

## Be Gentle 801

### Chapter 801 She Wanted To See What Allison Intended To Do

Luke went to the company early that morning, while the driver picked up the three children and sent them to Crawford Manor because Old Master Crawford missed them. The people who remained in the mansion were Bianca, Old Master Rayne, and Wanda who came to visit.

Johann had suggested a naturopathic treatment program for Old Master Rayne. The old man was already quite elderly, and his symptoms were chronic.

Today, Bianca and Wanda were in the kitchen preparing a herbal remedy for Old Master Rayne.

The thick smell of medicinal herbs wafted in the kitchen. They had to reduce the tonic three times in the pot, and they were only boiling it for the second time. Bianca thought that the smell alone was bitter.

"Aunt Wanda, the tonic smells so pungent and bitter. Can Grandpa's stomach take it?" Bianca furrowed her brows. She could not imagine how her grandfather took the tonic every day. Wanda smiled when she saw how worried her niece was. "Don't worry, sometimes herbal remedies can be more effective than medicine. Look at my breast cancer. Dr. Lake said that there was no other way other than to remove my breasts by surgery,

and she estimated that I only had six months to live... I didn't have the courage to have them removed, so I tried naturopathic treatments instead. I can't say that the tumor is totally gone, but at least the treatment managed to stop it from spreading. That's all I can ask for..."

at her aunt carefully. Indeed, there was more color to her face compared to before, and she seemed to be in good spirits. Bianca remembered how her aunt used to be withered and gaunt, but now she seemed

Bianca remained worried. "You'll still have to take good care of yourself, Aunt Wanda. Now that your condition is improving, you shouldn't overwork yourself. Maybe you should rest at home instead of working. You can't put a price on your

was even more of a workaholic compared to Bianca. While she was in Japan, she was the vice president of a major corporation. After she returned to the country, she started several companies and did not give herself any free

sickness was exacerbated by her stress from work and

shifted her priorities after she was diagnosed with cancer. "I know my condition the best, Bea, and I've thought about a lot of things since I was diagnosed. You don't have to worry too much about me. I've already sold off all my companies except for one, and I've been delegating most of the duties to the managers. Nowadays, I try to enjoy life as much as possible, and I'll travel to different cities and countries every month. I'd bring your Grandpa along with me if not that his physical condition doesn't allow him to

watched over the pot while replying to her aunt, "Grandpa gets homesick easily, Aunt Wanda. He doesn't want it even when I bring him to the park. I don't

**travel with** you even if his health were better, but it's the thought that counts. Taking care of your health is more important than anything else. I've been very busy lately, and I can't get away from work. Otherwise, I'd join you in your travels around the **world too**."

Wanda furrowed her brows when she was reminded of T Corporation's recent troubles. "How are you and Luke going to deal with the tragedy of The Galleria, Bea? I don't believe that it's an accident, and someone must be behind it. There's no reason why the shopping mall would suddenly collapse, especially not when there aren't any earthquakes or natural disasters. If you need me to help with anything, don't hesitate to tell me."

"**Thank** you, Aunt Wanda. Indeed, it's not an accident. Someone's trying to sabotage us".

Bianca's gaze became icy when she thought of that cold-blooded person who would kill so many innocent people in an attempt to harm T Corporation's reputation. "You don't have to worry about us. Luke is in the midst of finding evidence, and the masterminds behind the tragedy will be exposed soon. We can't reveal *anything for*

*now, in* case the culprits catch wind of it. Once we are ready to tell the truth, we will have a satisfactory explanation for the families of the deceased!"

Wanda felt slightly relieved.

had been in Japan for a long time, and all her resources and connections were there. She felt guilty that there was not much she could do to help her niece, but knowing that they had already found the culprits made her feel better. She knew that Luke was an outstanding individual and believed that he would be able to overcome the challenge. Her niece Bianca had suffered for most of her life, and Wanda would not want someone to ruin Bianca's

were chatting in the kitchen, they heard a commotion from outside. Soon, a security guard came running toward the kitchen while shouting from

"Mrs... Mrs. Crawford..."

her hands and went out of the kitchen. "What's wrong, Steve?" The security guard panted while he wiped the sweat off his face. "Madam... Madam Crawford is outside and wants to come in. We told her that she couldn't come in, but she sat on the ground and caused a commotion. She insists on meeting her son, and we can't stop her. We dare not lay a finger on her because she's Mr. Crawford's mother. What should we

glanced at the security feed of the entrance. Indeed, Allison was sitting on the ground and flailing her arms

was punching and kicking the security guards around her, very much unlike how a woman of her status should behave. "My son owns this mansion. Why can't I go in?" She yelled, "How dare you stop me, you peasants? I'll get my son to fire every one

Chapter 802 Drove Her Away Mercilessly

Bianca and Wanda could only watch as Allison stepped into the mansion uninvited.

Wanda was dazzled by the luxury brand clothing and accessories that Allison wore.

Needless to say, her entire set of Chanel clothes cost six digits. The black handbag she clutched was a Hermes matte Porosus crocodile handbag. Her wristwatch was a limited edition Richard Mille that cost millions. Adding the two diamond rings on her middle and ring finger, she could have bought a decent house in downtown A City. Wanda knew that the Crawfords were wealthy and Luke made a lot of money, but it was quite eye-opening to see one flaunt their wealth so blatantly. Moreover, T Corporation was facing a life-and-death crisis. The families of the deceased were in the middle of demanding compensation from T Corporation. What if the media caught wind of Allison's lavishness? That would have caused the media to pile on even more unsubstantiated claims about Luke's company.

She did not know if that woman was brazen or stupid.

Allison was oblivious to all that. She sat down on the couch and crossed her legs, treating the mansion as though it were her home and Bianca was her servant. "Your mother-in-law is here. Aren't you going to serve me some tea?"

Wanda was unhappy about Allison's commanding attitude. She was about to say something when Bianca gently tugged her hand. Bianca went next to the coffee table, picked up the teapot, and poured Allison a cup of tea. "What is your business here today?"

She knew that her mother-in-law would not visit her for no reason.

can't I come over whenever I wish? This house doesn't only belong to you. It's my son's house, and you're only a squatter. You wouldn't have been able to live so comfortably if he hadn't insisted on marrying you," Allison said shrilly as she glared

married to Luke for over two years, Allison remained prejudiced

was exasperated when she heard that. She immediately retorted, "What do you mean by that, Madam Crawford? If I'm not mistaken, Luke had handed Bianca a controlling majority of T Corporation two years ago. Your son might be the CEO of T Corporation, but technically he's only my niece's employee.

"Moreover, my niece single-handedly dealt with the Crawfords' troubles when your son went missing two years ago, and that's how you can still maintain your lavish lifestyle. How else would you be able to afford the clothes that you're wearing? It's fine that you don't know how to show any gratitude, but what right do you

here and put on airs? Ask yourself honestly, Allison Tanner, have you ever performed your duty as a mother-in-law ever since Bianca got

could not find a retort to those incisive

furious when she was reminded that Bianca had a controlling majority of T Corporation. "That's because that b\*tch has seduced my son to transfer his shares to her. He'll eventually realize the truth one day! Also, what right do you have to interject when I'm talking to my daughter-in-law? You're nothing but a sick woman about to die

all of you Raynes are cursed with bad health. You either have cancer, or you're demented. I hope my grandchildren didn't inherit those genes from you, I

them checked at the hospital some time soon..." "Allison Tanner!" Bianca's face was pale with anger, and her body was shaking. "I've tolerated you just because you're Luke's mother, but that doesn't mean

you get to humiliate the Raynes without consequences! I thought that you're only harsh with your words, but I didn't expect that you'd curse even your own grandchildren! Leave this house at **once!**"

*In a fit of rage, Bianca grabbed Allison's diamond-encrusted handbag and tossed it*  
out of the door.

**Then, she** dragged Allison by her elbow and shoved her away. "We don't welcome you here. Help me send her out, **Aunt Wanda!**"

*Wanda* was already furious at Allison's words. She grabbed Allison's other elbow, and the two Raynes forcefully carried Allison out of the house.

"What are you doing? Did I break any laws coming to my son's house? How dare you drive me out of the house when I'm here to look for my son! Just you wait, you b\*tch, I'll tell Luke to divorce **you!**"

**Allison** was tossed out of the house just as she finished her sentence.

complain to your son then! Luke is at the company now. I'm sure he'll be welcoming you with open

her hands and ordered the security guards coldly, "Don't let this woman in no matter what she says! If she tries to force her way in, get the police to arrest her for

guards nodded, then ushered Allison away. "Please don't make things difficult for us, Madam

about to explode from

there to ask for money from her son. Before she could even mention it, she had been tossed out of the house by Bianca and her aunt. Not only that, she was livid that she had been humiliated in front of the

spat at Bianca's mansion, then angrily drove away in her limited edition sports car toward

...

#### Chapter 803 Allison's Luxury Car Was Smashed

The entrance to the building was crowded with people. There were many reporters from various media outlets, but there were even more angry protestors.

They raised banners with slogans written in red ink, eager to claim justice for those who had lost their lives in the collapse of The Galleria.

Those slogans looked as though they were written in blood. It was a spine-chilling sight. Allison mouthed a curse before stepping out of her bright-red Lamborghini. She opened the car door, put on her shades, and casually stepped out with her teninch high heels.

She lifted her head and looked at the T Corporation building.

The tall skyscraper gleamed like a pearl under the sunlight. Other buildings around it were nothing more than dust when compared to it.

That was the business empire that her son had single-handedly built. She felt proud whenever she looked at the building. It was also something that she could brag to her friends.

Her son's office was proudly located on the top floor. Looking out of the window, he could look down upon the entire A City.

How honorable was that!

decided to go in from a side entrance instead of braving through the crowd. However, several keen-eyed reporters noticed her

that sports car with the 666EA license plate. It belongs to

reporter shouted and attracted everyone's attention. The reporters rushed toward her and aimed their cameras and microphones at her

Crawford, how does Luke Crawford of T Corporation plan to handle the tragedy of The Galleria? Why hasn't he given a satisfactory explanation to the families of the deceased after more than

the victims have yet to receive their compensation, but you appear here dressed in luxury brand clothing and expensive jewelry. Have you considered the feelings of the families of the deceased?"

"Madam Crawford, your clothes and accessories should cost at least several million dollars. Are you aware that your lavish lifestyle is funded by the money that should be used to compensate the victims? Do you know that your last meal was seasoned by the blood of the dead? Did you enjoy your

caught off-guard by the reporters' various questions! She was used to being pampered and flattered everywhere she went. Never had she had to deal with such troublesome

smacked away the microphone that was closest to her face and said unhappily, "My son will give everyone a satisfactory explanation about the incident at The Galleria.

give him some more time. After all, it's a serious issue that can't be settled in the short term. Also, I'm only a housewife, and I don't know anything about business. It's no use asking me questions. Stop interviewing me. I don't know *anything*..."

She turned around and tried to move away from *the crowd*.

However, the people surrounded her like a cocoon. She did not have the strength to push her way out. Some reporters grabbed onto the sleeves and hem of her clothes, stopping her from leaving. "Madam Crawford, you can't leave until your son gives us a satisfactory **explanation!**"

"*Who* do you think you are to stop me? Get *lost!*"

*Allison swung* her palm toward the man's face.

**The reporter** managed to use his camera to block the slap in time. Otherwise, it would have landed on **his cheek**.

*Even so*, his camera fell from his hands and dropped onto the ground. The people could see that Allison was serious in hurting *that reporter!*

is outrageous! Her son has yet to come clean to the public, but she's attacking a reporter in public! Did you all see that? Only a selfish mother like Allison Tanner would result in a cold-hearted bloodsucker like Luke Crawford! Their business

bones of the innocent victims! Smash her car and give her a taste of

in the crowd shouted that and managed to incite everyone's anger. The family members of the victims glared at Allison with bloodshot

shouts incited the anger of the crowd. They were baying for blood. Some of the people in the crowd took out hammers, while some picked up the bricks and rocks from the roadside. They showed no mercy to Allison's luxury sports car! As tough as the car might be, it could not withstand the repeated attacks from the

web-like cracks appeared on the windshield. The left side mirror was destroyed. The windows at the back seats were smashed

dare you peasants wreck my car! Don't you know how expensive it is? You can't afford it even if you worked for it all your life. Do you even care about the law? I'll call the police and arrest

to the predicament she was in, snapped the shades off her face and yelled at the

not know how idiotic her current

Chapter 804 Ludicrous Demand

About ten minutes later, Allison entered the T Corporation building through a secret entrance. Her current appearance could only be described as pathetic. Her usually fair and well-maintained face was now black and blue and swollen all over.

Her impeccably permed hair was also in a mess. Her arms and elbows were covered in bruises and bloody streaks. Even one of her high heels had gone missing. Jason nearly burst into laughter when he saw Allison's appearance. However, he had to put on a serious face so that he would not embarrass his boss's mother. "Why did you come to the company, Madam? You should've stayed at home." He pretended to be shocked. "The crowd outside is uncontrollable, and it's easy for you to get hurt. Did you forget that Mr. Crawford was seriously injured just last week?"

He knew that there must be a reason why Allison would appear at the T Corporation building. Usually, when she wanted money, she would have made a phone call instead.

Allison tried to straighten her messy hair.

She quickly glanced at the injuries on her body, then glared at Jason. "If you know that things are so serious, why haven't you thought of a solution yet? Is T Corporation paying all you higher management ingrates for nothing? I say, what have you done except for wasting my son's money? Look at what the violent mob did to me. If you hadn't arrived in time, I might have just died right there!"

his head. "Yes, Madam. I humbly accept your criticism. We will soon find a solution, don't worry..." Allison remained unconvinced. "What do you mean by soon? T Corporation is so big, so why are you so inefficient? Paying compensation to the victims' families is a small matter. You can't let the incident tarnish T Corporation's reputation! Every

means that my son has to suffer for another minute! You'll have to solve the problem by

noded and said nothing. He knew that Allison's appearance at T Corporation meant nothing but trouble, and he would be the one to clean up the mess. To be honest, he was quite sick of dealing with her. However, he was only a subordinate, and he could not talk back. He smiled dryly but said nothing. Allison grumbled for a while before she shut up. After all, Jason was the one who contacted the finance department to give her money. "Is Luke in, Mr. Doyle?" She tried to sound less hostile even though she was not too satisfied with

instantly. "Yes, The boss is here. This way please, Madam. However, he should still be in the conference room in a meeting with the

forward toward the CEO's office. "I'll wait for Luke in his

do you want to clean yourself up in the bathroom? How about I buy some clothes for you from the shopping mall

*"Never mind.* I'll meet him like this. I want him to see what the violent peasants did to me! I believe that my son will help me arrest them **all!**"

*Then, she* limped in the direction of the CEO's office.

Jason shook his head once again. Mr. Crawford was thoroughly occupied with dealing with the fallout of the tragedy of The Galleria. It was a bad time for Allison to look for him, and Jason guessed that he would be unhappy. Even so, Jason quickly made a cup of tea for Allison. He would rather not offend Allison in case she started complaining again. More than three hours later, Allison was falling asleep in the office. Luke slowly came out of the conference **room.**

*He* saw Jason at the door, holding a plate of delicately cut fruit and a glass of fruit **juice.**

Luke frowned, then pushed open the door to the CEO's office. Allison was reclining cross-legged on the wide couch with a fashion magazine in her hand and chewing a piece of pineapple in her mouth. She seemed to be quite relaxed, though the bruises on her limbs were *quite shocking.*

you here, Mother?" Luke's eyebrows furrowed even more tightly when he saw her, and his tone of voice was

understood that the mob outside had caused the injuries on his mother's

had already warned her to keep a low profile and try to stay indoors whenever possible. If she went out, she should bring some bodyguards with her. His mother was used to living a carefree lifestyle, and she always ignored his advice, which troubled him quite a lot. "I miss you, Luke. Can't I come and visit you?" Allison put away the magazine in her hand and sat up straight. She could not shift her eyes away once they fell on Luke. He was tall and elegant, and he walked with a firm stride. Allison thought that he became more handsome every time she saw him, even though he was frowning. He was so much better than Zachary, that useless father of

was an outstanding man and a genius entrepreneur. No wonder so many women fell

ignored her son's ice-cold demeanor and put on a superficial smile. "I miss you, my

"You miss me? Heh."

## Chapter 805 Found the Evidence

Allison felt a little embarrassed when she saw her son's gloomy face. "That's not a lot, right? Isn't T Corporation one of the biggest corporations in the country? It's even renowned internationally too. Don't tell me that the company is running out of money just because of this minor accident?"

Luke lit a cigarette, feeling rather frustrated.

Sometimes, he did not have the patience to deal with his mother, who only knew how to ask him for money. "This is a delicate scenario, Mother. You must have seen the situation at the entrance when you came here, right? Can you please not compound my troubles? I'll get the finance department to transfer three million dollars to your account. That should be enough for three months if you spend it sparingly. Please stop bothering me during this period."

"What? Only three million?"

Allison's face stretched exaggeratedly, and her voice became shrill. "Do you think that three million dollars is enough for me, my son? That's only enough for a few handbags and clothes. How can I pay for my living expenses then? You can't be that stingy toward your mother! I don't care. I want at least twenty million from you today. Otherwise, I'm not leaving!" She reclined on the couch, crossed her legs, then pointed her pedicured toes demonstratively at Luke. Luke did not even glance at her. He picked up his coat and walked toward the door. "I have a meeting to attend. You can stay here for as long as you want."

He glanced at Jason, who had entered the room with a fruit platter and a glass of fruit juice, then left as though nothing had happened.

Allison got anxious when she saw that Luke was ignoring her. She pounced from the couch and said, "Hey, my son, you can't leave. I don't need that much money after all. Give me ten million. That's the least I can accept... My standards of living will lower by a lot if you can't even give me ten million dollars. Don't you feel sorry

for your mother?"

not stop or slow down. He opened the door and

Allison stomped her feet in anger.

was about to run after him when Jason stuffed the fruit platter into her hands. "Please calm down, Madam. You should know better than anyone else that Mr. Crawford won't change his mind once he has decided on something. You should be exhausted from waiting. Here, have some

look like I'm in the mood to eat fruit when the problem isn't solved yet? Sigh, why did I give birth to an ingrate?" Allison flipped the fruit platter, and the colorful fruit pieces were scattered all over the floor. However, she knew that her son was indeed stubborn. She picked up her handbag and left dejectedly. Before she walked out of the office, she glared at Jason and said, "Mr. Doyle, please get the finance department to transfer three million dollars to me, and not a cent

worry, Madam. That certainly can be done." After Allison left, Jason looked helplessly at the fruit platter on the floor that he had so meticulously



an internal number for the cleaner, then left the

never understand why a materialistic, rude, and selfish woman like Allison could give birth to an outstanding son like

*If not* that the mother and son looked somewhat alike, he might even wonder if Allison was truly Luke's birth mother.

...

**The** conference room was filled with people from higher management. The meeting lasted for one and a half hours, and all the people seemed quite tired *after one*

boring discussion after another.

No one dared to slack. Their boss's stern demeanor was colder than a *glacier*.

**Luke, sitting** in the CEO's seat, also seemed tired, but his gaze and bearing remained sharp. Even though he did not move, the way he sat straight in his seat gave off an oppressive feeling.

**Luke** watched T Corporation's share prices drop lower and lower. He took the latest financial report that the secretary passed to him and briefly glanced through it. His calm demeanor was a stark contrast with the nervousness of those people from higher management.

**One** of the older men with white hair said sternly and nervously, "Our market value has fallen by about thirty billion dollars since The Galleria's collapse, Mr. Crawford. If we don't curb the loss somehow, we run the risk of being delisted, and that'll be troublesome for future **funding prospects...**"

Mr. Crawford. Also, the families of the victims have been rallying outside the building. Why don't we negotiate the compensation with them? What are we waiting for? Why aren't we

Crawford, you have always been swift and assertive, but why haven't you made a decision this time? Do you care if the company lives or

rained on Luke

them a stern glare, which immediately shut them

whipped out his pen and wrote a single word on the cover page of a document. The force was strong enough to penetrate the paper. The word was

not explain anything to his subordinates. The word that came out of his mouth

breathed a sigh of relief. They were finally

waited for Luke to leave the conference room before stretching their limbs and leaving the room one by

Chapter 806 Bumped Into A Disgusting Scene

Luke picked up the coffee cup and took a sip. He frowned when he tasted the sweetness.

That was not what he usually drank.

The steam that rose from the cup and the sweetness of the aroma gave off an inexplicably eerie atmosphere. He gently closed his eyes and massaged his temples as he thought of the various things that troubled him. After resting for a while, he took out his phone and noticed several missed call notifications and messages. They were all from Bianca.

Luke felt a lot more relieved when he saw that.

He pressed a button to access his voicemail, and Bianca's soft and gentle voice entered his ears. "Remember to take a short rest when you're feeling tired, Luke. Please don't overwork yourself. I've made some soup for you. Should I send it over to your office?"

Luke quickly typed a reply. [It's fine. It's not very safe here. You should stay at home and look after the children. Don't go anywhere. Just place the soup in a flask, and I'll eat it when I get back.] A few seconds later, his phone vibrated when it received a reply. [Alright, come home soon. The kids and I are waiting for you.]

A gentle smile appeared on Luke's face when he read the message. No matter how tired he might be, his home was always his safe haven. Suddenly, his nose was assailed by an unknown stench. He took a whiff of his clothes and realized that he had not taken a bath for a few days because he had been too busy.

a clean freak and could not withstand the stench, so he went to the lounge next door and prepared to take a shower and change into a fresh set of

came in through the door on her high heels, carrying a thick stack

looked around and did not see anyone in the office or on the balcony, so she put the documents on Luke's

the sounds of water coming from the lounge. Stealthily, she tiptoed next to the door and pressed her ear on

Luke was taking a shower inside.

was reminded about how Luke was always dressed impeccably, as though he were a walking display rack. She could not help but fantasize how muscular and seductive his body was when he was not in his usual suit... What a wonderful feeling it would be if those toned muscles pressed on her body? While she was indulging in her thoughts, the door to the CEO's office

dressed in a white dress suit, came in through the door with several contracts in

She was surprised when she saw Mavis standing next to the door to the lounge with one ear stuck to it, but she soon understood what was going on. She placed the contracts on Luke's desk and *greeted Mavis*.

"Isn't the CEO around, Ms. Laviere? What are you doing here?" There was a hint of coldness in Tina's voice.

Mavis felt as though she had been caught in the **act**.

That feeling only lasted for half a second before she resumed her usual iciness. "Nothing. I was delivering some documents to Mr. Crawford, and I was wondering if he's not *around*."

"Oh, is that so?" Tina glanced at Mavis. She sounded impassive, but the suspicion in her eyes was *evident*.

As a woman and Luke's most trusted secretary, she was observant and shrewd, and she could tell that Mavis bore certain affections for **their boss**.

**However, she** could not understand certain **things**.

**Ms.** Laviere had worked for Mr. Crawford for more than ten years. Before Mr. Crawford married Ms. Rayne, she had plenty of opportunities to confess her love to Mr. Crawford, but she did not act on it. Instead, she had kept her feelings secret and made it clear that she was only **a subordinate**.

Crawford was married to Ms. Rayne. They might not have had a grand wedding ceremony, but the paperwork was done, and they were legally husband

and wife. It was at this time that Mavis's affections sprouted like beans that had been buried in the soil thus far. Tina could not agree

with Mavis's behavior. She might have been impressed by Mavis's courage if she had confessed her love while Mr. Crawford was still single. However, Mr. Crawford was already married, so what could Mavis possibly do? Tina even noticed Mavis's expression while she was eavesdropping on Luke taking a shower. It was obvious that Mavis was indulging in perverted fantasies. Tina's impression of Mavis plummeted instantly. She was even disgusted by what

Mavis was doing. She took a deep breath and said coldly, "Ms. Laviere, since the CEO isn't in, we should come another

time." She deftly arranged the documents on Luke's desk. She deliberately picked up Luke's family photo with his wife and three children and waved it in front of

her. "We should know that our CEO is already married. Look at his happy family. As his subordinates, we shouldn't overstep our boundaries," Tina reminded

Mavis. Mavis looked angered. She glared at Tina and said, "I don't know what you're talking about, Tina. I'm only looking for Luke for work. Do you think that I have some other ulterior motive? Please don't impose your impure thoughts on

Chapter 807 If the Crawfords and Douglasses Are United By Marriage...

Luke's mind was occupied by other troubles. He could not be bothered to wonder what was going on between the two of them.

He nodded at the two women, then went to the balcony and lit a cigarette.

"Mr. Crawford, I've already put the contracts you asked for on your desk. If there's nothing else, I'll be back to my office," Tina said politely.

"Mm," Luke replied nonchalantly. Tina shot a warning glance at Mavis before turning around and leaving.

After that, only Luke and Mavis were left in the office.

Luke was standing at the balcony. One of his hands rested on the railing while the other held a cigarette.

His silhouette was sharp against the bright blue sky. He looked like he was the ruler of the entire concrete jungle under his feet.

stood there without saying a word, emanating the bearing of an

greedily locked her eyes on his handsome face. That man made all other men feel inferior. He was elegant, noble, and gentlemanly, but his character was assertive

had worked for him for more than ten years, but she had never known his true

did not know what he

man seemed to hide all his emotions in front of other people. Of course, he had his tender moments too, but those were not for her but for a woman she hated

mind wandered to the bathroom. The only thing she could think of was Luke, naked and in that

not help but blush when she saw him standing right in front of her, but at the same time, she felt an inexplicable sense of euphoria rising in

*Luke* frowned slightly when he noticed that Mavis was staring at her without saying a word. "Is there anything, Ms. **Laviere?**"

**Mavis** came to her senses when she heard his ice-cold voice.

*She coughed* to hide her embarrassment. "Mr. Crawford, many clients have distanced themselves from us because of the incident at The Galleria, and Blatt Corporation has won most of them over. If this goes on, *I think...*"

Luke raised a hand to stop her from talking. "I've already mentioned in the meeting earlier that we don't need opportunistic clients like those. When they eventually come back to us, we won't conduct business with them either. Have you completed the task that I assigned to you?"

"**Mm. Our** informer in Blatt Corporation said that he went to Country R to negotiate airspace privileges." "Oh?" Luke blew a smoke ring, chuckled coldly, and went back to his seat. "Looks like they're really taking us **head-on.**"

"Mr. Crawford, if they manage to take away our airspace privileges, the consequences would be **unimaginable...**"

**Luke** flicked his cigarette and smiled mockingly. "Vincent's appetite is getting bigger, heh. Too bad for him, despite his many years of experience in the field, he doesn't realize the bigger threat **behind him...**"

When Mavis heard that, she knew that her boss must have laid a trap for **Blatt Corporation.**

man was unpredictable as always. She was quite eager to see what would happen to

...

Crawford Manor.

Old Master Crawford sat in the living room and enjoyed some tea. His once-handsome face did not seem senile or forlorn despite his old age. Instead, he seemed more stern

visibly nervous. The veteran businessman was unsettled by the accidents that beset T Corporation. However, he was already retired, and he did not have any influence in the business

sat on his right. She seemed to be at

her tea daintily while clutching a rosary in her other hand. She seemed to be unperturbed by mortal

#### Chapter 808 Bianca Was The Apple Of His Eye

Susan continued to drink her tea, but in her heart, she despised Allison even more than before.

This woman really did not have the slightest bit of shame. Not only did she become Zachary Crawford's mistress, but she also encouraged Old Master Crawford to remove her son's original spouse so that other more powerful women could take the top spot. She did whatever it took to achieve her goal.

At this time, she was somewhat sympathetic to Bianca.

Although Susan and Bianca did not see each other often, she had been maintaining a hostile attitude toward Bianca as she was Allison's daughter-in-law. She had done unforgivable things to Bianca out of the hatred in her heart.

There was no denying that Bianca was definitely a gentle and virtuous wife.

She and Luke Crawford were the epitome of a 'loving' couple. She fought alongside him in the business scene while also being independent and strong enough that Luke's accident two years ago did not affect her one bit. She still lived elegantly. She was definitely Susan's most ideal daughter-in-law candidate.

However, it was a pity the woman was not blessed with good luck. She was unfortunate to have Allison, a muddled, mean, and selfish woman, as her mother-in-law. She worked herself to the bone for the Crawford family and even gave birth to their children, but the moment the Crawford family faced a major crisis, she was still not saved from being renounced by the family.

This was the sad reality of being the daughter-in-law of a wealthy family.

...

the evening, after Old Master Crawford had his dinner, he went to the garden outside the courtyard for a walk with his cane. He was accompanied by the maid. After digesting his food, he then returned to the living room and sat down on

digesting, he had been thinking about the words of his youngest daughter-in-law,

girl from the Douglas family, Maxine, was really interested in Luke, then it might be a good thing if he could facilitate their marriage. After all, the Douglas family was much more influential than the Normans in

the Douglas family could intervene in the collapse of The Galleria, then the matter would be solved. He would definitely get twice the results with half

Jack Norman was merely the secretary of the provincial party in A City, while Irving was the first in command in the capital. It was quite obvious who the bigger fish was. Moreover, T Corporation had been in trouble for so long but Jack Norman and his wife had not really helped out Luke much, if at all. What was the use of such

had been a part of the Crawford family for so many years. Her hard work and contribution to the Crawford family, as well as her loyalty to Luke, were completely ignored by Master Crawford. Although he was 120 percent satisfied with his granddaughter-in-law, deep inside, Old Master Crawford was still a shrewd old businessman who placed his selfinterest above

with major decisions to be made, he would not be as impulsive

as young people. He would only make choices that were in his **best interest**.

*The old* man also thought that no matter what, Bianca had given birth to three smart and intelligent children for the Crawford family. Even if she and Luke got a divorce, the Crawford family would definitely not treat her poorly. When it came time to give her alimony, she would surely be given enough to last her for a lifetime of luxury.

**After having** that thought, he suddenly became more determined with his choice. Not long after, the middle-aged butler hurriedly came in. "Old Master, the young master called. In the **study**."

*Old Master Crawford* replied with a hum and handed his tea to the maid at the side.

The maid took the teacup and gently set it down on the coffee table. She then helped the old man walk toward **the study**.

*The study* was on the first floor. It was a video call hooked up to the **internet**.

A black microphone was attached to **the screen**.

Luke's figure was shown on the screen. The video was crisp and clear. There was a thick stack of documents and folders on his desk. He was in the middle of a busy day. Old Master Crawford did not wait for his grandson to speak first. He immediately asked, "Luke, how's it going with the company's matters? Why did you delay handling them for so long? You do realize that the longer you wait, the greater the impact will be on T Corporation? You've always been a wise child. After being in the business for so many years, surely you must know how to handle this sort of incident? But this time... you've really let *me down!*"

being faced with the painful accusations and questioning tone from his grandfather, Luke responded coldly, "Grandpa, you've retired. You don't have to care too much about these matters anymore. Just enjoy your golden years and let me handle this. I have my way of doing things, and I'm sure it won't be long before I give you a satisfactory

his grandson's lack of interest in talking about business matters, Old Master Crawford knew he was being obstinate. He could only change the topic to personal matters. "Luke, what do you think of this girl,

eyebrows knitted together as he nonchalantly replied, "I'm not familiar with her, and for women I'm not familiar with, I don't have any interest in knowing them." However, Old Master Crawford was

interested. He grinned and said, "My boy Luke, Maxine came all the way from the capital to intern in your company. She's a famous foreign university student. She comes from a good family, and she's a very capable person. The girl is talented and beautiful. All she wants is to just intern in your company for a short while, so why aren't you even interested in her in the slightest? Just let her intern in your company, I think she's quite

it matter to me? There are tons of students coming back from overseas who've applied to our company. All of them have PhDs at the very least. She simply does not meet the recruitment qualifications that we had a very vague impression of a woman called Maxine. He could not even remember what she looked only woman he remembered well was his

was stubborn, defiant, and sometimes at odds with him, she was the only love of his

Master Crawford saw that his grandson did not seem to be the least bit interested in Maxine. He trembled and became a little anxious. "Luke, the collapse of The Galleria must be resolved within a week, or I'll never forgive you! Do you

## **Chapter 809**

6:30 p.m.

Luke Crawford originally wanted to work late into the night, but because of his grandfather's words today, he felt uncomfortable mentally and left work early.

He previously thought that his father had a failed marriage and failed to deal with the relationship between the elders and his mother until his death, causing the family to turn into a mess. Grandpa must hate the immoral act of abandoning one's wife more than anyone else.

However, he vastly underestimated his grandfather's ruthless nature as a businessman.

He only had his own best interests at heart. He would ultimately be inhumane to achieve his goal.

Perhaps his father, Zachary, inherited the least genes from his grandfather's side.

It was peak hour. There was heavy traffic on all roads. Luke drove the plainest BMW he had, and instead of feeling relaxed like his usual self, he was anxious.

For some reason, his right eyelid had been twitching frequently the entire day. He had a hunch that something bad was about to happen.

It's said that a woman's sixth sense is incredibly accurate, but a man's intuition is sometimes comparable to a woman's sixth sense.

Under normal circumstances, Luke was a patient man, whether it be work or life. When driving, he would always be completely focused on the road. Rarely would he feel anxious and impatient. At this moment, however, he was tempted to drive his car directly through the jam and immediately get to Bianca.

He left work early today and kept it a secret from Bianca, wanting to give her a surprise. He had been really busy with work lately. He sometimes even slept in his office. He barely had any time to accompany her.

that the traffic was still bad, Luke could not help but

drew the attention of many drivers

did not care at all. 'Damn it, when will this stupid traffic clear up?!' he thought

he was waiting restlessly, his phone rang. It was

characteristic gentle voice was heard. "Luke, you're still busy, right? Mom's depression seems to have returned. She wants to see our children very much, so I'm on my way to Grandma's house with them right now. Just thought I should let you know so you won't

shocked and clenched his phone tightly. "Bea, where are you and the children now? Did you go out with

smiled lightly. "Yes, I did. Don't worry, Luke! I'm extra careful these days whenever I go out. I'll always be accompanied by bodyguards when I'm outside. Right now, they're sitting in front while the kids and I are in the backseat. The traffic is a bit bad, though. I might only reach around

still felt a little uneasy. "Send me your location now. I'll follow your car and join you to go visit

"Okay."

pale, slender finger tapped on the screen. She opened her WhatsApp and sent her location

She was near Westin Hotel.

**Luke's stern** eyes flashed upon seeing the location. He rolled down the car window and looked in that *direction*.

*He could* see from afar the dazzling neon sign of Westin **Hotel**.

Bianca was not too far away from where he was. Maybe about a mile away. It was just that they were separated by so much busy traffic, so he had no idea how long they would have to wait.

**He immediately** called Bianca back. "Bea, I'm now less than a mile away from you. If your car leaves first, wait for me at Forest Park's east gate. It's less congested over there. I'll follow you in my car to visit Mom."

"Got it, Luke. The traffic's very heavy now, so be careful, okay? I'll wait for you there at Forest Park," Bianca warmly *replied*.

"Mm."

**Luke** still felt uneasy even after hanging up *the call*.

For some reason, he constantly felt like he was being watched. He had no idea why he was feeling like this, but it felt like the Grim Reaper was staring at him, his wife, and his kids at all times. It sent chills down *his spine*.



**Whenever** he inspected his surroundings to see who was looking, he could never *find anyone*.

made Luke feel like he was losing

at the busy traffic and closed his eyes for a second. Once the traffic eased up a bit, he would be able to meet with his wife and son. They should not be in any danger. Hopefully, he was just being

...

other end, in the opposite direction about a mile away from Luke, Bianca and three of their children were trapped in a black

had just hung up

to her poor health, Queenie Zeigler had been losing her appetite for some time. Plus she was overly worried about her own affairs. It previously took her quite some effort to suppress her depression but it had reared its ugly head once more. She had been hospitalized twice, making Bianca

day, due to T Corporation's tense situation, Luke was afraid that they would encounter misfortune when they went out. Hence, he restricted them from going out. It made her really anxious, but she continued to visit her mother

was now much better. Plus, her mother wanted to see her three smart and cute grandchildren, so Bianca decided to take them out to meet their grandmother, which was why she called Luke earlier to explain

the car, little Tommy rubbed his chubby belly and acted all spoiled. "Mommy, I'm hungry, my little belly is becoming

there, baby. Let me see if there are any snacks left in the bag to fill up

## **Chapter 810**

Soon, the traffic jam in front of Bianca's car was gradually dispersed by the traffic police.

She rolled down the window and looked in Luke's direction. Seeing that it was still heavily congested where he was, she decided to go first and wait for him near Forest Park.

After making up her mind, Bianca was just about to roll up the car window when she suddenly noticed a few cold glances that seemed to be staring at her.

Bianca looked through the rear-view mirror, trying to catch a glimpse of whoever was staring at her. She saw a black car not far away from them, their windows being rolled down.

Inside the car sat two men in sunglasses with scary tattoos.

They furtively glanced in her direction and spat out smoke rings in her direction every now and then.

Having experienced several deadly encounters, Bianca naturally became more vigilant. All sorts of alarms were going off in her mind!

Who the hell were those people?

'Why are they staring at me with that sort of look in their eyes?'

'What are they scheming?'

However, looking at the traffic on the road, Bianca frowned again. She wondered whether she was thinking too much.

Bianca's car began moving toward the road with less traffic, the black cars followed behind. It was at this point when Bianca finally concluded that those two people were up to no good. They were definitely tailing

that their car was about to go up the viaduct, Bianca could not help but clutch Tommy's tiny hand. She quickly told the driver, " Zander, let's not go up the viaduct for now. Let's merge into the traffic. I think we're being

the driver, looked through the rear-view mirror and saw the black vehicle. He knew things were getting immediately followed Bianca's command and did a 180-degree emergency turn to drive down the ramp pondered how she could get out of this

must know about this situation,' she thought. Her three children were in the car with her. The consequences would be simply unimaginable if anything were to happen to them. She should immediately give him a phone

moment she picked up the phone, the trailing vehicle immediately sensed that something was wrong and instantly began to

dialed Luke's number and when she got through, she spoke to him as fast as she could, "Luke, listen to me, our car is being followed by a black car. I don't know who they are, but they're up to no good for sure. I'm currently

could finish her sentence, she suddenly saw gray vans speeding toward them from the

rammed into her bodyguard's car which was in front of them. Bianca's car was right behind, but she could feel the shockwave from her

Bianca's chest hit the front seat. The impact was so great that her heart and lungs felt like they were tearing apart. Luckily, her three kids were secured on their children's seats with their seat belts on. They did not suffer too much from *the shock...*

**Luke's** anxious and concerned voice came blasting through the phone. "Bianca? Bianca?! Are you and the children okay? Listen to me, you must remain calm now. No matter what happens, you and the children must not exit the car. I'll call someone to come over right now. I'll make sure you're safe! Listen, don't hang up your phone. Don't turn it off. Keep in touch with me at all *times...*"

"**Yes...** I know..." Bianca was in pain and sweating bullets. She endured the pain while replying to Luke. Then, she nervously looked out of **the car**.

The bodyguards had all been hired by Luke at a high price and they were the best bodyguards money could buy. They would not be brought down so easily for **sure**.

Although the bodyguards' car in front had been knocked out of shape and the bodyguards were also suffering internal injuries, they had been trained to react under pressure. They swiftly pulled out their guns and started shooting at *the assailants*.

"Ahhhh! Help! There's a shooting!"

*Gunshots rang* out. A sudden gunfight broke out in the street. Panicked screams were heard as the pedestrians fled for their lives.

The traffic, which had just been orderly, also started to become chaotic...

*The attack* was obviously pre-planned. They threw several smoke bombs and tear gas grenades at the bodyguards' car, choking the guards to tears. Everyone's mobility naturally became a lot worse. Several bodyguards were shot and blood stained the asphalt *road*.

The van's door opened with a loud clatter and out came several men wearing women's stockings over *their heads*.

heavy weapons and ran toward Bianca's

"Mommy, I'm scared..."

cowered into her mother's arms, her body

out the window at the horrific scene, her innocent mind traumatized by what

sandwich cookies fell onto

little one was also a little scared as he burrowed into Bianca's arms. His big eyes were filled

only calm child in the car was Blanche. His tender body was tense, like an arrow that was about to be shot from a bow. He looked out of the car to see a rain of blood. His face was cold and devoid of

Tommy with her left arm and Rainie with her right arm, trying to comfort them even though she, too, was experiencing the same panic in her

put on a strong facade and calmly coaxed her children, saying, "Don't be afraid, your father is nearby. He'll come to our

driver, Zander, had already locked their car right from the