

Be Gentle 941

Chapter 941

"That woman is dressed in luxury clothes. Who knows, she might be his wife," another receptionist said as she took out her phone. "I remember seeing her face online."

She searched around the Internet for pictures of Bianca.

"See? That really is his wife."

"I'm surprised that they still have the mood to make out in a hotel. I read in a forum earlier that someone is offering a bounty of a thousand dollars if they could provide Bianca Rayne's location. I don't think the couple will leave that soon, so..."

"Don't you know that she's hated online now? Who's going to take responsibility if the hotel is mobbed? I don't think the manager will forgive us. We'd better mind our own business."

...

In the room, Luke pinned Bianca on the door. She pushed the man's chest and said softly, "I wasn't wearing a mask earlier, and someone might recognize me. How about we go home?"

The police might have found out the truth, but they were not going to act so quickly.

"No need to be afraid," Luke said as he carried Bianca in his arms. "The receptionists won't want to bring trouble to the hotel. Also, Riley should've updated her Facebook status by now."

Bianca held Luke's neck tightly in case she fell. "That's true, but..."

"Mmm..." Luke swallowed the rest of Bianca's sentence.

The two made out for a while until it was almost time to pick up the children. Luke helped Bianca get out of bed.

rolled his eyes at Luke. That despicable

were satisfied. He glanced at the woman sitting in the side passenger seat and could not help but smile. "Let's pick up the

had no strength to speak. She watched him as he started the car and drove toward Lanie and Rainie's of checking for any news updates, but she was too spent to even take out

She closed her eyes and rested.

reached the school, Luke got out of the car and picked up the two

and Rainie got into the car. They were pleasantly surprised when they saw their mother on the side passenger seat. "You're

opened her eyes and turned around. She looked at her children with a caring gaze. "Yes. Daddy and I went to the hospital together

do you look so tired, Mommy?" Rainie asked out of

her face. Did she look

her head and said, "I'm

at his mother carefully and said, "But we think that you

They were twins, so they usually knew what each other **was thinking**.

Bianca cleared her throat and looked accusingly at the man sitting next to her. "Is that so? Maybe I didn't sleep well *last night*."

"It's the weekend tomorrow, Mommy. You should take a good rest. After we finish our homework, we'll help you with the housework," Rainie said *caringly*.

For Bianca's safety, Luke did not arrange for too many caretakers to work in the other mansion. The fewer people knew where Bianca was, the *better*.

That was why Rainie thought that her mother was tired from the **housework**.

"**There's** no need. We'll go back to Great-Grandpa's house the day after tomorrow," Luke said.

Lanie sat up when he heard that. "Is the matter **settled, Daddy?**"

"*It is* settled." Luke glanced at his son in the rear-view mirror, remembering how the boy had voiced his discontent earlier that morning. If he let the matter brew for another two days, he was afraid that his son might *riot*.

The children loved their mother very much.

"Not bad." Lanie nodded precociously and considered the **resolution satisfactory**.

Rainie clapped her hands. "That's great! Mommy is innocent again. That means you can come to my performance next weekend, **Mommy!**"

remembered that Rainie had joined a ballet competition in the city and obtained good results. She was invited to perform at

been practicing her ballet every day

first, Bianca felt disappointed that she might have to miss the performance. Now that Riley's matter was settled, Bianca smiled when she realized that she could go to Rainie's school and watch

I'll be watching your performance. You'll have to work hard!" Bianca turned her head over and cheered for her

arrived home, Bianca hugged Tommy and guided Lanie and Rainie on their

were quite intelligent, so Bianca did not find it hard to

the children finished their homework, Bianca went upstairs and found Luke in the study. "What are you doing,

not processing documents. Instead, he was looking at his
up, reached out, took her hand, and pulled her beside
Bianca sat down on his lap.

still quite tired, thanks to Luke. That was why she leaned on
already posted on her Twitter account that she's safe. At the same time, the police are taking action,"
Luke said while pecking

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Luke got Gale to find several bodyguards that Riley was not familiar with. They wore masks and lurked within the hospital with prop knives.

In the next examination, Johann told Riley that she should walk around to aid in her recovery, and he also told her that she could be discharged in two days.

Riley could not wait to be free from that closed environment. She begged Rain to let her take a walk in the garden downstairs.

Rain initially refused her request, as the plan dictated.

Then, Riley name-dropped Bianca, which made Rain comply.

Rain pretended that she was helpless against Riley's request. She arranged two bodyguards who were in the plan to escort her.

Riley went downstairs with the bodyguards. She was happy but remained cautious, wearing a mask so that she would not be recognized.

The bodyguards that were lying in wait pretended to harm her. To make her not suspect anything, they had to injure her a little.

They bumped into Riley's forehead, though her bodyguards managed to fend off the two pretend villains.

After suffering from the shock, Riley thought that Melissa had sent those two bodyguards to kill her and begged Rain for help.

Rain said that she only acted under Luke's orders, and she was under no further obligation to carry out any of Riley's requests.

Riley could understand the implications in Rain's words, so she agreed to cooperate. She called the police to record her statement and told them everything in detail.

After Bianca heard all that, she gently rubbed Luke's chin. Luke's beard stubble tickled Bianca's fingers.

should have known that Luke did something behind the scenes and shattered Riley's hope that someone else would save

day you decide to retire as a CEO, you can become a scriptwriter,"

grabbed her hands and said jokingly, "Alright, then you can be the
that's the case, won't you have to hire a male lead for me?" Bianca gazed at him. Her eyes were
brimming

lead can only be me." Luke hugged her and planted an overbearing kiss on her
to the kiss by pouring all her passion and love into

...

on the couch in the Lerche residence, browsing her phone for news. The assassin organization had not
contacted her for a while, so she could only find information about Riley

suspected that Luke and Bianca had hidden Riley somewhere. Despite engaging in the services of a
private detective agency, she had not managed to find Bianca's

seemed to have completely disappeared from A City. The only thing she found was that Bianca had
appeared at a police station once, but that was not because

no other solution, Melissa could only issue a

was angry and frustrated that she had no clue where Bianca was. When she prepared to go downstairs,
her phone

A string of random numbers showed up on her phone screen. She quickly headed back to her bedroom,
closed the door, and answered it.

"How inefficient can you get? To think that I've paid you money for this! I want to raise a complaint! I'll
expose you on the Internet!" Melissa yelled into the phone to express her dissatisfaction.

She had been happy but apprehensive over that period.

She was happy that Bianca's reputation in A City was in tatters. On the other hand, she was
apprehensive that Riley and her assassin had gone missing, and the assassin organization could not find
any leads.

The person on the other end of the phone was silent for a few seconds. "Ms. Lerche, instead of
complaining here, why not spend the time to figure out how to cover your *ss?" He sounded
quite hostile.

"What do you mean?" Melissa thought that the assassins wanted to take revenge **against her**.

"Go look at the Twitter account of your target, then come and talk to us." The man gave her a reminder
to make up for the fact that the assassins were not able to finish **the job**.

He ended the call, and Melissa could only hear the busy tone from the phone after that.

She sat down on the couch and opened the Twitter *app*.

She had known Riley's Twitter handle from a previous investigation. When she entered the name, she
saw that there was a *new update*.

It was a video, too.

After Melissa watched it, she could not help but curse, 'That b*tch!'

Riley had announced that the person who harmed her was not Bianca Rayne but Melissa Lerche. At the same time, she was safe under Luke Crawford's protection, and she had given her statement to the police.

'The police...'

suddenly understood that the call from the assassin organization was to tell her to run

Riley has already informed the police. The police will be here

her phone aside. "No, they can't

stood up, took out her suitcase from the closet, stashed several clothes inside, found her ID and passport, and prepared to lay

servant knocked on her room door. "Are you inside,

zipped up her suitcase and told the person outside the door, "I'm here. Get the driver to prepare the car. I want to go out for

she said that, she walked toward the bedroom door and opened

she saw the police officers behind the servant, she dropped the suitcase and fell sitting down on

quickly helped her up. "What's

struggled to get to her feet and pretended to be confused. "Who are they? Why are they

police are here to look for you, Miss. They said that they need your cooperation in an investigation." The servant did not check the Internet, so she did not know that Riley had reappeared and accused Melissa of being

Chapter 944

Wildflowers grew along the lakeside. Rainie was restless when she saw those beautiful flowers and grasses.

"Alright." Bianca fed Tommy the last piece of apple and watched him chew it happily. She wiped her hands and asked, "Shall we go and pick some flowers with Rainie?"

Tommy shook his head. "That's girl's stuff."

Bianca was caught in a dilemma. She could not leave Tommy alone there, but she did not want to let Rainie wander off on her own either.

Tommy stood up and pointed at where Luke and Lanie were. "I want to go and see the fishies, Mommy."

Bianca smiled, held his hand, and brought him to Luke.

"Daddy! I want to see the fishies!" Tommy said coyly as he hugged his father's arm.

Luke was attaching the bait to the hook. When he saw his youngest son grinning at him, he put the fishing rod away and brought him to his lap.

"Alright, but you can't make any noise," he said.

Tommy did not understand. "Why can't I make any noise?"

"The fish won't bite if you make noise!" Lanie explained while wondering why his younger brother seemed so much more simple-minded compared to him when he was his younger brother's age.

Did Tommy inherit his mother's genes instead?

Tommy covered his mouth with his hands and nodded.

Bianca could not help but chuckle when she saw him do that. "Be a good boy and sit here, Tommy. I'll bring Rainie for a walk nearby."

Mommy!" Tommy hesitated for two seconds before uncovering his mouth, answered the question, and covered his mouth with his

Bianca patted his head.

"Don't go too far," Luke said.

know. I'm not a child." Bianca smiled, held Rainie's hand, and walked

lake was surrounded by a carpet of green grass and blooming wildflowers. Rainie happily went around picking flowers under

was dressed in a white dress and wore a butterfly-shaped hair clip. Her long hair was scattered over her shoulders, and she looked like a

Bianca's gaze on her was gentle.

had inherited her features, and she was cute

felt a little emotional when she saw Rainie running toward her while carrying a bunch of wildflowers. When she was eighteen, she did not expect that her daughter would be so

handed her the bunch of flowers. "These flowers are so pretty, Mommy. Shall we make

Rainie's hand as they walked back to the picnic blanket. She nodded. "Alright, let's make some garlands for Princess

at the lakeside. Luke, Lanie, and Tommy were still

not help but mumble when she saw that. "Mommy, why do they

how to answer her daughter's question. She pouted and eventually said, "I guess men just like

"Fishing is so boring." Rainie sat on the picnic blanket and watched the three males maintaining the same position. She could not see why it was fun.

She held a flower stalk in each of her hands and did not know what to do. "How do I make a garland, Mommy?" She asked Bianca.

Bianca sat down, held a length of Cape ivy in one hand and a bellwort in her other, and started weaving slowly so that Rainie could follow *her motions*.

Rainie picked two of her favorite flowers from the bunch and started weaving too.

A while later, she had successfully made a *large garland*.

On the other hand, Bianca was holding a small garland in her hands. Rainie smiled when she saw that. "Why did you make such a small garland, mommy?"

"Because this is for you, Rainie." Bianca placed the garland on Rainie's head and held it in place with the *hair clip*.

Rainie touched the garland carefully and asked sweetly, "Am I *pretty, Mommy?*"

Bianca nodded and took some photos of her daughter with her phone. "You're the most beautiful princess in the world, *Rainie*."

Rainie shook her head and said seriously, "You're the most beautiful princess, **Mommy**."

Bianca smiled and touched her face. "Is that so?"

"That's why you should wear a garland too. I made this for you." Rainie held the garland carefully in case she crumpled *the petals*.

It was then Bianca realized that Rainie had made the garland for **her**.

"Thank you, Rainie." She wanted to take it, but Rainie stood up.

"Hm?" Bianca was puzzled.

put this on for you." Rainie walked over to Luke and handed the garland to him. "Daddy, is Mommy the most beautiful princess in the

put Tommy down and took the garland. "Of course, she's my most beautiful and most

eyes were brimming with love as he gazed into her eyes. Bianca felt her heart beating

Mommy put the garland on, Daddy," Rainie smiled

not refuse. He stood up and walked toward Bianca with the garland in his

was already a head taller than Bianca, so he only had to lift his hands a little to place the garland on

a serious expression on his face as though he was placing a crown on a

heart thumped wildly. Even though they had been living together for a long time, she could not help but feel nervous whenever he did something so intimate

beautiful, Mommy. You look like a fairy!" Rainie clapped her

Mommy is always my fairy," Luke said after hearing what his daughter said and planted a kiss on Bianca's

up in Bianca's eyes. She lifted her hand and touched the garland on her

You look perfect." Luke held her

children were looking at their parents, not caring that the fishing rod had caught a

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Bianca crouched down so that the three children could look at the photo too.

"Daddy, Mommy, why don't we print a big one and frame it in the living room?" Lanie suggested.

"Alright." Luke thought that it was a good idea.

Other than the wedding photo with the children, they did not have any other family photos. The photo would complete their home.

Bianca took the camera and snapped many photos of the children.

Their laughter echoed at the lakeside. At that time, they did not know that a sinister pair of eyes was watching them from a small patch of forest on the opposite side of the lake.

"Luke Crawford..." There was a vicious ferocity in that man's gray eyes. He wished that he could tear the man in front of him into pieces!

...

Luke, Bianca, and the children went to Crawford Manor the next day.

Bianca held Rainie and Lanie's hands while Luke carried Tommy. The family of five entered the door.

Before the adults opened their mouths, Rainie and Lanie greeted Old Master Crawford who was sitting on the couch, "Good morning, Great-Grandpa."

Tommy was slightly slower, but he was not lacking in spirit. "Good morning, Great-Grandpa!"

A smile appeared on Old Master Crawford's stern face. He had not seen the three children for some time, and he missed them. "Come here, let your Great-Grandpa see if you've been good children," he said as he beckoned to them.

put Tommy down but did not step forward. He held Bianca's hand tightly and stood together

Crawford was unhappy that Luke was slow in Riley's incident. He was also dissatisfied with what Bianca children ran up in front of Old Master Crawford and stood in a

and Lanie could read Old Master Crawford's expression. They showered him with flattery to make Master Crawford's mood became

brought out a tray with two teacups for Bianca and

and Luke took a teacup each and went in front of Old Master his cup to Old Master Crawford and said respectfully, "Have some tea, smile on Old Master Crawford's face faded a little, but he took the cup and sipped Bianca also did the same thing. She handed the cup over, lowered her head, and said respectfully, "Please have some tea, Crawford grunted coldly but did not take expression sank by a little.

Old Master Crawford interjected, "Don't speak. Bianca, I have something to *ask you*."

Bianca's arms were stretched straight while still holding the cup. "Please do, Grandfather."

"Do you know that you've brought much trouble to Luke, the Crawford family, and T Corporation?" Old Master Crawford's tone sounded **accusatory**.

Bianca was instantly nervous. She knew that Luke had spent many sleepless nights trying to resolve the company **crisis**.

As for the Crawford family, they had become the subject of ridicule in the upper circles of society because of her.

She nodded. "I know. I admit that I am at fault for **the oversight**."

"You're indeed at fault! You might not have done anything, but if you had only minded your own business, you wouldn't have gotten yourself implicated, and you wouldn't have caused so much trouble. The three children almost had a prisoner for a mother!" Old Master Crawford thought that he needed to teach her a lesson.

It was not that easy to be part of the Crawford **family**.

Bianca's heart wrenched when Old Master Crawford mentioned the children. If not for Luke's help, she would have brought shame to the **three children**.

She lowered her head more.

Rainie and *Lanie* felt uneasy when they saw that. However, as children, they were in no position to say or do anything. Meanwhile, Tommy was on the verge of tears because of the **serious atmosphere**.

Luke wanted to say something again.

Master Crawford glared at him. "Shut up. You can speak up for your wife, but I'm not done only do what he was told. He wanted to take the cup from Bianca's hands, but she was holding it tightly with her arms

Master Crawford continued his lecture. "You are Luke's wife, and as his wife, you should share his burdens instead of adding to his worries. What you do in public directly affects Luke's reputation. You have to be careful in both your speech and your actions. If the same situation happens again, you'd

better not think of doing anything before you know what the other party wants. Remember, you are a Crawford now, and no one can force you to

Bianca smiled dryly. She fell into the trap because she wanted to share Luke's failed to gauge how despicable one could be and nearly allowed Melissa's plan did not resent Old Master Crawford for lecturing her. Instead, she She would not be rash anymore.

Crawford grunted coldly, took the teacup from her hands, and sipped from a sigh of relief. It meant that Old Master Crawford had forgiven

it's rare that you come here, and you should spend the night here. Don't you have a performance tomorrow, Rainie? I want to watch it too." Old Master Crawford patted Rainie's

stern lecture earlier must have frightened the children. However, he had to let Bianca know not to be so kind all the time. Not only would that not help Luke, but she would also add to his was a lecture that he had

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Old Master Crawford chuckled. The two children loved their mother very much.

Tommy also tugged Old Master Crawford's pant leg.

Old Master Crawford lowered his head and looked at the little boy. "Do you have anything to tell me, Tommy?"

"Great-Grandpa, if you scold Mommy like that again, I won't play with you anymore!"

The three children looked at their great-grandfather determinedly.

Old Master Crawford looked at the three children and shook his head helplessly. "Looks like you don't respect your great-grandpa after all."

Lanie corrected him, "We respect you, and we love you, Great-Grandpa, but we'll have to point out your mistake."

Since young, Luke had told Lanie that he should be righteous and just.

Lanie thought that Old Master Crawford had not been just.

"Alright, alright, I was wrong. I won't do that next time." Old Master Crawford felt comforted by the determination in Lanie's eyes.

The Crawford family needed people like him to pass on the family legacy.

Luke was a successful educator.

Bianca went into the room and replaced the bedding.

cleaned the room every day. All Bianca had to do before she rested on the bed was to change after she took the bedding from the closet, Luke took the blanket from her hands. "Allow me to

"It's fine. It's not heavy

the bedding to the bed. The servant was not going to let them do the chores; she quickly came in and said, "Please let me do

took Luke's hand and walked out of the

not go downstairs. Instead, they went to the balcony on the

her hand and sat down on the rattan chair, and Bianca sat down on

plants on the balcony were thriving. The sunlight was gentle, and a warm breeze made the curtains flutter gently. As the two people sat there, the scene was as beautiful as a

sat together so peacefully for a long time." Bianca and Luke's hands intertwined. She smiled gently, rested her head on his shoulder, and enjoyed the tranquil

was negatively affected by Riley's incident, and its share prices

had to get up early every morning to go to work. Bianca felt sorry for him that she could not do anything about

the work in the company increased, the couple spent less time together. However, she had no complaints and did her best to take care of

She did not expect that Riley's incident would be resolved the next time that they could sit together and enjoy a moment of peace.

Luke draped his arm over her shoulder and randomly tickled her arm. "I'll spend more time sitting together with you in the future, *but...*"

Bianca turned her head and looked at his sculpted chin and his firm lips that were curled upward in a **familiar smile**.

She knew what he was thinking.

Luke lowered his head and said, "We shouldn't waste our personal time sitting here. How about if we go back to the *bedroom*?"

Bianca blushed and pushed his chest away. "It's still daytime, and you're already thinking of frivolous things. It's a good thing that there's no one around us. Otherwise, they'll make fun of *you*."

Luke hugged her tightly. "I don't care what other people **think**."

Bianca chuckled. She leaned on his chest and gazed at the scenery beyond the balcony. "No one in A City dares to make fun of **you**."

He was the CEO of T Corporation, and he wielded significant influence over the economy of A **City**.

Luke rubbed her forehead with his chin. "Yes, no one would dare to say anything. Don't worry about what *Grandfather said*."

Bianca shook his head and smiled. She held his left hand with both of her hands and curled up her pinky finger as though making a pinky promise.

Old Master Crawford must have his reasons to tell her **that**.

Bianca would not forget the lesson, and she would keep it close to *her heart*.

went to the dining hall at lunchtime, holding each other's hands tightly. The other family members were

Allison, Bianca knew that there would be

expected, Allison's expression darkened when she

did not say anything. He led Bianca to her seat and sat

Louis and his family, everyone else was

eat." After Old Master Crawford gave the order, the dishes were brought to the table. Everyone waited for Old Master Crawford to pick up his cutlery before starting

picked up a piece of roast chicken and frowned. "Is oil free? This chicken is so oily. It'll be very

felt aggrieved. Susan liked her roast chicken

might have added a little too much oil today. I'm sorry, Madam." She had been using the same recipe, but she had to admit that she was

elegantly put down her cutlery and wiped the corners of her mouth. "The roast chicken today is excellent, and it tastes just like the usual. It's not your fault, but someone here isn't used to home-cooked dishes after tasting exotic

when she heard

was implying that Allison did not belong to the Crawford

Chapter 947

Everyone in A City knew about Allison's extravagant lifestyle. Old Master Crawford was not close to other wealthy ladies, but he had heard rumors.

The Crawford family might be wealthy, but all that wealth had to come from somewhere.

Old Master Crawford had worked hard since he was young and had amassed a lot of wealth.

People from his generation were very thrifty, and they would save every cent whenever possible. Even until today, Old Master Crawford would not waste any money.

His clothes were expensive, but they lasted for a long time.

He always believed that clothes made the man, which was why he did not spare any expense on his clothes.

What Allison had been doing was the exact opposite of Old Master Crawford's principles.

Allison might have moved out of Crawford Manor, and her personal life was no one else's business, but all her money came from the Crawford family!

Susan looked at Allison smugly while waiting for Old Master Crawford to continue speaking.

"If you don't like the food here, you can go back to your mansion and eat there." Old Master Crawford's voice was resonant and authoritative.

His discontent toward Allison grew every day.

Even though Allison was his daughter-in-law, she seemed to have forgotten all manners ever since she moved out. She never visited him, and he would only see her if Luke was there.

That was the least harmless thing Allison had done. What was worse was that her excessive lifestyle and her arrogant manner had tarnished the reputation of the Crawford family.

As Luke's mother, Allison only brought endless trouble for him!

Crawford would have disowned Allison, if not that she was the one who raised

him, though she could sense the change in Old Master

had rarely visited his father-in-law because she was busy with her beauty routines. Why would Old Master Crawford treat her so

wondered if Susan had told Old Master Crawford

to Luke, Old Master Crawford had given preferential treatment to Allison. After all, Luke was the capable and talented one, while Louis was a playboy with no

moving out of Crawford Manor, but she had no reason to move back

a carefree life in her mansion, free from Old Master Crawford's

Master Crawford said his piece, she had nothing else to say and could only eat the rest of her meal

nothing and picked up a piece of roast chicken for

expression turned unpleasant instantly. She put down her cutlery and said, "Pick a piece of egg for me,

glanced coldly at her and reminded her, "The egg is right in front of

Susan could not help but chuckle

expression sank. She did not raise Luke to have him embarrass her in front of

She lost her temper, slammed the cutlery on the table once more, and stood up. The chair screeched as it scraped the *floor*.

"*I'm done* eating. Clean up my plate," she said.

"Yes," the cook said and took **her plate**.

Allison shot a hostile glare at Susan and Bianca, then left the dining **hall**.

Bianca was quite bemused by it all. She rubbed her nose, picked some food for Tommy, then continued eating her **meal**.

Allison waited in the living room for the rest of the family to finish **their lunch**.

She stood up when she saw Luke come out. "Go to the study, Luke. I have something to discuss **with you**."

Luke frowned but did not *say anything*.

Allison stomped his foot. "Why are you still standing there? **Go upstairs**."

She thought that she could command respect because she was Luke's mother, but Luke remained standing on the spot. "We can talk here if you have anything to *say*."

Allison shot a glance at Susan, who was coming out of the living room. She took a deep breath and calmed down. "There are outsiders here. Let's go upstairs **and talk**."

Bianca listened to their conversation and tugged Luke's shirt sleeve. "Maybe she has something important to tell you. Why don't you go upstairs? It won't take long, *right?*"

Bianca did not want to see Allison and Luke become enemies. After all, she was one of the reasons why their *relationship soured*.

to Bianca and

Allison went upstairs, she glared coldly

not grateful that Bianca had helped her. Instead, she was angry that Luke obeyed Bianca instead

felt that her son did not belong to

of loss made

to herself that she would wrest control of Luke once more. She would only get to live comfortably if Luke

were in the study, Allison closed the door behind her and locked

you want to say?" Luke

gushed from Allison's eyes. "I'm your mother, Luke. How can you be so cold

did not feel anything as he watched the tears fall from

young, he had seen Allison cry in front of him because she wanted more riches, just so that she could flaunt them in front of Susan or her

never cry because of Luke's

cried for a full minute. She thought that Luke would give her a word of comfort, but Luke looked at her coldly without saying

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Allison became nervous, seeing that Luke did not say anything. She had already maxed out her credit card, and she would be blacklisted if she did not repay the debt.

One of her friends was the wife of a banker. Everyone would know if she got blacklisted.

"Can you bear to see your mother starve?" Allison began to cry again. Her red and puffy eyes looked more realistic than ever. Rather than trying to evoke pity from her son, those were tears of desperation.

Luke stood there with his hands in his pockets and looked at his mother coldly.

Allison was used to Luke's cold treatment, but she was losing her temper.

No matter how useless she might be, she was nonetheless his mother!

Allison did not want to throw tantrums because she wanted money. All she could do was cry and evoke pity.

Luke was getting impatient with his mother's waterworks. Through the entirety of Riley's incident, his mother had never even given him a phone call.

Now that the matter was settled, he saw her in Crawford Manor. She said that she missed him, but she actually missed his money.

"How much do you want?" Luke said coldly.

Allison instantly stopped crying. She wanted to ask for a big figure, but she remembered that Luke had only given her three million dollars when she asked for thirty million.

At that time, T Corporation was facing a financial crisis, and he did not have much cash. Now that the situation was different, she expected that she could ask for more. "Mm, how about five million?" She said as she splayed a hand.

Luke frowned even harder.

sheepishly when she saw that, "I have some credit card debt to pay. Also, I'll have to pay maintenance fees for the mansion and the caretakers'

do you think that the Crawford family prints money?" Luke thought that his mother was getting greedier than ever. She had easily squandered three million. Even if he gave her the full five million, it would not take long for her to spend it

ordinary A City citizen, five million dollars was enough to last

eyes were bloodshot, and she pretended that she was losing her temper. "I've suffered so much when giving birth to you, and I've waited for you to become a successful man. I'm not asking too much for you other than money. Now that T Corporation has solved its financial crisis, you should have a lot of cash

expression was as dark as ink. He took out his phone and transferred one million dollars to Allison's

was delighted when she received the transfer notification. When she looked at the amount on her phone, she exclaimed in surprise, "What? Only

was already walking out of the

quickly followed behind him. "You can't treat me like this, my son. That won't last two

million dollars that he gave her vanished in the blink of an eye. What was she going to do with only one

meals, her beauty essence, and the maintenance of all the beauty treatment machines needed

million dollars is more than enough. You'll also be receiving dividends from your T Corporation shares

next month. That'll be enough for a few months," Luke said as he opened

He did not mind supporting his mother in her old age, but that did not mean that she could be wasteful.

"We're not even halfway through the month yet, and the dividends will only be paid at the end of next month. One million isn't going to be enough. How about two million? Can you give me two million?" She followed closely behind him, hoping that he would give her *more money*.

Luke ignored her and left the *room*.

Allison stood at the door. She did not chase after him. It would be embarrassing for her to do so.

Susan was downstairs waiting to watch the **drama**.

Allison wanted to smash something, but she was in Old Master Crawford's study, and there were many expensive antiques there. She dared not smash anything there, and she could only restrain *herself*.

She looked around the room, and her eyes eventually fell on **the desk**.

There was an inkwell that she had never seen before. Perhaps it was a new addition to Old Master Crawford's **collection**.

Allison had learned some antique appraisal skills to gain Old Master Crawford's favor. She walked up to the desk, gently picked up the inkwell, and carefully scrutinized it. "This is worth a lot!" She **exclaimed softly**.

She thought of the one million dollars that Luke had given her. That was not going to **be enough...**

Allison thought of an idea. However, she did not take the inkwell. Instead, she put it back where it belonged and **went downstairs**.

inkwell went missing, even an idiot would know that she took it. It was not the time to

walked down the stairs. She saw Luke playing chess with Old Master Crawford in the living room, while Bianca was feeding her children

coldly and returned to

up from the couch as soon as she heard the sound of her employer's car coming from afar. She waited at the front door and smiled as Allison walked in. "Welcome home,

not in a good mood. Luke had given her money, but the amount was less than she expected. She had a feeling that Luke would be giving her less and less

she did not have money, she would not be able to maintain her current

sat on the couch with a sullen expression on

could tell that her employer was in a bad mood. She served Allison a cup of floral tea and lowered the music in

have some tea, Madam," she said softly so that she did not disturb

a little better after taking a sip. "Where's Elsa?"

is preparing the beauty essence in the salon. The sunlight is quite strong today, and you'll need special treatment to maintain your youth and vibrancy,"

essence that Allison had been using was depleted. Elsa brought in another

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Allison closed her eyes and tried to recall. "About half an hour."

"Alright, Madam. I'll perform heat therapy to open up your pores before we proceed with the treatment." Elsa covered Allison's eyes with a damp towel before starting the treatment.

Allison felt a blast of hot air on her face.

She felt slightly uncomfortable and asked, "Why does my skin feel off recently, Elsa? It gets very uncomfortable with the slightest irritation."

Elsa's hands that were mixing the beauty essence paused for a while as she composed herself. She smiled gently and said, "It means that your skin's condition is becoming better, Madam. Your skin is so soft and tender, so it's not surprising that it gets irritated easily. Look at the people who work menial labor every day. Their skin is rough, and they won't be as sensitive as yours."

Allison thought that it was quite strange, but what Elsa said made sense too.

Her skin was well-maintained, and it should not be surprising that it was more sensitive.

She smiled and said, "That makes sense."

After mixing the beauty essence, Elsa placed her hands on Allison's shoulders and massaged her. "Yes, Madam. Everyone out there is praising that your skin is like that of an eighteen-year-old. You can see that the treatment is effective, isn't it?"

Allison thought that what Elsa said was pleasing to the ear. Zachary had fallen in love with her because of her outstanding looks.

She wanted to maintain those beautiful looks for as long as she could, which was why she emphasized beauty treatments.

was proud that she was the most beautiful one among the friends of

a charmer." Allison's discomfort disappeared thanks to Elsa's

nimble hands gave her a satisfying

telling you the truth, Madam. Look at Mrs. Jaeger or Mrs. King. When you sit together with them, you don't look like you're in their generation. Everyone will believe you if you tell them that you've just graduated from college." Elsa might have exaggerated a little, but she was familiar with Allison's

Allison was happy when she heard that. She nodded and said, "That's because I spare no expense in maintaining

and her friends would usually go shopping or hang out at cafes, but they would also discreetly compare themselves with each

beauty treatment, Allison could feel that the condition of her skin was becoming better and better. Of course, she was quite happy

therapy was complete. Following that was the beauty treatment. It took about

came in with Allison's lunch. "I've made some herbal porridge for you, Madam. Your skin will be glowing after

was already hungry. She took the bowl and began to eat the porridge

"How is it, Madam?" Elise asked **softly**.

"Not bad. It's a lot more delicious than those you can find in restaurants," Allison praised. She appreciated Elise's cooking more and **more**.

Elise and Elsa exchanged glances and *smiled*.

The medicinal herbs used in the porridge were bought wholesale. Elise did not know what herbs those were, so long as they were not poisonous.

Allison was addicted to the porridge because Elise had added a certain something **inside**.

It was something that could improve the taste but would not be detected that *easily*.

Allison finished the porridge and handed the bowl to Elise. "This is delicious. My friends will be coming over in two days, and I want you to make *a pot*."

Elise nodded, took the bowl, and handed Allison a checklist. "This is the list of ingredients, Madam. I don't think we have enough ingredients if you want to make an entire **pot**."

Allison glanced at it and did not look at it carefully. "How much?" She asked.

Elise shot a glance at Elsa and said, "These medicinal herbs are top-grade, Madam. It would be cheaper if I buy it all at once, and I'll need fifty *thousand dollars*."

Allison frowned. "Fifty thousand? That much?"

the checklist and said innocently, "That's already the discounted price, Madam. Take a look at the list. The herbs are all

not know all of the herbs, but she could recognize a few that were very expensive. She felt a little had one million dollars, and she still had to pay her credit card

transfer the money to your account later, and you can go buy it. Prepare the porridge two days later, and also some exquisite desserts," Allison said reluctantly. She had been bragging about Elise's cooking in front of her friends. It would be embarrassing if there was

not afford to be humiliated

kept the checklist and smiled. "Don't worry, Madam. I'll use the money and buy the highest quality ingredients. Your friends are discerning eaters, and they'll know if the ingredients are mediocre. I'll make sure that every gram of the food is of the

Allison heard that, she continued, "Fifty thousand dollars won't be enough. I'll give you sixty thousand. Make sure that you don't put anything cheap

Madam." Elise smiled in satisfaction. It was so easy to get money from

was in a good mood. She massaged Allison's legs with all her

not help but feel lucky to have such a wealthy but silly

Chapter 950

Elsa took out her phone and read that person's phone number to Allison.

Allison took that number down.

"Madam, may I know which of your friends it is?" Elsa asked curiously.

"None of your business." Allison put her phone away and lay down on the lounge chair. "You two can go out for now. I want to rest for a while."

Elsa nodded, stood up, placed a blanket over her, and left the room with Elise.

The siblings went downstairs.

"Elsa, why do you think Madam wants Jonny's phone number?" Elise asked curiously.

"I don't know either. Try not to make yourself sound too close to him though. She'll be wary of us if she knows that we're friends with those people," Elsa reprimanded her sister softly.

"Alright, I know." Elise nodded. "We'll just have to ask Jonny... Jon when we meet him."

Elsa took off her gloves. She would wear gloves whenever she applied beauty essence on Allison's face so that her bare skin would not have to touch it.

"There's no other reason why wealthy people would look for people like them. Give a call to Jon later. Let him know not to divulge our relationship," she said.

Elise nodded.

...

in the evening, Louis returned to Crawford Manor with his wife and daughter. He was happy to see that Luke was there. "You're here too, Luke. Greet your uncle,

Uncle Luke. Good evening, Aunt Bianca," Thea said
good evening," Luke replied impassively. He was sitting next to Rainie and reading a book
smiled at the little girl. "I haven't seen you in a while, Thea. You've grown
that so? It doesn't seem like it. I thought Rainie grew a lot taller." Louis patted his daughter's head
at her father and instantly felt jealous. What did her father mean by
that she had grown taller recently. Did her father think that she was not as good
at Louis, wondering if her husband was blaming her for not taking care of
sank instantly, and she went up
Susan had the same sentiment toward Luke and
did not say anything when he saw his wife go upstairs. He knew her personality and hoped that Thea
would not learn

Rainie put her book down and looked at Louis sweetly. "Good evening, Uncle **Louis**."

Louis had watched Lanie and Rainie grow up, so he was quite close to the twins. He brought Thea closer
and asked, "What are you reading, *Lanie*?"

Rainie showed Louis the cover of the book she was reading. "A Midsummer Night's Dream," she said.

"Wow, Shakespeare!" Louis was quite impressed. "No wonder you're getting smarter and smarter,
Rainie. You're reading such a difficult book at such a young age. Do **you understand?**"

Rainie nodded. "Daddy bought this for me. I can understand *it*."

Louis gestured a thumbs-up at Rainie, impressed that her father had educated her well. "You're
amazing, Rainie. Do you have any tips for me, Luke, Bianca? I'd like my Thea to be as smart **too**."

Thea instantly pouted.

'*What does Daddy mean by that? Mommy says that I'm so much better than Rainie. Why does Daddy
say the **opposite thing?***'

That made her very unhappy.

"*There aren't* any secrets. You just have to keep an eye on them." Bianca was much more sensitive than
Louis. She could sense Thea's displeasure and changed **the subject**.

"**You've grown** so tall, Thea. Right, I bought a ballet dress for Rainie the other day, but it was the wrong
size. I heard that Thea wants to learn ballet, right? I can send it over another day. It's brand new, and it
should look beautiful on **Thea**."

good! Thank you, Sis!" Louis said gratefully. Thea had been wanting to learn ballet, while her mother
had been shopping for dresses. She had not found one that she liked and wanted to go overseas to
thought that it was too much trouble to do that. After all, it was only a ballet

trusted in Bianca's aesthetic. That would save him a lot of trouble if Bianca gave the dress to
wanna." Thea rejected the offer instantly. She did not want to wear Rainie's dress. "I don't want to wear
someone else's dress. Mommy will buy the dress
reprimanded awkwardly. It was a kind gesture from Aunt Bianca. Whether the little girl wanted to wear
it was a different
said that we have money, and we don't need someone else's charity. If you think that you don't have
enough money, then you should make more!" Thea told Louis what her mother always said, then went
up the
became awkward all of a
scratched the back of her head and sighed helplessly. "Sorry about that. Thea's mother spoiled her. I
hope you don't mind what she said. I'll talk to her
be angry, Uncle Louis. Thea is still young..." Rainie tried to comfort
about it," Bianca said, "She's still young, and you'll need some more patience to
smiled awkwardly, made an excuse, stood up, and went
since his marriage, he stopped fooling around and instead started a business based on his