

ABANDONED 101

Chapter 101 Remarry

After the braid was done, Roxanne led Estella out.

She turned and spotted the man standing at the door.

Immediately, the warmth in Lucian's gaze disappeared and was replaced by an indifferent look. He told

her courteously, "Breakfast's ready. Let's go downstairs."

With that, he turned around and left without waiting for them.

Roxanne was rooted to the spot.

His expression was different just now. It appeared for a fleeting moment only, though. Was I seeing

things?

Snapping out of her reverie, Roxanne led Estella down the stairs.

Estella took the seat next to Lucian at the dining table.

Roxanne was about to take the seat across from them when Estella tugged at her sleeves, forcing her

to stop in her tracks.

"Ms. Jarvis, why don't you sit beside Ms. Estella?" Sensing Estella's intention, Catalina chuckled and

pulled out the chair beside the little girl.

Estella nodded in agreement and gazed at Roxanne expectantly.

At once, Roxanne glanced at the man sitting on the other side of the little girl.

Lucian's expression was stiff, and he averted his gaze as though he couldn't be bothered where she sat.

Estella tightened her grip.

Roxanne hesitated slightly before occupying the seat next to Estella's.

During breakfast, Roxanne subconsciously helped Estella with the food. Lucian also did the same.

Tiny, almost imperceptible crinkles formed around Estella's eyes in joy. She ate all the food they placed on her plate obediently.

After breakfast, Roxanne glanced at her watch. It was time for her to get to work, so she got up and bade goodbye to them.

However, Estella seemed reluctant to let her leave.

"Essie, be good. I need to go to work. I'll visit you another day, all right?" Roxanne held her chubby hand and assured her.

Hearing that, Estella released her grip on Roxanne's top grudgingly and waved goodbye to her.

Roxanne grinned and patted her head affectionately before turning to leave.

Before heading to work, she went home to change her clothes. She was also worried about her sons and wanted to check on them.

Back home, the boys lunged toward her. "Mommy! Why didn't you come back home last night? Did something happen?"

Lysa chuckled and explained, "They've been worried the entire night and woke up early today."

Roxanne nodded. She decided to tell them how she took care of Estella last night.

After learning that Estella was ill, the boys asked anxiously, "Is Essie all right? Is she seriously ill? Can we visit her?"

Roxanne assured them, "She has a slight fever and has recovered after sleeping through the night.

You'll see her at the kindergarten."

She would've agreed to let the boys visit their ill friend, but she didn't want them to run into Lucian.

The boys nodded obediently.

Meanwhile, Aubree followed Roxanne's car all the way to the Farwell residence. As a result, she flew into a rage and couldn't sleep well the entire night. She didn't forget to order her subordinate to keep an

eye on Roxanne so she would know when Roxanne left the Farwell residence.

The next morning, she was having breakfast when she received a call from her subordinate informing her that Roxanne had just left the Farwell residence.

"B*tch!"

Aubree cut the line and clenched her jaw in fury. "She can't wait to get back together with him after her return!"

Fear clawed up her throat instantly.

I can't believe she got to spend a night in the Farwell residence! Over the years, I've never spent the night there. Lucian will usually ask me to leave after dinner. Looks like Lucian treats her differently...

The more Aubree pondered over the matter, the more frantic she became.

Sitting across from her was her mother, Gina Walker. Seeing her anxiety, Gina asked, "What's wrong?"

"Why are you upset this early in the morning?"

Aubree gritted her teeth. "That b*tch Roxanne spent the night at the Farwell residence! If I don't do

anything to stop her, she might end up remarrying Lucian!”

Gina’s expression turned grim. She thought over the matter briefly before saying, “We haven’t met Sonya for some time. Why don’t we invite her to tea later? You can take the opportunity to tell her about this.”

Chapter 102 She Will Not Get To Meet Essie

That afternoon, Aubree and Gina met Sonya at a café.

They were already waiting at a table by the window when Sonya arrived.

“Sorry you had to wait,” Sonya apologized as she sat across from them.

Aubree’s lips curled into a gentle smile. “We’ve just arrived. Here, take a seat. I’ve ordered some desserts. I hope they are to your liking.”

She then gestured for the server to serve their food.

Soon, a few delicate desserts were served.

Sonya flashed a satisfied grin. “Oh, how nice of you, Aubree. You still remember that I like sweet food.

Lucian isn’t as thoughtful as you.”

They chatted for a while before Gina casually mentioned Roxanne’s existence.

“By the way, Aubree visited Old Mr. Queen a few days ago and bumped into the woman who divorced

Lucian six years ago. When did she come back? Do you know about this?”

Sonya’s smile slipped. “Roxanne? Roxanne Jarvis? How dare she show up here? I wouldn’t have

known if you didn’t tell me about it!”

Back then, Roxanne left the divorce agreement behind and left without saying goodbye. A year later,

Estella was sent back to their family without a guardian.

Sonya was furious whenever she recalled the past. How dare Roxanne come back to Chanaea?

Gina feigned surprise. “Didn’t you know? Aubree saw Lucian there, too. He seemed to be on friendly

terms with that woman. I thought you wanted her to come back so she can take care of Essie.”

Sonya frowned in displeasure. “The nerve of her! If I knew about this, I wouldn’t have allowed her to

even meet Essie!”

Roxanne left the country stubbornly and was heartless enough to abandon her daughter. I’ll never let

someone as cruel as her come any closer to Essie!

Gina and Aubree had seen that coming.

Aubree shot her a placating smile. "Mrs. Farwell, calm down. Perhaps Lucian doesn't think that way."

She lowered her gaze in dejection as her smile became forced.

Sonya's fury increased. "What's wrong? Did Lucian bully you?"

Aubree merely shot her mother a conflicted look.

Gina broke the silence. "I'll be frank with you. Lucian didn't show up when we had a meal together. I

told Aubree to invite him over, but he seemed to insinuate that he wanted to break off the engagement

with her. Aubree didn't tell me anything. If I hadn't realized she seemed dispirited and urged her to tell

me the truth, she would've kept it a secret until now!"

Whipping her head around, she glared at Aubree before turning back to look at Sonya. "I asked you out

to confirm the matter. If you're planning on asking that woman to return to the Farwell family, I'll ask

Aubree to give up now."

Aubree hung her head low, appearing utterly crestfallen. She didn't utter a word.

That was the first Sonya had ever heard of it. Her gaze turned dark. "Did Lucian say that for real?"

Both Gina and Aubree said nothing. It was a silent acquiescent.

"Got it." Sonya grabbed her bag and rose to her feet. "Don't worry, Aubree. We've come to an

agreement, so you'll be my daughter-in-law. I won't agree if Lucian insists on marrying someone else!

There's no way I'll allow him to remarry Roxanne."

Aubree shot her a doleful look.

Sonya felt bad for her. "Don't be afraid. I'll head back home to deal with the matter right away."

Chapter 103 Want To Get Back With Her On the way back from the café, Sonya grew more worried the more she thought about it. Hence, when

Elias got off work, she called him to go to the manor together.

Lucian went to pick up Estella after work. As soon as the two entered the door, they noticed the elderly

Farwells sitting on the couch with a solemn expression. It was apparent that they had something to say.

"Dad, Mom, why didn't you tell me you were coming over? Is there a problem?" Lucian queried in

puzzlement.

Those words had barely left his mouth when Sonya nodded solemnly. "There's something we wish to

talk to you about."

Upon seeing the grave expression on his mother's face, Lucian knitted his brows. He turned his head

and handed Estella to Catalina to allow her to take the little girl upstairs first.

Catalina obliged. Estella also greeted her grandparents obediently before following her caretaker upstairs.

Lucian sat down on the single couch beside his parents. "What's the matter that made you come here so late?"

"Is Roxanne back?" Sonya went straight to the point.

When he heard that, Lucian's gaze darkened as he admitted frankly, "Yes, we have met."

As expected, Sonya snorted and continued to ask, "Why didn't you tell us? Don't tell me you still want to get back with her!"

Lucian's frown deepened, but he did not answer right away.

Sonya's heart lurched when he kept silent. "I don't care what you think, but I'll never agree to let that woman be a part of our family! Back then, she left without a word and even had the heart to abandon her child. Now, she wants to come back? I'll never allow it! If I allow it, what do we do if history repeats itself? Although you can accept it, Essie has already grown up. Can she bear it?"

After she finished speaking, she waited for a while. Yet, she received no response from her son.

Sonya's expression changed as she tried to persuade him by bringing up Estella.

“Think carefully about what Essie had gone through all these years. The child had a weak constitution since childhood. What do you think is the reason for that? If that woman had taken good care of her for some time after giving birth before sending her back, I wouldn’t say anything. However, she just abandoned Essie like that, causing the child to be in poor health. Luckily, we have the means and managed to improve Essie’s health after much effort. But as a result, Essie developed an autistic temperament and was called a bastard child without a mother outside. Do you think this will not lead to the worsening of her autism? It’s all because of that woman! Should you insist on letting her come back, I’ll take Essie to our place and raise her. In any case, I’ll never hand Essie over to her!”

After saying that and seeing her son’s lack of reaction, Sonya looked at her husband anxiously.

She had deliberately brought Elias there because she knew that his words were more effective than

her own.

Elias also felt sorry for his granddaughter, so he said earnestly after hearing his wife’s words, “Your mom is right. I won’t care about your other matters, but I’m concerned about letting that woman come back and take care of Essie. You should consider it carefully.”

Upon hearing his father's words, Lucian finally reacted and looked up to meet their gaze.

Sonya secretly sighed with relief, thinking that he had listened to their advice. At the thought of Aubree's aggrieved look that afternoon, she could not help but utter, "It's all thanks to Aubree for staying by your side all these years. She even helped to take care of Essie and did all she could for us as though she were our biological daughter. From this perspective, how is she not better than Roxanne? A girl's youth doesn't last forever. You can't just keep her waiting."

Chapter 104 Aubree Takes Estella To School Lucian remained silent until the couple had finished speaking before stating calmly, "You're overthinking

things. I've no plans to let Roxanne come back."

At least not now.

While his parents were speaking earlier, he kept thinking about his interactions with Roxanne during this period and concluded that most of them were because of Estella.

As that thought occurred to him, Lucian strangely felt a little ironic.

Judging from Roxanne's attitude when we first met, she would've probably avoided me if it wasn't for Essie's presence, and the matter that my parents are worried about now is even less likely to happen.

Sonya's expression lightened up a little when she heard her son's words. "I'm glad to hear that. In terms of Aubree, when do you plan to settle down with her? The sooner you do that, Estella will have someone to take care of her."

Lucian frowned as he turned her down, "Compared to Roxanne, I'm more worried about leaving Essie to Aubree. Essie has always distanced herself from her, so I still need to consider carefully about marriage."

However, Sonya made nothing out of it. "Isn't Essie distancing herself from Aubree because you've been unwilling to accept her? If you had married her earlier and let her spend more time with Essie, they would ultimately develop a good relationship. Besides, we can tell that Aubree had always been devoted to caring for Essie all these years."

Hearing this, Lucian knitted his brows a little impatiently. "Let's talk about this later. I'm tired."

Over the years, although Aubree had always acted innocent and harmless before them and treated Estella well, he did not think that the little girl would avoid her for no reason, aside from not having any feelings for Aubree.

Now that his mother kept mentioning her, it only annoyed him further.

Sonya sighed as her remaining words were cut off by him. "We won't force you either. In any case, you should think about it carefully. Before that, let us take care of Essie first."

After speaking, she raised her voice to instruct Catalina to bring Estella down from upstairs and extended her hand toward the little girl with a smile.

Unaware of the confrontation between the adults, Estella obediently buried herself in her grandmother's embrace.

"Be good, Essie, and come over to our house to play for two days, okay?" Sonya affectionately pinched Estella's chubby cheek.

The little girl blinked blankly and instinctively looked at her father.

Lucian's expression tensed. "Essie's living well at home, Mom. I can also take good care of her."

Sonya was displeased. "You know very well why I want to take Essie away. Besides, your father and I miss her. So what if we want her to go over and accompany us for two days?"

Elias said in a deep voice to defuse the tense situation, "I heard that Essie has just recovered from being sick, and you have been very busy these days, so let us take care of her first."

Hearing his father's words, Lucian could not help but feel troubled.

He naturally knew that his mother intended not to let Estella have any interactions with Roxanne, but

he also could not refute what his father said.

While he remained silent, Sonya got up and left with Estella in her arms.

Lucian did not say anything in the end, thinking that he would just head over and pick up the little girl in

two days.

Estella was very well-behaved with her grandparents and fell asleep obediently after dinner.

Meanwhile, Sonya called Aubree, telling her to come over in the morning to send Estella to

kindergarten, as she always felt that the little girl did not like Aubree because they spent too little time

together.

The following morning, Aubree arrived early, and after greeting the elders, she reached out to take

Estella's hand.

Estella had just eaten breakfast, and her face fell when she saw Aubree coming over. Upon seeing the

latter's outstretched hand, she shrank back further, expressing great resistance.

"Be good, Essie. Ms. Pearson is sending you to kindergarten. If you don't leave now, you'll be late,"

Sonya patiently persuaded for a long time.

Hearing this, Estella hesitated for a while. However, at the thought that she would be able to see the two little boys when she arrived at the kindergarten, she dragged herself into the car.

Chapter 105 Estella Was Slapped

On the way to the kindergarten, Estella sat in the backseat while hugging her backpack with her gaze lowered, looking a little upset.

Aubree was also determined to win the little girl over. At least, they had to appear close on the outside.

Looking at Estella's state through the rearview mirror, she pretended to ask in concern, "Are you not feeling well, Essie? Do you want me to take you to the hospital?"

Estella did not even lift her head upon hearing her voice.

Aubree frowned and continued to express concern in a sweet voice, "How about I excuse you from school, and we head back to rest for the day?"

Despite those words, she still received no reply.

After waiting for a while, Aubree grew impatient. "I'm asking you a question, Estella Farwell. What's with that expression? I can't even have a decent conversation with you?"

Hearing her displeased tone, Estella shuddered and hugged her backpack tighter.

Upon noticing Estella's visible resistance to her and recalling Sonya's words the night before regarding the reason Lucian was unwilling to marry her, Aubree grew angrier the more she thought about it.

If it weren't for this little brat's attitude toward me, would Roxanne have any reason to be by Lucian's side now? I also won't have to feel on edge because Roxanne is back in the country!

After thinking for a while, Aubree drove the car to the side of the road in displeasure and slammed on the brakes.

Estella was caught off guard and tipped forward unsteadily. She pursed her lips as she looked up and promptly met Aubree's burning gaze through the rearview mirror.

As soon as they locked eyes, Estella's eyes constricted, and she looked around frantically.

Every time this awful lady does something to me, she always has this expression, but there's no way for me to ask for help now...

Aubree's anger rose upon seeing her frightened look. She opened the car door and entered the back seat before slamming the door closed.

Estella hurriedly moved to distance herself from Aubree, but the latter grabbed her arm roughly.

“What is the meaning of this, Little Mute? You’re displaying hatred toward me for your dad to see, isn’t

it?” Aubree looked at her ferociously as she exerted more force into her grip. “Have I not treated you

well all these years? I’m so close to worshipping you like my ancestor, yet this is how you repay me?

Do you truly think I dare not to do anything to you?”

Estella was in so much pain that her eyes reddened, but she still bit her lip and made no sound, merely

lowering her eyes and not daring to look at the woman.

Aubree grew angrier at her lack of response. She pulled Estella onto her lap and slapped the little girl’s

bottom without holding back. “Stupid mute. Do you truly think that I would appease you if it wasn’t for

the sake of being with Lucian? Disrespectful creature. It’s one thing not repaying me, but daring to

show affection toward Roxanne, that b*tch? Such an ungrateful child! Let me tell you this. You have to

accept my marriage to your dad no matter what! Otherwise, don’t blame me for what happens next.”

The crisp slaps echoed within the car alongside Aubree’s vicious cursing.

Despite her reddened eyes and tears threatening to roll out, Estella stubbornly bit her lip, unwilling to

cry in front of the wicked woman.

“You’re still being stubborn!” Upon seeing that the little girl remained silent, Aubree pinched her inner thigh mercilessly. “Let’s see how much you can tolerate!”

Estella kicked her leg in pain as tears flowed out uncontrollably. While crying silently, she tried to get off the woman’s lap by struggling hard.

Chapter 106 It Was Supposed To Hurt Aubree only allowed Estella to get off of her when she heard the child beginning to get out of breath

from crying so much.

Estella immediately crawled toward the window on the other side of the car while enduring the pain and clutching her schoolbag to her chest as she continued sobbing.

“Good! It was supposed to hurt,” Aubree scoffed as she glared at the little girl. “If you tell anyone about what happened today, I swear to God that you’ll never see that woman ever again.”

Only then did she go back to the front seat and drove Estella to the kindergarten.

“We’re here. Wipe those tears off of your face,” Aubree commanded after they reached the kindergarten.

Estella hurriedly dried her face, afraid that she really wouldn’t be able to see her beloved Ms. Jarvis

after this because of Aubree's threat.

Aubree glanced at her and felt like her face seemed clean enough. She opened the door, and as they walked toward the gates together hand-in-hand, she hissed, "Don't cry or make a fuss again. If anyone can see even a single mark of a tear on your face, you'll know what I have in store for you."

Right after she had hissed at Estella, Aubree looked back up again with a sweet smile plastered on her face.

Estella did her best to hold her tears back and obediently walked toward her teacher, bowing toward her.

"Hello, Estella!" her teacher greeted cheerfully. She spotted the hastily dried tears on Estella's cheeks and frowned in concern. "What happened? Why have you been crying?"

Aubree's expression changed rapidly but settled just as quickly. "I don't know what's gotten into her. She was making a huge fuss today and didn't want to come to school. We spent the longest time having to coddle her before she finally let us drag her out here."

The teacher frowned in confusion upon hearing that. "Really? Estella has never hated school before.

What happened?"

Aubree frowned but quickly covered it up with a smile, hurriedly changing the subject. "Maybe she's not feeling too well today. After all, her fever has only just gone down. Please keep an eye on her. If anything happens, please contact me."

The teacher agreed with a smile, not looking too much into it.

Aubree handed Estella over to the teacher and pretended to give her a couple of words of advice before turning to leave.

She had only just gotten into her car when she spotted a familiar Mercedes-Benz parked in front of the kindergarten.

Roxanne brought her two children out of the car soon after.

Estella's expression cleared up, and she began to look as right as rain once the three of them showed up.

Aubree's expression darkened rapidly.

She watched bitterly as Roxanne chatted casually with the teacher before handing the kids over, and her expression remained gloomy until Roxanne got into her car and left.

She only stopped watching once the Mercedes-Benz disappeared at the end of the road.

If she remembered correctly, the Farwell family had invested in the kindergarten.

She couldn't help but become extremely suspicious.

Lucian must have bumped into Roxanne at least once whenever he picked up or dropped off Estella.

Besides, as a shareholder, there was no way he wouldn't know that Roxanne's kids studied here.

Estella also showed how much she liked the woman, so who knew how much they had going on

behind Aubree's back?

Aubree felt more uneasy the more she thought about it. She spotted the teacher still standing there and

decided to just get out of her car, all the while wearing a solemn expression on her face.

Seeing that she had returned, the teacher asked with a smile, "What's wrong, Miss? Is there anything I

can help you with?"

Aubree bowed slightly. "Hello. I'd like to introduce myself. I'm the owner of Pearson Group and would

like to make a donation of some playground equipment to this kindergarten. Could I please speak to

the head of the kindergarten?"

Chapter 107 Expel Those Two Children

The teacher immediately agreed with a smile once she heard that Aubree wanted to donate to the kindergarten and called the head of the kindergarten.

She hung up after a short conversation and brought Aubree to the head's office.

He had been waiting in his office for a while and immediately poured a cup of tea for Aubree the moment they entered. "Please take a seat, Ms. Pearson," he said with a large smile on his face.

Aubree took the cup of tea from him and sat down on the opposite seat. "I assume you've probably heard of my reason for coming here."

The head of kindergarten nodded. "I heard you wanted to donate some equipment to the kindergarten. I want to thank you on behalf of the children."

He had just finished talking when he noticed how stoic the person in front of him looked.

Aubree sipped her tea with a chilly expression and said just as coldly, "That's not all. I'm willing to donate five million to this kindergarten as well. You can do whatever you want with it, in exchange for one simple favor."

The head of kindergarten looked at her in confusion. "Which is...?"

"A little while ago, the kindergarten seems to have taken in Roxanne Jarvis' children. I would like for

you to expel them from this institute.” Aubree narrowed her eyes, her expression frosty.

The head of kindergarten and the teacher looked at each other in confusion upon hearing Aubree’s words.

Lucian had mentioned it to them before, but he had taken it back rather quickly.

Now, they were hearing it again from Aubree.

“If you don’t mind me asking, Ms. Pearson, what happened between you and Ms. Jarvis?” the head of kindergarten asked cautiously.

Aubree glared at him. “You don’t need to know so much. All you need to know is that I don’t want her children and the Farwell children in the same school. I believe you’re not completely unaware of the arranged marriage between the Pearson family and the Farwell family.”

The head of kindergarten nodded frantically. “Yes, I’ve heard about it.”

“I’ve had some personal issues with Roxanne in the past. I’ll be Estella’s mother soon, and if my daughter gets bullied by her son, will you be responsible for that?” Aubree threatened mildly.

At the mention of the Farwell family, the head of kindergarten thought about how Lucian had said

himself to not expel those children. Didn't that mean that he wanted them to stay in this kindergarten?

But now that the future Mrs. Farwell was making such a request, the head of the kindergarten didn't really know what to do.

Aubree noticed his hesitation and placed her teacup down, clinking it loudly against the table.

The head of kindergarten's heart clenched nervously due to knowing her power.

"The Farwells have also invested in this kindergarten quite a bit, right? Imagine what a few words from me could do to your future. You definitely won't have their investments to look forward to," Aubree said,

adding fuel to the fire.

The head of kindergarten broke out in a cold sweat. He couldn't really go against her will because of her constant mentions of Lucian, so after a long bout of hesitation, he finally relented. "I got it. I will expel them."

Aubree smiled in satisfaction. "I want to hear news of those kids getting expelled by tonight. If so, the five million will be going straight to the kindergarten's account."

The head of kindergarten nodded feverishly to everything she said.

“Since our deal has gone through, I won’t be staying for much longer,” Aubree said as she stood up.

Both the teacher and the head of kindergarten sent her off at the gate.

When she was about to leave, Aubree seemed to remember something and turned back to warn them coldly, “I almost forgot. Please keep everything that went on today under wraps. I don’t want Roxanne coming after me if she hears about it.”

She was mainly afraid that Lucian would hear about her doing things without his approval, but she didn’t want the head of kindergarten to feel suspicious. That was why she just used Roxanne’s name.

The head of kindergarten nodded in agreement.

Chapter 108 What Exactly Does Lucian Mean

That night, Roxanne rushed over after work, barely in time to pick Archie and Benny up from school.

Only the two of them were left at the kindergarten gates and their teacher was taking care of them.

“I’m so sorry for coming so late,” Roxanne said with an apologetic smile, reaching out to hold her children’s hands.

Unexpectedly, Pippa moved to stand slightly in front of them and smiled uncomfortably at her. “I’ll help you look after them for just a little while more. The head of kindergarten has something to talk to you

about. He's in his office right now."

Roxanne didn't really know what was going on, but she still went upstairs and knocked on his door.

The head of kindergarten's expression also seemed strangely suspicious.

"Pippa told me you wanted to talk to me about something. What's wrong?" Roxanne asked.

The head of kindergarten smiled in an extremely business-like way as he said slowly, "This is the problem. I've been observing your children for the last two days, and I feel like they are simply not suitable for our kindergarten. Maybe you should consider giving them a change of environment."

So he just wants to expel Archie and Benny!

Roxanne frowned but remained polite. "Did they do something wrong today at school? If that's the case, I will definitely tell them off at home. Please don't worry. I can promise that they won't do it—"

She wasn't done with her promises when the head of kindergarten cut her off abruptly, "The two of them have done fine. However, I wouldn't like them to stay in this kindergarten any longer. Of course, I will do my best to return all of the school fees you have paid."

Roxanne began to feel like something was up. "It's not the money I have a problem with. Since my children are doing great, then why are you expelling them? You have to give me a reason that I can at

least tell my kids.”

The head of kindergarten frowned. “There’s no other reason.”

He couldn’t help but feel guilty as he said it.

Those two kids had, in fact, been doing extremely well in school. Compared to other kids their age, they acted like two small adults who never let their teacher worry and actually helped her take care of the other kids.

The kindergarten didn’t actually have any reason to expel them.

Since it was a command coming from a benefactor, though, he couldn’t back out of it.

He couldn’t even look her in the eye after speaking.

Roxanne did her best to control her anger and remain calm as she attempted to reason with him. “I sent my kids to your kindergarten because I trusted you, but you’re seriously disappointing me right now. How could you expel my kids for no reason? I can report this to the ministry of education.”

He was beginning to feel the guilt eating away at him but still answered, “Then go ahead and report me. I won’t be changing my mind.”

With the Pearson family and the Farwell family backing the kindergarten, the ministry of education probably couldn't do anything to him.

After scrutinizing the head of kindergarten, Roxanne calmed down, and her tone turned chilly. "If this gets out and the other parents hear about you expelling two children for no reason, don't you think they'll become suspicious? Even if you don't get punished by the ministry of education, the other parents might not trust you anymore and change schools. That would be a problem for this kindergarten now, wouldn't it?"

The head of kindergarten visibly panicked at that and looked at her helplessly. "Ms. Jarvis, it's not difficult for you to find another kindergarten with your abilities. Why are you trying to make my life harder?"

Roxanne was getting more suspicious by the minute.

From the looks of it, someone was definitely controlling him from behind the scenes. It seemed like that person was quite an important figure too.

Roxanne relaxed slightly with that thought in mind. "Okay, I'll stop doing that, but you have to tell me who told you to do this."

The head of kindergarten fell silent at the thought of Aubree's parting words.

"Is it Farwell Group?" Roxanne could only think of one possibility.

The head of kindergarten hesitated before nodding slowly.

Aubree was soon going to be Mrs. Farwell anyway. It wasn't exactly a lie to say it was the Farwell family, and since she kept bringing Lucian up, the head of kindergarten assumed that he was also on the same page.

Roxanne's expression darkened when he nodded.

What does Lucian mean by all this?

Chapter 109

Meanwhile. Lucian didn't notice the boys in the car as he strode into the kindergarten, well aware that he was late.

The moment he stepped in, he saw two figures by the slide together with Estella, who had squeezed herself into Roxanne's arms by then.

"Mr. Farwell, you're here!" the teacher greeted respectfully when she saw Lucian.

Lucian nodded in acknowledgment as he walked up to them. After throwing his daughter a glance, he

stared coldly at Roxanne. "Why are you here?"

Sensing his hostility, Roxanne knitted her brows in confusion.

The teacher then looked at them in surprise, "Do you know each other?"

Just a while ago, she had assumed that Roxanne didn't know Estella.

However, considering how dependent Estella was on Roxanne, she figured that it wasn't such a surprise at all.

After nodding at the teacher without answering the question, Roxanne shifted her attention toward Lucian. "I came here to pick my boys up. It was your daughter who refused to let go of my clothes, forcing me to stay here with her."

The moment he heard the words "your daughter" roll off her tongue, Lucian's expression darkened.

How can she say such a thing in front of her own daughter? What a heartless woman!

Unaware of what she had said wrong, Roxanne saw a sudden change in Lucian's expression as he turned his attention to Estella.

"Come here." Lucian reached out his hand grimly.

After glancing at Lucian's outstretched hand, Estella raised her gaze and gave Roxanne a reluctant and pitiful look.

Just when I finally got the chance to be with her, why does Daddy have to be so fierce?

As the seconds ticked by, Lucian's expression turned darker when Estella refused to let go of Roxanne.

In the end, Roxanne lowered her gaze and tousled Estella's hair before reassuring her, "Your daddy is here to pick you up, and I have to go too. So, you should go home with him now."

After that, Roxanne stood back up, planning to leave the instant Estella released her grip.

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In spite of that, Estella adamantly refused regardless of how gloomy Lucian looked. Instead, she continued to give Roxanne a pleading look.

For some inexplicable reason, she loved staying by Roxanne's side, to the extent of wanting to follow the latter home.

As the tension in the air began to build, the teacher felt the need to defuse the situation.

Before she could, she saw Lucian making his move all of a sudden.

Walking up to Estella, Lucian asserted in an authoritative voice, "Estella Farwell, let go and come home

with me.”

Shaken by his tone, the little girl ended up tightening her grip on Roxanne and leaning closer to her by reflex.

As she was already standing by the edge of the slide, she lost her balance while shifting her legs without looking

With her heart skipping a beat, Roxanne managed to stop Estella from falling by reaching out to catch her.

Subsequently, Estella refused to let Roxanne go, leaving the latter with no choice but to hug her in case she fell again.

Having calmed her down, Roxanne couldn't help but frown. “Lucian, if you're upset with me, you should just vent your frustrations at me instead of the child.”

Even though Lucian had seen the same event unfold, he didn't manage to get to Estella in time.

Therefore, he retorted upon hearing Roxanne's comments, “How is the way I treat my daughter any of your business? Don't think that just because she likes you, it gives you the right to get involved.”

The tension between them felt as if it could explode at any moment.

In response to his mocking tone, Roxanne's expression darkened as an inexplicable sense of anger swelled within her.

Chapter 110

Roxanne picked her kids up after walking out of the office.

"I'm still a little busy, so why don't I get Aunt Madilyn to accompany you two for a bit?" Roxanne suppressed her anger and asked the two kids with a smile.

The two of them didn't think too much of it and nodded obediently, assuming she was busy with work.

Roxanne handed them over to her best friend and returned to the car, her expression souring once again. She immediately drove off to the Farwell residence.

"Hello, Ms. Jarvis," Catalina greeted. She was about to say more when she noticed the look on Roxanne's face, causing her to swallow her words.

Roxanne nodded at her briefly and turned to the living room. "Is Lucian here? I'd like to speak to him."

Catalina nodded quickly. "Yes, he is. I'll go upstairs and call him."

Soon after, she came downstairs with Lucian following behind her and Estella tottering down behind

both of them.

Lucian still didn't trust Estella with his parents and had waited at the kindergarten gates before they opened so that he could pick her up early.

Estella's mood had clearly improved since she didn't need to see that mean woman. Now that she saw that Roxanne was here, her gaze was simply sparkling with admiration, and she ran toward her with her arms out.

Roxanne's heart softened momentarily at the sight of the child, and she caressed her head. "I have something to talk to your daddy about. Go over there and play on your own for a little, alright?"

Estella nodded and began playing with her doll on the carpet next to the couch.

Lucian frowned. "What do you want?"

Roxanne's long-suppressed anger exploded at the sound of his voice. "Lucian, if you have a problem with me, then take it out on me. Why are you doing this to Archie and Benny? What did they ever do to you? They've always been so respectful of you, and they took such good care of your daughter. You have no reason to bully two kids, even on behalf of Estella."

Lucian didn't expect Roxanne's sudden visit, much less her sudden outburst. He frowned even more

deeply at her accusations. “What did I do to the two of them?”

Roxanne smirked coldly at his confusion. “Who are you trying to fool? Who else has the power to expel people from the kindergarten? Stop trying to act innocent. It won’t work on me.”

Lucian stiffened in shock and immediately started to explain, “I did talk to the head of kindergarten before, but that already—”

Roxanne didn’t even let him finish his sentence before she bellowed angrily, “Don’t you think you’re going a little bit overboard? No matter what happened in the past, it should stay between us. Just come at me instead! I won’t say no to that, but the kids are innocent. They don’t know anything. Why are you doing this to them?”

She dug her fingernails into her palm in an attempt to calm herself down. Trying her best to stop her voice from wavering, she continued, “Yes, I shouldn’t have done that in the past. That was my fault, so feel free to get revenge on me for that. But please, can’t you find it in your generous, generous heart to forgive my kids?”

She looked down after that, feeling her eyes start to water from frustration.

The head of kindergarten had been right. It wasn't hard for her to find another kindergarten for the kids, but that was only if Lucian didn't interfere.

If he wasn't willing to let either of them go, then she couldn't do anything no matter how much power she had.

She scoffed at herself with that thought in mind.

She thought that Lucian and she had been on decent terms recently. Even though they hadn't become best friends overnight or anything, they were still courteous with each other and had seemed to leave everything behind them.

Disappointingly, those feelings had been completely one-sided on her part. Apparently Lucian still only saw her as a menace.

Lucian's heart clenched at the sight of the person in front of him acting all stubborn but still letting how wronged she was feeling show through.

He actually felt at a loss for words.

He even began to feel bad about even bringing the matter up to the head of kindergarten.