

ABANDONED 551

Chapter 551

Roxanne was stunned as she instinctively recalled the sudden kiss on the stage at the mention of Sleeping Beauty.

"Ms. Jarvis?" Jerking out of her reverie, Roxanne forced a smile at Estella before telling her the tale of Sleeping Beauty.

The child paid close attention and fell asleep shortly after Roxanne finished.

Covering the child with the quilt, Roxanne lay down beside her.

Although she felt physically tired after running around an entire day, her mind was still in restless turmoil when she closed her eyes.

She couldn't help blaming herself despite having found Benny.

Aside from that, Estella's mention of Sleeping Beauty kept reminding her of the kiss during the play, and she couldn't seem to shake it off her mind.

Despite lying in bed for an indeterminate amount of time, Roxanne could not fall asleep.

Looking at the time and seeing that it was almost midnight, Roxanne promptly got out of bed and went downstairs.

If I'm right, there are a few red wine bottles at the bar. Maybe I'll sleep better after having some red wine.

Emerging from her room, she frowned slightly when she saw that it was brightly lit downstairs.

Lucian is alone downstairs. Could he be awake as well?

Roxanne slowed down.

She did not want to go down and face the man alone at that hour.

As she was debating with herself whether or not to return to her room, Lucian's voice sounded. "Can't sleep, Ms. Jarvis?"

Roxanne paused in her steps. After a long hesitation, she decided to go down.

"How did you know it was me?"

Lucian was seated on the couch, dealing with some work. He glanced up upon hearing her words. "I heard the door open, and the kids should be asleep now. You are the only one left." Roxanne nodded in comprehension. "Are you not done with work?" she asked with polite concern.

"Yeah. What about you? Why can't you sleep?"

Roxanne frowned, wondering how she should broach the subject.

Aside from losing Benny, the other reason was more difficult for her to discuss.

Lucian's voice sounded again before she could speak. "Are you still not over the incident of losing Benny?"

The man's eyes remained fixated in her direction.

Roxanne hesitated for a moment before nodding in silent admittance.

Lucian's eyes grew slightly dim.

He had expected it. The woman did not look good when the child had gone missing. He reckoned she would not recover from it that easily.

He had also anticipated that the woman might not be able to fall asleep that night.

The living room plunged into silence.

Roxanne felt awkward. She cleared her throat to speak, but the man's voice sounded again.

"It wasn't your fault that Benny went missing. It was my fault for not keeping a closer eye on all of you, as I was by your side," Lucian said in a low voice. "You don't have to blame yourself. Rest assured that something like this will never happen again."

His speech surprised Roxanne.

He sounded as though they would be living together in the future and that he would help to care for the two boys.

Such a thought had only flashed across her mind once.

Roxanne quickly regained her composure and said, "I appreciate your gesture, Mr. Farwell, but there is no need to take all the responsibility upon yourself. I will take better care of my children."

Chapter 552 Lucian's face fell slightly.

"I'll leave you to your work, Mr. Farwell. I'm just here for a drink. Don't feel the need to entertain me."

Roxanne inclined her head at him before turning to head to the bar.

The bar was filled with expensive wine, as they were in a presidential suite worthy of the name. Some bottles were even vintage.

Roxanne did not know much about wine other than red wine was a sleeping aid. After perusing the selection, she opened a bottle at random.

When Lucian heard the sound of a bottle opening, he turned around to glance at Roxanne's back. Although he could not see which bottle she had opened, he reminded her, "Red wine will cause a massive hangover. Don't drink too much."

Roxanne grunted nonchalantly in response.

The sound of Roxanne pouring herself wine was the only thing audible in the ensuing silence of the suite.

Lucian's attention was so focused on her that the contents of his email did not register to him.

Roxanne quickly finished a glass of wine, but she did not feel any drowsiness during a pause for a few seconds to reflect upon her sobriety.

Exasperated, she poured herself another glass. Before she knew it, she had had five drinks.

Roxanne was beginning to feel drowsy when she came back to her senses.

Dimly aware that she could not drink anymore, Roxanne got up to return to her room after tidying up the bar. However, she found her legs giving way when she stood up. She gave a low moan as she staggered to her feet.

Just when she thought she was going to fall, a large hand wrapped around her waist. Lucian's scent wafted into her nose the next second.

"I told you to go easy on the red wine." Lucian sounded upset.

The woman would have made a fool of herself if he hadn't been paying attention.

Roxanne could not bring herself to answer although she had heard him. Upon noticing how warm his embrace was, she snuggled against him.

Lucian's eyes flashed when he noticed her movements. His grip around her waist grew tighter.

"How are you feeling? Can you walk?"

Roxanne nodded and attempted to take a step forward, but she could not muster up the energy. Her legs felt like jelly, and she almost fell out of Lucian's arms merely from lifting a foot. Frowning at the state of her intoxication, Lucian swept her into his arms.

Roxanne felt herself being swept off her feet before she could process what was going

1. on.

"I can manage..."

Lucian gazed down at her. "Let me send you back. Quiet. Don't wake Essie up."

Essie...

Only then did Roxanne remember the little girl, her roommate for the night. She obediently fell silent at Lucian's words.

With the woman in his arms, Lucian took two steps forward before sensing she had turned and was leaning her head on his shoulder.

He looked down and saw that she was already unconscious. Her cheeks were still flushed because of the alcohol.

Lucian's heart softened, and he slowed down.

"Benny..." Roxanne muttered in her sleep as they were ascending the stairs. She sounded distraught. Lucian felt something pricking his heart. He knew that she must be dreaming about losing the boy. Although he knew that the ordeal had scarred Roxanne, the true extent of it was a revelation to him.

Lucian's arm tensed when the muttering became incessant. "Benny is back," he assured her softly. "He's fine now."

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Lucian carried Roxanne all the way to the room. Once he entered, his eyes darkened when he saw that Estella had rolled over to the edge of the big bed and was still sleeping soundly

That was not how she was at home. She would sleep in the same position through the night, almost without moving an inch.

Is she moving so much because she's in a new environment? Or is it because she feels more at home around Roxanne?

Holding that thought, Lucian gently put Roxanne down before walking over to the other side to carry Estella to the middle of the bed.

"Daddy..." Estella muttered, half awake, thinking she was dreaming.

Lucian caressed her cheek as he watched her go back to sleep.

When she was quiet again, Lucian glanced over at Roxanne and went to pour her a glass of water.

Feeling someone pulling her up, Roxanne opened her eyes in a daze, only to see Lucian staring at her with a frown.

"Drink some water. It'll help with the hangover." His voice rang out lowly beside her ear.

At that moment, Roxanne felt everything was so surreal.

Am I dreaming? What hangover? Did I drink?

"Lucian?" she called out hesitantly.

"Yes?"

It's really him. Roxanne narrowed her eyes, and a pitiful look slowly crept over her face.

Lucian frowned at the change in her expression.

To his surprise, Roxanne suddenly leaned into his embrace and even rubbed her face against his chest endearingly.

Lucian froze where he was with his gaze locked on the woman in his arms. He did not dare to move a muscle.

He had never once expected her to behave so intimately toward him ever since they met one another again.

Although he was fully aware that he should keep a distance because she was only acting like that because she was drunk, he still wanted to keep her close.

In fact, if it were not for the fear of disturbing her sleep, he would have hugged her tighter.

This is ridiculous. Lucian could not believe he just caught himself wanting more.

Over the years, he had never treated anyone that way, not until he met Roxanne.

"Lucian..." the woman mumbled sadly in her sleep beside his ear.

His arms tensed up when her voice called him back to reality. He wanted to tell her that he was right beside her.

Feeling his embrace, Roxanne looked up at him in a stupor and murmured, "Why are you so cruel? Am I still not good enough for you? I love you so much, but you've never liked me the slightest bit." Her words pierced his heart like a knife over and over again.

It pained him beyond words when he thought of what she had said, but that was not the end of her questioning.

"Why? What else should I do to make you love me? Tell me. I'll change. Why are you so quiet?" Roxanne reached for his face frantically when she did not get a response. "Come on! What should I do to make you love me?"

A frown surfaced on Lucian's remorse-stricken face as he grabbed her hands. "You're drunk, Roxanne."

When she heard him calling her name, a satisfied smile broke out on her face.

Lucian's heart wrenched again the moment he saw her smile. He would rather she looked at him indifferently, as she always did, because her affection only reminded him of how things had been between them six years ago. Back then, he had been her world, yet he had taken her for granted. He did not appreciate her and had killed her love for him instead when she left in Brokenness.

In the end, their intimacy reminded him that things had ended up as they were because of him. At that thought, Lucian smiled ruefully and averted his gaze. Have some water. It'll make you feel better. Roxanne did not respond for a long while. Just as he was about to check on her again, he felt a weight on his chest. Lucian, the play. Was it really an accident? She asked, her voice fading away as she fell back asleep. Lucian loosened his arms when he realized she had dozed off. He hesitated for a while and put the glass of water on the table.

He figured Roxanne might end up not sleeping well if he kept waking her up, so he tucked her and Estella in before going out of the room quietly. Back at the bar counter downstairs, Lucian sat down in front of the half emptied bottle of red wine that Roxanne had opened. I wonder how she felt when she quaffed all this. Lucian recalled the questions she had asked back in the room, and a sense of selfpity rose in his heart. He knew better than anyone else if what had happened during the play was an accident. It was just that he could not control himself when he saw her sleeping deeply.

But what bothered him was the fact that he did not have the courage to come clean with her. Lucian could not believe that there were actually things that he did not dare to admit. When Roxanne woke up the next morning, she felt a stabbing pain in her head.

She turned her head and saw the glass of water and hangover pills on the table. Then memories of what had happened the night before came flooding back, and her eyes widened like saucers. I couldn't sleep so I went downstairs to have some wine, and I ended up drunk. Then he carried me upstairs.

I even said some nonsense to him before he left, and he said, no, stop. I'm not going there. Roxanne wondered if Lucian would be bothered by her action, just as he had been six years ago. A self-mocking smile touched her lips when she thought of that.

When Estella saw Roxanne sitting beside her in the bed, she snuggled into her embrace and mumbled her name as she woke up.

Ms. Jarvis, morning, Roxanne greeted gently, looking at the girl in her arms. I dreamed that Daddy came yesterday, she said, still not fully awake. Roxanne's body stiffened. Well, he really came. Roxanne hoped Estella did not hear what she had blurted out to Lucian.

The night before. Because if Estella did, Roxanne would not know how to face the girl anymore. What else did you dream about? Roxanne asked tentatively, trying to elicit more information. Estella frowned and thought hard until she finally shook her head. 1s Nothing else? It's weird. It was a super short dream. Roxanne. A silent sigh of relief.

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Estella remained in Roxanne's arms for a while. When she was finally awake, she pulled herself from Roxanne's embrace and looked up. Estella frowned when she noticed that Roxanne looked pale. Ms. Jarvis, are you okay? You don't look so good. Roxanne touched her face, surprisedly, wondering what the girl spotted as she had not looked at herself in the mirror since she woke up.

She had no idea how bad she looked at that moment. Oh, I drank a lot yesterday, and I even slept late. There's no way I look refreshed after so little sleep. Before Roxanne could reply, the girl wrinkled her nose and sniffed the air. Why do I smell alcohol? Roxanne smiled at her. I went down to have some wine yesterday because I couldn't sleep. That's probably why I look tired. I'm actually having a slight headache too. Upon hearing this, Stella reached out and touched her forehead carefully. The smile on Roxanne's face grew wider when she saw how much the child cared for her.

After some time, Estella slowly retracted her hand and glanced at the water and medication on the nightstand. Although she had no idea what those were for, she passed them to Roxanne nonetheless. An inexplicable feeling rose in Roxanne's heart when she saw that glass of water.

It reminded her of what she had said to Lucian the night before. Seeing that Roxanne did not take the water from her, Estella held it out closer to her, but the woman pushed it away because she did not feel like having it.

Her rejection confused the girl, who then tilted her head. It's cold. I'd like some warm water. Besides, I don't need that medication anymore, Roxanne said, forcing a smile. Since Roxanne had said so, Estella simply nodded quietly and put the pills back. Then she grabbed the glass carefully and got off the bed to get some warm water for Roxanne.

When she returned, Roxanne took the glass from her, had two sips, and then brought the girl to wash up in the bathroom. By the time they came out, Archie and Benny were already waiting for them in the room. Mommy, did you drink yesterday? The boys asked. They smelled alcohol the moment they entered the room, and the pills on the nightstand confirmed their thought. Roxanne nodded.

There was no point trying to hide it from the boys. I couldn't sleep because of the bed, so I went down to have some.

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I know you didn't mean it. I just need some time to recover from the shock. Roxanne comforted Benny with a smile. The boy gazed at her doubtfully for some time. When he was finally convinced that she meant what she said, he nodded slowly, pursed his lips and gave her a hug. Let's have breakfast. It's getting late, Roxanne said, caressing his head. All the children nodded, and the four of them went downstairs together.

A five person breakfast was ready on the table by the time they got down. It seemed that Lucian had taken the food in and laid them out on the dining table. He was scrolling his phone on the couch when they came down. His sleeves were rolled up, revealing a pair of lean and muscular forearms. When Roxanne saw that he was working, she held the children's hands and asked them to walk silently, but the man still noticed them in the end. He looked up at Roxanne and their gazes met.

What had happened the previous night instantly came back to Roxanne's mind. She hoped she could find traces of his thoughts on his face, but even after seconds of staring at him, she found no sign of any emotions in his eyes. It was as if his nonchalant gaze was telling her that everything that had happened the night before was but a dream. I know it was real. I saw the glass of water and hangover pills on the table this morning.

I can't believe I ended up telling him how I felt six years ago. Ever since Roxanne woke up that morning, her mind had been a mess as she tried to guess how Lucian felt about what had gone down the night before. Yet the man's indifference was upsetting. It seemed to show Roxanne that her worry was redundant and that she had been overthinking. His unconcern made Roxanne feel pathetic, so she withdrew her gaze from him and continued walking down the staircase with the children. Daddy.

Estella exclaimed the moment she solution. The man quickly shifted his gaze toward Estella and nodded lightly, putting away his phone and standing up. Good morning, Mr. Farwell, Benny greeted. Both Roxanne and Lucian were stunned when they heard the boy. Lucian was expecting Roxanne and the two boys to ignore him completely because the children had always disliked him. So when Benny greeted him without Roxanne telling him to do so, Lucian was completely caught off guard.

Likewise, Roxanne was also astonished by Benny's abrupt act of affection. Yet on second thought, the adults knew why there was a change in his attitude.

The boy must have come to like Lucian after the man found him. It was just that they were not expecting such a radical change overnight. After seconds of silence, Lucian smiled back at the boy, nodding. Good morning, everyone. Let's have breakfast. The food has been there for a while. The children nodded and hurried toward the dining room.

Behind them, Roxanne still felt heavyhearted and she walked in slowly. Her anxious gaze wandered aimlessly as she tried her best not to make any eye contact with Lucian. When she went past the bar counter, she could not help but sneak a quick glance at the bottle of wine, trying to see how much alcohol she had taken that made her so drunk. There's less than a third left. Wait. Roxanne furrowed her brows. I may be tipsy yesterday, but I can vaguely remember drinking only half of the bottle of wine.

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Daddy, you don't look so good to, Estella remarked sitting down beside Lucian. A glance was enough for her to spot the abnormality. Instinctively, Roxanne turned and looked at Lucian, but the man turned away so she could only see his side profile.

I had a late night yesterday. I had a lot of work to finish, he replied casually. The girl frowned and took a deep breath before rubbing her nose. I smell alcohol too. Lucian was quiet. He put some food on Estella's plate and had no intention of answering her. Luckily, the girl was distracted by the food. She dropped the matter altogether. On the contrary, Roxanne kept chewing on Estelle words. I only had half of the wine, but there's only that much left in the bottle today.

He must have come back down to drink last night. Here. She took a good look at Lucian. He really doesn't look well. What was he thinking when he slept? Mommy,archie's and Benny's voices stunned a pensive woman. Sit down, they continued. Roxanne quickly recollected her thoughts and went over to sit down beside them with an apologetic smile. How are you feeling, Ms. Jarvis? Lucian asked abruptly. Roxanne froze momentarily and glanced up at him. The children stared at the two as well.

They had no idea where Lucian's question came from, but they were left hanging because the man did not continue talking. Lucian fixed his eyes on Roxanne as he waited for an answer. The woman came back to her senses and flashed a confident smile. I had a bit of wine and slept well after that. I woke up with a slight headache, but it's all good now. Thanks for asking, Mr. Farewell.

The conversation ended with a nod from the man. Meanwhile, the children were still perplexed. What did they just say? So he knew she was drinking yesterday and they both looked like they didn't sleep well. Something must have happened without us knowing.

The kids could not help but feel suspicious about what had happened the night before, but they could not get any more information out of their interaction because the two adults were being secretive. The children pouted in disgruntlement and dug in that morning. Everyone was distracted during the meal.

After breakfast, none of the children dared to suggest that they take a trip because they knew the adults did not have a good rest. Roxanne was so absorbed in her thoughts that she did not realize what the children were thinking. As for Lucian, he was used to following Roxanne's plan when it came to the children. After all, he knew that the children liked her better since he had worked. He sat back on the couch after breakfast and buried himself in work.

After breakfast, they all sat in the hotel room, each engaged in their own thoughts. Seeing that there was nothing they could do, the children started playing hide and seek. Estella joined in as well. To her, it did not matter where they were. She was fine with anything as long as she was with Archie and Benny. Besides, Lucian and Roxanne were around as well. That was enough for her. The children's boisterous laughter rang out in the room when Archie and Benny caught Estella, despite her trying her best to hide. Ms. Jarvis. The girl cried out, tugging Roxanne's shirt. Yes? What's the matter, SIE? Roxanne asked absent mindedly. Play with us. The girl looked at her in anticipation.

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when Roxanne saw how persistent the girl was, she agreed to a game with the children. I'm done. Estella announced when she had found a hiding spot. Even after rounds of the same game with Archie and Benny, the girl still shouted out loud whenever she was done hiding. Roxanne could not help laughing at that.

Right after Estella shouted, Roxanne heard Archie's and Benny's soft giggles from another corner. I'm coming. Roxanne exclaimed, shaking her head.

Then she walked toward where Archie and Benny were. The boys were still feeling proud of themselves because they thought they had found a seemingly strategic place where no one could find them. But they were proven wrong. They even planned on changing their hiding place to make it more difficult for

Roxanne to find them. But just as they were crawling out from where they were, they bumped into the woman. They looked up only to see her smug smile. Mommy, please give us another chance. They mumbled, standing up in front of her. Roxanne quirked her brows and turned them down. Blatantly. No. You guys have to find Estella with me. When they knew they had no other option, the boys did as they were told and tried to recall the direction of where Estella's voice came from earlier. The girl had learned a few tricks from the previous rounds of the game. She would stick her head out occasionally to check the situation outside. When she saw Roxanne and the boys coming over, she wanted to sneak away and go to another place, but it was too late. Archie and Benny had already seen her the moment she got out. Mommy, we found her.

The boys screamed in excitement as they ran after Estella, who was trying to flee. When Roxanne saw them running, she hurried up to Estella, worried that the girl would fall. Seeing that she was about to get caught, Estella sprinted toward the couch while Archie and Benny pursued her.

Slow down. Roxanne shouted. Archie and Benny decelerated at their mother's warning, but Estella did not. She continued running toward the couch as if she did not hear Roxanne at all. Because Estella could not stop in time, she tripped over the couch leg and fell forward onto the coffee table. Watch out. Roxanne's heart clinched when she saw that she dashed over, hoping to cushion the impact for the girl.

Estella was horrified when she realized she could not stop herself from falling. Suddenly, a strong arm appeared and blocked the sharp edge of the coffee table just as Roxanne managed to catch Estella on the forehead. However, because of the strong momentum, Estella still bumped right into the table. Although Lucian and Roxanne managed to prevent the worst from happening, the knock was still painful for Estella. She was stupefied for a few seconds until she finally looked up again.

Lucian's palm was covering the edge of the table while Roxanne's hand landed on his hand, bolstering the girl's forehead. A frown slowly crept across Lucian's face. Are you all right? He asked anxiously. Just a few seconds ago. He was finishing up his work when he heard Roxanne screaming in fright. When he looked up, Estella was already falling in his direction, so he swiftly extended his hand to help.

It took Estella a few seconds to get herself together. I'm fine, she replied softly. Lucian sighed in relief. Good. Get up, then. When Archie and Benny heard that, they hurried over to help Estella up to relieve the weight on Lucian and Roxanne's hands.

Roxanne retracted her hand the moment Estella got up. The warmth on Lucian's skin was still lingering on the back of her hand after the contact.

When Roxanne regained her cool, she looked at Lucian's hand hesitantly.

Although Estella was not heavy, the impact was still strong given how fast she was running.

Even Roxanne found it hard to stop her on her own.

On top of that, the edge of the coffee table was sharp.

Is his hand all right?

Roxanne wanted to check if he was injured, but she felt that Lucian was deliberately hiding his hand away, so she could not see anything.

After some time, Lucian put down his phone and glanced at the guilty-looking child beside him. "Let's go out and play."

Estella's eyes glittered with excitement when she heard that.

Then Lucian got up and went over to the entrance to take a tourist map from the shelf. "You guys pick a place."

The children took the map and started poring over it.

As for Roxanne, she was still thinking about Lucian. "Mr. Farwell, your hand..."

"It's fine," he answered, looking at her, but Roxanne did not believe him.

"Let me have a look," she insisted.

Lucian stared at her for a few seconds until he finally budged and showed her his hand.

There was a long and narrow cut on the back of his hand. She noticed traces of blood from the cut, and the area around the wound was red and swollen.

Roxanne knew this kind of cut was rather painful, but Lucian did not complain at all.

When the children noticed what they were doing, they put down the map in their hands and ran over

"Daddy Estella was filled with worry and guilt,

*We're sorry, Mr. Farwell. We won't fool around with Essie again," Archie and Benny said apologetically

Lucian raised his brows and held out the other hand to rub their heads. "It's just a scratch. Don't worry about it."

Then, he gazed at the girl and comforted her, "You don't have to feel bad, Essie. I know you like playing with Archie and Benny. I'm happy you're enjoying yourself. Injuries are unavoidable when you play, so it's not your fault. I just want you to have fun playing with other kids."

Despite what he said, Estella still puckered in regret.

She knew Lucian was worried about her not being able to socialize with other children because of her condition.

"I'm sorry, Daddy," she cried, circling her arms around Lucian's leg.

"It's okay, really. Why don't you go over and choose a place for us to visit later?"

"Yeah You should go pick a spot while I treat your daddy's wound," Roxanne chimed in.

Although the children were still worried, they listened to the adults in the end.

"Thank you, Ms. Jarvis," Lucian said as he looked at her and held out his hand.

Roxanne smiled at him rigidly, then went to look for the first aid kit. She asked him to sit on the couch while she sat next to him to bandage his wound.

Neither of them talked, but a lot went on in Roxanne's mind.

From what she observed in Lucian and Estella's interaction, she concluded that Lucian was a careless father. But what he had said to Estella back there made Roxanne feel heartbroken.

He's indeed rather inattentive in some regards, but it's no doubt that he loves Estella. If he really didn't care about her, the news would not have said that she was the apple of his eye. Sometimes I wonder who Estella's mother is and what she's like. She has given him a daughter he loves so dearly.

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While Roxanne was bandaging him, she could sense Lucian's gaze on her.

However, Roxanne did not know what was on his mind.

I wonder if he's thinking about what happened last night...

Roxanne could not help but recall the bottle of red wine that was almost finished the night before, and that made her feel perplexed. As such, the bandaging she did for Lucian was a little rough around the edges.

"Are you done?" asked Lucian when he saw that she was not doing anything else.

It was only then Roxanne returned to her senses and maintained a calm face. "It's almost done."

Lucian took a look at the bandage on his hand, raised his brows, and said, "Ms. Jarvis, it seems that you are very selective when it comes to your medical skill, aren't you?"

Roxanne was startled by what he said. She followed his gaze and noticed that her bandaging was indeed horribly done.

For a moment, Roxanne could not help but blush. She opened her mouth but did not know what to say.

Thankfully, all Lucian did was teased her once, and he did not pursue the matter again. "It's about time. Why don't you check with them and see where they will like to go?"

Upon hearing that, Roxanne heaved a sigh of relief before getting up and going over to the children. They were still deciding where to go.

"Haven't all of you made up your mind yet? Should I offer some suggestions?" asked Roxanne gently.

The children were so engrossed in their planning that they did not realize she was next to them until they heard her voice. Immediately, Estella inquired about Lucian's injury, "Ms. Jarvis, how's Daddy?" At the thought of her messy bandaging, Roxanne smiled and assured her, "It's just a minor injury. I have already bandaged it."

The children then turned and looked at Lucian with concern.

Lucian nodded at them.

The children were finally at ease and told Roxanne about their conflicts.

Estetla wanted to go out to the sea and watch the dolphins.

However, the boys were worried about the dangers out at the sea after what had happened earlier on. They suggested picking up seashells and making craftwork out of them.

The three children could not come to an agreement and chose to discuss other options.

Roxanne could not help but hesitate when she heard about their dispute.

Logically, what all three children wanted was not contradictory. They could always go out to the sea before coming back to make their craftwork.

However, like Archie and Benny, she was also worried about the danger out at the sea.

After all, Estella was very important to Lucian, and Roxanne did not want to be held accountable.

So, Roxanne turned and looked at Lucian to seek his opinion.

Naturally, Lucian heard the children's conversation as well. He met Roxanne's eyes and walked up to them. Rubbing the children's heads, he said, "Since all of you have activities that you want to do, then we shall do all of them.

Both Archie and Benny looked at him in doubt. "But, will it be dangerous for Essie to go out to the sea?"

Lucian knew that the boys were scared because of what happened just now. "It won't be. All you need to do is sit down on the yacht. Furthermore, I will be there to protect all of you and so will the crew members."

The boys looked at him and did not know whether to believe him or not.

In truth, they also wanted to go out to the sea. After all, they had never done so in their lives.

They only decided to turn it down for the safety of Estella.

Since their daddy was all right with it, they agreed too.