

## Be Gentle 901

### Chapter 901

Shireen felt like her innocence had been proven. She stood up and asked, "Who did it?"

Jason said, "The person who downloaded the virus on the computer was David Muller, the security guard on duty in the building that night. He inserted a USB that carried the virus into a computer that was not turned off and it attacked all the computers connected to the internet. This person has been apprehended by the police and has confessed that the main culprit is Maxine Douglas of Capital Corp."

Bianca listened and was not surprised.

She had guessed it when she saw the handcuffs on Maxine.

Shireen cried because she was finally able to prove her innocence. During the last couple of weeks, although Bianca had not said anything to her, her colleagues had all acted differently around her.

They were extra careful when they were working on new designs around her as though they were afraid that she would steal their designs.

In order not to annoy others, she tried her best to be a lone wolf but felt extremely lonely.

A female colleague saw Shireen weeping silently and sighed as she remembered how they had treated her. She then handed her some tissues in an attempt to comfort her.

"I didn't do it!" Maxine knew that if she admitted to it, there was no turning back.

She had planned it so meticulously and thought that no one would be able to find out anything. She refused to admit to her crime, thinking that Luke was bluffing her.

"Luke, is this a misunderstanding? How could a well-behaved girl like Maxine do such a thing? What would she get out of it? Her life would go on regardless if Brilliant Architectural Design LLC survives or not." Allison, who had been following from behind, felt that she had to say something.

Maxine to A City and then got her arrested by the police. It would undoubtedly offend Irving Douglas and the entire Capital

that Bianca had seduced Luke with a love potion and it made him dumb enough to offend Irving Douglas. T Corporation could reach new heights in A City if it had the help of Capital Corp. No matter what had happened, Allison wanted to maintain a good relationship with

would she get out of it? You have to ask Ms. Douglas." As soon as Luke's gaze left Bianca's face, his gentleness turned into indifference that was cold enough to freeze

impenetrable appearance, Allison stomped her feet and looked at Bianca resentfully.

sighed in her heart and knew that Allison's gaze contained nothing but disgust

stepped forward and said in a low voice, "Luke, listen to me, it's a misunderstanding. Don't let the police take Maxine away, she's a good

you like don't seem that great,"

referring to Leia Norman and now,

not offended them, but they tried everything they could to cause trouble for Bianca. They were willing to use their money, body, soul, and everything they had just to make Bianca's life

changed. She knew that she could not persuade Luke but still wanted to put on a show for Maxine to

"Luke..." she said earnestly.

**"Mr. Silva,** you're responsible for this case and I hope you'll not wrong a good person or let a bad person go." Luke's tone was flat, but he was putting a lot of pressure on the policeman who headed **the operation.**

"Mr. Crawford, don't worry. We'll follow the legal procedures and give the public an explanation!" the policeman assured *him*.

As *Maxine* was taken away by the police, Allison hurriedly followed behind and comforted her, "Maxine, don't be afraid. I'll get you a lawyer and inform your **dad immediately!**"

Luke put his arms around Bianca's waist, lowered his head, and said, "My love, shall we go back to Crawford Manor to pick up our children?"

"Okay." Bianca nodded and finally understood why he insisted that she attend this celebration dinner.

*She* turned her head and found that Sue had fallen asleep on the sofa.

**The** employees on the side said with a smile, "Ms. Rayne, don't worry, we're almost done here. Go home with Mr. Crawford. We'll send Ms. Carter home."

*Bianca* smiled and said, "I'll order some more wine and cheese boards. Feel free to stay and enjoy yourselves."

"Okay!"

*Jason* looked at Sue who was knocked out and was worried to leave her be. After he thought about it, he asked Bianca, "Ms. Rayne, can I send Sue *back?*"

thought to herself that Sue would not want anything to do with Jason, but the other colleagues had also drunk a lot. She was worried that they would not be able to take care of

"Then, you have to be mentally

Jason dared to do something, with Sue's bold personality, she would most likely chase him around the house with

bitterly. It took him two years to break down Sue's walls, but his ex-wife ruined it all and their relationship went back to

he wanted was to send Sue home

and Luke left. At the front desk, they ordered some good wine and snacks for

Luke drove back to Crawford

couple was surrounded by their loving kids as soon as they arrived in the Mommy!" Blanche and Rainie called out in unison, while Tommy prolonged his words, "Daddy, and planted a kiss on each of babies, let's say goodbye to Grandpa and head home, shall we?" she smiled

## **Chapter 902**

Old Master Crawford stood up and said with a cold expression, "Let's talk in the study."

Bianca paused and gave a wry smile. Old Master Crawford was not a fan of her and did not want to talk in front of her.

She continued to walk into the kitchen while holding her children's hands.

Luke glanced at his wife and children before going upstairs with Old Master Crawford.

In the study, there was a game of chess on the table that was in progress.

Old Master Crawford played by himself and did not bother to look up at Luke, who sat opposite of him. He asked, "Is the company okay?"

"T Corporation is doing great." Luke took out his phone from his jacket and showed Old Master Crawford a video. "I came over to show you a video."

Old Master Crawford stopped and looked up. "What video?"

Luke did not hand over the phone immediately. His deep-set eyes were filled with emotions that others could not read as he said, "Grandpa, you like Maxine?"

Old Master Crawford was old and did not understand the deep meaning in his grandson's eyes. He shook his head and coughed.

"I don't like Maxine, Luke. All I want is for T Corporation to be better. Everyone in the Crawford family is keeping a close eye on you, and many in A City are waiting to prey on T Corporation. It's tough for you to shoulder the weight of T Corporation alone, but your life will be easier if you had the help of the Douglas family." He was straightforward.

Master Crawford did not care who his granddaughter-in-law was as long as she had a good character and could

so many things had happened, Old Master Crawford understood that no matter how capable Luke was, he was only one

his weaknesses and could be defeated. What he wanted for Luke was a stronger

was not the ideal candidate for

slender legs were crossed, and he looked calm as he said, "You told me that it doesn't matter who your granddaughter-in-law is as long as she has a good

Crawford was stunned. He had indeed said something like that, but at that time, T Corporation had not experienced such

handed the phone over and said, "The person you chose is not of

Crawford watched the video and frowned. His expression was sour as he uttered,

was only one minute long, but he saw Maxine being taken into the police

computer in Bea's company was planted with a virus by someone hired by Maxine. The police arrested her and took her in for questioning." Luke folded his hands on his thighs with no intention of putting away

one-minute video played again after it ended, repeating

"**Luke**, did you deliberately arrange this?" Old Master Crawford knew in his heart that without Luke's help, the police would not have been able to find Maxine.

**Luke did** not deny it. "If someone did something wrong and violated the law, they deserve to **be punished.**"

Old Master Crawford was speechless. Luke sent Maxine into the police station in such a tempestuous manner, and reporters were now stationed outside. Irving Douglas might think that Luke was picking a fight with *Capital Corp.*

"Grandpa, Bea is my lover. I love her and will do anything to protect her. She has no one to help her in this matter. As her husband, I'll surely help her. In this life, Bea will be my only wife. I have no interest in other women." Luke once again expressed his stance. "Bea is the only person worthy of standing next **to me.**"

Old Master Crawford felt weak and waved his hand. "I know, I'll not question nor be involved in your relationship again. I'll treat Bea like my own granddaughter. Luke, since you were a child, you've had strong opinions that not many could change. I trust that you and Bianca will work together to ensure a future for the Crawford **family.**"

Tommy was standing at the entrance of the study and eavesdropping with his ears against the wooden door. He heard bits and pieces of *the conversation*.

He went downstairs and walked into the kitchen. He held Bianca's thigh and said, "Mommy, Daddy said that he *loves you!*"

*Bianca* was not sure what he was referring **to**.

*Tommy* repeated himself patiently, "Mommy, Daddy said 'I love you' to Grandpa."

Rainie looked at her brother and acted as an interpreter. "Mom, I think what Tommy is trying to say is that Daddy told Grandpa he loves you."

coolly on the side, "Daddy has always loved Mommy, and Mommy

overjoyed and put aside the work at hand to touch the heads of her three children. Luke had never hidden his love

sucking his fingers on the side. After being guided by his brother and sister, he said softly, "Mommy, Tommy loves

a gush of warmth in her heart. She squatted down and hugged the three of them. "Mommy loves you asked her again, "Do you

her brother's finger and said, "Of course, Mommy

laughed and touched Rainie's head. She was becoming more and more like an older sister. She took the initiative to correct his behavior when she saw Tommy sucking on

went downstairs and saw the heart-warming scene.

Mommy loves you." Tommy turned around and hugged Luke's

stooped to grab Tommy, his eyes filled with warmth as he looked at Bianca

up the plate of noodles and said, "Are you hungry? I made some instant noodles and soft-boiled eggs. If you don't like it, I'll make you something

### **Chapter 903**

"It's impolite to talk while you eat."

Before Rainie got an answer from Bianca, she heard Luke's low voice talking to her.

She protested, "Daddy, I haven't eaten yet."

Bianca laughed and touched Rainie's hair. "Baby, eat your food. It won't taste as good when it's cold."

Rainie smiled sweetly and answered, "Okay, Mommy."

Luke looked at the hot instant noodles and two soft-boiled eggs. As before, she had made them with love. He picked up his fork, took a big bite, and commented, "It's delicious!"

Bianca handed a fork to Tommy and was satisfied after she heard Luke's comments. "You're easily satisfied."

"It's your cooking that satisfies me," Luke corrected her.

Bianca lowered her head slightly and took a bite of noodles. Even though it was nothing but cheap noodles, they were happy.

...

The other side.

Jason drove the drunk and unconscious Sue home.

Although she had moved out of Nina's villa long ago and never told him her new address, Jason had always kept a close eye on her and their kids. He had memorized the address of her new home.

When he was sleepless at night, which often happened, he would drive to Sue's place to watch the lights go out. He would silently accompany them from downstairs.

was not that he did not want to go upstairs, but he was afraid of Sue and how she looked  
his car downstairs and gave a wry smile. When did he become  
Quarrington filed for divorce, he was never  
faced with Sue and his twin daughters, he became timid. He wanted nothing more than to give them a  
better life, but he could not do so because of Sue's hostility toward  
Sue was still drunk, and in her dreams, she was  
his head helplessly as he looked at her red  
did she drink so much? Her drunken appearance made him think that she was using alcohol to relieve  
Sue raised her hand, waved it a few times, and screamed, "Jason, you bastard! Coward! I'll raise my  
daughters myself,  
Jason's heart was sore. He had always wanted to mend his relationship with Sue, but Bailey had been  
meddling which only made things  
Sue did not respond to him.

unfastened their seat belts, got out of the car, and opened the  
was not heavy, so he easily carried her and closed the car door with  
being harassed by Bailey, Sue had chosen a high-end apartment where unfamiliar vehicles would not be  
allowed to enter without the owner's consent. His license plate was not registered, so he could only  
park on the side of the road. He walked in with the woman in his

**The security** guard was familiar with Jason, so he did not stop him.

Fortunately, with the help of an elderly couple at the elevator, he managed to carry Sue into the  
elevator without **a hitch**.

**After** he told them the floor that they were headed to, the aunt pressed on the button. She curiously  
asked, "Is this your *wife*?"

Jason's heartstrings were tugged and he **admitted**, "Yes."

If Bailey had not meddled in their relationship, he and Sue would have gotten married and be  
living **together now**.

**The** aunt started gossiping, "How can you allow your wife to get so drunk? It's not good for her health if  
she drinks too much. Why didn't you stop **her**?"

**Jason** was a little embarrassed. The old man on the side took his wife's hand and said, "Who's to say he  
didn't try to stop her? Maybe his wife loves to *drink*?"

**The** old lady said, "Of course I know! The young man is still walking in a straight line. Does it look like he  
drank? If it were you, you'd be all over *the place*."

"*Ahem*, I'm an old man, after all," the old man said.

"If **you** know you can't drink, why do you still drink so much? Aren't you afraid that you might have too much and get a stroke on the side of the road? Passersby won't dare to save you for fear of being implicated later on," the aunt babbled on and said in a **dissatisfied tone**.

*"What do you know? Drinking makes me happy."*

**The** two of them went on and on, talking about how Jason did not help Sue before talking about their daily routine. They were almost **quarreling**.

Jason felt awkward.

who was in his arms, was annoyed and buried her head in his chest, seemingly trying to block out the noise the couple was

elevator was fast and they soon arrived on the floor where Sue's

couple was still arguing. Jason quickly walked out of the elevator so as not to be affected and so that they would not wake

got to Block A, he was not sure what

and the nanny would be asleep by now. If he knocked on the door, it would wake them up and their kids might be worried to see Sue so

not bear to worry

put down Sue and put one hand around

Sue leaned against him subconsciously.

scent, along with the smell of alcohol, filled Jason's nose. His heartbeat sped up as he was reminded of the night he became acquainted with Sue many years ago. He was obsessed and wanted her all

Jason did not dare to do anything, let alone have any other ideas at

took the key from her handbag with one hand and opened

he could extract the key from the lock, Sue fell

grabbed her, but he tripped over the threshold and the two fell to the floor, making a

## **Chapter 904**

Kari hugged his thigh and stared at him with a blank expression. Her round and dark eyes were filled with longing for her father. "Will you stay here tonight?"

Jason wanted nothing more than to stay and spend time with the twins.

However, if Sue found out, she would rip him into pieces.

He smiled bitterly, not showing too many adult emotions in front of his kids as he said, "I need to work tomorrow, so I can't stay."

The nanny brought out a glass of water and was startled when she heard what Jason said. "Mr. Doyle, can't you stay here tonight?"

"What's the matter?" Jason asked.

Nanny shared the challenge that she faced, "I promised Ms. Carter to stay and take care of the twins until she came back, but I didn't expect her to drink so much that she'd come home unconscious. My mother is sick and I have to go back to prepare the medicine that she needs, but if you want to leave..."

Kari and Teri were still young, so they could not be left alone.

Teri grabbed Jason's hand and begged, "Dad, please stay. We're well-behaved and won't be of any trouble."

Jason felt sorry seeing how sensible the twins were. He nodded and agreed.

The next day.

Jason got up early, went online to search how to make hangover tonic, and then started cooking in the kitchen.

When Sue opened her eyes, she saw the ceiling.

thought back to last night and recalled how she had splashed her wine on Jason. She covered her forehead. She could have held her emotions in check, but it was too late and she

get up!" Kari opened the door and walked in

temperament was similar to hers—bold and

up when she saw Kari. Her brows furrowed tightly because of the discomfort her hangover

how are you doing?" Kari was concerned about her.

Sue felt like her hangover was reduced by more than half when she saw how caring and thoughtful Kari was. She did not see Teri, so she asked, "Where's your

in the kitchen," Kari replied obediently, "Daddy is making tonic for you. You'll feel better once you did you say?" Sue's eyes

is in the kitchen, making tonic for you." Kari smiled. She was happy to see her

out of bed and stormed to the kitchen. She then saw Jason, who was

in the corner obediently, looking at him with

and picked her daughter up as she said, "Baby, go and watch cartoons with your

at her with confusion. "Mommy, didn't you say that we can't watch TV in the

**"It's okay** for today." Sue did not want to scream at Jason in front of the kids, so she took the twins to the sofa and turned on the TV.

She tried to turn up the volume as much **as possible**.

**Kari** covered her ears and protested, "Mom, it's too loud."

Sue regained her senses, kissed his daughter's forehead, and lowered the volume. "My babies, I'll prepare breakfast while you watch cartoons."

**After she** said that, Sue turned around, walked into the kitchen, and closed the **door**.

**Teri looked** at Kari and muttered, "Kari, something's wrong **with Mom**."

**Kari** touched her younger sister's hair. She was the same age as Teri, but because it was often emphasized to her that she was an older sister, she had to be more *mature*.

She shook her head like an adult and said, "Mommy is going to scold Daddy."

"Why would she do that? Why don't our parents live together?" Teri did not understand the situation. She wanted her parents to live together so that she would not have to miss her dad **every day**.

In the kitchen.

*Sue* had her hands on her waist. Her eyes widened as she asked, "Why are **you here**?"

**Jason was** one step away from finishing the tonic and added the remaining ingredients as stated on the website. "You were *drunk yesterday*."

"What does it matter to you?" Sue wanted to tear him to pieces but dared not act too harshly because the twins were *outside*.

off the stove, turned around, and looked at her helplessly. "Yesterday when I sent you home, the nanny said that she can't take care of the twins for the rest of the night, so I

take care of Kari and Teri myself. Get out!" Sue lowered her voice for fear of being heard by the twins, but she could not suppress her

was furious. 'You didn't want to be with me and chose to take on the responsibility of taking care of the twins, so why did you get so

can take care of them, why did you get so drunk?" He suppressed his anger as he did not want to throw a tantrum at

did not do well in this matter. To be honest, although Sue had been reluctant to give him an opportunity, he knew he owed it

Why did she get drunk?

remembering that she wanted to drink her sorrows away last night.

bitterness she felt in her heart was too much to bear but they could be washed away when she drank, so she wanted to drink

wanted to say that it was nothing but a minor mishap. After all, she did not think that the nanny would have something else to

she was about to open her mouth, she could not bring herself to say the words. Hence, she shut her mouth and wondered why she was bothering herself with

she told him

would still accuse her of being an incompetent

was upset and thought to herself, 'Is he trying to fight for custody of the twins? Don't even think about

## **Chapter 905**

Crawford Manor.

Luke and the family had spent the night in Crawford Manor as requested by Old Master Crawford.

Early in the morning, the table was full of people once again.

Old Master Crawford was delighted to see the happy family.

Louis went downstairs with his wife and daughter. He saw Luke and said with a smile, "Big Brother, Sister-in-law, you're all here."

"Yeah." Luke was calm as always.

"Good morning." Bianca was holding Tommy in her arms. He drooled as he looked at the breakfast on the table. If she were not holding him, he would already have a donut in his hand.

Yuri Dunn sat down with Thea in her arms, feeling unhappy. She thought that Louis treated an outsider more eagerly more than he treated her and Thea.

"Uncle Louis, Aunt Yuri, Thea, good morning," Blanche and Rainie greeted them.

Tommy's attention finally shifted from the food. He greeted, "Good morning! Nice to see you, Uncle Louis, Aunt Yuri, and Thea."

Louis smiled when he saw Luke's kids. He lowered his head and squeezed Thea's hand. "Thea?"

Thea was unhappy. She lowered her head and complained in her heart, 'Why is Dad so happy whenever he sees Uncle Luke's children?'

are your manners?" Louis put his smile away, his expression turning

sat her daughter next to her and complained, "Thea's throat isn't feeling well. You're her dad, don't you know? The doctor asked her to

and thought to himself, 'Even if her throat is feeling uncomfortable, she could at least greet

went downstairs, Thea was just fine. It was unlikely that she could not speak, but rather, she was sulking with her cheeks

Luke glanced at each other. Bianca was afraid that a war would break out if they went on, so she smiled and said, "No worries, since Thea's throat is uncomfortable, she should take good care of

listened on the side and said mockingly, "Yeah, they should take good care of her. Thea is very weak and falls sick every couple of days. Thea, don't just study and work hard. Sometimes, it may not achieve the desired effect. You should exercise more to strengthen your

did not want to pay attention to this mess but Allison's words irritated her. She slammed the table, ignoring that it would scare the children. She stared at Allison and said, "Allison, what are you trying to say? My granddaughter is in good

to gently touch Rainie's forehead and then said, "Rainie never

Master Crawford was sick of their fights. Every time Luke came back, Allison would always show up and there would be chaos in

up and eat!" he screamed at the two women who were more than 100 years old if one put their ages together. Were they not ashamed of acting like this in front of

her anger in and glared at

How could Louis do nothing when his mother and child were bullied?

*Allison* was happy because she had the upper hand. She made some toast for Blanche and Rainie, saying, "My babies, eat more so you can grow up."

**Blanche** and Rainie, who had grown up watching all this since childhood, exchanged looks and said **nothing**.

They were used to it...

Thea looked jealously at the twins who sat opposite her and clutched her cutlery with her **little hands**.

*The* Crawford family loved the twins and made her feel like she was living in their shadows.

One day, she would be smarter and more likable than **them**.

The quarrel at the dining table was settled by Old Master Crawford. Bianca sighed in her heart. The grievances of the previous generation should not fall on the younger generation.

She casually put Tommy on the baby chair while hoping in her heart that Rainie and Blanche would not become victims of their **comparison**.

Luke suddenly grabbed her hand.

*Bianca* smiled and held his hand. Even though he did not say anything, **she knew**.

was determined to move out so that she and her children could have better lives. This decision was the right

breakfast, Old Master Crawford announced

after tomorrow will be Daniel Tanner's birthday. He invited the entire Crawford family. Who'll be silence at the

had happened between Bianca and Xavier Tanner previously, the relationship between the families

the Crawford family to

at Luke. He was slowly eating breakfast and did not comment on

was frustrated with the situation. She was angry that no one from the Crawford family was

to make peace, but the people of the Crawford family were refusing. If no one from the Crawford family showed up, she would be shamed when she returned to her family to show

Master Crawford was well aware and looked at Louis. "Louis, are you free the day after

was also infuriated at the bad things that Xavier Tanner did and did not have much interest in Daniel's kindness. Louis wiped his mouth and shook his head. "Grandpa, I happen to have a very important party the day after tomorrow, so I don't have the time

## **Chapter 906**

Allison's pale face was flushed as she glared at Susan. "What does this have to do with you?"

Susan covered her mouth and smiled. Her gaze was full of disdain and mockery. 'You're nothing but a mistress! Your family offended T Corporation and is being backed to a corner, causing you to struggle now. How ridiculous!'

Luke furrowed his brows. He did not want to see this kind of farce. He had felt helpless when he was a kid but as he grew up, he learned how to ignore it.

Bianca carefully wiped Tommy's mouth, stood up, and interrupted the farce by saying, "Grandpa, Luke and I need to leave first. We need to send Rainie and Blanche to school."

Old Master Crawford nodded. He was getting a headache from Allison and Susan quarreling. His sharp gaze swept over them.

Susan noticed how infuriated Allison already was so she said nothing. Instead, she yawned and stood up with a smug expression. She said, "I'm tired too. Life is interesting, there are always ridiculous things happening every day."

Allison wanted to say something but was too frightened to speak when she met the sharp gaze of Old Master Crawford.

She did not dare to say anything to Luke because she was well aware that she had to depend on him to survive.

Luke and Bianca left with their children.

"Grandpa, I also need to send Thea to school." Louis also took Thea's hand and left this place that was filled with conflicts.

"Go go." Old Master Crawford stared at Allison again to warn her. If she had not given birth to an excellent grandson like Luke, she would have been chased out of the manor.

Yuri was on Susan's side and left without saying anything.

was full of anger and sat there, unable to

the maid came to clean up the dishes, she accidentally got a few crumbs on Allison's top. She could have easily cleaned herself up, but Allison stood up and waved her

the maid two tight slaps across the

The maid covered her face, the burning sensation making her

You can't do anything right! Can you afford to compensate me for my top?" Allison looked grim as she vented all her dissatisfaction on the

...

Two days later.

birthday banquet was not being held in the hotel because of budget concerns. Instead, it was held in the villa so that they could save on

been in the industry for so many years and knew a lot of people from the same or next social class, but not the upper

entertaining the guests with a

over with his hands on Riley's waist. He said lazily, "Dad, happy

not expect that he would come back with Riley. He glanced at her belly and swallowed

Although Riley was not presentable, she was still pregnant with the grandson of the Tanner family. He did not show much dissatisfaction and said, "Thank you. I'll be happier if you can take better care of *yourself*."

Riley looked coquettish and passed the gift bag in her hand to Daniel. "Uncle Daniel, I wish you a happy birthday. This is a gift from Xavier and me."

"Okay, thank you!" Daniel took the gift and did not bother to look at it. He just gave it to one of the Tanner family's servants.

Then, he said, "Xavier, come with me to entertain our guests."

*Xavier* looked at the guests coming and going. Most of them were the same. They were people who could not do anything for him, so he refused. "Dad, these people are not worth my time."

He had no interest in minor characters like them. He was interested in meeting people who were more capable **than Luke!**

*Daniel* looked at his arrogant attitude, sighed, and stopped talking.

*The Tanner* family became what it was because of what Xavier did to Bianca that completely angered Luke.

**However**, Xavier's attitude remained the same and he refused to admit to his mistakes. Now that there was not much left in the Tanner family and his reputation was ruined, not many of the rich and powerful in A City looked kindly toward the Tanner family.

*Daniel* refused to give up and took advantage of his birthday to host a party so he could rebuild his relationship with the Crawford *family*.

**Seeing** Xavier haughtily holding Riley's hand, he shook his head and put on a smile again. He thought to himself, 'Will the Crawford family show up **tonight?**'

**If** they showed up, who would it **be?**

hoping that Allison would not show her face here as her presence would not be of much

except for the few trophy wives who were close to her, the others in A City were not fans of what she had done when she was

drove to the Tanner

sat in the passenger seat and looked at Luke, who was concentrating on driving. His profile was exquisite enough to drive any

He was hers.

that she must have done some earth-shattering good deeds in her previous life to earn this

are you thinking about?" Luke felt that she had stared at him for five full minutes without blinking. He did not know what she was

looked at the gift in the backseat and asked, "Why didn't you have the driver send us to the Tanner

worried that Luke would not be able to drive after

smiled softly and answered, "As long as I don't want to drink, no one can force me

Bianca shook her head. As long as he did not want to, no one could force him to do anything—including Old Master

Old Master Crawford for having such a rebellious

## **Chapter 907**

Self-defense?

Bianca was well aware of how weak she was.

Sometimes when something happened, even the bodyguards that Luke hired could not protect her. In the end, he had to put himself in harm's way to save her.

Bianca raised her gaze and agreed with him, "Tomorrow is Saturday. I'll sign up for a class and do my best."

She was going to learn self-defense not only to make herself stronger and not hold him back anymore but also for the sake of her health.

Bianca intended to spend the rest of her life with Luke, but after giving birth to Tommy, her health deteriorated. She was afraid that her dream would not come true because of that.

Therefore, her intention of learning self-defense was to protect herself and strengthen her body.

"You don't need to sign up for classes. I'll get someone to teach you." Luke freed his right hand and held Bianca's hand.

She smiled slightly and nodded in agreement.

They soon arrived at the Tanner family's villa.

There were so many guests that many cars were parked in temporary parking spaces on the roadside of the housing area.

Luke finally found a parking space but was annoyed that the Tanner family's villa was two kilometers away.

"Bea, it looks like we have to walk there," Luke stopped the car and said.

Bianca was wearing a comfortable pair of kitty heels. She unbuckled her seat belt and smiled, saying, "It's okay, it's good to exercise."

The couple got out of the car.

to the back seat and took the gift. Luke had prepared it and she was not aware of what it

took the bag in her hand, unwilling to let her do any work. "I'll

had no objections and walked with him to Tanner

way, they saw many cars that occupied two parking spaces. She said helplessly, "No wonder it was so difficult to find a parking

replied, "You can see a person's character from their choice of

Bianca nodded in agreement with him.

was not a good person, so all the friends he had were people like this. How they parked put their moral standards on

stepped into the Tanner family's villa and instantly aroused interest from

my God, it's Luke from T Corporation! I can't believe he's here! He's sure showing respect

you know that Luke's uncle is Daniel? Of course, he's here for his

Corporation was behind Tanner Corporation's crisis. If the two are related, that shouldn't be the case,

face of profits, torn skin can recover again. The Tanner family is going to be brilliant again. We have to seize the opportunity. Maybe we can still get something out of

...

frowned slightly as she listened to the guests'

Luke did not like being talked about like *this*.

Sure enough, Luke stopped in his steps.

His cold and sharp eyes looked at the guests who were talking. In an instant, they shut up and pretended to look **around**.

**Bianca calmed** him down. "Don't be angry."

"It's okay." Luke grabbed her hand.

Daniel heard the news as soon as Luke and Bianca entered the vicinity. He hurriedly ended his conversations and immediately walked to the **entrance**.

'They came!' He was surprised and delighted. This pomp was even more prestigious than Old Master Crawford's.

"Luke, you're here!" Daniel seemed to have forgotten about the previous incident and stepped forward to welcome **him warmly**.

*Luke handed* the gift and said, "Uncle, happy birthday."

His tone was cold and unenthusiastic.

*Compared to* Daniel's welcome, which was warm like the sun, he was colder than the Arctic snow.

Bianca eased the tension and greeted Daniel, "Uncle Daniel, happy birthday, and I wish you all the luck in the world."

**If it** had been in the past, Daniel would be resentful of Bianca.

It was she who seduced Xavier and provoked Luke just like a vixen, causing the two families to lose **their peace**.

was the wife of the president of T Corporation now. No matter how resentful Daniel was, he dared not show

you, really. You're too kind." His smile was fake. He glanced at the bag and it did not feel heavy when he held it, but he knew that Luke would not

held Bianca's hand tightly and said, "The gift is something you like,

Daniel was excited when he heard it. Everyone present could see that not only did Luke attend his birthday party, but he also prepared a gift that he would

not been impolite to open the gift on the spot, he would have eagerly opened

his expression ugly and one

arranged special seats for you. Would you like to

nodded and held Bianca's hand as they walked

so-called special seats were just

people around did not dare to talk to Luke, and Bianca was happy about that. Although the event was boring, she would never be bored

who are you going to get to teach me self-defense tomorrow?" Bianca

likely he would get someone he

it was safe and convenient that

has experience in this." Luke held her hand, put it to his lips, and kissed it without caring that others were still looking at

## **Chapter 908**

Luke's cold gaze lingered on Riley's face for one second before turning away to look at Bianca once more while placing the back of her hand in his cheek.

"To me, Bianca is a unique presence. No one in the world is like her, and no other woman is worthy of being her substitute." It was rare that Luke spoke so much about her, which warmed Bianca's heart as she listened to it.

She did in fact think that Riley looked somewhat similar to her, and she was quite appalled that Xavier could do such a thing.

However, Luke's words had made Bianca think that Xavier was doing all that in vain. She was irreplaceable after all.

The love that they gave Xavier could not be compared to the love that she gave Luke.

Riley seemed surprised. She had suspected Bianca's identity when she met her at the mall, but she did not expect that Bianca would be Luke Crawford's wife!

Her face turned red with embarrassment. Xavier seemed to have set her up for humiliation, while Luke had expressed his revulsion for her.

Women did not like being compared to one another.

She said coyly to Xavier, "What do you mean, Xavier? We don't look alike at all. I am me, and Mrs. Crawford is Mrs. Crawford."

Bianca agreed with what she said, regardless of her motive. "That's right. Ms. Riley is young and beautiful, unlike me."

Xavier's expression sank, thinking that Riley was in no position to talk when men were talking. He shoved Riley, and she nearly fell.

Riley was angry. She was bearing Xavier's child, but Xavier did not seem to care for her at all. She wanted to throw a tantrum but dared not to.

She still had to maintain Xavier's favor. After all, she had always dreamed of living the high life.

rich, and he was younger and much more handsome than the other sugar

up her hair and sat down elegantly at another seat. Her gaze was brimming with her love for not look at her. His gaze was transfixed obsessively had not interfered, Bianca would still be hated being stared at like that. She lowered her head and sipped her juice, pretending that she did enough of you looking at Bianca, my cousin. Please remember that she is my wife," Luke did not feel embarrassed after being called out. Instead, he felt were digging into her palm. She almost could not maintain the smile on her heard?" Xavier said ominously as though he was not afraid of offending Luke, "What goes around comes was referring to the fact that Luke had taken Bianca was angry. She would not have gone to the courthouse with him if he had not would still be in prison if not that Yvonne had taken the squeezed Luke's hand. She did not plan to speak, but she could not stop herself, "Luke and I genuinely love each other, ever since we were

*While they were still students, they did not profess their feelings for each other.*

*Even so, after so many obstacles, they remained together.*

Xavier was furious.

Before he could lose his temper, a servant came to speak to him. "Sir has been looking for you, Mr. Xavier. You may find him in **the study**."

*Xavier grunted coldly. "Is there anything that can't wait until the end of the banquet?"*

**"Sir insists** that you meet him right away." The servant seemed to be quite troubled. He did not want to *offend Daniel*.

**Xavier** left the table. He felt aggrieved by what Bianca said, but he had nowhere to release *his anger*.

Seeing that she was left behind, Riley could only helplessly follow him, "Wait for **me, Xavier**."

**Bianca** gradually relaxed her brows. She genuinely hated Xavier, but she noticed that Luke was not angry at all. Instead, he was smiling.

**"Are you** smiling?" She was quite surprised because Xavier's words did not anger him.

Even though Luke had ended that farce of a marriage, she was nonetheless a remarried woman. Luke should have found offense *in that*.

He nodded and gently stroked Bianca's hair that was scattered on her shoulders. "I'm reminiscing about the time back in high school when you were standing behind the wall and looking at me playing basketball. I could instantly tell what you were **thinking**."

lowered her head slightly in embarrassment. She was  
could not choose my significant other. If I had, I would have confessed to you. I've been wondering if our  
life would be easier if I had confessed to you back then," Luke said as he looked at Bianca's  
played basketball in school were the most popular among girls, especially Luke, whose appearance was  
girls would watch him from the side of the court and would try to  
was the only girl who stood farther away at the low wall. Luke waited for her to approach him with a  
towel and a bottle of water, and he rejected all the other  
the other hand, did not understand Luke's thoughts. Luke had purposely thrown the ball in her direction  
just so that he could look at her, but when their eyes met, she would lower her head like a frightened  
rabbit, just like what she was  
timid Bianca was, Luke did not attempt to  
shook her head. "I don't know. Back then, you were too outstanding. I could never dream of being  
had urged her to confess to Luke more than  
inferior for being an unremarkable girl raised by her grandfather. What right did she have to be the most  
popular boy's  
been hampered by her self-inferiority since  
would not have been confident if not for Luke's support  
that Luke's smiling was becoming more and more profound. She looked around and noticed that many  
women were ogling at

## **Chapter 909**

Xavier entered the study without knocking at the door.  
Daniel was furious. He threw the objects on the table at his son. "You wretch! Must you do this to your  
father?"  
Xavier's expression sank, though he was not going to lose his temper at his father. He glanced  
disdainfully at the things that had fallen on the floor.  
"Why are you acting all crazy? Your guests are waiting for you outside!" He said unhappily.  
Daniel's chest was heaving from anger. He pointed at the document on the floor and said, "Pick it up."  
Xavier bent over and picked up the few pieces of paper. He glanced at it and wondered why his father  
would be so angry.  
"Where did you get this?" His expression darkened, and the hands that were holding the document  
began to tremble.  
"That's the present from Luke Crawford!" Daniel stood up abruptly and, in a fit of rage, threw the  
burning cigarette at Xavier's face. Xavier managed to dodge it in time. He would be hurt if he did not.

"How dare he!" Xavier's expression became savage. In the document was evidence of the things that Xavier had done to resolve his family crisis. He knew how serious things could get if the evidence was leaked, so he had conducted his business personally so that no one could have any dirt on him.

Somehow, Luke managed to discover what he did and obtained incriminating evidence!

Luke's influence on the criminal underworld was more far-reaching than Xavier thought.

on Xavier's forehead bulged. He wished that he could rip Luke into

he? Why wouldn't he? He'd be commended for his sense of justice if he hands in the evidence to the police!" Daniel was hit by a bout of dizziness and grabbed the back of his

past, Daniel could always clean up

Tanners were no longer influential. Daniel had warned his son to behave to no avail. Not only had Xavier refused to marry Melissa, but he had impregnated an art school

fallen out with the Lerches, and the situation of the Tanner family had become more precarious than ever. Even so, Xavier brought him nothing

could feel his blood pressure rising when he considered the possibility that the document might end up in the police's hands. Xavier would be sentenced to at least twenty years

Luke want?" Xavier's gaze became

that moment, he regretted not violating Bianca, which would deal a psychological blow to

several deep breaths to calm himself down, took out his blood pressure medication from the drawer, popped a pill into his mouth, and closed his eyes. Then, he slowly spoke, "That man has total control over us now. He must want something from us if he didn't hand the evidence to the police. I've turned a blind eye to whatever you did in the past, but now, you'll have to control your temper for the sake of the

was silent. If Luke could give him that document, it meant that Luke must have made

Xavier had done so many things for the Tanners in secret just so that he would fight back against Luke, but he did not expect that Luke knew what he *was doing*.

*Without* waiting for Xavier to reply, Daniel continued, "If you go to prison this time, who knows if you'll get out before I die! Also, this matter doesn't only involve you, Xavier. If you can't spare a thought for me, at least spare a thought for your mother and that child of yours! Don't offend Luke for the time being. After the banquet, I'll try to find out more **from him!**"

*Xavier wanted* to protest, but he noticed that his father's face was pale and considered that he would be sent to *prison*.

**He** did not want to spend the next twenty years in prison!

He could only agree reluctantly.

"Give that to me!" Daniel extended his hand. No one else could find out the existence of that document, not even *his wife!*

*If fewer people knew about it, it would be less risky for Xavier.*

Xavier handed the document to his father. His gaze was brimming with resentment.

*Knowing what* his son was thinking, Daniel tossed the document in the drawer and warned Xavier again, "Don't go and look for trouble with Luke. You can't afford to offend him!"

*Xavier* grunted coldly and left the *room*.

been waiting for Xavier outside the study. Seeing Xavier exit the room, she quickly followed behind him.

"Wait for

looking to release his anger. He turned around and noticed

"She's asking for it!"

Xavier grabbed her wrist. "Follow me!"

out in surprise and was led to the bedroom. "I'm pregnant,

up!" Without being able to get even with Luke, Xavier could only release his anger on the

in a corner, witnessed Xavier and Riley going into the bedroom and knew what they were going to do.

She held onto Lacey's gown tightly and sobbed. "I won't forgive that b\*tch, Aunt

also noticed her son hurriedly dragging Riley into

what her son was doing, but she could not bear to see Melissa cry. "Don't cry, Melissa. You'll ruin your makeup. Xavier isn't serious

was not going to be convinced so easily. She stomped her foot stubbornly. "Go in and stop them, Aunt Lacey! Xavier can only be

## **Chapter 910**

Lacey was beginning to waver.

Melissa was not done yet. She shook Lacey's arm and said, "Aunt Lacey, if you like children, I'll give you one once Xavier comes to his senses and marries me. You don't need Riley's baby. Who knows if you're only raising a child for someone else?"

Lacey became wholly convinced. "Alright, but that b\*tch is already a few months into her pregnancy. We can't afford to wait if we want to get rid of it."

Melissa hurriedly added, "I've asked the doctor that examined her. He said that the baby isn't firmly embedded in the placenta, and she'll have to be careful. Otherwise..."

She pretended to hesitate.

"Go on, Melissa! Otherwise what?" Lacey was anxious when she considered that the child in Riley's womb might not be Xavier's.

"Otherwise, if she bumps into something, she might easily lose it." Melissa let go of her hand. Now that she had gotten Lacey on her side, it was time that the little b\*tch left Xavier.

'Do you think that you're special just because of the baby? In your dreams!'

"Hmm, if that's the case..." Lacey narrowed her gaze and sank into thought.

Melissa leaned close to her ear and told Lacey about her plan.

Lacey immediately agreed with it, though she hesitated. "If we do that, it'll be bad if Xavier finds out."

Melissa grimaced menacingly. "It'll be fine as long as he doesn't know about it. Not only will he not know about it, but no one else in the world will. There's a woman you hate in attendance at today's banquet, right?"

Melissa was talking about Bianca.

Bianca was the cause of the Tanners' decline.

Lacey nodded in assent. It would be great if she could kill two birds with one stone.

was delighted. After tonight, she would be the one standing next to

sat in the study to catch his breath. When he felt a lot better, he went out of the

of doing something and told Lacey that she had to leave for

bedroom was next to

sneaked into the study and pressed her ear against the wall to hear what was going on in

of the mansion were not particularly thick, but the banquet guests were noisy outside, and Melissa could not hear

bit her fingernails, wondering if she should knock on the door to

considered that Xavier had a rotten

coldly. "I'll deal with you later, you little

turned around and glanced at the messy desk. As far as she knew, her uncle usually kept it

was not going to take the initiative to tidy it. When she was about to leave, she noticed a piece of paper curled up under

a corner was seen. It was by pure chance that she

pulled it out. When she glanced at it, she

of paper was one part of the document that Luke had

"**Did** Xavier..." Melissa could not believe **it**.

Her phone began to ring. Instead of returning the piece of paper to where she found it, she instinctively stashed it in *her handbag*.

The call was from Lacey. She stammered, still in shock, "Yes, **Aunt Lacey?**"

"**Where** are you? The banquet is about to begin. Don't be late. I've already saved a spot for you," Lacey **said**.

"**Alright**, I'll come now," Melissa said as she rushed out of the **study**.

...

**Throughout the** banquet, Daniel and Xavier maintained some distance away from Luke's *seat*.

*Bianca could* guess that Luke must have done something **to them**.

**The** guests that sat at their table tried to curry favor with Luke but did not **go overboard**.

*After* the banquet, Luke took Bianca's hand and prepared to **leave**.

*A servant* came to him. "Mr. Crawford, Sir is requesting your presence in **the study**."

"*Noted.*" *Luke* stopped walking and gently pinched Bianca's cheek. "Bea, will you wait for me in the living room?"

Bianca nodded. "Okay."

**Luke was** very familiar with the layout of the Tanner residence. He saw Bianca sit down on the couch and turned around to go upstairs.

stepped inside the study, Daniel and Xavier were already sitting on the couch waiting

be quick, Uncle Daniel." Luke already knew what they wanted, even when they had not said

calm and unfazed Luke was, Xavier threw a punch at Luke's

b\*stard! I've already given you Bianca. What else do you want

might be an experienced brawler, but Luke was not a worse fighter than

easily dodged the punch and countered with one of his own on Xavier's

"Ugh!" Xavier grunted.

stint on the Island of Despair was not

instantly stood up and yelled, "What are you

a lot of dirt on them. Daniel was forced to humble himself even though he was

on the other hand,

sank. "She was mine in the first place, Xavier. I'm the one who has three children with her. You should know why you managed to get your marriage license. The police can't do anything to you, but that doesn't mean I

words of warning stung in

his fists tightly. The veins on his