

## ABANDONED 1321

### Chapter 1321

When Lucian saw that Roxanne was going to retreat, his gaze swept across Estella.

“Do you really have the heart to decline? Essie dreams about having a mother. Could you bear to keep her waiting? You've already been absent from her life for six long years!”

His words left Roxanne totally baffled.

She looked down at Estella in shock, wondering what Lucian meant.

Is it what | think it is?

The two kids had yet to realize what Lucian was talking about and simply looked at the two adults innocently.

Roxanne took a deep breath and forced herself to stay calm. Then, she turned to Lucian and asked, “What are you talking about? What do you mean when you said I’ve been absent from Essie’s life for six long years? I’m just...”

| was just an outsider to Essie. Why did he say that? The person who has missed out on watching Essie grow up should be her biological mother, no?

“Lucian, what has gotten into you?” Sonya never wanted Roxanne to be a part of the Farwell family.

Furthermore, since Estella had just gone through an eventful afternoon, Sonya was afraid it would be too much for the little girl to take if she discovered the truth all within the same day.

Thus, she strode toward Lucian in frustration, trying to prevent him from saying further.

It was then that Cayden stepped forward and blocked her.

“Mrs. Farwell, Mr. Farwell is proposing right now. | think it’s best you leave them alone.”

Cayden’s tone was polite yet assertive. “Don’t you want Ms. Estella to grow up having a complete family?”

Sonya grimaced and shouted, “Get lost! Who do you think you are to meddle with the affairs of the Farwell family?”

Cayden kept his cool and insisted, “This is the instruction given to me by Mr. Farwell. All you need to do is to stay where you are and be a witness.”

Although Cayden dared not lay a finger on Sonya, he was more than capable to get in the woman’s way and keep her away from Lucian.

Left with no choice, the livid Sonya could only gaze at the duo from afar.

She could tell that Roxanne was planning to turn Lucian down just now.

However, things might change if Roxanne found out that Estella was her daughter.

Before Sonya even had the chance to do something else, Lucian revealed the truth with full confidence.

“Essie is your biological daughter. Six years ago, someone dropped her off at the gate of the Farwell residence without saying a word. I have done the paternity test, and I have the results to prove that she’s our daughter.”

Words eluded Roxanne as her body stiffened.

Essie is my daughter?

At that instant, all the moments she had spent with Estella ever since she returned to the country flashed across her mind like a slideshow.

Immediately, she teared up.

Now I know why a familiar feeling crept up on me the first time I met her, and there’s no wonder she’s so attached to me. Essie is my own flesh and blood, my little baby whom I thought was stillborn.

Roxanne was inundated with both joy and sorrow at the same time. For a long while, she struggled to recollect herself.

Estella, who was holding Roxanne’s hand, was also in shock. She, too, could not believe her ears until Archie and Benny asked questions to clarify their relationship.

“Really? Essie is Mommy's child? She’s our biological sister?” Lucian nodded solemnly. Then, he turned to look at Roxanne and Estella.

“I’m sorry for keeping this secret from you all these while. I was just worried that if you reject me and we don’t end up together, both you and Essie would be downright disappointed. Essie, I’m so sorry for not telling you this earlier. Ms. Jarvis is the mother you've always wanted. It’s time you change the way you address her. She’s no longer your Aunt Roxanne.”

As soon as he finished his sentence, Estella burst out crying all of a sudden. She hugged Roxanne’s thigh tightly and bawled. “Mommy... Mommy...”

Chapter 1322

Estella’s wails snapped Roxanne out of her trance, and the woman found her face covered in tears.

“Oh Essie, I've missed you. I miss you so much....”

She pulled Estella into her embrace and tightened her arms around the little girl, wishing they would never be separated again. Not a day went by in the past six years without her missing the child she thought she had lost.

In fact, the thought of that child was the reason she was motivated to wake up from her previous coma.

Little did she know the child she had been missing dearly was right by her side all this while.

As she thought about everything Estella experienced in the past six years, she felt extremely guilty. I've missed out on her life for so many years. Yet, since the day we met, she's been helping me recover from my hurt and pain. "I'm so sorry... It's all my fault..." Roxanne could not help but apologize profusely.

Meanwhile, tears started to well up in Archie and Benny's eyes.

They always knew they had a sister, but they thought she was gone.

As such, they had been caring for and loving Roxanne on behalf of their little sister as well.

Now that they found out that Estella, whom they had been taking care of, was their biological sister all along, the two boys were over the moon.

"Hooray! Our sister is alive, and she's always been by our side!"

Benny wiped the tears off his face and looked at his brother, who also shed tears of joy. The latter then nodded vigorously at Benny.

Yes! This is great news! Lucian's heart clenched in sorrow when he saw Roxanne and the kids sobbing uncontrollably.

"You didn't do anything wrong, Roxanne. It was entirely my fault. | should have told you the truth the moment I found out you had no clue about Essie's background, but | had too many reservations. If you need to blame someone, blame me."

| never knew she thought Essie was dead all these years.

Lucian tightened his grip on the ring.

He could not imagine how devastating it must have been for her when she was told the baby was stillborn. | knew nothing! | even resented her for being so cruel to Essie when we finally reunited.

Meanwhile, Sonya, too, was dumbfounded. She had always assumed that Roxanne was a heartless person who abandoned her husband and child.

That woman thought Essie was dead? Then, how was Essie sent back to the Farwell residence?

Roxanne kept Estella locked in her arms and wept for what felt like an eternity before she gradually regained her composure and turned to Lucian who was still down on one knee.

"What took you so long to tell me? Do you have any idea how much I've missed her? I've always thought... my daughter was dead!"

Over the years, she had lost count of the times she woke up from her sleep crying whenever she thought about her stillborn child.

Guilt and self-reproach inundated Lucian as Roxanne questioned him.

Why? Why did | worry so much? Why did | have so many reservations? He was dying for an answer too.

If only | had told her about this earlier, could there be a different ending to our story?

Unfortunately, it was too late for such wishful thinking.

Truth be told, he had missed the best time to reveal the secret to Roxanne.

If she had found out earlier, would she cry less?

“This is wonderful, Mommy! Essie is our little sister!” Benny exclaimed, exhilarated as he hugged Roxanne’s thigh after he was done crying.

Archie bobbed his head in delight, whereas the mother-and-daughter duo could not stop the tears from streaming down their faces.

Lucian stood up and immediately wrapped his arms around the two.

Chapter 1323

Roxanne felt Lucian’s arms wrapped tightly around her, and her voice gradually grew weaker until only faint sobs were heard from her.

“Why... Why did you...”

Lucian was a man who had dominated the business world for many years, but in the face of Roxanne’s tears and questioning, he had no idea how to respond. All he could do was apologize repeatedly.

“We want hugs too!” Archie and Benny exclaimed as they hopped around with joy.

Happiness was the only emotion left within them after all the crying.

To them, the hug they shared was a hug of joy and excitement.

Roxanne slowly recollected herself and felt slightly embarrassed when she heard the children’s voices.

I can’t believe | cried so hard in front of the kids...

She then looked at Estella’s tear-streaked face as the little girl nestled in her arms and couldn't help breaking into a smile. She’s back! My little angel whom | thought | lost is back, and she’s right in my arms!

Roxanne swore to herself that she would never abandon Estella ever again.

The grim look in Lucian’s eyes eased away when he saw Roxanne smiling.

Noticing Archie and Benny's eagerness to give them a hug, Lucian bent over and embraced the two little boys as a look of tenderness surfaced in his eyes.

At that moment, Archie and Benny were filled with joy, for they found their sister and were hugged by their father.

All of a sudden, Lucian let go of them.

Just as the two boys were confused as to what was going on, a shiny thing appeared in their line of sight.

Upon taking a closer look, they realized it was the ring that Lucian had used to propose moments ago.

“Can you please do me a favor and put this ring on your Mommy's finger?”

Lucian's tone carried an unprecedented gentleness that Archie and Benny had never heard before.

The boys exchanged glances. Of course, they would be happy to help Lucian.

Since Estella could already change the way she addressed Roxanne, the boys wanted to address Lucian as "Daddy" too. Benny carefully took his mother's hand while Archie slowly slid the ring through her finger.

When their mission was completed, they looked up at Roxanne in anticipation.

However, Roxanne was busy trying to comfort Estella at the moment. Her mind was in such a mess that she didn't have the time to pay attention to what the boys were doing though she had sensed something.

"Please stop crying, Essie. | will never leave you again. | promise," said Roxanne, assuring the little girl. "From now on, I'll protect you. | won't let anyone bully our Essie. You're my precious little baby."

The woman patted Estella's back as she spoke.

Estella was struggling to keep her emotions in check after going through such an eventful day.

When she heard Roxanne's promise to her, she asked through sobs, "R-Really? You won't leave me, Mommy?"

Roxanne felt her heart clench when she saw how red Estella's eyes were from all the crying. She held out her hand without hesitation and said, "Let's make a pinky promise! From now on, | promise to take you wherever | go!"

Archie and Benny's eyes were filled with anticipation when they saw their mother's action.

Lucian, too, felt uneasy, which was a first.

Roxanne caught sight of something shiny out of the corner of her eyes, but she did not pay much attention to it. She was focusing on Estella.

However, Estella fixed her gaze on Roxanne's hand.

A few seconds later, she smiled through her tears and exclaimed excitedly, "Mommy, did you say yes to Daddy? Then we're going to be a family! Mommy, you won't leave anymore!"

Overjoyed, she wrapped her arms around Roxanne's neck and hugged the woman tightly. Roxanne froze in shock. When did | say yes?

As she glanced in the direction where the little girl was staring just now, she noticed the diamond ring that Lucian was holding was currently on her finger.

Roxanne remembered the strange sensation she had felt earlier and looked down at Archie and Benny, who were standing by her side.

The boys were smiling adorably.

Chapter 1324

Roxanne then turned to look at Lucian, who was gazing affectionately at her. The tender glow in his eyes hindered her from questioning and blaming him.

“Mommy, please say yes to Mr. Farwell!” Benny pleaded with his cute voice. He grabbed Roxanne’s arm and swung it back and forth, his tiny face filled with anticipation.

Archie, who was usually reticent, piped up to express his opinion as well. “Mommy, since Essie is our biological sister, you should give her a complete family!”

Roxanne felt guilty when she heard the boys’ words.

Archie is referring to himself, too. Ever since they were old enough to understand things, they've always wanted a daddy, but they never expressed their feelings because of me. Deep down, they must yearn for a complete family too! But...

Roxanne lifted her head and stared at Sonya, who was standing far away.

Sonya was standing in the corner where the light didn’t reach, and half of her body was concealed within the darkness.

The light shone on her face as she looked at Estella, her eyes filled with sorrow and distress.

However, when she met Roxanne’s eyes, her expression turned cold and indifferent yet again.

Roxanne looked away bitterly and regarded Archie and Benny, who were anxiously waiting for her answer. Guilt inundated her. Her reckless decision years ago had turned the boys into monsters in the eyes of their biological grandmother.

Roxanne hoped Sonya would sincerely accept the two boys with open arms, and not only because they were part of the Farwell family.

“Mommy?” Archie and Benny called out anxiously when they noticed Roxanne remaining silent.

Roxanne returned to her senses. A look of conflict flashed across her eyes, but she quickly made up her mind. She placed Estella back down and looked at the boys. “Bring Essie inside first.”

Archie and Benny seemed to have sensed something and stubbornly refused to leave.

Roxanne ruffled their hair in reassurance. “Don’t worry. I have already made a promise to Essie. We won't ever be apart again.” Archie gazed at his mother momentarily before turning to look at Benny and Estella. “Let's go inside.” Reluctance was written all over Benny and Estella’s faces when they heard that.

However, among the three of them, Archie was the decision-maker.

In the end, Benny and Estella gave in after a few moments of wordless stalemate.

Estella puffed her cheeks unhappily and held out her hand. “Mommy, pinky promise! We didn’t do it just now!” Roxanne heaved a sigh of relief and smiled as she hooked her pinky finger with Estella’s.

Only then did the children turn and enter the mansion.

Roxanne turned around and calmly looked at the man before her as she took off the ring on her finger. Upon seeing what she was doing, the other three people in the garden, including Cayden, changed their expressions in unison.

Cayden was totally baffled. | don't understand. Now that things have come down to this, why is Mrs. Farwell still rejecting Mr. Farwell?

Sonya, on the other hand, let out a long sigh of relief.

Looks like Roxanne is still sensible enough to know that the Farwell family will not accept her!

Lucian watched as the woman took off the ring. His expression turned grim as bewilderment flashed across his eyes. "Sorry, but | still need time to consider your proposal."

Roxanne smiled apologetically. "I'm happy that Essie is my child, and I'm grateful that you took great care of her, but this shouldn't be the reason we remarry."

Lucian fixed his gaze on the woman before him and felt a sense of relief wash over him.

Indeed, my proposal was too sudden. | didn't give her time to prepare herself mentally. Plus, | can't compensate for all the harm | caused her six years ago in just one day.

Chapter 1325

"Okay. I'll wait for you."

Lucian suppressed his disappointment and said, "You can take your time to think it over. There's no rush. I'm willing to wait for as long as you need."

He then glanced at the diamond ring in Roxanne's hand. "I hope you can keep the ring. Put it on when you've thought it through. I'll know your answer by then."

Roxanne was touched when she heard that. The guilt she felt grew more intense as she said, "Thank you." She found it difficult to tell Lucian the reason she rejected him.

It wasn't because she did not believe him but because she felt she had wronged Archie and Benny. Cayden heaved a sigh of relief when he saw Roxanne keep the ring.

Looks like Mr. Farwell still stands a chance, and a good chance at that!

However, Sonya's expression darkened.

| knew it! She's leaving my son hanging! I'd never let someone like her become a part of the Farwell family! Just as Sonya was thinking about how to make Roxanne give up, the latter suddenly walked toward her.

She scrunched her eyebrows and stared at the younger woman unhappily. "Why did you come over here? So what if Lucian proposed to you? I'd never accept you as part of our family!"

Roxanne grinned. "Mrs. Farwell, I'm not expecting you to change your impression of me so easily either. | just hope you would treat Archie and Benny better for Essie's sake. After all, they're just children. If there's anything, please come after me instead."

Sonya looked at Roxanne suspiciously when she heard the latter's words.

What does she mean by that? Why do | have to treat those two b\*stards better for Essie's sake? Just because she gave birth to Estella doesn't mean she can act all high and mighty before me!

Sonya's expression turned grim when her train of thought ended there. "I don't need you to tell me what | should or should not do!"

Helplessness flashed past Roxanne's eyes, but she did not say anything more as she turned around and entered the mansion. Lucian followed after her.

Meanwhile, the children were worried about the result of their parents' discussion as they sat on the couch with frowns marring their countenances.

They looked toward Lucian and Roxanne in unison when they saw them walking in. "Mommy!" The children jumped down the couch in an orderly manner and ran toward Roxanne excitedly.

The light in their eyes dimmed when they noticed that the ring on Roxanne's finger was gone. They exchanged glances with each other wordlessly, refusing to be the first to talk.

In the end, Mommy still didn't say yes to Daddy... Archie and Benny glanced at each other, their eyes filled with disappointment.

When can we change the way we address Mr. Farwell? We really want a daddy...

Taking note of the children's disappointment, Roxanne felt sorry for them but did not know how to explain it to them. After a moment of silence, she changed the topic abruptly. "It's getting late. We should go home."

Initially, if things had gone according to Lucian's plan and the proposal had been a success, Roxanne would have stayed the night at the manor.

However, since she rejected him, she had no reason to stay any longer. The children got even more upset when they heard that Roxanne wanted to leave. Roxanne frowned as she stared at the children's expressions, troubled.

Just as she was wondering how she should persuade the kids, Lucian suddenly spoke up. "Let Essie go home with you tonight. You've just reunited with each other as mother and daughter, so I'm sure Essie is reluctant to part with you."

The children's eyes lit up when they heard that. Estella looked up at Roxanne with wide eyes that were filled with hope. Roxanne had the same thought, but she did not expect Lucian to suggest it first.

Smiling, she bent over to pick Estella up. "Of course, you will come home with me, Essie. I promised you we won't ever be apart again."

Chapter 1326

"I'll send you guys home." Wearing a tender expression, Lucian stared at his four loved ones, who were visibly happy.

The children were over the moon when they heard that Lucian would be sending them home, so much so that they could not help but cheer out loud.

Initially, Roxanne was hesitant about Lucian's suggestion. However, when she saw how happy the children were and the man's affectionate gaze, she could not bring herself to turn him down.

Carrying Estella with one arm, she was about to reach out and take the boys' hands when Lucian bent down to pick them up. "Wow! It's so tall!"

Excitement was written all over Benny's face when Lucian carried him.



Archie obediently stayed put in Lucian's arms, struggling to suppress his excitement.

Roxanne could not help but smile when she saw how exhilarated the boys were. She picked up her pace and trailed behind Lucian.

When Sonya entered the manor, Roxanne and the others were already gone. "Where's Lucian?" she asked Catalina coldly. Sonya was unhappy to witness Lucian's proposal to Roxanne and wanted to have a chat with her son.

A sense of relief washed over Catalina when she thought of the rare happy smiles etched across Lucian and Roxanne's faces when they left.

"Mr. Farwell just left, but I'm afraid | don't know where he went," she replied vaguely.

Sonya was no fool, and she wouldn't just let the matter go. As such, she narrowed her eyes and pressed on. "How about Roxanne?"

Catalina instantly felt uneasy. However, she had no choice but to speak the truth. "She went home." Sonya's expression darkened when she heard that.

Roxanne is going home at this late hour. Do | even need to ask where my son went? He must've sent that woman home! She rejected his proposal, yet he's still treating her so well!

Sonya's rage boiled over when she thought of the possibility that Lucian had brought Estella along.

Why is the son that | raised so eager to please this woman? To make matters worse, it's a woman that rejected him twice! That fact alone was enough for Sonya to forbid Roxanne from stepping foot into the Farwell residence again.

Deep down, Catalina heaved a sigh when she saw Sonya's grim, infuriated expression.

Sometimes, she wanted to help Lucian convince Sonya, but she was merely a servant, and she was aware that Sonya looked down on her.

Thus, nothing she said would be of any help.

Catalina was mindful not to add fuel to the fire as she carefully spoke. "Mrs. Farwell, it's getting late. Please rest early!"

Sonya shot her an icy glare. "Don't think | don't know you're Roxanne's accomplice!"

Catalina bowed her head and kept quiet.

After a while, she heard Sonya's heavy footsteps walking toward the entrance.

Catalina panicked and hurried over. "Mrs. Farwell, where are you going? Mr. Farwell instructed me to let you stay the night here since it's late."

Sonya stopped in her tracks and, without even looking over her shoulder, replied, "What? Are you worried that I'll go pick on Roxanne? It's so late. | don't care if she's not tired. | am!"

Catalina felt puzzled when she heard that.

Then where is she storming away to?

"How can | fall asleep watching my son jump into a trap?" Sonya huffed angrily. With that, she marched out of the manor.

This time, Catalina did not get in her way.

She only wished Sonya would come around as soon as possible and realize that Lucian and Estella's happiness was of utmost importance.

Ever since Roxanne returned, Lucian, who was usually aloof and indifferent, started to express more of his emotions. Estella's autistic condition was gradually improving as well.

This family needs Ms. Jarvis...

## Chapter 1327

In the meantime, Lucian was driving Roxanne and the kids back to Roxanne's place. Roxanne felt uneasy throughout the whole ride, for she assumed the man had something to say because he was driving unusually slowly.

However, as the car slowly came to a stop in front of the mansion, Lucian still remained silent. The woman's anxiousness was replaced with confusion.

In contrast, the kids were chattering and having fun at the back. When the car stopped, they didn't cease playing as they hopped off the vehicle and chased each other around in the yard.

As soon as the kids were out of hearing range, Roxanne asked, "Do you have something to say to me?" She thought Lucian felt uncomfortable talking to her in front of the children. Yet, the man merely smiled at her. "I just wanted to stay with you guys for a little longer, that's all."

He gazed at Roxanne and continued with a sigh, "I don't know when you'll give me an answer, and I'm worried that you'll run away again. You won't run away again, will you?"

A glint of guilt flashed across her eyes as her lips curved into a sheepish smile. "I won't. | already promised you that I'll think about it, so I'll definitely give you an answer."

Relief flooded Lucian when he heard her words. He slowly rolled the window back up. "Rest early. Good night." Roxanne waved him goodbye with a smile. "Drive safe."

After sending Lucian off, she turned to look at the three kids helplessly.

The kids were fooling around, huddling closely together as they had fun.

Archie and Benny embraced Estella excitedly. "Yay, we won't have to be apart anymore! You're our sister! We'll treat you a thousand times, no, a million times, better than before!"

Estella's eyes squinted as a wide smile spread across her face. "I'll do the same to you both!"

After declaring their promises, they ran to Roxanne's side.

Roxanne bent down and gave the trio a big hug. "All right. It's getting late. Let's go to bed."

The kids weren't done playing but realized it was indeed late, so they obediently followed their mother into the house. "We want to sleep with Mommy and Essie too!" the boys protested in front of Roxanne's bedroom.

Estella, too, looked up at Roxanne with puppy eyes, hoping Roxanne would let them all sleep together.

That was Roxanne's first time facing such a situation.

Ever since Archie and Benny were old enough, they had always slept in a separate room from her, and Roxanne had gotten used to that.

She didn't expect the boys to oppose their sleeping arrangements one day.

"You're boys. Boys are different from girls, so you can't sleep with Essie," she patiently explained to the kids.

Even though they were still young, Roxanne figured she had to teach them about gender differences as early as possible.

The kids exchanged disappointed glances with each other. Knowing they couldn't refute their mother, they obediently complied, "Okay, then."

Roxanne noted their disappointment and comforted, "Essie will always be with us. You can see her anytime you want to, so it isn't necessary to sleep together."

The children's mood brightened again at her reassurance.

Roxanne heaved a relieved breath as she watched Archie and Benny return to their room. As she led Estella back to hers, she caught the excitement shining in Estella's eyes. Estella kept calling her "Mommy" over and over again as though to prove she wasn't dreaming.

Roxanne patiently acknowledged her each time. "I also have a mommy now!" Estella leaped into Roxanne's embrace after coming out of the shower, smelling like baby soap.

Roxanne caught the little girl and chuckled. "You have always had a mommy. It's just that | haven't found you earlier. Now that | found you, I'll never let you go."

Chapter 1328

In the meantime, Archie and Benny had switched off the lights and were lying on their beds in the darkness, but they couldn't fall asleep.

Benny climbed out of bed and crossed the room to Archie's bedside. "Archie, say. Do you know why Mommy doesn't want to marry Daddy?" he asked as he shook Archie's arm.

Archie sat up with a troubled look on his face. "I don't know either."

He paused for a beat before the corners of his lips curled into a smile. "But we found our sister! Isn't that great?" he exclaimed as though to console Benny and himself.

Benny nodded fervently in agreement.

They had always thought Estella was their half-sister who shared a father with them. It was such a pleasant surprise to find out they shared the same parents.

That also meant their father had never cheated on their mother, and they were the ones who misunderstood Lucian from the start.

Their hearts soared with joy at the thought. "But when will Mommy tell Daddy we're also his children?"

Recalling how Lucian lifted them into his arms earlier, Benny couldn't hide his disappointment. "I also want to be like Essie. | want to have a mommy and a daddy. | don't want to call Daddy 'Mr. Farwell' anymore.

Daddy could lift us up so high into the air. Archie missed his father's embrace as well but chose to put himself in his mother's shoes. "Maybe Mommy has her own plans?"

Benny frowned as he speculated, "Do you think it's because of Mr. Damaris? Mommy is close to him. He even gave her flowers. Do you think Mommy wants Mr. Damaris to be our daddy?"

Benny pursed his lips unhappily before continuing, "I like Daddy more! Daddy is more handsome than Mr. Damaris, and he cares for Mommy more than Mr. Damaris does!"

Archie pondered briefly before shaking his head and disagreeing with Benny. "I don't think so. Mommy only considers Mr. Damaris a friend at most."

After Mommy accepted Daddy, there is a massive difference in the way Mommy interacts with Mr. Damaris and Daddy. The look in Mommy's eyes whenever she looks at Daddy is different from when she looks at Mr. Damaris.

Hearing Archie's disagreement, Benny felt even more perplexed. "Then why didn't Mommy say yes to Daddy?" Archie suddenly remembered Roxanne did reach out her hand when Lucian proposed, but she quickly withdrew her hand upon hearing their grandmother's coughing.

Realization dawned upon him when his train of thought ended there. He finally understood what his mother was thinking. "I got it!"

His eyes were gleaming brightly, but his eyebrows were furrowed. He felt bad for his mother. Noticing the change in Archie's expression, Benny hurriedly held onto Archie's arm. "Why? Tell me."

Archie turned to Benny with a solemn look on his face. "It's because of Grandma. She still hasn't accepted Mommy and us. Mommy doesn't want us to suffer with her, so she rejected Daddy."

The light in Benny's eyes dimmed when he heard Archie's explanation. His heart clenched for his mother, too.

Indeed, Grandma's attitude toward us and Mommy has always been terrible. | don't understand why, though. What did Mommy ever do wrong to deserve such hatred from Grandma? Mommy is the best mother in the world in my eyes. I'm sure she felt pressured to reject Daddy because of Grandma. But she never tells us these. She keeps everything to herself. What should we do to get Grandma to accept Mommy?

## Chapter 1329

Even though Roxanne and Estella had been by each other's side a lot recently, their feelings toward each other were much different from before after the truth was revealed.

Roxanne had so much she wanted to tell her lost daughter. Similarly, Estella had a lot she wanted to say to her mother. The two lay in bed and chatted endlessly, never running out of topics to talk to each other about. "| drew a lot of pictures of me and my mommy, but none of those mommies in the pictures were as pretty as you."

Estella looked at Roxanne with glee in her eyes, her smile so sweet and lovely that it softened Roxanne's heart. "Now that | found you, can you draw pictures with me, Mommy?"

Roxanne's heart nearly melted into a puddle at her question. "Sure. Let's do everything together!" Estella's eyes sparkled with delight. "Archie and Benny too! | want to do everything with them too!" Roxanne promised with a laugh, "Archie and Benny will be by your side too."

"Mommy," Estella suddenly whispered into Roxanne's ear.

Playing along with the little girl, Roxanne put on a curious expression. "What's wrong?"

Estella said softly, "Can you tell me who is Archie's and Benny's daddy?"

Even though Mommy and Daddy are already together, | still wish they can progress to the next stage. | know this is something that's been bothering Daddy.

The smile on Roxanne's face stiffened ever so slightly when she heard Estella's question.

Archie's and Benny's father... How am | supposed to tell Essie that she and the boys share the same parents? If | tell her the truth, will she ask why | refused to say yes to Lucian even though we are an actual family in the first place?

Despite knowing that Estella wouldn't have thought of that question with her current level of intellect, Roxanne still couldn't help worrying about it.

"Archie's and Benny's daddy... You'll know who he is in the future." Roxanne gently caressed Estella's head, her tone laced with guilt.

Disappointment crossed Estella's face when she didn't get the answer she wanted. But no matter who their father is, we will only share one daddy in the future!

With that thought in mind, Estella was once again filled with joy. "Then can they please come over so we could all sleep together?" she pleaded with an adorable voice.

Roxanne was about to decline the little girl's request when the latter burrowed deeper into her embrace. "I feel bad for them. | have a daddy and a mommy, but they only have a mommy."

Roxanne was instantly guilt-ridden when Estella mentioned the absence of the boys' father. As penitence got the better of her, she sighed internally and decided to make an exception just this one time. "Go on. Get your brothers to come over."

Roxanne watched Estella put on her pajama and led her to the boys' room.

In the boys' room, Archie and Benny were sitting on Archie's bed with looks of frustration on their faces. When they heard the knock on their door, they quickly concealed their troubled expressions before letting Roxanne enter. "You boys haven't slept yet? Good. Come over to our room, and let's sleep together."

Roxanne was confused when she saw the boys sitting on Archie's bed but didn't comment on it. "But you have to put on your pajamas."

Elation immediately replaced the boys' gloomy mood. They put on cute cow onesies before hopping to Roxanne's room in excitement.

The three kids got even more worked up than they already were as they gathered together. Roxanne was already exhausted, but the children were still up and playing.

She regretted her decision of letting the kids sleep in the same room.

But since they're already here, | can't go back on my word. All | can do is stay up with them.

The children finally fell asleep at midnight.

Chapter 1330

When Roxanne woke up the next morning, the kids were huddled together in a tangle of limbs, hugging each other as they slept soundly. She had no idea how they ended up like that, but they showed no signs of waking up.

Warmth spread in Roxanne's chest as she watched them sleep like babies.

Essie, my baby girl. I'm not dreaming. My daughter is really back!

Roxanne planted a kiss on each of their foreheads before heading downstairs to prepare breakfast for them. As her tumultuous emotions began to calm, she belatedly recalled something important.

Estella was born with Archie and Benny, but why was she sent to Lucian? Yet | was completely clueless about the whole incident. Also, it was evident from Lucian and Sonya's attitudes that they didn't know what happened either.

The possible reason behind it sent chills down Roxanne's spine. Who could've done such a thing? What was that person's motive for doing so? In the meantime, chaos erupted all over Horington when the news was revealed.

As one of the prestigious families in Horington, the Pearson family was prominent and capable. Coupled with the marriage contract they shared with the Farwell family, their status in society had always been stable.

However, the shares of one of the Pearson family's branch companies' plummeted overnight. Numerous comments and discussions regarding the incident flooded the internet.

One netizen commented: | heard the Pearson family has offended the Farwell family. This is the consequence of their action.

Another refuted: No way! The Farwell family and the Pearson family have a marriage contract with each other. They're basically one big family. Why would the Farwell family go up against the Pearson family?

One supplemented: You guys haven't heard about it? | heard through the grapevine that the Farwell family has long since planned to annul the marriage, and the Pearson family has been begging them not to.

That comment attracted more attention from the public. Meanwhile, Archie and Benny had just woken up in Roxanne's place.

Archie habitually glimpsed at the stock market news to check the latest rise and fall of shares. As he flipped through the articles, he accidentally noticed the plummeting of shares of a Pearson family-affiliated corporation.

Many shareholders were discussing the matter on the internet.

Archie's expression shifted subtly at the news.

Catching the look on his brother's face, Benny walked over to his side in confusion. Archie tilted the screen to Benny, showing him the news.

“Whoa!” Benny's eyes sparkled. “Is it Daddy's doing?”

Archie tilted his head to the side. “Who else could it be?”

Benny rubbed his palms together in exhilaration. “No, this isn't enough. I have to add fuel to the fire. How dare that evil woman bully Mommy!”

He then reached for Archie's computer, his fingers furiously typing away on the keyboard, writing a long comment.

Before long, the discussion on the internet took a new turn. A comment read: Have any of you heard? The daughter of the Pearson family is actually a homewrecker!

Another netizen commented: That's right! I heard she was the one who forced the legitimate wife away. I wonder what means she used to secure a marriage engagement with the Farwell family. No wonder the Farwell family delayed the wedding for so long!

Someone typed a question: What about now?

One of the netizens responded: The wife is back! Mr. Farwell repented and turned over a new leaf. Naturally, the homewrecker needs to be kicked out of the house!

That discussion soon reigned over the other speculations, and the netizens started condemning Aubree.

One of the netizens typed: Homewreckers are shameless!

Another netizen commented: I can't believe she has the audacity to meddle in someone else's marriage! How shameless! A satisfied smile formed on Benny's lips as he read the public's comments about Aubree.

Hmph! Evil woman! That'll show you for calling Mommy a homewrecker! You're the one who's the homewrecker!