymore.

She knew that she had to be careful in **the future**.

Leia saw Ms. Lang walk away hastily, she knew that something was amiss. She did not know if Ms. Lang had noticed Wayne's presence in her room or if Ms. Lang had told her mother anything, but she suspected that Ms. Lang saw something in

was not going to let that woman stay in the Norman residence anymore! Leia stepped into the kitchen and saw that her mother had prepared many dumplings. The dumpling skins were translucent, and the pink filling could be faintly seen

an artist. Not only her paintings were beautiful, but even her dumplings looked like works of art. They probably tasted as good as

greeted her mother sweetly as usual and gently hugged her shoulders. "Are you making dumplings? They look so good. I'd like to learn how to make

instincts gushed forth when her daughter was acting coquettishly toward her. She poked her daughter's forehead with her flour-tipped finger. "Alright, I'll teach you everything. At least you'll know how to do some housework by the time you get married, and your future mother-in-law won't make fun of

Leia pouted contemptuously.

was fated to live a life of luxury, and she would only marry a wealthy husband from an influential family. All her needs would be fulfilled by caretakers, so why would there be a need for her to learn how to do

Chapter 794 No One Can Harm His Family!

In the VIP hospital ward, Gale and Rain stood in front of the bed and looked at Luke with worry in their eyes. They fell into the ocean at the same time, but fortunately, the two of them were saved by Percy Mallory.

They had been recuperating from their serious injuries.

Later, they were overjoyed to find out from Percy that their leader was still alive! Luke was their savior. He had single-handedly destroyed Robert's hidden training base from within and led them out of the hellish Island of Despair. They were grateful that Luke had granted them a new lease of life, and they swore eternal loyalty to him.

Johann was performing a check-up on Luke's body. He was surprised when he analyzed the data. "I say, Bro, your regenerative powers are insane! A normal person would take at least a month to recover from

broken ribs, but it's only been a week, and it would take someone else two weeks to reach where you are. Tsk, what a monster! You can be discharged today."

Luke did not reply to him.

He had his training on the Island of Despair to thank for his inhuman constitution.

He frequently got injured there, and he had secretly used his knowledge of herbology to treat his body using various medicinal herbs found on the island. That was why his constitution improved greatly. Gale was delighted when he heard Johann's report. "Dr. Johann, are you saying that Boss's body is fine? That's good news!"

Rain did not like to speak. She had a charming oval-shaped face, but her demeanor was as cold as ice.

the other people knew her as an ice queen, she was visibly happy when she heard the

Gale and I have disguised ourselves as police officers in charge of the investigation task force. We infiltrated the site of the accident to look for evidence, and we have made

Luke a stack of photos taken at the ruins of The Galleria as well as a report of

his lips as he took those documents. He carefully read every page of the report. Gale also said sternly, "Boss, we've found remnants of CK-20 explosives at ground zero. CK-20 is one of the latest inventions of the Island of Despair. Once detonated, it will react with all the oxygen over a widespread area. That'll deprive all the people in the affected area

the people who had lost their lives in the collapse died of suffocation and not of trauma. I'm wondering why there would be traces of CK-20 in A City when we have destroyed the entire stockpile of the explosive before we left the Island

narrowed when he heard what

beautiful yet sinister face surfaced in his mind

had a hunch that Kassy was still

were still alive, then she would attack

Luke's gaze turned into ice when he thought of that possibility.

He would not let any harm come to Bianca!

He instantly gave his next order to Gale. "Cooperate with Percy Mallory and find out Kassy's whereabouts. Contact me the very instant you find anything. If she presents herself as a threat to my wife, kill her on the **spot!**"

Gale hesitated for a moment. "Boss, Kassy might be ruthless, but she saved your life after *all...*"

Other people might not know how life was on the Island of Despair, but Gale and Rain knew it **very well**.

Many people met an untimely end on that hellish island, where only the fittest survived. Their boss might be strong and capable, but he was the weakest when he

first arrived there. Many people had bullied him, and he had nearly lost his life on multiple **occasions**.

Kassy had secretly protected him, and that was how he managed to survive and thrive in that **environment**.

Luke did not frown as he retorted, "She saved my life? Heh, she would've dispatched me if not that she had ulterior motives! Moreover, I've made them uncountable riches while I was on the island, and that should've paid back whatever debt of gratitude I owe them. I won't act on Kassy as long as she doesn't show up in front of me or attempt to harm my family, but if she insists on doing so, I won't show her *any*

Rain had no words to reply

boss decided on something, no one could change his

like Luke said, even though Kassy might have saved his life, the woman was cunning and ruthless. Many innocent lives had died because of her, and she was even crueler than Madame Rose. A menace like her was better

knew how much Luke loved Bianca. He patted Luke's shoulder and said, "You don't have to worry too much, Bro. We'll act according to the situation. It's not that easy to break through the defenses of your mansion, and we have found solid evidence of their crimes. They'll eventually have to be brought

Luke's expression was sullen.

did not know how cruel that woman could be. The security measures at his mansion were nothing

have to use stronger protective measures for

were talking, Jason barged in through the door, panting. "Mr. Crawford, the hospital is surrounded by police officers, a group of troublemakers, and many

had been a week since the tragedy of The Galleria, but T Corporation had not released any statements since the press

Chapter 795 Don't Dodge the Question, Luke

The "answer" that they wanted was, of course, the amount of compensation that they would receive.

Even without the families of the deceased protesting, Luke would be granting them the maximum amount.

He might be the Cold-Faced Devil in the business world, but he was influenced by Bianca's kindness after spending a long time with her.

However, he was unhappy that those people had surrounded the hospital. He wondered if they caused Bianca, who was back at home, any trouble.

Luke turned his ice-cold gaze at Jason. "Are they bothering Bianca?"

He did not mind being embroiled in controversy, but he hoped that the mob would not harass his wife and children.

Bianca had stayed in the hospital for the past few days to take care of him. She was at her physical limit, and Luke forced her to go home and rest.

Jason answered instantly, "Don't worry, they're not going to find her at the mansion.

The security measures are tight there, and there hasn't been any trouble."

"Mm, that's good to know. I'll be discharged today. You can tell Bianca that she doesn't have to go to the company."

"Understood."

...

dealing with many miscellaneous matters, Luke left the hospital through a secret exit and managed to evade the troublemakers and

was almost midnight when he returned to

caretaker was surprised to see him back home. She escorted him to his room. "You're back, Sir! Madam has been talking about you. Have you had your

took his coat and diligently hung it at the coat rack. Luke stepped into the room and asked, "I haven't. Is

replied, "Madam and the children went to bed after dinner. I'll go and heat the leftovers in

eyelids drooped as he took off his shirt. No one knew what he was

later, he stood up and

glanced at Luke's back while she heated the food in the kitchen and was reminded that Bianca seemed depressed in the past few days. She felt sorry for the couple that seemed to be always beset with ordeals. She knew that Luke and Bianca shared

loving relationship, but she also knew that many relationships would break down in times of crisis. Would this couple be able to weather through the storm? Eventually, the caretaker shook her head, sighed, and went on with her work. When Luke opened the door, he saw Bianca sleeping on their bed with the three **children**.

There were four visible mounds under the blanket, one big and three *small*.

Under the dim nightlight, Bianca's brows were tightly furrowed, but the twins and Tommy were sleeping **soundly**.

The faces of the three children were free **of worry**.

He stood at the door staring at the tranquil scene for a minute before walking inside and planted a heavy kiss on Bianca's *fair forehead*.

Bianca had not been sleeping well for the past few days. She was a light sleeper because of her nightmares.

Luke's actions woke her up from her dreams.

She opened her eyes groggily and mumbled indistinctly, "You're back, Luke?"

"Mm," Luke replied gently. His heart was filled with tenderness as he looked at her innocent expression, and he gently bit her *tender lips*.

The gentle kiss turned Bianca's limbs into jello. Her eyes suddenly opened wide. "Why are you out of the hospital, Luke? You haven't fully recovered yet, right? Why don't you stay there for a few more days? You didn't even tell me that you're discharged. I could've gone over and fetched you..."

like she was complaining as she sat up on

hair was disheveled. A few stray strands covered her clear eyes. Luke straightened her hair and pecked her lips. "Those aren't serious injuries, and so they recover quite fast. Johann said that I can be discharged too. I don't like the smell of disinfectant in the hospital. Our home

"our home" brought warmth to Bianca's

nonetheless worried when she thought about the injuries he sustained. "You'd better stay at home for the next few days and don't overwork yourself. I can share your workload. Remember, Luke Crawford, I am your wife and your comrade in battle. Don't bear all the responsibility yourself," Bianca said

was the first time that Bianca had used that serious tone with him. It was also her first time emphasizing her identity

gaze swept carefully over her defiant face, seeming in search of something as he looked at her stiffly straight body. No one knew what he was

a stubborn one. She would not give up unless she received an affirmative answer from

did not expect Luke to lean over and gently kiss her lips. Bianca was somewhat frustrated that the man had always kissed her as a way to evade

wanted to push him away, but his actions were so gentle. He held and kissed her as though she was an extremely

Chapter 796 How Dare You Threaten Me?

Kassy looked gloomily at the naked man who was unconscious on the floor.

'How useless!

'If that were Matthew, he would have given me the pleasure I desire!' The man's tempting body appeared in Kassy's mind.

She had done her best in protecting the man, but he had betrayed her!

Her beautiful face contorted viciously when she thought of that. Even the air around her seemed to have turned into ice.

She draped a silk negligee over her, barely covering her private parts. Then, she pressed a button and coldly ordered, "Come and take this useless piece of trash away!"

Two tall and burly men in suits soon appeared in the room. They dragged the unconscious handsome man out of the room as though they were dragging a piece of roadkill.

dared not look at Kassy's seductive, barely naked

room resumed its silence. Only the dim night light cast an eerie glow in the

a drawer and took out a photo. On it was the face of a handsome man whom she so loved and

low for so long, her first deed after she arrived in A City was to deliver a surprise "present" for Luke. She wondered if he liked

would deliver more and more presents to Luke in the coming days, including his so-called wife whom he was so obsessed about -- Bianca

Kassy was planning her next move, her phone

only people who knew her phone number were those that she trusted the most. She had an idea of who was calling her when she saw the string of unfamiliar numbers on

the call and said

"*Long time* no see, Kassy. How have you been?" Wayne's flippant voice was heard over the phone. "If my guess is correct, you should have just finished making out with some random guy. Am I right?" Kassy grunted coldly, and the grip on her phone became tighter. "What do you want? Spit **it out**."

On the other side, Wayne lay comfortably on Leia's bed. He frowned unhappily and said brusquely, "Don't be like that. We're still partners, right? That's not how you should speak to a partner. I've heard that Luke Crawford destroyed your stepfather's base, and you're on the run. That's not a life you want to live, isn't it?" Kassy could not help but chuckle. "Heh, do you think that you're in a better state? The entire A City, no, the entire *country is*

hunting you down, and you can't even go back to your own home. You're in a far worse state than me, yet you have the guts to mock me. What a *joke!*"

Wayne was used to being flattered. He could not tolerate a woman *criticizing her*.

His tone of voice took a violent turn. "I'm going to let that slide because we're still partners and because I pity your current condition. Don't think that you're still Robert's beloved step-daughter; you're nothing but a dog on the run now! I might be wanted, but A City is Blatt family turf. It'll be very easy for me to kill you!" Kassy thought of the Blatt family's massive influence and Wayne's cunning and ruthless methods. The man was an expert at killing someone when they least expected it. She pondered her situation for a brief moment. It would be a bad idea to offend the man and be *his victim*.

With that thought in mind, she softened her tone. "I'm sorry, Wayne. I shouldn't have spoken so harshly to you. I haven't been in a good mood. Please forgive me, considering that we have been partners for so many years. Also, I'm the one who supplied the explosives to your subordinates to blow up The Galleria. I hope you don't cast me aside after I've served my purpose. Even if you don't like me, **at least**

consider the fact that my stepfather has helped you so much over the years, hmm? If we work together, we can ruin T Corporation and turn A City upside down... isn't that what

you want?"

voice was gentle and coy, like a feather that tickled Wayne's heart. Her flattery made him could not help but grin when he thought of the situation Luke was remained suspicious. "That's exactly what I want. I didn't expect the man to be so fragile! Kassy, are you sure that the explosives you supplied me won't leave any so furious that she wanted to smash her phone at that instant, but she stopped herself. "Wayne, you were once an elite special forces soldier and the leader of an international mercenary group. You should be more experienced with explosives than me. You should know that CK-20 is extremely destructive, and its chemical components are extremely volatile. I can bet you that even the best explosives experts would find it hard to detect the slightest trace. Don't worry, they won't be able to be the case. Otherwise, you should know what I can do continued to echo in Kassy's head after he She gritted her teeth in anger.

Chapter 797 The Culprits Will Soon Get What They Deserve!

Bianca gently called out to the man who was hard at work in the study. "Luke."

Luke put away the document in his hand and looked up helplessly at her. "It's already so late. Why aren't you sleeping yet?" He sounded as though he was reprimanding her.

Bianca gently blew on the hot drink in her hands, then handed the cup to Luke. "How can I sleep when you're still working? I've made some tangerine honey milk tea for you. Drink it while it's hot."

Luke took the cup of tea.

The golden color of the tea was beautiful. The tangerine pieces floating inside seemed tantalizing.

He took a few sips and was impressed. "Mmm, not bad. The sweet and sour taste makes it very appetizing. I'm lucky that my wife can make such delicious tea. Come over here. Your lips are so dry, and you should have some tea too."

"I'm not thirsty. This tea is made just for you." Bianca was not in the mood to listen to his flowery words or drink tea.

So many things had happened recently, and that had exhausted her greatly. Luke forcefully pulled her into his arms, let her sit on his lap, and fed her a few sips of tea.

Then, he pinched her skinny cheeks and looked at her dearly. "You've lost a lot of weight recently, silly girl. I like you better when your face is meatier." Bianca rolled her eyes at him. "Meatier? You mean plumper! I think I prefer myself like this. Would you like me better if my face is as round as a pizza?" Luke could not help but laugh. "Pizza? I don't really mind whatever shape your face might be, you're always the most beautiful woman to me." "You're such a charmer." Bianca was originally not thirsty. Taking a few sips of the tea whetted her appetite, and she picked up the teacup and drank from it.

several gulps before putting the teacup down. Only a third of the tea

tousled her hair seeing that she was happy. His eyes were brimming with love when she saw that she had almost finished the tea in the made the tea for Luke, but she ended up drinking most of patted her stomach and smiled apologetically to Luke. "I'll... I'll make another cup for her hand and stopped her. "It's fine. I'm not thirsty, and I don't really want to drink tea so late at night. You should rest soon because you need to wake up early tomorrow. You shouldn't stay up so late, your body might not be able to his waist and buried her head in his chest. "No, you have to rest too. Otherwise, I'll stay here and accompany you in the study. I mean it," she fell on the stacks of documents on

There were still so many documents to process. Luke would not be able to finish them tonight even if he were **Superman**.

Luke did not move. He remained seated on his chair as though he did not hear what she said, though he comforted her by gently patting her cheek. "Be a good girl. I'll go and sleep after I'm done reading these documents. It'll take me half an hour **at most...**"

Bianca shook her head stubbornly. "No! Go to the bedroom with me now and rest. Otherwise, I'll stay **here too**."

She knew that the man was only making an excuse when he said that it would only take half an *hour*.

If she did not force him to go and rest, he would be working overnight. It was fine if he did it on any other day, but he had just been discharged from the hospital, and he had not fully recovered. He should not overwork himself. Luke was usually helpless against Bianca's coy demands, but today, he shook his head helplessly, disobeying her. One of his hands held Bianca, while the other hand tapped rapidly on the keyboard of his *laptop*.

Bianca poked his chest seeing that he was stubborn. "It's already two o'clock. The sun will come up soon if you're not going to rest." "Be a good girl and go to bed first. I'll be done soon." Luke picked up Bianca and placed her on the soft bed in the lounge that was attached to **the study**.

Right after Bianca was placed on the bed, she reached out and hugged Luke's waist tightly as though she were an octopus. He could **not leave**.

Tears welled up in her eyes as she started to guilt-trip him. "Luke, please listen to me and take a rest. You're not going to finish that much work tonight, and your body hasn't recovered yet. Why are you pushing yourself so hard? Remember that you're not only T Corporation's CEO but also my husband and the children's father. Can't you rest early for us?"

Alright." Luke's heart softened when he saw that she was about to hesitated for a while, then lay down next to her, hugged her tight, and draped the blanket over the two he hugged her fragrant body, Luke could feel his stress melt away and each of the cells in his body

kissed her forehead and whispered,

forehead was damp from Luke's

looked at his slightly haggard face. Reaching out to touch his chin, she felt the sharp prick of some hair of his

pouted, yawned, and said casually, "Your beard has been growing very fast recently. I remember shaving it for you only a few days ago, but it's already so thick. You're a workaholic, and you don't know how to groom yourself when you're focused on work. You look like a hobo now. I wonder why so many women are charmed by

"I do have a very

Chapter 798 She Needs To Get More Money From Her Son

Meanwhile, in another mansion.

A gentle breeze stirred the crystal bead curtains that made a stark contrast with the golden furnishings. The entire interior was luxuriously furnished with crystal decorations, furniture with golden frames, and all sorts of classical flower arrangements.

The mansion was Allison's private property.

She had received a large sum of money and a percentage of T Corporation's shares from Luke's inheritance. Allison had complained to Bianca that her share of the inheritance was too little, and she had even brought some reporters to Old Master Crawford to raise a ruckus.

Bianca had mercilessly driven her out, and Old Master Crawford had reprimanded her severely. He even said to the reporters that he would take back all the inheritance given to her if she continued to cause trouble.

Allison was helpless, but she did not hold any actual executive power. She was no match for Bianca, and even Old Master Crawford could easily crush her even though he had already retired for many years. She could only take her "measly" share of the inheritance and shut up.

A portion of the inheritance was spent on the purchase of the mansion, and the renovation cost several million dollars. That was her immovable property.

the rest of the money, she spent it as

of money was enough to last an ordinary person

the spendthrift Allison who had no means of income, she had almost squandered away the entire inheritance in a short two years. She was an extremely vain person, and she only bought luxury-brand clothing and accessories because she wanted to maintain an image in front of

room in the mansion was converted into a fully-equipped

lay on the facial bed, served by two young women. They were twins; the elder sister was named Elsa, and the younger sister was Elise. Elsa was slightly taller and had a pair of animated eyes. She was currently massaging Allison's

shorter girl was Elise, the younger sister. She had made a pot of tea for Allison and was currently peeling a tangerine. Then, she brought a sweet piece of fruit to Allison's

met the twin sisters in the beauty salon she frequented. Their massage skills were excellent, and they knew how to make Allison happy with flattery. That was why Allison had hired them as her personal beauticians in her mansion and offered them a

Elsa pampered her every day, while Elsie also doubled as her personal cook. Allison thought that the money spent on hiring them was worth it. "Madam, your skin is getting more and more tender under our treatment. You look even better than both of us. How blessed you are! Are you enjoying the massage so far?" Elsa flattered Allison discreetly while giving her a massage, Allison's eyes were closed as she thoroughly enjoyed the sensation. "Mm, not bad. I always loved your massage, Elsa."

"Let me introduce you to a beauty treatment method, Madam. I'm sure that you'll **like it**."

"**Oh, is** that so? What treatment is it?" Allison was curious. Elsa seemed to be coming up with new treatment methods every day, and Allison was more than willing to try them.

Elsa smiled sweetly. She picked up a pink unique-looking ultrasonic massager and put it on Allison's face. Then, she pushed a switch, and the massager gently massaged Allison's face.

While Elsa massaged her face, she introduced the apparatus to Allison. "Madam, this is the newest The Zeus VI. Just like Zeus is the king of the gods, this is the king of all beauty equipment. This ultrasonic massager can remove dead skin cells and promote cell growth so that your skin will always be as smooth as a baby. Most importantly, it can remove crow's feet wrinkles... You can see for yourself in the mirror once I'm **done**."

Allison thoroughly indulged in the delicate treatment process, though she did not feel that the massager was any different from the other massagers she had tried before. However, Elsa's explanation made her anticipate the results of the treatment.

Half an hour later, Elsa finished the massage. She washed Allison's face and applied beauty essence, moisturizer, and facial cream before handing her a hand mirror. "Do you see the results of the massager, Madam? I think that your skin has become more tender than before!" She said with *a smile*.

carefully at her face in the mirror. Indeed, her face seemed fairer than before, and the crow's feet wrinkles at the corners of her eyes seemed to have faded. She touched her face and exclaimed in surprise, "Indeed, this massager is much better than all the others. This is a good recommendation, Elsa. Use this massager on my face every day. I'll double your bonus this

twins glanced at each other and

that the old woman was an idiot. There was no such miraculous massager in

applied hormone essence to Allison's face while massaging it. The effects of the hormone essence were indeed tremendous, and it could shrink smoothen one's skin. However, the side effects were drastic. If she stopped using it, her face would wrinkle

Madam. I borrowed this massager from a friend of mine. She's

overseas, and the Zeus VI is her latest invention. It costs about 150,000 dollars. This is the only one available for now, and it'll be put up for auction tomorrow. I'll have to return this to her

became frantic when she heard that. She wanted the amazing treatment

Chapter 799 They Will Teach Him A Lesson!

While Allison fretted over what excuse she should give to ask for money from her son, she received an invitation to a video call on her phone.

She picked up her phone and saw that it was Maxine calling her. She instantly accepted the invitation and said exaggeratedly, "Are you already back home, Maxine? You're only gone for a few days, but I've already missed you!"

Maxine did not stay for too long in Crawford Manor, but she knew how to butter up to Allison. Somehow, she knew Allison's preferences, and Allison was perfectly satisfied by every lavish gift Maxine bought her.

Moreover, Maxine's father was a much more influential figure than Bianca's father. That was the main reason why Allison liked Maxine. Of course, Maxine was a sensible and obedient girl, unlike that ingrate Bianca, who would always go against her wishes.

Maxine's delicate and petite face appeared on Allison's phone screen. She smiled sweetly as she greeted Allison, "I miss you too, Aunt Allison. I thought I could stay over for longer if I had been successfully accepted to Luke's company, but unfortunately... sigh. Never mind, I'll go and visit you whenever I'm free. How have you been?"

away an imaginary tear on her face and said with fake sorrow, "Sigh, things have been horrible here. You should have seen the news about T Corporation's accident, right? I've been physically and mentally exhausted because of that. Your cousin Luke is in the hospital because of the violent mob. Things are chaotic in the Crawford household. Sigh, we're so

Maxine's voice became shrill all of a sudden. "Is Luke in the hospital? Is he

to look sadder than before. "His injuries are serious. He broke several ribs, and there was a blood clot in his skull when he was struck by a thick steel pipe. He almost couldn't survive the operation... My son is truly blessed to be saved from the reaper, but he's still in pretty bad

turned pale all of a sudden. "How could that happen? Shouldn't he have bodyguards protecting him? How could he be so

noticed the worry in Maxine's eyes and remembered how Maxine blushed when she first saw Luke. "Maxine, I'd... I'd rather not trouble you, but I don't have any other choice," she took the opportunity to say, "The accident at The Galleria is too serious, and monetary compensation won't please everyone! If T Corporation can't overcome this obstacle, we'll be bankrupt soon..." "Maxine, do you think you can help me ask your father for a favor? Luke

help to solve this problem. If you can help us, then I'll forever be in debt to you, and Luke will appreciate your help too. You'll be the savior of our

saw that Allison kept on wiping tears from her eyes and looked at her pleadingly. "Don't worry, Aunt Allison," she tried to comfort her, "I'll let Dad know about this and convince him to help you. Can you give me some time?" Allison nodded hurriedly and sighed with relief. "Alright, I'm relieved when you say that. We're relying on you

"Don't say that, Aunt Allison. We're relatives, and we should help each other in times of need. How about *this...*"

Maxine chatted with Allison for another ten minutes before hanging up. She remained unsettled for a long time.

Meanwhile, back in the beauty salon, Allison held two split chili peppers in her left hand and gestured a thumbs-up at Elise. The sorrow that she displayed during the video call could not be seen on her *face now*.

She was very satisfied with Elise's idea. Elise knew that Allison needed to cry, so she handed her the chili peppers to smear on her **eyes**.

...

In the capital, Maxine's unease grew after she ended the call. She did not know if her father would help Luke, considering that she had complained to her parents about Luke's harshness ever since she **got home**.

Irving Douglas and Verona Smythe, Maxine's parents, were happy that their daughter was back in the **capital**.

couple had two sons and a daughter. Both of their sons were outstanding politicians, but the youngest daughter whom they conceived at an old age had been pampered since she was

Irving and Verona were strict parents, and they did not spoil

sent to a boarding school overseas when she was young so that she could learn how to be

course, her mother could not bear to see her precious daughter leave. The parents had quarreled for a long time because of that, but Irving insisted on his decision despite

returned to the country after she was soon to graduate from university. Verona was elated that her beloved daughter had finally returned. She thought that Maxine would spend some more time with her, but Maxine said that she had to hand in an internship report before she could graduate, and she insisted on doing her internship at T Corporation in A City. Naturally, Verona was unwilling to see her daughter leave again. There were plenty of famous corporations in the capital, and Verona could have found a cushy position for her daughter by utilizing her connections. Maxine could have led an

Corporation might be one of the top hundred corporations in the world, but A City was far away from the capital, and their influence did not reach

the Douglas family did not have a cordial relationship with the Crawford family. Allison and Irving might be cousins, but Verona did not like that stupid and materialistic

Chapter 800 We'll Get Even With Them

Maxine went to the study and noticed that her usually stern father was busy at work.

Her mother was also there, preparing a pot of tea.

"Dad, Mom."

Maxine greeted them softly, took the teacup from her mother's hands, and placed it on her father's desk.

She turned around to face her mother and spoke sweetly, "Your tea-making skills are getting better, Mom. I could smell the tea leaves at the door. No wonder Dad always likes the tea you make for him. Isn't that so, Dad?"

stern expression did not change, but the corners of his lips eased up a little. "Mm,"

know how to tease me, my

not help but smile genuinely. She had always loved her precious daughter. "What do you want for dinner today, Maxine? There's a newly-opened five-star hotel in town, and the signature chef is quite skilled. I'll bring you

Mom. The chef at home is quite skilled too. It's the same if we have dinner at home," Maxine

"Won't you get bored of eating at home? That won't do...

your complexion? Are you feeling unwell?"

"*I'm fine*, Mom. I'm probably still adjusting to the local climate, and I didn't really sleep that well last night. I just need to rest more today," Maxine said with a slightly morose tone of *voice*.

Verona sighed as she looked at her daughter. "Sigh, I told you that you shouldn't be traveling so soon after you got back to the country, and I'll arrange for an internship for you in the capital, but you don't listen and insist on going to A City. Now, you've made the trip in vain. I say, Irving, that cousin of yours isn't very reliable. She knows that our daughter wants to work in her son's company, but she can't even pull the strings for us. They'll eventually have to rely on us for a favor, and that's when we'll get even **with them!**"

Verona got angrier and angrier as she said that, and her voice became shrill.

Maxine's heart skipped a beat when she heard that.

Her mother sounded extremely aggrieved. Of course, a lot of Verona's sentiments toward T Corporation could be attributed to Maxine's incessant complaints and grumblings after she had returned from **A City**.

Maxine had added a lot of exaggerated details while airing her grievances about how she was *unfairly treated*.

her fault that her parents did not have a good impression of the Crawford family, but

not like that, Mom. Actually, it's partly my fault that I couldn't get into T Corporation too. I thought I'd surely get in because I'm from an overseas university, but I might have overestimated myself... "I'm still inexperienced when it comes to working, and I flunked the interview because I had been too arrogant.

This has nothing to do with Luke; he's only following the rules of his company. It's rare to find such an impartial individual in the workplace, and I quite admire his character. Also, Aunt Allison and her family were very nice to me while I was in A City..." Maxine bit her lip and tried to improve Luke's image. Then, she went into the

should have seen the accident at T Corporation's The Galleria, right? The incident has affected the Crawford family negatively, and Aunt Allison cries every day because of the endless troubles. I feel so sorry for her. Can you... please help their family?" She looked at her father expectantly. Verona might be authoritative, but Irving was the one who had the last say. If she could get her father to understand the Crawford family's predicament, it should not be too difficult for him to help them. Irving grunted coldly, and his stern demeanor made him seem intimidating. "You're doing them a favor when you want to work in their company, but they didn't even give you a chance. If they can be so heartless, then we won't help them either! The incident is none of our business. You'd better keep your distance from them,

held her daughter's hand and said contemptuously, "Maxine, have you forgotten how you couldn't stop crying when you first came back from A City? I've never allowed you to suffer the slightest grievance, but they refused to help you outright. I thought that we should draw the line with them right there, but now they're using you to get help from us. That's nothing but wishful thinking!" Maxine was getting flustered. She hugged her mother's elbow and said to her coyly, "But Mom, Aunt Allison and her family were nice to me. It's my fault that I failed the interview at T Corporation, and you shouldn't blame it on them. If Dad can help the Crawford family, then I think

at her daughter suspiciously. "Has something gotten to you? I thought you hated the Crawford family since you came back from A City, but why are you trying to speak up for them now? Tell me, did the Crawford family promise you

her head guiltily. "N... no... Mom, I thought that since Dad and Aunt Allison are cousins, we should help them if we