

ABANDONED 1441

Chapter 1441

It wasn't until Lucian heard Madilyn's words that he realized her point and stopped in his tracks.

"This whole incident might just blow over if you don't show up, but it will definitely worsen if you make an appearance. If that happens, they might even swarm Farwell Group along with Roxanne's house!" Madilyn reminded him.

She knew the mentality of those journalists all too well.

Lucian clenched his fists so tightly that his veins were bulging from underneath his skin. "What should I do, then?" he asked while trying to suppress his anger.

I wouldn't have acted so impulsively if I knew this would happen!

Madilyn rolled her eyes at him in response. Why is he asking us for a solution when he's the one who caused all this? "Mr. Farwell, how about we send someone over to get Mrs. Farwell out of there?" Cayden suggested cautiously. "How are you going to do that? There are so many journalists around!" Madilyn snapped at him.

Cayden fell silent and flashed her an awkward look in response.

"If you don't send enough men over, you might not be able to get through the huge crowd of journalists. If you send a lot of men over, people are going to say Farwell Group is throwing its weight around," Madilyn continued.

She knew all the dirty tricks that the press would use.

"Do you have any bright ideas, then?" Cayden asked as he had run out of ideas at that point. "Hmm... Let me think..." Madilyn replied while stroking her chin.

The two of them then lowered their heads and racked their brains for an idea.

With a frown on his face, Lucian whipped out his phone and tried giving Roxanne a call. However, her line remained busy no matter how many times he tried.

"Don't bother calling her. I tried to do so earlier as well, but her line has been busy the entire time. I bet those journalists are bombarding her with calls as well," Madilyn said.

Sure enough, Roxanne's phone had been switched off when Lucian tried calling again.

She must have switched it off because she couldn't stand those journalists calling her. I can't believe I caused her so much trouble...

Right as Lucian was starting to regret his actions, he saw his chat room with Benny and realized he had another option. The frown on his face eased up significantly as he tried calling Benny's number.

Those journalists may have obtained Roxanne's number, but there's no way they could get the kids' numbers!

The call got through after a few seconds, and Benny could be heard greeting him excitedly on the other line.

“Hi, Mr. Farwell! There are lots of people outside our house, and we can’t seem to get out at all! Could you come pick us up?” Benny was leaning against the window and staring at the journalists outside the house.

Madilyn and Cayden froze in shock when they heard Benny’s voice.

“Don't worry; I'll figure something out and get you all out of there,” Lucian comforted him with an apologetic look in his eyes.

He then added after a brief pause, “Could you pass the phone over to your mommy? There’s something | need to speak to her about.”

“Okay!” Benny replied in an adorable voice as he hopped off the couch and handed Roxanne the watch. Roxanne had a conflicted look in her eyes.

The kids may not be aware of it, but | know the journalists are here because of Lucian, and I’m sure he knows it as well. He must be calling to apologize or something. For some reason, hearing Benny address him on the phone set my anxious heart at ease. It's as though | have stumbled upon a lifeboat while drifting around at sea...

Chapter 1442

“How are things over there? I’m sorry for what happened. | acted without thinking about the consequences.” “How are things over there? I’m sorry for what happened. | acted without thinking about the consequences.”

Roxanne heard Lucian apologizing the moment she answered the call.

The kids were leaning on her thighs and staring at her as they waited to hear Lucian’s response. However, Roxanne simply patted them on the head and made her way into the kitchen. Realizing that she wanted to speak to Lucian in private, the kids knew better than to follow her.

After finding a quiet spot in the kitchen, Roxanne lowered her voice to a whisper as she said, “I know you did it to protect us, but that announcement was a little too sudden. Besides, Archie and Benny—”

Lucian cut her off, “It was my idea. Archie and Benny are going to become my children eventually anyway, so | figured | would grant them that identity right away.”

That was one of the reasons he made that announcement.

A lot of people would surely gossip about Roxanne when she married into the Farwell family with Archie and Benny. Since nobody would dare investigate the Farwell family, Lucian decided to announce that they were his kids. Roxanne found herself wavering a little when she heard that.

Instead of waiting for her to respond, Lucian continued, “Are the kids scared?”

Roxanne nodded. “It’s the first time they've seen something like this. | told them to stay indoors, though. As bold as those journalists may be, they wouldn’t dare force their way into the house. As long as we don’t step out the door, they won't be able to do anything to us.”

“I’m the reason this whole thing happened, so I’ll figure out a solution as soon as possible,” Lucian said after a brief pause.

Noticing the self-blame in his voice, Roxanne comforted him, “I know you meant well. We’ll be fine as long as we remain indoors, so you don’t have to worry too much about us. Things are only going to get worse if Farwell Group makes another appearance now. I’ll try to solve this on my own.”

Madilyn shouted at her in the background, “Hang in there, Roxanne! I’ll come save you right away!” Roxanne froze when she heard that. “Madilyn? What are you...” What is she doing with Lucian?

Lucian turned to look at Madilyn, who was standing next to him, as he explained, “She barged into my office demanding an explanation.”

Knowing how aggressive Madilyn could be and from the way Lucian worded that sentence, Roxanne couldn’t help but feel as though he was telling on Madilyn.

As though she were trying to calm an angry child down, Roxanne said in a gentle voice, “Madilyn is a little hot-tempered, so please don’t take her words to heart. She’s just worried about me and the boys.”

Lucian simply remained silent after hearing that.

“Oh, | have an idea!” Madilyn exclaimed while slamming her fist into her palm.

She then snatched the phone over and said, “Hang in there, Roxanne! I’ll come pick you up right now, so just stay where you are!”

Madilyn hung up the phone before Roxanne could even respond, much to Lucian’s displeasure. The look in Lucian’s eyes grew increasingly colder as he glared at Madilyn. Even Cayden was getting a little nervous as he watched from the side.

Did Ms. Xander just end the call between Mr. Farwell and Mrs. Farwell without his permission? | sure hope she has come up with a good idea to get Mrs. Farwell out of there...

As Madilyn had thought of a great idea, she ignored their expressions and began explaining her plan.

Chapter 1443

“Mommy, is Mr. Farwell coming to pick us up?” Benny shot her a look of anticipation.

“Mommy, is Mr. Farwell coming to pick us up?” Benny shot her a look of anticipation.

The children had gathered around Roxanne when they saw her emerge from the kitchen.

After returning the watch to her son, Roxanne reassured her children, “Mr. Farwell is thinking of a solution too. Don’t worry. As long as I’m around, | won’t let them enter.”

As he put his watch back on, Benny looked at his mother earnestly. “Don’t be afraid, Mommy. Archie and | will protect you and Essie!”

Roxanne kissed his forehead with a smile. “Thank you, boys.”

After leading them upstairs, Roxanne peeked out the window to look at the swarm of reporters. What greeted her was a sight that filled her eyes with concern.

Before ending the call, Madilyn mentioned that she had a plan but didn't explain the details.

Worried that Madilyn would get herself in trouble again, Roxanne hoped to come up with a solution before the former did anything impulsive.

With that, Roxanne fell into deep thought.

All of a sudden, Benny looked up at the sky and gave her sleeve a tug. "Mommy, look out there!"

Roxanne quickly regained her senses and followed the trajectory of her son's finger.

Up in the sky, she saw a helicopter flying slowly toward their house.

Staring at it, she wondered if she was seeing things.

Nevertheless, the helicopter continued on its path and even seemed to be descending as if it was going to land nearby. Roxanne couldn't help but be shocked by the scene.

As it was the first time the children saw a helicopter with their own eyes, all of them cheered in excitement.

"It must be Mr. Farwell coming to pick us up!" Benny's eyes glistened as he stared at the approaching helicopter outside the window. He was filled with the urge to rush outside to welcome it.

As for Archie, he watched the helicopter intently, secretly vowing to buy one with his own effort in the future. No, I'll buy an even bigger one!

The baffled Estella clung tightly to Roxanne's sleeve. She tilted her head to look at the helicopter outside before returning her gaze to the boys and their contrasting reactions.

After hugging Estella in her arms to comfort her, Roxanne turned her attention toward the ground floor.

The closer the helicopter flew, the louder its rotors were.

Noticing the commotion above their heads, the reporters looked up at the sky one by one.

At the sight of the helicopter descending right above them, they quickly backed off when they felt the pressure of the swirling rotors against their skin.

"Mr. Farwell! It has to be Mr. Farwell!" someone in the crowd yelled.

Upon realizing what was going on, the reporters began snapping photos of the helicopter furiously.

Finally, the helicopter hovered in place upon reaching the same level as the balcony.

With her brows slightly furrowed, Roxanne got to her feet to get a closer look together with the children.

This must be part of Madilyn's plan. | wonder where she's going with this.

When they arrived at the balcony, they could see the helicopter hovering a single step away. The next moment, its door opened slowly.

Standing there was a smiling Madilyn, who waved excitedly at them. “Archie, Benny, I'm here to pick you up! Do | look cool or what?”

The sight brought a sparkle to the children’s eyes as they exclaimed, “You’re awesome, Aunt Madilyn!”

Chapter 1444

Meanwhile, Roxanne was still lost in a daze. “Madilyn, what...” Meanwhile, Roxanne was still lost in a daze. “Madilyn, what...”

Cocking a brow, Madilyn stepped aside to usher them in. “Come onboard. I'm here to pick you up.” Roxanne was blown away by the words.

Is she asking us to get in the helicopter and leave just like that? We might be able to escape this time, but what about when the reporters come for us again?

When she saw Roxanne remaining motionless, the puzzled Madilyn urged her, “Hurry up! What are you still hesitating for? Whatever concerns you have, we'll discuss it on board.”

She extended her hand while speaking. With the helicopter hovering right before her eyes, Roxanne realized that Madilyn’s effort would go to waste if she didn’t get on.

Holding that thought, Roxanne took the latter’s hand. Given how close the helicopter was, all she needed to do was take a step forward to board it.

After carrying Estella over, Roxanne turned around to do the same with the boys. Little did she expect them to be raring to go. Reciprocating their enthusiasm, Madilyn grabbed the boys with one hand each and pulled them over.

Roxanne, who initially assumed they would be afraid, was surprised to see the excitement on their faces. Once they got on board, they scrutinized every inch of the helicopter curiously. It was as if they had forgotten the reason they were on it.

Since they were not showing any fear, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief.

While the helicopter gradually ascended into the sky, Madilyn stood courageously by the cabin door, whetting the reporters’ appetite for pictures. She even gave them a delighted wave as if she was bidding them farewell.

“What are you doing? Come back in here. It’s dangerous!”

Roxanne couldn't help but gasp at Madilyn’s actions.

It wasn’t until the helicopter was out of the reporters’ sight that the latter closed the cabin door reluctantly.

“Is this the plan you came up with?”

Roxanne looked at her in disbelief.

She felt that the method was too dramatic and didn’t solve the fundamental problem.

If the reporters were persistent in their pursuit, the helicopter would only help them to escape that one time.

Madilyn patted Roxanne on the shoulder to comfort her. “Don’t worry. There’s more to my plan than just picking you up.”

Roxanne threw her friend a resigned look.

| wonder how a doctor like her gets all these outrageous ideas.

“To be honest, | was swamped with work the past few days. It wasn’t until this morning that | saw the news on the internet. The fact that he has publicly declared all the children to be his has changed my perception of him,” Madilyn lamented.

Even though she knew Archie and Benny were Lucian’s children, Lucian didn’t.

For a rich and powerful man like him to acknowledge another man’s children as his own, he must love Roxanne a lot! Now that Lucian had proven himself, Madilyn felt that she could strike his name off her list of jerks.

That said, she still needed time to consider whether she could hand over her best friend to him.

Upon hearing Madilyn’s words, Roxanne felt her eyes twitch slightly, causing her to avoid Madilyn’s teasing gaze out of embarrassment.

Nevertheless, Madilyn continued, “When | requested a helicopter from him, he provided one without hesitation. He’s such a rich and generous man. Also...”

Pausing briefly, Madilyn leaned toward Roxanne’s ear with an enigmatic smile. “It’s quite clear to me that he’s worried about all of you. He almost charged through the crowd of reporters to get you all!”

Chapter 1445

As Roxanne’s ears burned, she pretended to stay calm and nudged Madilyn back before looking around. As Roxanne’s ears burned, she pretended to stay calm and nudged Madilyn back before looking around.

“Where is he?” The “he” in her question was self-explanatory. Madilyn flashed a meaningful smile. “It seems to me that you’re worried about him too.”

Jolted by her friend’s words, Roxanne lowered her voice. “It was just a casual question. Didn’t you mention that the helicopter belonged to him?”

Knowing Roxanne like the back of her hand, Madilyn could see how embarrassed the former was. Hence, she decided to stop putting her in a spot. “Don’t be anxious. I’m bringing you to see him, aren’t |?”

The frowning Roxanne retorted, “Who says I’m anxious? |I—” Madilyn burst out in laughter.

The three children, who were engrossed in examining the helicopter’s design, came over curiously upon hearing Madilyn’s laughter.

“Aunt Madilyn, what are you laughing about?” The puzzled Benny tugged at Madilyn’s sleeve.

When she finally forced herself to regain her composure, Madilyn eyed her friend's reproachful expression before changing the topic smoothly. "Nothing, really. So, are you enjoying yourselves on the helicopter?"

The topic quickly caught the children's attention, to which they nodded vigorously. "We are!" At the same time, they divulged Archie's secret. "Archie says that he wants to buy us a bigger helicopter next time!" Madilyn burst into laughter again at the children's innocent words. This time, Roxanne couldn't help but join her.

However, when she saw the rare expression of embarrassment on Archie's face, Roxanne suppressed her laughter as she gave his hair a touse. "You'll definitely be able to do it, Archie. Don't forget to let me ride in it next time!"

Roxanne's encouragement brought a smile to Archie's face as he nodded obediently.

Beaming, Madilyn suggested, "There's no need to wait till then. Your daddy already has a bigger helicopter. It's just not suitable to fly within city limits."

When she asked Lucian for the helicopter, she had overheard Cayden asking the latter which model to deploy. The children's eyes lit up while their faces glowed with anticipation after hearing Madilyn's comment.

As for Roxanne, she was shaken to hear the way her friend addressed Lucian. The words caused her heart to suddenly tense up out of habit.

Madilyn clarified, "Those are not my words. Mr. Farwell acknowledged the children on the internet himself." Only then did Roxanne regain her senses and smile awkwardly at the children.

Truth be told, Archie and Benny were the first to find out about it.

That was why they weren't surprised by Madilyn's revelation.

Whenever Madilyn was around, the children were always in good hands, for they got along very well with her.

After a short journey in the air, the helicopter landed on the rooftop of a hotel.

Madilyn stopped fooling around with the children and led them down. The moment they emerged from the helicopter, they spotted Lucian standing on the landing pad waiting for them.

He was dressed in a suit and leather shoes, while his hair was strewn all over his face from the gale emitted by the helicopter rotors. As he stared intently at the cabin door, his eyes were brimming with concern and guilt.

"I've brought them back to you. You had better not cause them any more trouble!" Madilyn warned. However, her words fell on deaf ears, for all Lucian could focus on was Roxanne and the children. "Are you all right?"

He strode up to her and scrutinized her quickly.

After throwing Madilyn a glance, Roxanne returned her attention to the nervous Lucian. She maintained an indifferent expression despite her embarrassment. "I'm fine. It's all thanks to Madilyn that we managed to make it here. However—"

“| just brought up the rough idea. It was Mr. Farwell who thought of all the details.”

Madilyn didn't dare take any credit.

Chapter 1446

“Let's talk inside the hotel. It's getting chilly outside,” Madilyn suggested tactfully, mindful that the two were too shy to say anything in her presence. “Let's talk inside the hotel. It's getting chilly outside,” Madilyn suggested tactfully, mindful that the two were too shy to say anything in her presence.

Roxanne nodded before circling around Lucian to walk ahead. Just as she brushed past his shoulder, Lucian reached out his hand but retracted it at the last minute with a frown.

Given that he was the cause of her current predicament, he didn't want to burden her any further as she already had a lot on her plate emotionally.

Meanwhile, there was no need for them to make reservations because the hotel they were in belonged to Farwell Group. Lucian had ordered the penthouse to be cleared so that they could live there for the time being.

Upon arriving at the suite, Madilyn led the children to another room, cognizant that the two adults needed some privacy to talk. No sooner had Roxanne entered the room than she heard the door close behind her.

Turning around, she realized that she was alone with Lucian. Madilyn and the children were nowhere to be found. Thereafter, the frowning Lucian approached her with weighty footsteps.

“Where's Madilyn and the rest?” Roxanne asked cluelessly.

Instead of replying, Lucian walked up to her and grabbed her hand in a domineering manner, preventing her from leaving. “Are you guys all right?” Lucian repeated his question from the rooftop.

A warm smile gradually broke out across Roxanne's face when she sensed his concern for her.

“We're fine. The kids were frightened initially but calmed down after they learned that the reporters couldn't enter.”

As she spoke, she glowered at him. “Instead, it was the sudden appearance of the helicopter that gave us a shock.”

Brows knitted, Lucian explained helplessly, “I couldn't think of any other way. Besides, | sent the smallest helicopter we have in Farwell Group.”

He, too, had his doubts when Madilyn first raised the idea. It wasn't until he deliberated upon it that he decided rescuing the mother and children was the priority. Even though Roxanne was just joking, the mention of the helicopter did frustrate her.

“| understand, but isn't sending the helicopter too dramatic? I'm not sure how this incident is going to blow up subsequently. I'm afraid...”

The distraught look on Roxanne's face caused Lucian's eyes to darken as he pulled her into his embrace. He reassured her, "Don't be afraid. I'll deal with this. I won't let them interfere with your life." Roxanne, who was about to push him away, decided against it when Lucian's calming scent filled her senses. Thereafter, she

hesitated for a few seconds before wrapping her arms around his waist.

Even though they ran into trouble today, Roxanne was touched by Lucian's acknowledgment of Archie and Benny as his own children, a choice he made without knowing the truth about their origins.

In that instant, a warm atmosphere descended upon the room.

The room door flung open abruptly, heralding Benny's childish voice. "Mommy!"

Behind him was an anxious-looking Madilyn. "Don't go in. Your daddy and mommy need to talk." No sooner had she spoken than she saw the two adults locked in a tight embrace.

The sight caused Madilyn and the children to stop in their tracks.

The two groups stared at each other, the newcomers wondering if they could still back out of the room and pretend that nothing happened.

At the same time, the disruption caused Roxanne to freeze. Upon regaining her senses, she pushed herself out of Lucian's arms by reflex.

Chapter 1447

"We didn't see anything!" Madilyn smiled mischievously as she feigned ignorance.

The children nodded along. "We didn't either!"

Then, Madilyn attempted to sneak away with the kids as though nothing had happened.

Just as she turned around, Roxanne said, "Come over here. Let's talk."

Thus, Madilyn twirled around again and saw a resigned expression on her best friend's face.

Roxanne and Lucian, who was slightly displeased, proceeded to sit next to each other on the couch.

Upon hearing their mother's summon, the children rushed over to sit around her.

Only Madilyn was left standing at the entrance of the room.

Glancing at the family of five, she cleared her throat, stepped toward the single-seat couch, and plopped down. Frowning, Roxanne questioned, "You said you've devised a way to handle the fallout. What do you suggest we do?" In response, Lucian shifted his line of sight to Madilyn, too.

Madilyn could still sense the cold look in his eyes, so she did her best to ignore him and focus on Roxanne. "It's not that difficult. It just depends if you all are willing to spend some money."

A perplexed expression was set on Roxanne's countenance. Meanwhile, Lucian asked, "How much?"

After a brief silence, Madilyn said, "Nowadays, news on the internet updates fast. While Farwell Group is an influential entity in Horington, the public still cares more about celebrities."

She paused and stared at the people before her. The smart couple understood her intentions immediately. “So you're saying we should buy and spread celebrity scandals on the internet to shift the public's attention?” asked Roxanne.

Smiling, Madilyn nodded. “That's right. Though the amount of money required to pull this off isn't little, I don't think it's considered plenty for Farwell Group.” Since Lucian's the one who caused the trouble, it's only fitting for him to bring an end to this matter. I doubt he'll refuse.

Upon understanding her plan, Lucian contacted Cayden to do as she suggested. The internet was set on fire again that afternoon.

Scandals about various celebrities were exposed to the public. Almost every trending title started with the phrase “explosive news.”

The public swiftly shifted their attention from Farwell Group to the celebrities.

Many reporters did the same as they promptly surrounded the celebrities with their cameras. In just a short time, all reporters who previously encircled the research institute and Roxanne's house were gone. Roxanne was stunned when she saw the drastic shift on the internet.

Glancing at Lucian, she remarked, “This... You must've spent a lot of money.” Earlier, I saw plenty of scandals on the internet and even an official announcement of a high-profile celebrity's romantic relationship! No wonder the focus of the public changed so fast.

Lucian acted as though it was nothing noteworthy. “Money is never a concern for Farwell Group. Besides, not all matters can be solved with money.”

Deals with celebrities more often involved resource exchange than money. What they needed were fame, resources, and many more.

Thankfully, Farwell Group's contract with a product spokesperson had just expired. Therefore, when the high-profile celebrity proposed a collaboration, Lucian agreed.

“You don't need to worry about that for Mr. Farwell, Roxanne. Farwell Group is so rich that they won't even bat an eye at how much he spent! Moreover, minor celebrities would die for a chance to help Farwell Group!” Madilyn comforted.

Chapter 1448

Roxanne contemplated her best friend's words and thought it made sense. Thus, she stopped speaking.

Meanwhile, when Madilyn registered the point she made, she believed Lucian hadn't done enough to make up for the fright her best friend and the children endured.

In a concerned tone, she advised, “While the public's focus has been shifted away, it'll still be for the best if all of you stay out of the media's sight for the time being.”

Roxanne nodded in agreement. “I don't think it'll be a problem. In my case, I'll only be either at home or at the research institute, so unless the reporters specifically sought me out—”

“That's what I'm worried about!” Madilyn interrupted. “I'm concerned some reporters won't give up!” That outburst stunned Roxanne because she had more to say.

Lucian's expression darkened slightly while he gripped Roxanne's hand as though no one was around. "For now, you shouldn't go to the research institute anymore. Just in case."

Upon detecting his movement, she felt her heart clenching. As she glanced at her friend, she tried pulling her hand away, but he was stronger than her. Hence, she reluctantly and awkwardly allowed him to keep holding her hand.

Madilyn gazed at Lucian assertively. "Don't you think you should make up for the trouble you brought Roxanne, Mr. Farwell?" In response, Lucian knitted his eyebrows and gave her statement some genuine consideration.

Resignedly, Roxanne clarified, "It's nothing serious. | can do overtime later to make up for the work | missed—"

Madilyn shot her a glance, silencing her, before turning to look at Lucian.

"You have a private plane, right, Mr. Farwell? Why not use it to bring her to Miralaea for a trip? You two can hide from the reporters there and use the opportunity to relax.

Lucian was moved by her proposal. | did tell Roxanne I'd bring the children out for a trip when we went to Jadeborough some time ago. However, after she returned here, she was busy with her work, so | never got the chance to fulfill my promise. | suppose now is an excellent opportunity to do so.

Hence, he turned to Roxanne and inquired, "How about we visit Miralaea, Roxanne? We did talk about bringing the children on a trip before."

Roxanne hesitated because the collaboration with the Damaris family to develop a new medicine had just been moved ahead of schedule.

Benny grabbed the hem of her shirt and asked excitedly, "Are we really going to Miralaea, Mommy?" Estella blinked and stared at Roxanne with anticipation.

The children's stares were making Roxanne waver.

Still, she wondered, "What about school?"

Madilyn shrugged. "Just apply leaves for them."

Then she turned to the children. "Do you three want to go to school or Miralaea?"

Without hesitation, the kids answered, "Miralaea!"

"That's more like it." Madilyn nodded satisfactorily. "I've also been busy for a long while, so it's about time for me to wind down—" Suddenly, she shut herself up after realizing something.

Roxanne narrowed her eyes at her best friend. "You just want to visit Miralaea without paying for the trip."

Realizing her intention had been exposed, Madilyn argued, "Since you all need to avoid the reporters, you may as well visit another country instead of hiding in your home. Besides, | saved you, so | don't think bringing me along on your trip is too much to ask for."

Roxanne wasn't sure what to do with her friend, so she turned to Lucian, asking for his opinion.

In response, Madilyn tacitly raised her hand and vowed, "I promise | won't disturb any of you!"

Chapter 1449

In the end, Lucian called Jeffrey and requested a week's leave for the children. With that out of the way, the three adults took the three children on a trip to Miralaea. Just as Jeffrey hung up the phone, a gentle-looking teacher entered the room.

"You're here, Ms. Smith," he greeted. "You understand the situation about the class, yes? Mr. Farwell's children are in it, and the assistant teacher is on leave. I'm worried Ms. Ward won't be able to manage the class alone, so you'll be helping her out for

now. Smiling, Ophelia Smith nodded. "I understand, Mr. Bauer. You don't need to worry a thing."

Jeffrey scrutinized her and thought she looked pretty gentle. "I'm leaving them in your hands, so don't mess things up." "Should | greet them now?"

"They've just started their one-week leave. Once they've returned, Ms. Ward will introduce them to you."

When Ophelia heard that, the look in her eyes imperceptibly darkened for just a moment. "I see. If there's nothing else, I'll take my leave now."

Jeffrey told her a couple more things before allowing her to leave.

The instant she stepped out of the office, her smile was replaced with a glower.

She strode to a corner and called someone.

The other person picked up the phone quickly.

"How did it go? Have you come in contact with them?" questioned Aubree in a grim voice.

Apologetically, Ophelia answered, "I've just arrived at the kindergarten, and Mr. Bauer told me the children will only return after their one-week leave."

"What?" Aubree growled unhappily. | can't wait even a single second longer anymore, yet they'll only return after a week? Ophelia explained in a whisper, "There's nothing | can do. | didn't expect things would be so coincidental. Once they return, I'll definitely..."

In response, Aubree pinched her palm to calm herself down. When she opened her mouth again, serenity had returned to her voice. "It's fine. They can't run, anyway. In the meantime, familiarize yourself with the kindergarten. Contact me again once they return."

She treated Ophelia rather politely because there weren't any benefits binding the latter to her.

Nodding, Ophelia assured, "I'll do that the moment they return."

Since Ophelia hadn't gotten a chance to interact with the children, Aubree had nothing much else to say and ended the call. The latter then glanced at her phone, which was displaying her social media app.

When Aubree saw that news about Roxanne had been flushed away by a staggering number of celebrity scandals, she scowled. | thought the reporters this morning could cause Roxanne some trouble and force her to give up. To my bloody surprise, Lucian took her away via a helicopter! | recognized it in the pictures the reporters were taking of her! Also, it's evident these celebrity scandals are due to Farwell Group's intervention! | can't believe how much Lucian did for that b*tch. What about me, huh? The only thing he did for me was take away my house! No, | refuse to let that b*tch live a comfortable life!

Chapter 1450

Meanwhile, Roxanne and her family were having a wonderful time in Miralaea.

The boys clung to Lucian for practically their entire stay, but he didn't mind. In fact, he brought them to experience plenty of exciting activities.

As for Estella, Roxanne and Madilyn brought her along while they took plenty of pictures of the ocean view. They even helped her dress up like a cute mermaid.

They had a lot of fun during that week of vacation.

While the children wanted to stay for a couple more days, Roxanne had to return home for work.

Madilyn and Lucian couldn't stay for long as well.

Therefore, they all returned to their country when the week was up.

After a week, the public had forgotten all about Farwell Group's incident, and Roxanne was free of the reporters.

However, Lucian was still worried about his family, so he ordered a few bodyguards to watch over her and the children in secret.

The morning after they returned to the country, Roxanne sent the children to the kindergarten before heading to the research institute. | wonder how much the project has progressed during my week of absence.

Just as she stepped into her office, Linda approached her. "Dr. Jarvis." Roxanne nodded. "Did the research institute face any troubles over the past week?"

She had been under Madilyn and Lucian's surveillance during the past week, so she had minimal opportunities to contact the research institute. Her concern that the reporters would visit the research institute and negatively affect the researchers' work never left her mind.

If the reporters did that, she'd have no idea how to face the employees because she ran away after causing such a big mess and left the staff to fend for themselves.

Thankfully, Linda shook her head. "No. After that morning, the reporters were distracted by all the celebrity scandals. A few who wanted to interview us sent their requests through proper channels, but | rejected them."

Hearing that eased Roxanne up. However, Linda was still grimacing. "What's the matter?" inquired Roxanne, perplexed.

"Mr. Damaris has been visiting the research institute over the past week to meet you. It was apparent he was quite upset you weren't present."

It was something Linda should've reported as soon as possible because it was an official matter of the research institute. However, because of the news on the internet some time ago, she hadn't been sure if she should.

After all, Jack didn't reveal his intentions every time he visited. She didn't know if he came because of the project or because of the online discourse. Roxanne was taken aback upon hearing that. Jack visited the research institute to meet me?

In response, she checked her phone but saw no unanswered calls from Jack. It would seem he wasn't looking for me due to an urgent matter.

Still, she called him out of courtesy. The phone rang for a while before Jack answered the call. “| didn't expect you to have the time to call me, Ms. Jarvis, since you're such a busy woman.” Mockery was obvious in his tone.

It was the first time she heard him use that tone, so she was stunned for a few seconds before she apologized, “I'm sorry. | wasn't in the country during the past week. Linda just told me you visited the research institute to meet me. Is there a problem with the project?”

The mockery didn't subside from his tone as he spoke again. “Is that so? | wonder what you were doing overseas last week.”

Of course, he knew why she was in another country and that she had gone there with Lucian.