

Be Gentle 2041

Chapter 2041

Eler was envious of how Shanks pampered Nyla.

On the Island of Despair, except for Nyla, only the seriously injured could get Shanks' attention.

Eler snapped out of it as these should not be her desires. All she needed to focus on was taking care of Nyla and protecting her.

She walked over, lowered her head, and dared not look at Shanks as she said, "I'm sorry, Mr. Shanks. I didn't keep a close eye on Kathryn."

Shanks looked at her. His gaze was cold and without a trace of warmth. "You didn't take good care of her. Do you know how dangerous it is to let her run around in the corridor?"

Those on the Island of Despair were not good people. It was easy for Nyla to bump into and irk these people if she walked around like that.

He could help her this time but not all the time.

If he left the island and Nyla bumped into someone, he doubted that Eler could protect her.

Eler's heart shuddered. Every time Shanks talked to her that much, he would be blaming her for not taking good care of Nyla.

She would not be jealous of a little girl being favored by Shanks, but she would still be upset.

"Sorry, Mr. Shanks." Eler sounded like she was about to cry. She was usually very careful. Although Nyla was well-behaved, she was still a child. A child would not pay as much attention to the things that adults would.

She was suddenly in the mood to play with Shanks and immediately ran out with the ball.

Eler could not stop her.

to Shanks' serious tone and noticed that Eler sounded as though she was about to cry. It was then she realized that she had done something wrong and caused Eler to be

her hands on Shanks' shoulders and said in an innocent tone, "Shanks, it's my fault. I ran around and didn't listen to Eler. Don't blame her. If you want someone to blame, you can

raised his hand and scratched his index finger on her small nose. 'How can I blame such a

wasn't me that you ticked off. How can I blame

blame Eler, then. She didn't do it on purpose. I'm the bad girl who ran around disobediently and didn't hold the ball tight enough." Nyla pouted. She had spent some time with Shanks and knew what to do. She knew that Shanks would not continue scolding Eler if she

girl, promise me you won't do this again," Shanks said

brought him some joy in his boring

promise, Shanks." Nyla knew that he was no longer angry and smiled sweetly. "I promise to be go back to your room." Shanks moved Nyla's hand away. He could not get angry whenever he saw Nyla acting cute and pouting her

won't you play with me?" Nyla

still have things to do. I can't play with you today." Shanks stood up and touched

needed to prepare since he would be leaving the island that

Shanks planned to go to Russia. Firstly, it was because Abel took the cigars and he had to prepare more. He had to leave the island to purchase some tobacco. After all, Abel smoked very frequently. Two boxes of cigars would be gone in less than half a month.

He had to prepare more, lest Abel's cigar addiction hit. If that happened, he would argue and cause **him trouble**.

On the other hand, he wanted to see how Luca would deal with Abel's **sneak attack**.

"**Ah**, what about tomorrow?" Nyla asked expectantly. On this island, she was only close to her mother, Eler, Amur, and **Shanks**.

Both her mother and Amur had left the island, so only Eler and Shanks were **left**.

Eler was in charge of taking care of her, so when she was bored, she always looked for Shanks to play with *her*.

Although Shanks was not free most of the time, when he was, he would play various small games with her if she looked for **him**.

As such, Nyla liked him very *much*.

"*Not for* the next few days," **Shanks said**.

"**Shanks**, are you going out of the island?" Nyla asked with wide **eyes**.

Shanks knew what she was thinking about and shook his head on purpose. "No."

"*Shanks, you're* lying to me again! You're going out of the island. You just don't want to take me with you." Nyla pouted. She wanted to leave the island to find her mother, but no one was willing to bring her along every time she asked.

busy. Eler, take her," Shanks said. Abel stipulated that he could leave the island, but he could not bring the little girl

rule applied no matter how good their relationship was because Nyla was Abel's tool to

Shanks." Eler stepped forward and took Nyla in her

and knew that she could not say anything. She left with

After they walked away, Nyla lay on Eler's shoulders and said

can't do anything about it. You were too reckless today. Promise me that you won't do this again," Eler touched the little girl's head and said

for making you frightened. I won't run off again. I'll follow you wherever you go." Nyla apologized. She made a rash move because she was too eager to play

"Good." Eler stroked her head.

asked, "Eler, why won't Shanks take me out of the

because you can't leave the island without permission," Eler said. She opened the door of their room and walked

permission? I can hide in Shanks' coat. No one will know." All Nyla could think about was leaving the someone finds out, you'll be endangering Mr. Shanks. You can't think like that, Nyla, okay?" Eler told

Chapter 2042

Nyla knew that Eler would not get angry with her. She said cheekily, "Eler, I'm sorry. I'll never say such things again."

"Okay, I forgive you this time." Eler pinched the tip of her nose and smiled.

Nyla put the glass of water aside, hugged her arm, and muttered, "Eler, I miss Mommy so much."

Eler patted her head and assured her, saying, "I'm looking for a chance. Give it some time and we can have a video call with her."

"When will she be back?" Eler asked her with wide eyes.

"It'll be soon. She'll be back when she finishes her mission." Eler coaxed her.

"I hope Mommy can come back soon. I miss her." Nyla leaned on her shoulder and said, feeling aggrieved.

Eler stroked her head.

It was important for parents to be by their kids' side as they grew up.

Unfortunately, Nyla's father still did not know the existence of Nyla while Luca was forced to go out to perform missions.

Meanwhile, on the other hand.

Luca arrived at the nearby stronghold. Although it was nearby, it was also some distance away. After she arrived, she was asked to answer the password before she even had time to brush the snow off her body.

After she gave them the password, she was brought in by a woman.

This was a shop that had a sign of a beauty salon at the front. The interior was bright. It was much better than the stronghold in A City.

nor the woman who brought her in knew that Gale's men were watching them from

here." The woman brought Luca to the front of a private room and

sat down. She knew that the beauty salon was just a cover-up. Nevertheless, those from the Island of Despair could not blatantly carry out their activities in the

this place was mostly for

Island of Despair, the ratio of males to females was unbalanced. The majority of them were men. She assumed that there would be a dark room for these people to attend to

watched as the woman reached the end of the corridor and disappeared around the corner. She waited quietly and did not

was no point being curious

if I find the dark room? Infiltrating comes with a huge risk. Taking the antidotes is twice

not afford to take that risk because she could not bear to part with Luke and the

five minutes, the woman who brought her in returned and said to her, "Let's go,

behind the woman and walked through the long corridor. They got to the end. She followed the woman's footsteps, and they continued to walk. After about a few meters, the woman stopped in front of

the woman enter the password, then unlock another lock with her pupil. She then understood that they were standing in front of the secret

was not difficult to unlock the door, but along the way, she had discovered the mystery of

to security cameras, there were infrared sensors in the corridor. If everything was activated, it was likely that the alarm would sound if a fly

After the pupil lock was successfully unlocked, the woman pushed open the door and glanced at her. "Go in."

Luca walked in.

The woman did not follow her in. She closed the door with the back of *her hand*.

All the lights were turned on the moment the door was closed. Luca was calm and did not panic just because she was locked in this confined space.

Luca looked at the door not far away, stepped forward, and opened *it*.

A secret room was behind the **door**.

Two men were sitting inside. The secret room was full of things. The place was not neat but was much cleaner compared to A City.

"*You're here* for the antidote?" the man asked *in Russian*.

"Yes." Luca nodded coldly.

"Name?" the man said.

"Ivana Luca Crow," Luca replied with the name Abel gave her.

"Do you have the tattoo?" the man asked.

"I *don't* have a tattoo on my body, but I have this..." Luca pulled out a dagger with the logo of the Island of Despair inscribed *on it*.

After he verified it, the man handed one of the bottles of antidote to her. "It's the first time I've seen you here. As per the rules, you have to drink it on the spot. You can leave only after you're done."

took it, opened the lid, and sniffed it

antidote. It can't be wrong." The man chuckled when he saw her being so

confirmed that it was the antidote after she sniffed it. She then chugged the

was done, she handed the bottle back to

man took it, glanced at the empty bottle, and said, "Say

"What?" Luca wondered.

man explained sternly, "There was a guy from before who kept the antidote in his mouth when he was drinking the antidote. He wanted to take it to a pharmacist to analyze the ingredients and make the antidote himself to break free from the organization. As such, after drinking the medicine, you have to say something to prove that there's no antidote in your mouth before you can

'Isn't that what I did

she was certain that the person the man mentioned was

they found out what she did, it was unlikely that she would get off

around and was about to leave when heard the conversation between the

a new mission," the other

heard him and asked, "Who's

target is Luke Crawford. Boss mentioned that we have to carry out this task as soon as possible as the target task may return to A City. The task will become more difficult if it's carried out when he's back to his home ground," the

Chapter 2043

Luca did not want to wait until she got back to the hotel to inform Luke because he was in a dire situation.

Abel's men were already preparing to make a move on Luke at any time, so she immediately picked up her phone and called Amur.

When the call was connected, Luca did not bother with small talk and immediately jumped straight into it. "Amur, I need your help."

"What happened? Are you okay?" Amur could not help but panic when he heard her serious and anxious tone. 'What happened to her in Russia?'

Luca took a deep breath and let out a frosty breath. "I'm fine. Nothing happened. However, I just overheard that the Island of Despair is going to hurt Luke. I need your help."

'It's that man again?!'

Luca was calm even when she was injured. She was so flustered only when the man was in trouble. Amur did not want to help Luke.

"I'm not in Russia. How can I help you..." he said deliberately.

He had wanted to go to Russia with Luca, but she would not let him. Hence, he could only wait for her return to A City.

"Set up a fake IP address and register a new email address with someone else's information, then send him a reminder email," Luca said. That was the only way she could think of to alert Luke.

However, she did not have the capability to do that, so she had to trouble Amur.

Amur listened to her solution and frowned.

She was willing to take the risk to remind Luke...

"Amur, they're about to make a move. Time is running out," Luca reminded him in a serious tone.

had always known that Amur did not

the Island of Despair or A City, he always had a bad impression of Luke because of

heard her serious tone and knew that if Luke was not informed in time, Luca would blame him if something

always had that man in her heart. Even though he had experienced more life and death situations with her, she would only see him as a younger

to admit that no matter how unwilling he was, it was what

I'll do it right now," Amur said. He hung up the call and turned on the

on the side of the road. She did not choose to go back to the hotel immediately but instead opted to wait on the

went well on Amur's side, she would return to the hotel. If not, she was planning to stop the two men when they came out of the

was willing to do it even if she had to go through hell

later, before the two men in the beauty salon came out, she received a call

"It's done."

was relieved that at least Luke

was an email, she knew Luke's habits. He would not miss any email that was sent to his mailbox. Even if there were many spam emails, he would still glance

"*I also* sent it to his assistant to be on the safe side," Amur said. He did that for fear that Luke would miss the news if he did not read the email in **time**.

"Amur, thank you. I'll treat you to dinner when I get back." Luca breathed a sigh *of relief*.

'Treat me to dinner... Why does she make it seem like we're *strangers*?'

Amur was on the other end of the phone, the corners of his mouth curling into a self-deprecating smile. It was clear to him that Luca regarded him as his younger brother. He was just the most ordinary younger brother in her eyes.

Her heart was filled with Luke.

Amur said with some anger, "No."

"*Huh?*" *Luca* did not expect him to say *that*.

"**I want** you to cook," Amur said quickly. If she really wanted to thank him, he thought that it was not a stretch to ask her to cook for him.

What he missed the most was the times on the Island of Despair when Luca cooked some exquisite dishes for him and Eler because they were tired of the Russian food on the island. Back then, every bite had brought him endless joy.

Luca agreed. "Okay, wait for me to come *back*."

As soon as she finished speaking, she saw the two men coming out of the beauty salon. She quickly softened her voice and said, "Amur, I'll have to hang up now."

After she said that, she hung up the phone, not giving Amur a chance to speak.

The men saw Luca and asked cautiously, "Why are you **still here?**"

"**It's too** snowy. I can't get a taxi, so I'm waiting for the bus." Luca made up a *lie*.

a subway station over there." The man showed her the way. "Leave quickly. Don't

I'll head off now." Luca walked toward the

who was watching everything on the opposite road, frowned when he saw this scene. He saw Luca walking toward the subway station and said to the person next to him, "Get off. Keep up with her and make sure that she doesn't

it." The man was skilled. He got out of the car and walked toward the subway station as if nothing stayed in the car, frowning as he watched the two men who had just come out of the

walked into the beauty salon just now and came out after a while. After that, the two men came out and talked to

a long time passed, but it was clear that they were at least familiar with each

could lipread. He knew that the man had taken the initiative to ask Luca why she did

because of this that he could be sure that they must have met inside just

man would not have started the conversation with that

could not read Luca's lips when she made a call with an anxious look on her face because the phone covered her

the anxiety on her face was

up the phone and did not mean to leave. Instead, she looked at the beauty salon from time to time as if she was worried that someone would find out that she was looking at the beauty salon. She would look at it for a few seconds, then move her

Chapter 2044

Gale could not read his lips to make out what he was saying because the car was in the way.

He frowned when he saw the car leaving. The license plate was half-covered. He picked up the walkie-talkie and said, "Is Rain there?"

"Yes," Rain replied.

"A Mercedes-Benz Unimog. The front part of the license plate number is P425, and the back part is covered. I'm following it now. Drive here and take over. I have to complete the task that the boss assigned me." Gale drove and slowly followed behind the black SUV.

"Got it," Rain replied.

Three minutes later, Gale saw Rain's car coming out of the corner.

"I'll follow them. You can go to complete your task now." Rain's voice came from the walkie-talkie.

Gale said, "There are at least two people in the car on top of the driver. There may be weapons on them. Make sure you stay safe."

"Understood. Don't worry," Rain replied.

Gale stepped on the gas and overtook the off-roader, lest they had any suspicions.

At the same time, he also paid attention to the signal of the person following Luca. He glanced at it and found that Luca seemed to be heading back to the hotel.

Gale drove to the hotel.

...

In a restaurant.

Luke was having a meal with his subordinates. He did not say a word. The private room was silent, and no one dared to say a word.

The phone on the table vibrated.

it up and found that he received a new email. He had the habit of checking emails in time, so he clicked on the

same time, Jason's phone also vibrated. He took it out, glanced at Luke, and also tapped on his phone not remain calm after he saw the email. He immediately handed the phone to

glanced at his phone. It was an email, and the content was roughly the same as what

He handed his phone to Jason.

Jason was stunned. His email told him that there was an organization that got paid to mess with

email told him that an organization had sent people to

was very calm, which was in stark juxtaposition with Jason, who was losing it. He knew that he had to take it seriously, regardless of whether the email was a

this was Russia. There were people from the Island of Despair

of Despair had a grudge against Luke. He once took a group of people to blow up their former organization and locked up the relevant people in the strictest prison

matter who was the mastermind behind the Island of Despair now, they must

would not have sent a fake Bianca to his

at the dinner table. The others were almost done

Zac saw the two's reactions, especially Jason's restlessness. He asked in a low voice, "Mr. Crawford, what's

full?" Luke did not answer Mr. Zac's

"Boss, we're full," the other employees said.

Luke looked at Mr. Zac and said, "Mr. Zac, take them back to the hotel. If you have nothing on for tonight, rest early. We'll go to M Group to sign the contract tomorrow *well-rested*."

Mr. Zac obeyed his arrangement. He stood up and said, "Okay, **Mr. Crawford**."

The other employees also stood up. Since the boss told them to leave, even if they were not full, they had to leave.

They left the private room, leaving Jason and Luke *alone*.

"Boss, do you think this is a prank?" Jason asked. Nevertheless, he did not dare to take the risk.

They could not as easily mobilize manpower to keep Luke safe in Russia as compared to A **City**.

"If it's a prank, there's no need to send two emails. One email would be enough to take it seriously." Luke picked up the phone. What he thought about was not who wanted to assassinate him but who notified **him**.

He called Ray first.

The call was connected, and he said, "Ray, someone wants to assassinate *me*."

Jason listened to the call and read the email again. 'What if someone is playing a prank? But the *boss*' intuition...'

He stopped talking.

"Who?" Ray asked, frowning.

He was still interrogating the infiltrator from the Island of Despair when Luke told him that someone was going to assassinate him.

"I don't know. I need your help," Luke said.

are you now? I'll send people over." Ray immediately jumped in to help

Luke gave him the restaurant's address.

I'll have Hansen bring some men over now,"

ended the call and sent a text to Percy. He asked him to log into his mailbox to find out who sent him the email and what the IP

was done with all of that, he sat there without any intention of leaving as if he was waiting for the food to be served instead of

bring my checkbook?"

Jason took the checkbook from his

a string of numbers on the

"Boss, you are..." Jason wondered.

to the owner of the restaurant and tell him that I want to book out this restaurant. Get everyone outside to leave. I don't want anyone else here," Luke

not plan to go back to the hotel

the distance on the street would make him an

want to mess with me? Let them come. Although my legs and feet aren't mobile, it's easier to hide

one else should be at the restaurant, lest the innocent victims get dragged

understood what he meant. He picked up the check and

Chapter 2045

Jason understood him. He stood behind Luke and was ready to push him out of there at any time.

Luke opted to put his safety aside to ensure that Luca would not leave. He even asked everyone to follow Luca to ensure that she would not disappear into thin air.

Jason could tell that his boss' love for Luca was engraved on his bones and inscribed on his heart.

All he could think about was whether Luca would leave him, not whether he would encounter any danger. Otherwise, he would not have allocated all the manpower to her and left no one by his side.

Luke's phone rang. In the private room, the ringing was like a warning bell, stimulating everyone's nerves.

Jason could not help but wipe the sweat from his forehead. It was the first time he had been so nervous.

He held his breath, watching Luke pick up the phone.

The call was from Rain.

"Boss, where are you now?" Rain asked.

"I'm in a restaurant," Luke answered truthfully. He did not plan to tell her about the email he received so that she could keep her focus on Luca.

"When we were following Ms. Craw, we found that she entered a beauty salon. She walked out after a short time and then took the subway. Two men came out of the salon not long after her. Gale thought it was suspicious and asked me to follow them," Rain told Luke her itinerary.

"Why did Gale plan it as such?" Luke frowned. Luca's anti-reconnaissance ability was strong. All was well if Gale lost her and she went back to the hotel.

He was just afraid that Luca dumped them and left.

Perhaps someone forcibly took her away on her way back to the hotel. In that case, if there was one less person to help, Luca was more likely to be taken away.

because these two men are suspicious. Boss, don't be angry yet. I've been following them. I think they're heading toward you..." Rain said. That was why she

Gale both knew about Ray. Although everyone thought that person was going after Ray, they were the past two days, they had been extra alert to every movement

such, after she realized that the car in front might be heading toward the hotel, she immediately informed

at what Rain said. It was possible they could find out more about Luca from these

had no choice but to say, "I got an email saying people were sent to

was shocked and almost did not stop the car in time. When she saw that the car in front of her stopped because of the red traffic light, she pressed the brake hard and stopped the car only five centimeters

coming over now," she said. Rain planned to cut through the next driveway and run the

asked Ray to send people over. Stay with the two men and find out their identities." Luke stopped Rain from coming over. He wanted to know if the two men were from the Island

yes, then he could confirm that Luca was being controlled by the Island of this way, he could dig deeper and save her, the love of his life, out of the fire

said impatiently. No matter what, she could not bear to leave Luke

you regard me as your boss, listen to what I say. Go, follow those two men. I don't need you here." Luke said. Those men might be coming to

As such, he planned to take a chance. He bet that God would not let him die there.

"Okay..." Rain bit her lip. The red light in front of her turned green. She stepped on the accelerator to keep up. Although she was reluctant, she had to obey Luke's *orders*.

In the past, she would never have been so worried, but Luke's legs were injured and he probably did not have any weapons **on him**.

"Don't hang up. Let me know if the car you're following is near the hotel," **Luke said**.

Although Ray had sent his men, this matter had to be handed to the police.

Ray had some influence in Russia. If the police handled this matter, he could find out more about the situation.

"Got it." Rain followed the car in front, keeping a certain distance from it so that the other party would not be suspicious.

She looked at the navigation. They were getting closer and closer to the hotel...

When they were one kilometer away from the hotel, Rain said, "Boss, I've been following the car. We'll arrive at the hotel after another kilometer."

"Got it." Luke. After he knew that his guess was right, he asked Jason for his *phone*.

Jason handed him the phone.

Luke called the police. Rain's heart clenched as she listened to him communicating with the local police in Russian.

These men were after Luke.

one kilometer left until we arrive. Can Ray's men and the police make it there

did not know. She held her breath and continued to follow the car in

no weapons and was bare-handed. She would have no problem dealing with two men who were bare-handed as well. However, she was informed that they may have

I going to deal with two men with weapons by

looked at the back of the car and saw nothing but an iron

the other end of the phone, Luke ended the call with the
kept him updated about the distance. "Boss, we're about 500 meters
a nearby restaurant. It's about a kilometer away," Luke said. He believed that these men would not head
to the hotel to find
were from the Island of Despair, they would not act so
her lips and saw that they were turning at the intersection ahead. She hurriedly followed behind them,
and at the same time, she checked
they were heading for
going to the restaurant." Rain
At the same time, someone called.

Chapter 2046

"Who is this on the phone?" Hansen looked at Luke, confused.

"This is my friend, Rain. She's following their car right now. Those men in the car are likely coming for me," Luke said. Although Gale and Rain always called him 'Boss', they had gone through life and death together. Hence, he did not see them as his subordinates.

Rain heard Luke and was moved. That was why she and Gale had been so loyal to him.

Hansen wondered how they knew that the people in the car were coming for him since they had not arrived yet. Anyway, Ray had given an order to protect Luke, so he said, "Okay, Ms. Rain, got it. Follow them and protect yourself."

Rain let out a hum and followed behind the off-road vehicle. She glanced at the map. They were getting closer and closer to the restaurant.

Since the men sent by Ray had arrived at the scene, they won in numbers. They were skilled too, so she was relieved.

When Hansen walked in from the door, he had observed the layout of the restaurant and found that it was relatively safe for Luke to stay in the private room. He said, "Mr. Crawford, I'll go out first and arrange my men. You and your assistant will stay here in the private room."

"Okay. Please, if you can, I want them alive. Also, I've called the police. Pay attention and don't bring any trouble to yourselves," Luke reminded them.

Hansen frowned. They could attend to this kind of thing themselves. There was no need for the police to come.

However, he thought to himself that Luke was not an ordinary person. There must be a reason why he alerted the police. They just needed to be more careful when they did things and not leave any evidence.

"I see. Thanks for the reminder." Hansen walked out and started mobilizing his men.

Since the police were involved, they had to be lowkey when they subdued the men.

his men to quickly hide, intending to catch those men off

left, Jason walked over and closed the door as instructed by

"Call Gale and see where's

stood behind the door, nodded, and

had already informed Gale about what was about to happen. He answered the call as soon as the phone rang, "Mr. Doyle, did something happen to

temporarily safe here. The men are still some distance away. The boss asked me to ask you where Dr. Craw is now." Jason let him know that Luke

from some of those from the Crawford family and Luca, they would be next in line when it came to people who cared about Luke's safety the

tracking signal shows that Dr. Craw is now at the subway entrance. My subordinate who's tracking Luca told me that she just got out of the subway. She seems to be headed back to the hotel,"

thought of the subway entrance near the hotel and glanced

said in a low voice, "Protect

who was on the other end of the phone, was speechless. Luke was about to be assassinated, but all he cared about was that they

"Boss, don't worry."

On the other end of Luke's phone, Rain followed the men until they reached the intersection of the restaurant. She said, "Boss, they're almost there."

Luke looked at Jason and *said*, "Okay."

At the same time, Gale said, "Boss, Dr. Craw has gotten out of the subway. The person following her said that she's not going back to the hotel but..."

He paused. After he determined Luca's location, he immediately said, "She's heading for **the restaurant.**"

"How did she change direction?" Luke asked, not wanting Luca to get involved.

They were not aware of the weapons the men were carrying. Luca would be at risk since she came bare-handed and there was a wound on her waist.

Gale replied, "She bumped into an employee of T Corporation on the way back to the hotel. I think that the other party told her that you're still here, so Dr. Craw is **running over.**"

'She's running?'

Luke frowned because Luca was disregarding her wound! He immediately asked, "Rain, how is the situation over there?"

"I'm still in the car. Those men have already gotten out of the car. They're all carrying big black backpacks. There are four people in total. Boss, they have weapons." Rain sat in the car and observed everything. She did not know what was going on in the restaurant and could only wait in the car so as not to startle them. "Boss, should I get out of the car *now*?"

Let Hansen and the others deal with it," Luke said. The danger was approaching, but he was still calm as if he was not facing an assassination. The only thing he was worried about

I see." Rain agreed. She didn't have hot weapons, plus there were many people on the other side. She could not subdue them if she relied only on cold

road. If you see Luca rushing over here, even if you have to reveal your identity, you have to stop her before we settle the situation here," Luke said. This would be the safest for Luca

it." Rain unbuckled her seat belt, picked up the steel rod in the back seat, and was ready to get out of the car at any

"Boss, they're in."

as Rain said that, Luke heard

was Hansen talking to someone

not go out. He knew that Hansen and the others would definitely not use hot weapons because he had called the police. If he went out now, it would cause them

few seconds later, a gunshot was

not see what was going on outside. Jason dragged the chair to place it beside him, ready to protect

could hear everything clearly. At the same time, she saw Luca running over from a

Chapter 2047

"I can help. You have to trust me." Luca looked anxious. She could hear everything even though they were several shops away.

The nearby businesses closed their doors in fright when they heard the gunshots.

"Dr. Craw, I'm carrying out the order given by the boss. You have to trust the boss. He can handle it." Rain still opted to stand in her way.

Luca did not think that Luke could handle it.

If his legs were not injured, it would have been fine. However, his legs were injured. He would not be able to dodge the bullets!

"I'm sorry." Luca clenched her fists and was about to hit Rain when she heard the sound of sirens in the distance.

The police were there.

Luca turned around and saw two police cars speeding past.

Rain said, "This is all arranged by the boss. He'll be fine."

Luca was worried. 'Even if Luke has planned everything, can he predict where the bullets will go?'

The gunshots sounded many times in just a few minutes. The situation inside was unknown. She could not help but get angry when she thought of how Luke might be injured and Rain insisted on not letting her in.

She stared at Rain and said, "If anything happens to Mr. Crawford, you'll never hear the end of it!"

After she said that, she jogged toward the restaurant.

was stunned. She knew who Luca was. She was surprised that someone so gentle would say such mean words because of

not believe it. At the same time, she asked the person on the other end of the phone, "Boss, are you

Luke had overheard the conversation between the two. His heartstrings were slightly pulled when he heard what Luca

a sigh of relief. She was glad that he was

something happened to Luke, she would not be

over and asked, "How's the situation

have arrived and the gunfire has stopped. The boss is inside. I just asked and he said he's okay. I'll have to make a move," Rain said. Since she was exposed, she was unsure if Luca would remember that she had followed her to the coffee shop prior

go." Gale nodded, got into the car with Rain, and

the police arrived, they quickly managed the

wanted to go in but was stopped by the police. She could only look inside through the glass

Luke was pushed out by Jason.

Russian police asked, "Did you call

Luke nodded and looked at the four people on the ground. Even though they had hot weapons in their hands, they were beaten up badly. Their faces were bruised, and they looked a little

Hansen and the others were all squatting. They did not seem to be seriously injured.

"In that case, come with us to the police station to record a statement." One of the policemen said as he gestured to the other policemen to handcuff the people on the ground.

"No problem. Except for the four with guns, the others are my friends. We happened to be having dinner here. They stepped in to protect me." Luke added.

The leading policeman understood that the others did not use illegal weapons but were acting in self-defense. He said to his subordinates, "Lock up these four people. The others should follow the police car back to the station and give your statements."

When she saw the four people in handcuffs being taken out by the police, Luca immediately turned around and quickly walked away so that they would not **notice her**.

After Jason pushed Luke out, he said to the police, "Sir, can we go in our *car*?"

They were not prisoners and had not done anything wrong, so the policeman was fine with it. "Go for it."

Luke looked at Luca, who was walking away. His gaze was deep. 'She cares about me, but it's also true that she's trying **to escape**.'

He looked at the four men who were brought into the police car and guessed that Luca walked away because did not want to be discovered by these men. As for why she did not want to be discovered by these men, it was most likely because that email had something to do *with her*.

She must have walked into the beauty salon, heard the men's conversation, and hurriedly sent an email to remind him after she left the salon.

She was silently protecting him.

The police car drove away, and one of the men saw Luca from the window.

'This woman...' He recognized Luca at a glance and knew that she was the one who had just taken the antidote at the beauty salon.

driver Jason summoned waited by the side of the

Luca slowly walked over.

are you alright?" Luca asked. She breathed a sigh of relief when she saw that he was unscathed. She needed to hear Luke tell her in person that he

Luke looked at her face. She was obviously concerned, but her gaze was cold. No other emotions were
It was like a formulaic greeting.

behind that blandness, Luke knew that she was trying to hide her love for

car slowly parked on the side of the road. Jason said, "Boss, we have to go to the police

Luke nodded, letting Jason help him into the

Luke got into the car, Jason kept the wheelchair and said to Luca, "Dr. Craw, the boss is going to the police station. You should go back to the hotel

did not leave immediately. She watched Jason get into the car and close the door. After the car slowly left, she walked back to

she got back to the hotel, she saw Mr. Zac, who hurried over. "Ms. Craw,

Zac. Where are you going?" Luca looked at him. He seemed like he was in a hurry and was wearing thick clothes while holding a briefcase. She guessed that he was going

Crawford asked me to go to the police station," Mr. Zac said. He did not know what was going on because Luke did not make it

Chapter 2048

When she wanted to turn him down, she suddenly thought that if the contract signing went well tomorrow, she would be able to go back the day after tomorrow.

She thought that Shanks must have something to talk to her about since he was looking for her. Hence, she agreed. "Okay, where should we meet?"

Shanks gave her the address.

After Luca wrote it down, she hung up the call.

Although Shanks worked under Abel and belonged to the Island of Despair, Luca was aware that he had taught her a lot. She regarded their relationship as mentor-apprentice.

Shanks never accepted apprentices, and she had never called him master either, but his kindness to her was not something she could ignore.

Luca put on her coat and left the suite.

Gale sat in the car and saw Luca walk out of the hotel. He immediately informed Luke and followed behind her taxi.

Luke was at the police station but he did not forget to tell Gale to continue to follow Luca.

He frowned when he saw the message from Gale. 'Luca is out so late? Where is she going?'

Luke replied: [Follow her and see who she's meeting.]

Gale glanced at his reply and wondered how Luke was so sure that Luca was going to meet someone else.

The taxi stopped in front of a hotel.

Luca got out of the car.

slowly parked the car on the side of the road, touched his chin, and sighed. "It's a hotel. What is she doing

did not report it to Luke immediately. After all, a woman walking into another hotel at night was most likely because she was

was just that he was not sure who this other

need me to follow her?" The man sitting in the front passenger seat

touched his chin. They would not be able to follow her if Luca went up to the

because they had not made arrangements in this hotel in advance and did not know the people here. The hotel staff would not easily disclose the privacy of

can't follow her even if you go in. I'll ask the boss." Gale thought about it and felt like he had to inform Luke, so he called him

the matter?" Luke answered the call and went straight to the point without any small

said honestly, "Boss, I followed Dr. Craw and we arrived at a hotel. She went in, but we didn't make arrangements in advance, so we can't follow her in."

"What hotel?" Luke asked.

Hotel," Gale glanced at the building

family business." When Luke heard the name, he remembered that Ray owned

blinked. 'What a coincidence? With Ray's approval, we'll know who Luca is

Luke hung up and called

He briefly explained the matter. Ray said that he would arrange for someone to check the information of the guest and let **him know**.

After Luke thanked him, a police officer came over and said, "Sir, please come in with us to make your **statement**."

"**Mm.**" **Luke** nodded as Jason pushed him and followed *the policeman*.

He replied to Gale. He told him to wait at the door and Ray would pass him the details of the person Luca was about to meet.

Gale sat in the car and looked at Luke's message. He could not help but sigh. "This is too easy."

"What did the boss say?" The man sitting in the front passenger *seat asked*.

"**Boss** told us to wait here," Gale relayed Luke's **message**.

The man in the front passenger seat stopped talking.

Inside the hotel.

Luca mentioned the room number to the front desk. Since Shanks had given the staff a heads up, she successfully got the access card and took the **elevator upstairs**.

She walked to Shanks' room, took a deep breath, and knocked on the *door*.

After a few seconds, Shanks opened the door.

Shanks frowned. 'She thought that I asked her here because I need her to **do something?**'

Shanks turned around and said, "Come *in*."

at the door, thought about it for a while, then walked in. She was full of doubts as she stared at he want to

walked over to the sofa, picked up his briefcase, pulled out a few photos from it, and handed them to her. "These are

them in confusion and found that the person in the photos

"Mr. Shanks?"

you want them?" Shanks asked. Unlike the others on the Island of Despair, he had a high degree of freedom, so his access to communication devices such as phones was not restricted. These photos were taken when Nyla was playing with him.

took the photos, he found out that Luca was going to Russia. He happened to have plans to leave the island, so he developed these

them here just for

the photos carefully with both hands. She could not bear for the photos to crease even just a

She thanked him. Luca did not hide how much she missed Nyla in front

at how she treasured the photos with a calm expression and said, "I gave you these photos for a reason. I have something I want you to do

ahead." Luca knew that there was no free lunch on the Island of Despair, even with the most innocuous Shanks. She never thought that she would get these photos for

out a list and handed it to Luca. "I need some medicinal materials for my research, but these are quite special. They're not available in Russia, and there are not many places in the world that have them. When you return to A City, help me

Luca frowned.

Chapter 2049

Shanks noticed that she was hesitant. If he were stronger, Luca would not even have a chance to hesitate.

He said, "You can ask someone to help, but I don't want the medicinal materials that are sent to me to be fake."

Luca understood what he meant. If those at the stronghold found the relevant medicinal materials, they had to send them to her to check. Only after confirming that they were authentic could they send them to the Island of Despair.

"No problem." Luca clenched the photos in her hand. "I have a condition, which is that I won't be asked to return to the Island of Despair."

"Abel won't have you go back as long as you don't get caught, don't worry." Shanks understood Abel. "It's late. You should go now."

Luca glanced at the time. She did not linger and hurried back as she was worried that Luke would not see her when he returned from the police station.

She left with the photos and the list in her hand.

Gale watched Luca leave the hotel and glanced at the time. He found that she spent less than 20 minutes inside.

He could not help but make a joke. He was glad that his boss was not being cheated on.

Gale watched Luca take a taxi and leave. He hurried to keep up with her.

After Luca returned to the hotel, Gale parked the car on the side of the road and sent Luke a message. [Dr. Craw was at Galle Hotel for less than 20 minutes. She has now returned to the hotel safely.]

Luke looked at Gale's message and did not reply. Instead, he looked at the policeman and asked: [Can my friends leave?]

After the investigation and collection of evidence, we concluded that they acted out of self-defense when they saw that the other party had guns. They didn't cause serious injuries, so they can leave now. I have to say, your friends are great at what they do," the policeman said. There were more people on Luke's side. Although the other party had guns, no serious injuries or deaths

the same time, the four men with guns were not seriously injured. It was the first time he had seen such a situation after being a police officer for so many

looked at Hansen and the others. After he made a statement, he found out about Hansen and

was seriously injured, and only two suffered minor

they were injured or not, Luke had Jason and Mr. Zac dealt

were Ray's subordinates and must obey Ray's orders, they would not have gotten hurt if he had not called the police. As such, he decided to

also an easy-going guy. Since Luke's proposal benefited him and his men, he accepted the

left the police station, Hansen smiled and said to Luke, "Mr. Crawford, we'll head off

thank you for your hard work." Luke nodded and watched Hansen and the others leave before letting Jason help him into

more than half an hour, they finally returned to the

him upstairs and stood at the door of the suite. He asked, "Boss, is Dr.

back. It's late. Get some rest and come earlier tomorrow." Luke glanced at Jason. He did not expect such a thing to happen today, but fortunately, it did not cause any delay to the signing that was happening the next day.

"Okay, Boss." Jason helped Luke swipe the room key, and Luke controlled the wheelchair to enter *the suite*.

After the door was closed, Luca heard a sound and walked out of the room immediately. "Mr. Crawford, *you're back*."

"Mm, why haven't you slept yet?" Luke asked. He did not mention anything about Luca leaving the hotel **just now**.

She must have gone to look for someone, but he was pending confirmation from Ray on who **she met**

"I just finished washing up. By the way, do you need me to help you wash up?" Luca asked. Jason did not come into the suite this time.

"No, I'll take a shower tomorrow morning. It's late. Go and get some rest," Luke said. He did not touch on what had happened that day.

He believed that Luca knew the situation better than he **did**.

Luca parted her lips slightly. No matter how much she cared about him, she still did not say much.

"Okay, Mr. Crawford. You should rest early too."

She walked into the room, closed the door, leaned against the door, and let out a sigh.

'I'm so glad he's fine...'

Luca sat on the bed disconsolately as she replayed what had happened. If she had not gone to the stronghold, she would not have overheard that the Island of Despair was going to assassinate Luke.

'If I had not notified them in time, what would've happened to *Luke*...'

did not even dare to think about

lay on the bed as she thought about why Abel would attempt an assassination out of the blue. Abel had always been very patient because he wanted to torture Luke little by

could not figure it out, but she did not dare to

The next day.

happened at the restaurant the day before was making a lot of noise in the

got up early, glanced at the local news site, and saw that yesterday's incident had already made local headlines. The local police had not given many updates yet, so all kinds of gossip were

lowered her gaze and thought that Abel should know by now. She did not know about his plans, nor if he would continue to mess

was just luck. She hoped that Luke would be more vigilant

the door after she washed up and saw Jason at the dining table

he heard the door open, Jason turned around and said, "Dr. Craw, good morning. Let's have

not see Luke in the living room and asked, "Good morning. Where's Mr.

is organizing documents inside,"

Chapter 2050

Luca nodded as she no longer felt anxious.

After all, the signing of the contract was a done deal.

Luca pushed Luke out of the suite. Jason and the others were already waiting for them downstairs in the hotel lobby.

There were two cars parked at the hotel entrance. Mr. Zac and the other employees climbed into another car, while Jason helped Luke to get into the backseat of the Rolls-Royce.

Luca got into the car too.

The backseat of the car was spacious. Luca sat by the window and looked at the snow outside the window. Suddenly, Luke asked, "How's your wound?"

"It's still healing. The stitches can be removed in two days," Luca said in a soft voice. She had been dressing her wound often this time and taking medicine. Her wound was able to heal quickly with the help of the medicine.

"That fast?" Luke frowned. He remembered that her wound was a mass of bleeding flesh, and there was even some rotten flesh. The doctor at the hospital had debrided and sutured her wound. He told Luke that the wound was deep and would take some time to heal. After all, some time was needed for the flesh to grow.

"Normally, surgical incisions only require seven days to remove the stitches," explained Luca. She took the poison that Shanks developed, and that was why she had a special physical constitution.

Her wound would have healed much faster than a regular person who was wounded without the interference of the fungus.

"Let me send you to the hospital to do a check-up after signing the contract." Luke felt that something was wrong. Ordinary people would not heal this fast. He was worried that Luca was pushing her body to the limits.

Luca knew Luke was worried for her, but she thought that it was unnecessary.

Luca went for a medical check-up, the doctor would only exclaim that her healing ability was stronger than regular people. Hence, Luca said, "Mr. Crawford, I know some

know that too, but you delayed treatment for too long. It'd be safer to do a check-up."

knew Luke would pull a long face if she did not listen to

Luca had no choice but to listen to him. However, the doubts in her heart were growing bigger. Did Luke not suspect her of stealing the

suspected her, why would he still care for her

Luca could not figure it out.

explanation that made sense was Luke had never doubted

out of the car when they reached M Group's office. Luca looked at the person who was standing at the entrance of M Group's office. It was Marcos'

assistant came over and greeted them passionately when he saw Luke and the others. "Good morning, Mr. Crawford. This way,

you." Luke sat in his wheelchair and spoke politely to

nodded. He led them into the elevator and pressed

Luca looked at the numbers that gradually went up as the elevator rose. She felt like she **was dreaming**.

The reason they came to M Group this time was to sign the contract. Before that, she still thought T Corporation would not be able to win the bid.

The elevator door slowly opened. Jason pushed Luke's wheelchair out of the elevator, while Luca followed behind Mr. Zac and the others as they moved **forward**.

The assistant brought them to the meeting room.

Marcos came in right after they sat down. His company's team was following **behind him**.

"Nice to see you again, Mr. Crawford." Marcos led his team to greet Luke. He reached out and shook hands with Luke.

"Likewise." The employees of T Corporation stood up while Luke spoke to show their respect to Marcos and the *others*.

After Marcos shook hands with Luke, he headed to the seat opposite Luke and sat down. The others found their seats behind their boss respectively.

The meeting had begun.

However, Marcos did not mention the contents of the contract right away. Instead, he said, "Mr. Crawford, do you mind if I ask you a question before the meeting **begins?**"

"Go ahead." Luke appeared to be calm even when Marcos wanted to suddenly throw him a question. He knew what Marcos was going to ask without even having to guess **it**.

"**The news** of a gun shooting taking place in a restaurant is all over the media and newspapers today. Although the police have yet to issue any press release about what exactly happened, some of the media stated that you were the target. I wonder if this is true?" Marcos *asked*.

admitted. "I was being targeted."

raised his brows and asked, "Do you have any enemies in

think that's a yes. If you were to go through the news from a few years ago, I cooperated with the Russian government and police to wipe out an extremist group in Russia back then. It was considered the most dangerous group in the world back then. Almost every mastermind behind the organization was caught, but I'm not sure why this group has shown up again recently. I guess I do have enemies here."

the Island of Despair?" The Island of Despair came across Marcos' mind when Luke mentioned the extremist group that was known

"Yes." Luke nodded.

again, "But hasn't the Island of Despair vanished?"

guessing there'll soon be news flying around about the Island of Despair being re-established. I believe that the man who's behind the shooting is a member of the Island of Despair. I don't have other enemies in Russia other than this organization. Besides, I don't think I made the wrong decision to cooperate with the Russian government back then," Luke explained himself to dispel Marcos's doubts.

came into Jason's mind had come across Luke's mind too. Thus, the reason why Marcos asked such a question before the meeting was because he was worried that Luke had made many enemies in Russia and they would stand in the way during their cooperation in the

had such a big family. He did not have to worry about having one or two enemies.

family was one of the few families among all the big families in Russia that had never engaged in any shady business deals since it was

all the contributions Luke had made to their country and considering how he did not have too many enemies, Marcos' family, who had been running their businesses with clean hands, would be able to accept