ABANDONED 1491

Chapter 1491

What started off as a gentle kiss soon turned into an intense make-out session.

Feeling out of breath, Roxanne snapped back to her senses and looked upstairs. The kids are upstairs, and they might see us! Roxanne anxiously pushed Lucian away.

Lucian loosened his grip slightly in response.

"Don't do—" Roxanne's mouth was invaded once again before she could finish her sentence.

Evidently, Lucian was merely giving her a second to catch her breath.

At that moment, Roxanne was on the verge of getting lifted from the couch.

As he was moving his hands, Roxanne suddenly felt his hands moving toward her breasts.

Roxanne panicked when she realized what Lucian wanted to do.

She was worried that the kids would catch them in action, and at the same time, she didn't know how to react to what was about to happen next.

In desperation, she quickly reached out her hand to squeeze Lucian's tendon on his arm.

Lucian froze immediately.

Roxanne then took the opportunity to shove him away and sat up on the couch. How | wish | can hide behind the couch! Lucian's eyes darkened instantly, and he shot her a look of dissatisfaction.

"Don't do this. The kids are upstairs. What if they catch us in action?" Roxanne avoided his gaze, flustered. Before this, the kids had already caught us hugging.

Roxanne's heart was filled with guilt when she recalled what had happened the last time around.

Lucian's arm was numb, so he had to rest it on the couch. Upon hearing her explanation, he knitted his brows meaningfully and asked in a hoarse voice, "Are you saying that we could've carried on if they weren't around?"

Roxanne was about to help him get rid of the discomfort in his arm. After hearing that question, however, she retracted her hands.

Lucian looked at her with his eyes ablaze.

"I'm tired, and | want to go to bed." Roxanne averted his eyes and rose to her feet anxiously. After taking a few steps away from him, she urged, "It's getting late. You should head home as welll"

Lucian moved his arm, and Roxanne instinctively took another few steps backward. She was afraid that he would force himself

on her.

Lucian couldn't help but feel helpless when he saw how wary Roxanne was. We used to live our lives as a married couple, and we even had kids of our own. Although we both have expressed our feelings toward each other, why has she not accepted me yet? Ever since we reunited, she had always been avoiding me, apart from the time when she was drunk.

Lucian didn't want to force her into doing anything, so he suppressed his urge and explained in a deep voice, "I'm not going to do anything to you. If you're tired, you can go upstairs and rest. I'll sit for a while more before | leave."

Roxanne was still feeling uneasy. "It's already quite late. Are you sure—"

Lucian waved his numb arm at her and said, "Don't worry. I'm not going to take advantage of you. It's just that my arm is still numb, so | can't drive."

It seemed as though she had squeezed his arm too hard in that moment of panic.

Feeling guilty, Roxanne pursed her lips and smiled. However, she still didn't dare to approach him. She merely nodded and said, "lll head up, then. Let me know when you're leaving."

With that, she dashed off without turning back.

Lucian clenched his fists slightly as he watched Roxanne's retreating figure. At that moment, he felt as though he could still feel the tenderness of her skin in his palms. | wonder when she will ever let her guard down...

Chapter 1492

Roxanne was dog-tired. She would doze off almost immediately after getting into her bed for the past couple of nights. That night, however, she couldn't fall asleep even after being in bed for quite a long while.

Instead of feeling sleepy, all she could think about was Lucian's desire-filled gaze.

Roxanne couldn't help but feel nervous when she knew that Lucian was still downstairs.

She only heaved a sigh of relief inwardly when she heard the sound of the door closing coming from downstairs.

After that, she went to the window and saw Lucian getting into his car. The car stayed motionless for a while before leaving the compound slowly.

Roxanne watched Lucian's car disappear from her sight before returning to bed and dozing off within seconds.

She didn't know whether Lucian's massage was the reason or not, but she felt more energized when she woke up in the morning.

Since it was a Sunday, Roxanne stayed home with the kids instead of going to the research institute. At the same time, she was allowing herself some time off.

Early the following morning, Roxanne sent the kids to school and rushed to the research institute. The sooner | develop the new drug, the sooner | get to accompany the kids.

Meanwhile, Ophelia received a call from Aubree.

"What's the matter with you? It has been days, and you still haven't made your move!" Aubree was livid because she had neither found the man nor heard the news about Roxanne getting taught a lesson.

"There's nothing I could do. That b*tch has been staying home, and I can't get into their residential area." Ophelia was feeling helpless as well. I was camping outside the research institute the entire day yesterday, but I didn't see Roxanne.

"Well, she has to be working today! If I don't hear good news from you today, you better just leave and go back to where you came from!" Aubree uttered coldly.

Upon hearing that, Ophelia immediately assured, "Don't worry. I'll get it done today!" Aubree wasted no time disconnecting the call right after she heard those words. Ophelia didn't dare to waste a second either, so she instantly took her coat and left. She drove to Roxanne's research institute and found Roxanne's car after a long search.

Right when she was about to do something, she suddenly remembered something. There are surveillance cameras here! If I do something here, they're going to catch me.

Taking that into account, Ophelia abruptly paused in her tracks and pondered for a moment.

After some time, Ophelia turned around and walked toward the entrance of the kindergarten. Since it's Monday, those three b*stards have surely gone to the kindergarten. In that case, Roxanne will have to fetch them. When she's fetching them, the entrance will be crowded. If I were to do something then, no one would see me!

After Ophelia left, a few people were seen whispering to each other before tailing her.

Obviously, Roxanne had no idea what was going on outside. She was totally focused on the research.

In the evening, Linda saw that Roxanne was still in the laboratory, so she asked cautiously, "Dr. Jarvis, are you still busy? Do you need me to fetch the kids?

That had been the norm ever since Roxanne had been busy researching.

Upon hearing those words, Roxanne looked at the time and realized it was almost time for classes in the kindergarten to be dismissed.

"It's all right. I'm finishing up." Roxanne finished up her work for the day and got changed before she went to fetch the kids. The events of the past two days had made her realize how little companionship the kids had.

Roxanne was eager to accompany them whenever she could.

Chapter 1493

Classes had ended. Roxanne parked her car by the side of the road.

After getting out of the car, she pulled herself together and quickly walked to the school gate to wait for the children to come out. Parents arrived one after another.

Soon, Roxanne was drowned in the crowd.

Ophelia had been waiting at the corner of the street for a long time. After making sure that Roxanne could not see her, she tiptoed out quietly.

She continued observing the surroundings while approaching Roxanne's car furtively.

Besides wearing a hat and a mask, she even put on a pair of sunglasses in the evening.

Passersby could not help but cast curious glances at her.

Fortunately, everyone did not pay much attention to her as they were in a hurry to pick up their children. Quickly, Ophelia stood right next to Roxanne's car.

She crouched by the car and ran her fingers through the tires as if she was checking her vehicle.

She then secretly took a small bottle of lubricant from her bag and reached for the disc brake of a wheel.

The disc brake was tucked away in a hidden spot, so Ophelia had to spend a lot of effort sticking the lubricant into the narrow space. At one point, she nearly had to lie on the ground.

Just as she was about to unscrew the cap of the lubricant and pour it on, she suddenly heard heavy footsteps approaching. The sound of footsteps ceased as they reached her side.

Ophelia instantly froze right there, and her heart sank in dread.

Lucian's indifferent voice rang out from above her head. "Ms. Smith, are you busy with something?"

Ophelia clenched her fist, spewing the lubricant all over the chassis of the vehicle. Some even splashed on her face.

Ophelia subconsciously wanted to wipe the lubricant off, but before she could do it, someone grabbed her and yanked her out from below.

With a face covered in lubricant, Ophelia was overwhelmed with embarrassment and guilt. She lowered her head and said, "Ms. Smith? | think you got the wrong person..."

Before she could finish her sentence, the man extended his masculine palm and tore off her mask, exposing Ophelia's face in public.

"Hey, what are you doing? Don't take my things! I'm not Ms. Smith. You got the wrong person!" She panicked and tried to grab her mask and sunglasses, but she was no match for a few men who had already closed in around her.

In an attempt to hide her face, she raised her hand, but one of the men quickly grabbed her arm and forcefully pulled it away, leaving her immobilized.

The man said, "You're not? Does that mean I'm talking to a ghost right now?"

Looking at her struggling like a clown for a while, Lucian's eyes gradually darkened. "Take a look at what's on Ms. Smith's face!" The bodyguards stepped forward to study her face and then got back to Lucian with an answer. "It's some kind of lubricant, Mr. Farwell."

Lucian's and Ophelia's faces changed simultaneously.

Struck dumb, Ophelia kept shaking her head, wanting to explain, but she was bereft of words.

She instantly recalled what had happened to Aubree when the latter had laid her finger on Roxanne.

She could not help but imagine the torture Lucian would inflict upon her now that she was in his grasp.

"Don't you know what the liquid is?" Lucian grabbed her chin so forcefully that it might crack in seconds.

Overwhelmed by the domineering aura he exuded, Ophelia could only widen her eyes in fear.

"Drink it, and tell me what this is!" Lucian raised his voice.

The bodyguard standing beside him handed him the bottle of lubricant.

Seeing Lucian approaching her with the lubricant, Ophelia collapsed and cried, "All right! All right! It's lubricant! It's lubricant!"

Chapter 1494

Meanwhile, Roxanne was walking to the car with the children when she saw Lucian interrogating Ophelia. "Lucian?"

Upon noticing the fury on the man's face, she quickly stood before the children and shot Lucian a look.

Lucian clenched his fists before releasing Ophelia and gesturing for the bodyguards to let her go.

Ophelia gasped with fear. She desperately wanted to run away but was so terrified that she could barely move.

"Daddy!" the three children greeted Lucian affectionately even though Roxanne got in their way.

When Roxanne realized the atmosphere had eased a bit, she released her grip on the children.

They noticed Ophelia, who seemed somewhat out of place, and greeted her respectfully, "Ms. Smith."

However, Ophelia was so consumed by panic that she could not hear their voices.

As the children received no response from Ophelia, they looked around at the adults in confusion.

"Daddy, why are you and Ms. Smith here?" Benny asked in his innocent, childlike voice.

The children had firmly remembered Lucian's earlier words about them calling him Mr. Farwell at home and Daddy outside. Sensing their confusion, Roxanne looked at Lucian nervously, as she had no idea how to explain the situation to the children. Lucian calmly intervened, "Ms. Smith is not feeling well, so | got someone to take her to the hospital."

Lucian spoke in a natural voice, concealing his hostility.

The bodyguards around them were able to read between the lines. They grabbed Ophelia's arms and carried her to a car nearby. Without overthinking, Estella obediently nodded and said naively,

"Daddy, make sure you help Ms. Smith get better soon, okay?" Lucian bobbed his head non-commitally in response.

The little ones looked at their father with anticipation and asked, "Are you having dinner with us tonight?"

"Not tonight. We'll have dinner together on another day," Lucian replied. He then instructed the bodyguards beside him, "Send them home. Take my car."

The bodyguards agreed and proceeded to escort the children to Lucian's car. Roxanne, on the other hand, looked at her own car, then back at the man in front of her with a confused expression in her eyes.

"They'll take you to the car first. Daddy has something to tell Mommy," Lucian said to the children.

The three little ones inclined their heads in acknowledgment. Before leaving, Benny even gave Lucian a thumbs up. As Lucian watched the children leave, the hostile energy surrounding him slowly dissipated, replaced by a faint smile.

Once the children left, Roxanne could not help but ask, "What just happened? | thought Ms. Smith had resigned. What did

she...

Lucian's expression turned serious once again. "She wanted to harm you by tampering with your car. We found that she was carrying a bottle of lubricant. So, for now, you shouldn't drive this car. I'll send it to the workshop and get someone to inspect it thoroughly."

Fury surged inside Lucian when he thought of what could have happened had Roxanne driven that car today.

Roxanne's face turned pale at the revelation. She glanced at her car with fear. If Lucian hadn't found out, the kids and | would have been in danger today.

Roxanne knitted her brows when she thought of the possible consequences that might have happened. After glaring at Ophelia with disgust, she asked, "But why did she do that?"

Lucian's face turned cold. "That's what | want to know. Take the children home first. I'll keep you updated."

Chapter 1495

Roxanne knew that she would not be of any help even if she stuck around, so she did not insist on it and went into the car. After watching them leave, Lucian led the remaining bodyguards into their respective cars.

Soon, the cars drove off.

Ophelia was blindfolded the entire way, and she found the silence in the car unnerving.

"| know I'm wrong now! | really do! Please spare me!" she begged as fear wrapped around her heart.

However, she received no answer from anyone.

Awhile later, the car slowed down, and Ophelia's heart lurched into her throat.

She was so anxious she could barely breathe. Various scenes from television shows kept flashing across her mind. With the Farwell family's wealth and power, wiping her existence would be as easy as stepping on an ant.

The terror she felt reached its peak when someone came over with a rope.

After a sharp intake of breath, Ophelia passed out.

By the time she woke, she was already on the top floor of a building. Before her was a small helicopter.

"How was your sleep, Ms. Smith?" Lucian had a hand in his pocket as he looked down at her expressionlessly. Ophelia shuddered. "W-What do you want?"

Lucian narrowed his eyes and asked coldly, "Who told you to do this?"

Ophelia parted her lips before clamping her mouth shut again. She fervently shook her head and said, "N-No one told me to do this. | was the one who wanted to do this."

If she were to reveal the mastermind behind this, Aubree was certainly going to come after her even if she survived Lucian.

"Is that so?" Lucian stepped on her hand, his expression still the same. "Then, tell me, what grudge do you have against Roxanne?"

That was a question Ophelia could not answer.

If not for Aubree, she would not even know a Roxanne Jarvis existed in this world.

"| heard you have quite a bad fear of heights. | wonder what you think of this height? It should be acceptable, right?"

With a look from Lucian, Ophelia was lifted and dragged to the side until the upper half of her body was held outside the railing. "Ah!"

An intense wave of dizziness hit Ophelia. Even though she knew that someone was holding onto her from the back, she felt as if she was going to fall anytime. Moreover, she had been restrained, so she could not struggle at all. The only thing she could do was scream.

After what seemed like eons, she was finally thrown back onto the ground.

"Did that clear your mind? What grudge do you have against Roxanne?" Lucian's voice was like the voice of a devil who had just crawled out of hell, and a chill ran down Ophelia's spine.

Ophelia collapsed on the ground, covered in sweat, as she said weakly, "I-I'll tell you everything. It's Aubree. It's Aubree Pearson who made me do this! | won't do this again..."

"Aubree Pearson," Lucian said through gritted teeth, the veins on his neck popping. "It's always her!" This woman again! She nearly killed the children previously!

All of a sudden, a thought entered Lucian's head, and he grabbed Ophelia's collar. "Speak! Were you the one who hurt Benny the other time?"

Ophelia's upper body was lifted into the air, and his grip on her collar made it hard for her to breathe. "It was... It was all Aubree's orders. I-| won't do this again!"

If she had known early on what kind of devil she was going to cross, she would not have agreed to take on Aubree's task no matter how much money Aubree offered her.

"I'm sorry! I'll go to jail! Please have mercy on me!" Ophelia pleaded.

She would rather go to jail than be tormented by that man.

Chapter 1496

Lucian studied her with cold eyes for a few seconds before letting go of her collar.

Ophelia nearly fell right on her face. Thinking she had been spared, she started heaving breaths of relief. "Tie her up there," came Lucian's ruthless voice from above her.

Ophelia's breath hitched.

Tie me up there? Up where?

Anxiously, she lifted her head, only to see the small helicopter in front of her.

At that very moment, Ophelia was certain that she was going to pass out again.

Alas, the bodyguards did not give her the chance to do that as they came over to drag her to the helicopter. Then they tied her under it.

Moments later, the rotor blades began spinning. Ophelia had been restrained tightly, but she started struggling nevertheless. "You better don't struggle. If you do, | can't guarantee that you won't fall off mid-flight," Lucian whispered in her ear.

"Horington has a nice view, but unfortunately, | can only bring you around the suburbs. Think of this as a reward for your honest words, Ms. Smith."

Right as he said that, Lucian raised his hand a little at the pilot, and the helicopter slowly ascended into the air. The moment her body was in the air, Ophelia turned ashen and passed out.

Lucian watched the helicopter take off into the distance before turning to say, "Wait for her to return and keep a close eye on

her. The bodyguard inclined his head.

Lucian did not linger; he immediately turned to head downstairs.

Once Lucian was in the car, Cayden gave his employer a careful look. "Mr. Farwell, are we going back to the manor or..." "We're going back," Lucian uttered after a moment of silence.

Cayden hummed in reply and started the car.

He could guess why Lucian was not looking for Roxanne.

Even he had trouble enduring the wrath seeping out of Lucian, let alone Roxanne and the children.

Ms. Smith really must have had a death wish!

The car soon came to a stop before the entrance of the Farwell residence. After giving some simple instructions to Cayden, Lucian got out of the car and went into the manor.

Catalina had made dinner, and when she saw her employer return, she walked over to him.

Yet, before she could say anything, she saw Lucian gesturing to her to stay quiet.

Catalina swallowed her words and watched as Lucian went up the stairs.

She could not help but worry about the expression she saw on Lucian's face when he entered the house earlier.

| wonder what happened for Mr. Farwell to be this furious.

Still, Catalina did not dare to ask him about it, so she called Roxanne.

I'm sure Mr. Farwell will say something if it's Mrs. Farwell asking.

Meanwhile, Roxanne had been waiting for Lucian's news. She would look at her phone every once in a while. The second she received a call from the Farwell residence, she picked it up immediately.

“Mrs. Farwell,” Catalina greeted cautiously.

Roxanne was momentarily stunned when she heard the way Catalina greeted her. For a moment, she thought she had gone back in time.

Before Roxanne could say anything, Catalina said, “Are you free right now? If you are, could you please call Mr. Farwell? He seemed really angry when he came back earlier, and he even skipped his dinner. | don't know what happened.”

In the past, Catalina would have been helpless in the face of a situation like this. She would have had no choice but to let Lucian do as he pleased.

However, Roxanne was around now. Roxanne was surprised to hear Catalina's words. “He's back?” Catalina replied in confusion, “He is. What's the matter? Were you going to meet Mr. Farwell?”

Why does she sound surprised?

Chapter 1497

Catalina instinctively thought that the two of them were fighting again, so she started trying to patch them back.

“Mrs. Farwell, Mr. Farwell really cares for you. He must have lost control of himself out of worry if he accidentally said something wrong or had been acting terribly. Please don't be mad at him...”

Roxanne realized that Catalina had misunderstood their situation, but she did not have the time to explain. She only said, “I got it. I'll call him now, so don't worry.”

With that, she hastily ended the call and called Lucian instead. Right as she was about to tap the call button, she abruptly thought about something.

Glancing at the three children, she said, “I'm going to head out for a while, so be good at home, okay? Rest earlier.” The children had overheard her conversation with Catalina, and Benny asked, “Mommy, are you going to meet Mr. Farwell?”

Roxanne did not plan to hide it from them. She nodded and said, "Take care of Essie. Don't open the door for anyone and don't sneak out either!"

The children nodded obediently. "Don't worry, Mommy, and go and meet Mr. Farwell. We'll be good!"

It was only after they promised did Roxanne feel at ease enough to leave the house.

She hoped to get clear answers from Lucian after meeting him in person.

At the Farwell residence, Catalina was worriedly looking upstairs, wondering how Roxanne and Lucian's conversation had gone. She wondered if the two of them were fighting again, for Lucian had not yet come downstairs.

Right then, someone rang the doorbell.

Turning over, Catalina saw that it was Roxanne. The latter looked anxious by the gate.

Catalina quickly opened the gate and the door before waiting for Roxanne by the doorway.

"Mrs. Farwell, it's late. Why did you come here in person?" Catalina asked in concern.

Roxanne bobbed her head at Catalina and said, "There are some things | need to talk to Lucian about. Where is he?" Catalina pointed up. "Mr. Farwell's been in the study since he came back. He hasn't come out until now.

Roxanne instantly turned to ascend the stairs.

However, she recalled what Catalina had told her earlier and halted in her tracks. "I'll be going up first. Heat up the dishes and serve them to him in a bit."

Catalina finally let out a sigh of relief and quickly went to do as Roxanne told her to. Roxanne continued her way upstairs.

Lucian was standing by the tall window in the study. His jaw was tense, and the veins on his temples were visible. The anger he felt refused to leave.

| can't believe someone's trying to hurt Roxanne and the kids under my nose! If | didn't notice this in time... I'd have lost her again.

Every time he thought about the possibility of losing her, Lucian would feel his chest tightening.

While he was trying his best to recompose himself, someone suddenly knocked on the door.

"I'm not hungry, so leave me be," he promptly said.

The knocking stopped.

Roxanne's voice rang out. "It's me."

Upon hearing that voice, Lucian furrowed his brows and glanced at his scowling reflection in the window. His track toward the door faltered.

Roxanne's voice rang out again. "Did | come too abruptly? But... | can't be at ease. If you're not free, then—" The door to the study opened in the middle of her sentence.

Roxanne found herself in the man's embrace before she could even react.

Chapter 1498

Lucian's embrace was a tight one, for he was terrified that she would leave. "Don't go."

He yearned to see her. He wanted to feel her in his arms, but he was afraid that he would frighten the children, so he had to restrain himself from doing so.

Now that Roxanne had come, there was no way Lucian was going to let her go easily. Roxanne did not know whether it was just her hallucination or not, but she sensed that Lucian seemed anxious.

After a second of hesitation, she raised her arms to return the hug and whispered, "I'm not going to leave. | wanted to say that I'll be waiting downstairs if you're not free."

She was there for the children, after all; she would not leave in peace until she received answers to her questions.

It was then Lucian slowly relaxed his grip on her.

After patting his back soothingly, Roxanne moved away from his arms and asked, "What happened? Why are you..." Lucian slowly calmed down as he gazed at her.

However, when he thought about the results of his interrogation, an iciness crept into his voice. "Ophelia poured lubricant on your brakes. She was also the one who got Benny injured the last time."

Roxanne's eyes widened. "Why would she do that?"

She did not remember when she had crossed Ophelia, and she could not wrap her head around why Ophelia would want her and her children dead.

"Aubree's the one behind this." Lucian's tone took on an even more glacial tone. "I nearly lost you again." Roxanne snapped her brows together at the mention of Aubree's name. However, in the next second, she heard Lucian's long sigh, and she shuddered.

"You noticed her plan in time, and I'm standing here, safe and sound." Roxanne did not know how to respond to Lucian's heavy feelings. She could only do her best to console him. "This is an oversight on my part. I'll protect the children and myself well from now on. Also, you've assigned more bodyguards to us, haven't you? We'll be fine."

Lucian could see her helpless look, so he suppressed his feelings and nodded. "I hope so."

"About Aubree, | want to make a police report as soon as possible," Roxanne started when she saw him averting his eyes from her. "I previously said that | wanted to let the police handle her case, but various things have been stopping me from doing that. | thought she would change her ways after all these matters..."

If she had to be honest, Roxanne would admit that she wanted to be merciful.

However, the thought of what happened in the evening brought a determined look into Roxanne's eyes. "Since she refuses to turn over a new leaf, | don't want to waste any more time. | don't know

what kind of insane, nefarious plan she'll cook up again if she continues to escape punishment like this."

The look in Lucian's eyes was a grim one, but he made sure not to let its vicious undertones show in his eyes.

To Lucian, letting the police apprehend her was far too easy on her.

Nevertheless, he nodded at Roxanne and said, "It'll be up to you."

"Where's Ophelia right now?"

If she was going to get the police involved, she would need evidence, and Ophelia would be the perfect witness for Aubree's case.

Lucian called Cayden. After confirming that Ophelia was still under their watch, Lucian then told Roxanne about the situation. Without hesitation, Roxanne called the police upon hearing Lucian's explanation.

If she dragged the matter on, the children could be in danger again. Their safety was not something she was going to risk.

Chapter 1499

The police responded efficiently, especially when it came to a matter related to the Farwell family. Investigations began that very night.

Once Ophelia woke up, Cayden brought her to the police station.

Traumatized by the evening's events, she cooperated with the police by confessing and giving them all her phone records with Aubree.

Upon obtaining the evidence, the police began the hunt. In a mansion on the outskirts of the city, Gina was tossing and turning on her bed at midnight.

Samuel reprimanded her, "What are you doing? Why aren't you asleep at this hour? Our useless daughter has left. Do you plan on leaving with her?"

The distraught Gina carefully replied, "Don't say that. Aubree's still our daughter no matter what. Besides, didn't you approve of her actions in the beginning? How can you now blame her when the plan has fallen apart? | wonder how she's doing alone outside." Gina rubbed her chest. "I can't help worrying about her, and my eyelids won't stop twitching—"

Her words were interrupted by a sudden knock on the door downstairs.

Gina was consequently startled by it.

Ever since they moved to the mansion, no one had ever visited them at midnight.

Given the secluded location and the fact that she was already on her nerves that night, Gina thought that it might be a ghost. "I'll go down and take a look."

Samuel got out of bed vigilantly and looked out the window first.

The sight of the police car downstairs caused his expression to darken. Turning toward Gina, he barked, "Come downstairs with

me. Afraid to stay alone, Gina hurriedly threw a jacket over herself before following Samuel down.

Samuel opened the door solemnly, maintaining a cautious attitude. "Officer, what can we do for you at this ungodly hour?" Outside the door, the police officer flashed his identification. "Where's Aubree Pearson?"

It took Gina some time to make sense of what was going on. When she finally did, she felt her knees buckle upon hearing the officer's words.

"Officer, my daughter... What did Aubree do? Why are you looking for her?" she asked, hoping to try her luck. Samuel, too, was staring at their visitors with a grave look on his face. "We're here to arrest Aubree. We have evidence to prove that she has committed attempted murder. Where is she?"

After stating the purpose of their visit succinctly, the officer began to scrutinize the surroundings.

Attempted murder...

This time, Gina felt her knees give out for real. Supporting herself with the couch, she gradually slumped into it as tears gushed out uncontrollably. "Oh my god... What has she done?"

Samuel's face had also turned red in anger.

Despite his repeated warnings not to cause any trouble, Aubree clearly didn't heed his words.

She has messed up big time now!

After giving both of them a suspicious look, the police barged into their home and began the search.

Unfortunately, they came up empty-handed. All they could do was question Aubree's parents and warn them, "If we find out that you have lied to us and contacted the suspect, you will be punished by the law too!"

The words sent a shiver down Gina's spine.

In contrast to her, Samuel responded harshly, "Ever since the news the last time, | have already kicked her out. | have no idea where she is, and | don't have a daughter like her. If you find her, do whatever you will!"

Chapter 1500

After putting the two on surveillance, the police contacted Lucian at once. "What? You don't know where she is?" The update triggered a scowl on Lucian's face. "What did Samuel and Gina say?"

"They have no idea where she is, and we have searched everywhere. It's just that since you and Aubree were previously... Perhaps she might agree to come forward if you set up a meeting with her."

In essence, they wanted Lucian to act as bait.

With a slight furrow of his brows, Lucian glanced at Roxanne, who was beside him.

Unable to hear what they were talking about, Roxanne gave him a puzzled look when their eyes met. "| understand. I'll give it a try," Lucian answered before ending the call.

Roxanne asked anxiously, "What's wrong?"

"Aubree has disappeared. Samuel claimed that he kicked her out ever since the incident with the photo. No one knows where she is currently." Lucian continued with a solemn tone, "The police want me to contact her, hoping to lure her out."

Even though Roxanne nodded to indicate her acknowledgment, she still gave him a nervous look. Lucian called Cayden, instructing him to lead a team and join the police on their search. Thereafter, he proceeded to contact Aubree.

Meanwhile, the distraught Aubree was sitting on the bed inside a hotel in the city. Phone in hand, she was staring at Ophelia's contact.

When there were no updates about Roxanne after an entire day's wait, she wanted to check with Ophelia about their plan's success.

Unfortunately, she couldn't reach Ophelia despite trying the entire night.

Just when she refused to give up and wanted to continue calling, her phone suddenly rang. Lucian was on the line. The sight of the caller ID caused Aubree to tense up. Her phone almost slipped out of her trembling hands. Lucian? Why is he calling me now?

Aubree's mind was filled with questions.

In the past, she would have answered without hesitation.

But now, her gut told her that the call was nothing but trouble.

However... What if?

Gritting her teeth, Aubree felt torn due to her desire for things to return to the way they were. After long deliberation, she finally decided to pick up. She answered warmly, "Lucian, it's late. What is it?"

Lucian's deep voice rang out beside her ear. "Where are you? Let's meet. Perhaps there has been some misunderstanding about what happened previously."

Aubree's eyes lit up at the words.

Just when she was about to reply, she heard the wailing siren of a police car downstairs.

Jolted back to her senses, Aubree balled her free hand into a fist, while the one clenching the phone trembled uncontrollably. Before Lucian could say another word, she ended the call.

Lucian called me out of the blue after not getting in touch for a long time... With his capabilities, there's no way he isn't aware of my parents' home on the outskirts of the city. And yet, the first thing he asked about was my location. It means he knows that I'm not at the mansion and is looking for me! That can only be the result of Ophelia being caught and consequently betraying me. Obviously, | cannot meet him, as that would seal my doom! Also, he might have tracked my location through the call.

Cognizant of the fact, Aubree sprang up from the bed and grabbed her coat before leaving the hotel discreetly.