

After 901

Chapter 901 Accepted Readily

Roxanne frowned imperceptibly, not quite sure how she should refute that for a moment.

In front of her, Estella grew all the more aggrieved when she didn't only decline the dinner invitation but was also not responding to her father's comment after such a long time.

"Are... Are you mad at Daddy, Ms. Jarvis?"

She gingerly tugged on Roxanne's sleeve.

Jolted out of her thoughts by Estella's voice, Roxanne regarded the little girl before her with mixed emotions.

Estella sniffled, feeling utterly miserable.

Although she had no idea what Herbscape Group Lucian was speaking of, she could tell that the two adults were at odds again.

Daddy has finally forgiven Ms. Jarvis, but now she is mad at him...

At that thought, she lifted her eyes and glowered at her father in aggravation and ire.

Meeting her gaze, Lucian put away some of the displeasure on his face and said nothing further.

on the head in consolation. "No, I

dishes, so it's no trouble. I'll go about it right away," Catalina

for she hadn't yet decided to

Benny's voices had already

last had your cooking,

Catalina

the dinner

demurrals on the tip of her tongue and went along with Archie

Lucian didn't utter

However, it was

that reason, Roxanne got up after deliberating for a long while and

he

didn't know what to do, so she played with the three children in the

call

thought that Lucian wouldn't be

sooner had they taken their seats. He

fish

of fish for Roxanne,

Chapter 902 I Will Bring You Camping

Roxanne didn't want to tarry after dinner, so she took her leave with Archie and Benny.

"Can't you play with me for a while longer, Ms. Jarvis?"

Estella clutched at the hem of her shirt with all the reluctance in the world.

Leaning down, Roxanne stroked her head and cajoled gently, "It's late, so I've got to go home."

After saying that, she added in a moment of weakness at the sight of Estella's reluctant expression, "I'll come and keep you company another day."

She merely wanted to comfort the little girl, but the latter unexpectedly took it seriously.

"When will that be?" Estella gazed at her pitifully with solemnity written all over her face.

Upon hearing that, Roxanne was inexorably stunned for a while.

When will that be?

instinct, she lifted

up and help her diffuse the situation. But this time, he acted as though he

quite bring herself to tell Estella the truth as

and Benny told me that you often bring

Roxanne's eyes flickered, and

Archie and Benny promptly seconded at the side, "Let's go camping together next week! That'll

they were abroad, Roxanne always brought them camping with her

When Estella heard that, the anticipation within her soared, and her

Roxanne looked at her seemingly sparkling eyes, she simply couldn't bring herself to turn her down. t
was incredibly

with work, so she probably has

Out of the blue,

words, Roxanne's pupils constricted. Snapping her eyes up, she glared at the man in front of her with an
absurd look

earlier, but I never thought that he'd remember it for so long and even mock

light in Estella's eyes dimmed,

eyed them both. She had no other choice but to
camping with Archie and Benny next

It wasn't until then that Estella raised her head

hurriedly chimed in, "Mommy never

Chapter 903 Do Not Be Mad Anymore

"Daddy."

When Roxanne, Archie, and Benny had disappeared from sight, Estella lifted her eyes and stared at her father.

At her voice, Lucian slowly retracted his gaze and lowered his eyes to meet her gaze. "Yes?"

Puffing up her cheeks, Estella demanded in a huff, "Did you make Ms. Jarvis mad again?"

Tonight, Ms. Jarvis didn't talk much to him. No matter how hard Archie, Benny, and I tried, she hardly glanced in his direction.

Following that line of thought, frustration swamped her.

He has already promised me that he'd forgive her and never make her mad again, but he didn't keep his word!

Discerning her thoughts, Lucian frowned and was just about to answer when he abruptly remembered James' advice in the next heartbeat.

Thus, he went silent for a few seconds before replying, "We have some conflicts at work."

as Estella heard the word "conflicts," her

to work, so it's inevitable that we have conflicts at

anger. "But why must you bring home your

question had words

that you haven't forgiven Ms. Jarvis?"

Lucian heard that she was placing the blame

and he asserted, "You know I never bring

Blinking hesitantly, Estella solemnly cast her mind back

indeed. He's very busy, but he's still exceedingly patient with

between work and private life, much less fathom the fact that

then, she's always

daggers at her father. "Even so, you've

Dumbstruck, Lucian

spelled things out, but she's still

a taxi by the

with Lucian earlier, so she didn't speak much

Chapter 904 Did You Have Another Fight

Roxanne could tell that the children were getting anxious, so she did her best to suppress her emotions. "I'm not mad. In fact, I want to thank you for comforting Essie."

Even though the kids' actions did cause a misunderstanding with Lucian, Roxanne knew Estella's mood would not have improved had it not been for them.

The children breathed a sigh of relief after hearing their mother but remained somewhat cautious.

"Sorry, Mommy. We won't run off by ourselves again," promised Archie after crawling into her embrace.

Despite how dim the light in the car was, the exhaustion on Roxanne's face was plain to see.

The boy was convinced that he did not do anything wrong before, but at that moment, he was filled with guilt.

Benny, too, crawled into his mother's arms and apologized.

before patting them on

nodded in agreement because they were indeed concerned

they also had another reason they dared

On the way home, Roxanne could not help but tense up when she saw from afar that the

there while she

back!" Madilyn felt as if a huge weight

Farwell residence, she went straight to Roxanne's house and waited for them

that Madilyn could not stop worrying about

at her house,

Madilyn," greeted the boys, puzzled by the woman's appearance since

look the boys in the eye. "Let

you know how worried you made your mother and me this afternoon? You're not to run off

for them until they heard that, so they quickly lowered their heads and apologized, "We're sorry, Aunt

Chapter 905 A Fire

Still, Madilyn did not ask about it in the end, and since it was already late, she decided to take her leave.

Roxanne was drained, so she went to bed early that night.

The next morning, Roxanne was woken up by her ringing phone.

She then forced her eyes open to check the time and realized there were ten minutes left before her alarm went off at seven.

Wondering what the phone call was about, Roxanne sat up to wake herself further before answering the call. "What's up, Dr. Galloway?"

"The research institute is on fire!" exclaimed Colby nervously.

Roxanne was completely awake the moment she heard that. "I'll be right over!"

fire department, so the firefighters are on their way,"

However, Roxanne did not hear that because she had already hung up. After washing up, she rushed to the institute without

for anything to happen to the medicinal herbs she had just placed

has been seized, it'll be difficult to find a medicinal herb supplier again if I

best to put out the fire when she arrived

Colby, who hurried over

response, Roxanne had her eyes fixed on the location on fire. "What's the situation now?"

only was the institute filled with many medicinal herbs, but

there had always been vigilant with fire

Roxanne had never heard of any fire incident involving the institute, so she wondered how the

eyes before he quickly put his thoughts aside and pretended to be collected. "We haven't got the time to investigate yet. I came in early today and was surprised to smell something burning inside when I was unlocking the door. The fire was already burning vigorously when I got in, so I quickly called

"It's probably caused by a

her anxiousness

Chapter 906 Something Is Not Right

After confirming that the fire was put out and getting the green light from the firemen, Roxanne was finally able to get near the research institute that was engulfed in an inferno.

Her heart sank the moment she managed to get a closer look.

She had been worried sick all morning, overcome by the apprehension that the medicinal herbs that she had just retrieved the day before were all gone.

Alas, her worst nightmare came true. The very store that caught on fire was the one where the medicinal herbs were stored.

Not only were the medicinal herbs the batch that they had just retrieved the day before destroyed, but the other medicinal herbs they previously stocked up were also burned to ashes.

Fortunately, Colby had managed to call for help in time and managed to stop the fire from spreading to other areas.

“This...” Standing beside Roxanne, Colby found himself to be at a loss for words as he stared at the shambles before them.

Roxanne let out a soft sigh. “Well, luckily no one was hurt, and the fire didn’t spread to other areas of the research institute.”

Colby sighed and said in a defeated manner, “There goes the hard work you guys did yesterday.”

to move all the herbs into the store. Moreover, Colby knew that it must have been difficult for

her brows

be difficult to get her hands on medicinal herbs

the least

at Colby and said, “Dr. Galloway, could you please

the herbs, Roxanne knew

someone had deliberately set the place on fire, she knew she had to expel the culprit from

group of people to the surveillance

sought the firemen’s help to locate

However, they couldn’t find anything after looking

institutes catching on fire. However, more often than not, it is due to inappropriate

Roxanne reckoned that the ignition source must have burned away in the fire under such circumstances. That would explain the reason

was off, Roxanne could only nod along doubtfully

fireman returned to

bade goodbye to Roxanne and

and the staff of the research institute were left at the entrance of

remained unconvinced by the

Chapter 907 The Surveillance Cameras Are Down

After a moment of contemplation, Roxanne suppressed her suspicion toward Colby and scanned the group of staff in front of her.

“Have you guys carried out the scheduled periodic inspections on the herbs and store lately?” she asked.

The staff in charge of the inspection last week hurriedly took a step forward.

"I inspected every single storeroom last week, and I've only left after confirming that everything was in order," he replied.

Roxanne took a closer look at the man, and she recognized him as one of the experienced staff of the research institute. Hence, she had no doubt of his work ethic.

Every staff present knew the inappropriate storage of medicinal herbs could put the entire lab in peril.

Hence, nobody dared to take the matter lightly.

However, if there was indeed no problem with the storage of the herbs as claimed by the staff, why would the store suddenly catch on fire?

The more Roxanne thought about it, the more befuddled she was. Hence, she merely nodded at the staff's explanation.

in the research institute are now safe. Do

she turned around and

appear as if only the surveillance room had the answer she

have sensed something,

right into Colby who was heading out of the surveillance room when

As the two of them locked gaze with each

Colby was wearing a gloomy expression. It was as if he hadn't

Nonetheless, Roxanne decided to try

his head. "I didn't

Roxanne knitted her

I think it's better for you to see for yourself," Colby

before the control center and tried to access the footage

deepened the longer she

was nothing but black smoke in

It seemed like the store didn't

The fire could have started way earlier in the wee hours of the

look at some earlier footage?"

unknown reasons, the surveillance cameras were down from yesterday afternoon till this

Chapter 908 Senior Employee

In the research area, the researchers had just regained their composure from the fire incident earlier and got back to work.

When they saw two people walking in, they stopped what they were doing in unison.

With a grim expression, Roxanne swept a glance at everyone and asked, "Did anyone come to the research institute yesterday afternoon?"

Coincidentally, the surveillance cameras were down, so Roxanne could only assume that someone had gone over at that time.

As soon as those words fell, everyone exchanged glances with each other silently. Yesterday was a Sunday. It was such a good opportunity to rest at home. So why would anyone come to the research institute without a reason? Besides, she's asking questions that has something to do with the fire. Even if someone was here, why would they admit it?

Suddenly, Roxanne was exuding a fearsome aura as she threw a cold glance at everyone. "I have no desire to suspect anyone here, nor can I think of a reason why an employee at the research institute would do something like this. However, the truth is that the person responsible for the fire is someone from the inside. Hence, I would like to know who that person is. Please step forward and don't cause the other employees unnecessary trouble."

After that, she added coldly, "The fire caused a huge loss to the research institute. When I find out who's responsible, I'll have no choice but to press charges. However, if that person is willing to come forward now, I think there's still room for negotiation."

Everyone lowered their heads when they saw the look in her

sound left was of the boiling liquid in

cleared his throat to defuse

that precise moment, one

didn't notice it because she had shifted her attention toward

been hiding something from you. After hearing what you said, I think I ought to spill it.

he raised his head and looked

He spoke softly, but everyone could hear him

Judging by Colby's tone, it seems

Realizing what those words meant, everyone quickly turned toward the person

few minutes, all the researchers there became on

this, he's most probably going to expose the culprit. I'd like to see just who it was that had done something

he was giving the culprit the chance to come forward on

He then began,

Chapter 909 Unknown Man

It took a while for Roxanne to think of a reason for Jason Coleman's action. "Dr. Coleman, did you accidentally misplace some medicinal herbs and didn't store them properly? Is that why the fire started?"

That was the only reason she could think of.

Surprisingly, Jason shook his head and subconsciously looked at the man standing next to Roxanne.

Colby looked somber when he met Jason's gaze. "After you guys left yesterday afternoon, I was also getting ready to leave. However, I bumped into Jason. He told me he needed to fetch something from the research institute. I didn't think so much about it, so I let him in. I only locked the door after he came out."

In other words, Colby was telling everyone that he didn't know what Jason was doing after he went inside.

Roxanne was still in shock, so she merely nodded absentmindedly.

Colby could tell she was still in shock. With a glimmer of darkness flashing across his eyes, he asked Jason on her behalf, "What did you do after you came in?"

his head guiltily and uttered

He couldn't finish his sentence. It was as if he was utterly ashamed of his

he uttered through his gritted teeth, "I'm

He had basically admitted

Roxanne managed to calm herself down. She then clenched her

point, what Jason did the day before didn't matter

was filled with flammable substances. For a researcher who was an expert in chemicals, setting

Therefore, she just wanted to know what drove Jason

Jason heaved a sigh and

Roxanne furrowed her brows when she

said, "My son is sick, so I need a lot of money.

Jason's son was sick, and that person offered

clenched her fists even tighter. "Who is it? Who told you to

Chapter 910 Crooked Ways

Jason was regretting what he did dearly.

In fact, he regretted it the moment he did it the day before. However, Colby had already locked the research institute up, so he couldn't salvage the situation, even if he wanted to.

That morning, he made the effort to arrive at the research institute to see if there was anything he could do to fix it.

However, he was wrong when he thought he had arrived early enough. By the time he arrived at the entrance, the firefighters were already at the scene.

Jason couldn't help but slap himself twice across the face when he recalled the burnt storage and what Roxanne had said.

"This is my fault, Dr. Jarvis. I'm so stupid!" Utterly embarrassed, he asked, "Since I've come forward on my own, c-could you please let the matter slide? My son is still in the hospital..."

Roxanne dug her fingers into her palms to force herself to stay calm. "That's not up to me, Dr. Coleman."

"This matter is being investigated by the police. Jason, how could

Upon hearing that, Jason became flustered. "I was wrong! I'll return the money! Dr. Jarvis, for my son's sake, please let it slide. I promise I won't commit

went silent. I have children, so I know how Jason feels. Having

who told you to do it. I can write a memorandum of understanding on behalf of the

In the end, he had no choice but to give in. "That's all I know. As you can see, the sender sent the email without a name. I don't know who sent it to

took the risk solely because

a photo of the sender's email address. After that, she sent

Meanwhile, the police arrived at

in before the police even said anything. "It

the police put a pair of handcuffs

a complicated expression, Roxanne was

stepping into the police