

Mission To Remarry Chapter 1704-1727

Chapter 1704 Accompany You

The car slowly came to a halt in front of the hospital.

Cayden got out of the car and whirled around to get the kids out, only to see they were already standing outside, staring up at him with eagerness shining in their eyes, waiting for him to take them inside.

Cayden internally sighed at the kids' eagerness. Suppressing the upset rising within him, he patted the children's heads comfortingly. "Let's head inside."

The kids nodded obediently and followed him into the building.

Before entering the elevator, Cayden sent a message to Lucian, informing his boss of their arrival.

The elevator dinged at the top floor. When the doors slid open, they saw Lucian waiting for them outside.

"Daddy!"

The children excitedly dashed out of the elevator and clung onto Lucian's legs.

Lucian gently ruffled the kids' heads before nodding at Cayden. "Thank you for the trouble. You can take a break tomorrow."

Cayden complied respectfully before shutting the elevator doors. He left, giving the family some time and space.

"Daddy, where's Mommy?" Archie urged as he nervously tugged on the hem of Lucian's shirt.

Lucian dropped his gaze to him. "She's in her room."

He turned around and led them toward Roxanne's room.

The children trailed after him closely.

When they saw their mother lying on the bed, tears started flowing down their cheeks.

"Mommy, what happened? Are you okay? We're so worried about you!"

Their parents didn't come home for the past few days. Their mother didn't even pick up her phone. They had been obedient and didn't cause any trouble, but the truth was, they were sick with worry.

The brave front they held up finally crumbled when they saw Roxanne's pallor.

Roxanne didn't expect the kids to be so worried. Her heart ached at their tears. She tried to push herself up to get down from the bed.

However, the kids hurriedly raced to her side when they saw her intention. "Mommy, lie back down."

Roxanne couldn't do anything but wipe their tears away. "Don't cry. I'm fine. I was just too tired and slightly feverish for the past two days. I'll be fine after two days' rest."

She paused a beat before smiling at them. "Look at me. I'm fine!"

Despite her assurance, Estella's tears didn't stop falling. "But... Mommy, you don't look so good..." she sobbed.

Just like the last time when you fell unconscious.

Just recalling the memory flooded Estella with fear. Her grip on Roxanne's sleeve tightened.

The rims of Roxanne's eyes turned red. She felt bad about worrying them. "I truly am fine. Have you forgotten that I'm the most amazing doctor? I can cure all kinds of sickness, much less a fever."

She held their tiny hands and pulled them to her forehead. "Feel that? It's not hot anymore."

The kids gently rubbed her forehead and nodded while tears continuously rolled down their cheeks.

Roxanne consoled with a smile, "Be good and wait for me at home. I'll rest in the hospital for two more days, then go back and accompany you."

Benny shook his head. "We want to stay at the hospital with you, Mommy!"

Estella nodded her head firmly, agreeing with Benny's suggestion.

"I want to stay with Mommy too!"

Archie didn't say anything and merely stared at her as he continued crying.

Roxanne patted each child's head and declined, "You can't. My fever is gone but not my cold. You'll contract it if you stay here. I don't have the energy to treat you now."

The children pressed their lips into a firm line—an expression of their displeasure.

They stood by the bed and stared at her. Their eyes conveyed their desire to stay.

Chapter 1705 Almost Lose Them

Guilt surged within Roxanne when she caught the children's worried gaze. However, she silently averted her gaze.

"I had your dad bring you here because I didn't want you to continue worrying about me. Now that you see I'm fine, you can be assured of my well-being. I'll worry about your health again if you catch my cold."

Despite her explanation, Benny was still unwilling to leave.

Archie gave in and said, "We'll head back then. Take good care of yourself, Mommy."

Hearing their brother's words, Benny and Estella couldn't voice their disagreement despite their unwillingness.

Roxanne let out a relieved sigh when they finally conceded. She nodded with a smile.

"Got it. I'll take good care of myself so that I can go home to you as soon as I can."

"You must pick up our call!" Archie demanded with a grim look on his face.

Roxanne knew the kids were worried sick for getting out of touch with her for the past two days. Her guilt clawed at her at that knowledge, so she agreed to Archie's demand.

With her promise, the children finally relented and released Roxanne's hand reluctantly.

Roxanne didn't dare to meet their gazes and hurriedly turned her gaze to Lucian.

"Lucian, you can send them back now."

She was scared tears would flow from her eyes if she continued locking gaze with them.

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He stepped closer to the kids and patted their heads before bending down and carrying Estello into his arms. He reached his empty hand out to Archie and Benny. Benny took his hand with tears still flowing while Archie held his brother's hand. The kids cast a longing glance over their shoulders at Roxanne.

Roxanne waved at them with a smile. She could feel the prick of tears at the back of her eyes.

It was such a close shave and I would've lost them.

Watching Lucian and the kids leaving through the door, Roxanne's gaze grew determined.

I will do all I can to cure myself for the kids' sake. They finally got a complete family after going through so much. I won't ever let their situation revert to the past.

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On the way there, the kids couldn't stop crying. The atmosphere in the car was tense. Lucian's heart ached for the children when he caught their red, puffy eyes through the rearview mirror.

"I promise you I'll take good care of your mommy," he swore.

Benny sniffled before sobbing, "I trust you, Daddy. Every time Mommy got sick, you would take good care of her."

When Mommy was sick before, Daddy would stay by Mommy's side, and Mommy would get better every time. I'm sure this time is no different

Chapter 1706 Sick For A While

Lucian glanced at the passenger seat and was met with Archie's wide-awake eyes. Shocked, Lucian questioned, "You're still awake?"

I thought all of them had fallen asleep.

Archie's eyes were red and puffy too. Yet, he still kept a solemn look on his face.

"Daddy, Mommy has been sick for many days already, right?"

Lucian's expression grew tense at his question. He wasn't sure if he should tell his son the truth.

Archie is the most mature of the three. Explaining the situation to Archie first is the best option if I want to tell them the truth. They were still crying until a while ago, though. I don't think it's the right time to tell them yet.

After a few minutes of silence, Lucian decided to keep it from them. "No, that's not it. Don't think too much. Your mother just got a cold and a fever. She'll be better soon."

The second he finished, Archie immediately asked, "But Mommy never went on such a long business trip before."

Lucian's expression didn't falter as he said, "That was because she was worried no one would take care of you, your brother, and your sister if she was gone for too long. Now that you have me, she can put her heart in her stomach."

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He's right. Mommy wouldn't go on long business trips before because she knew we would be waiting for her at home. Now that we're living with Daddy, Mommy can be more at ease. But... I still feel something doesn't add up.

Lucian gazed ahead as he drove but occasionally would shoot glances to check on the kids in the backseat. He was fighting in his mind about whether to tell them the truth.

Suddenly, Archie's voice broke the silence. He muttered with a frown, "Our hearts felt heavy the last time Mommy fainted. It's the same this time."

We shouldn't have that feeling if Mommy only has a cold and fever. Besides, we felt it a few days ago. I'm sure Mommy's condition is not just a simple fever.

However, he noted his father's avoidance of telling him the truth, so being the thoughtful child that he was, he didn't continue hounding his father about it. "No matter what's wrong with Mommy. I trust that you'll take good care of her as long as you're there. We have faith in you, Daddy."

His words were a copy of what Benny said earlier.

When Mommy was sick before, Mommy always got better in the end under Daddy's care. I trust that this time will not be any different.

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Archie didn't mind Lucian's silence. Instead, he said, "Daddy, all you have to focus on is caring for Mommy. Leave Benny and Essie to me! I'll watch over them! You can't let anything happen to Mommy, okay?"

Archie's voice cracked at the end.

Lucian glimpsed at the rearview mirror again and saw the unshed tear in the corner of his eyes. His heart clenched again.

"Got it. I won't let anything happen to your mother. I'll protect her even if I have to give up my life."

Archie shook his head fervently. "No! I want both Daddy and Mommy to be safe and sound! We want Mommy to come back, but Daddy, you can't leave us too!"

His words moved Lucian's heart. Lucian comforted, "All right. I'll come back with your mother. Don't be scared."

Archie finally nodded as he cried.

Lucian sent them back to the Manor. When the children woke up, they were still feeling a bit down.

As he was worried about them, he watched them wash up and return to their rooms before leaving the house.

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Chapter 1707 Seeking Permission

Back at the hospital, Roxanne was still awake.

Lucian quickened his pace when he saw the lights in her ward were still on.

"Why are you still up?" He was worried when he saw Roxanne sitting on the bed in a daze.

Roxanne returned to her senses after she heard his voice and smiled. "I've slept too much for four days straight, so I can't fall asleep now."

Then, she asked about the kids, "Where are the kids? Are they asleep?"

"I've tugged them in bed before coming here," Lucian replied.

Roxanne felt more at ease hearing that. Soon after, she started worrying about him.

"You look pale. You should get a good rest at home."

People might think Lucian was the one who was sick after seeing his face.

Hearing that, Lucian ran his hand down his face instinctively. Then, he forced a smile.

"I had the experience of being unable to sleep for days for work so it's no big deal."

He walked up and sat next to the bed. Then, he looked at Roxanne with a tender gaze. "Besides, how can I leave you all alone at the hospital? I'm sure the kids wouldn't let me do that."

Roxanne gave him a puzzled look. What has that got to do with the kids?

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Roxanne felt a warm sensation in her heart after she knew how protective they were of her. "I was afraid they would be scared after knowing it. I never thought..."

As she spoke, she smiled and glanced at Lucian. "They weren't scared because you were with them, and that's why they were confident."

Perhaps this was the power of paternal love.

With that, they looked at each other and grinned.

Roxanne moved room for him and said, "It's getting late now. Come and get some rest. You've got huge dark circles under your eyes!"

"There's no rush. Since you can't fall asleep, I want to seek your permission for something," Lucian said while he remained seated.

Roxanne got serious when she saw his darkened expression. "What is it?"

Lucian's brows furrowed slightly, thinking of how to deliver the news.

After a few minutes, he finally broke the silence. "Jock's second demand is for your research institute to work with them again. I've already drawn up the statement of unilateral termination of the contract so that I can get the antidote. I only need to release—"

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Lucian stopped talking and looked at her helplessly. "You don't have to worry about the funds. Forwell Group and Queen Group will pay you a large sum as the termination fee. You can use the money to increase employee benefits. It won't matter if you take the money from the Domoris family."

Roxanne said solemnly, "I'm the person in charge of the research institute. If you want to terminate the contract with us, I'll try to look for another business partner. But I'll never consider working with the Domoris family!"

After knowing the man that Jack was, Roxanne decided not to get involved with him in any way.

She wouldn't let Jack threaten them with this and let him have his way.

Lucian fell silent after seeing her firm attitude and hesitated. "I know how you feel, but now is not the time for you to burn your bridges with Jack."

He knew if the research institute formed a collaboration with the Domoris Group, Roxanne would still hold value to Jack.

In that case, there would be hope for her to get the antidote from Jack if they couldn't develop it.

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Chapter 1708 Not Answering The Phone

"I'll develop the antidote."

Roxanne sounded determined. "I'm sure he'll make excessive demands from us every time we ask for an antidote from him if we do as he says this time. Do you really want to agree to his demands?"

She was displeased. "Didn't you say you trust me? I'm sure I can do it!"

Naturally, Lucian knew Jack would make more excessive demands in the future.

However, he had no choice but to accept it for Roxanne's sake.

When he saw Roxanne's determination, he gradually gained confidence in her.

The two gazed at each other for what seemed like forever before Lucian compromised, "Okay, I got it. We'll do as you say. I'll annul the statement, and we can continue to work together."

A smile crept onto Roxanne's face after he gave in.

Lucian finally stood up after they decided on what to do.

Roxanne thought he was going onto the bed to rest, so she made space for him.

With a deep gaze, Lucian said, "I'm thankful for your invitation, darling. But you just recovered, and the bed is too small. I don't want you to feel squeezed, so I'll take the couch."

Before Roxanne could respond, Lucian turned and walked to the couch by the door.

Roxanne belatedly realized what he had called her and started to blush.

Watching him lie down on the couch, she also slowly lay down.

Lucian turned off the light, and the ward was plunged into darkness.

The two kept their silence, each with their own thoughts.

Early the following day, Jack opened the social media app and looked up news about Farwell Group and the research institute.

According to his agreement with Lucian, the latter should have already released a statement about the termination of the contract on the internet at that hour.

He waited for an hour, but there was no sign of Farwell Group releasing the statement.

Jack couldn't help but think of the marriage that hadn't been announced so far, and his expression turned cold. "Lucian Farwell! How dare you?"

How dare you mess with me when Roxanne's life is in my hands!

At the thought of that, Jack gave Kevin an instruction with a darkened expression.

"Give Lucian a call!"

He wanted to know what Lucian was thinking.

Frightened by his gloomy aura, Kevin quickly took out the phone and called Lucian.

In the meantime, Lucian and Roxanne couldn't fall asleep all night. They opened their eyes and sat up when the sun had barely risen.

Roxanne continued to think about the composition of the antidote while Lucian finally had time to handle Farwell Group's affairs.

A loud ringing broke the silence and disrupted their concentration.

Lucian came back to his senses and glanced at the caller ID. His face darkened, and hesitation flashed across his eyes.

"Is it from Jack?"

Roxanne looked over and saw Lucian's change in expression. Immediately, she knew who had called.

Lucian scrunched his eyebrows in tacit vindication. Upon seeing that, Roxanne put away her thoughts and said in a low voice, "I'll call him back. I have something to tell him." Hearing that, Lucian hesitated for a moment but eventually declined the call. On the other end, Kevin looked perplexed when Lucian declined the call. "Mr. Damaris, Mr. Farwell is not picking up the call." "That jerk!" Jack was enraged. "How dare he mess with me! I'll never let him off the hook!" Kevin lowered his head and kept his breath quiet after seeing his fury. The atmosphere inside the office abruptly turned tense. All of a sudden, Jack's phone rang. He glanced at the screen and furrowed his brows when he saw the caller ID.

Chapter 1709 Not A Chance

Roxanne? Isn't she with Lucian now? Why is she calling me back instead of Lucian? Jack was skeptical and finally answered the call after a while.

"Ms. Jarvis, you're awake?"

On the other end, Roxanne's voice was full of anger.

"I've overestimated you, Jack. Being the Damaris family's heir and a doctor, I can't believe you used your knowledge to poison me! Don't you think you've failed the Damaris family's name?"

Hearing her reprimand, Jack's eyes flashed hostility as the corners of his lips slowly curled up. "You still have the time to criticize me. It seems that you are very energetic!"

"It's all thanks to you," Roxanne responded coldly.

Narrowing his eyes, Jack sneered, "Since you know I did it, you should be clear that your life is in my hand. Watch your attitude!"

Then, he questioned coldly, "Where's Lucian? Pass the phone to him!"

Roxanne rejected without hesitation, "He has nothing to say to you! This is between us. Jack, don't you dare threaten him with me again!"

She would never allow herself to be anyone's weakness.

Seeing her aggressive demeanor, Jack was so mad that he burst into laughter. "Very well. Why do you think you regained consciousness? Hasn't Lucian told you? He only got the antidote from me after agreeing to three conditions."

He thought Roxanne wasn't aware of it, so he said arrogantly, "In order to get the antidote for you, Lucian has agreed to terminate the cooperation with your research institute. Moreover, he got married to another woman!"

Although he wasn't sure of the authenticity of the marriage certificate yet, he wanted to use it to provoke Roxanne.

At first, he thought Roxanne would be enraged by this. To his surprise, she sounded calm on the other end of the line.

"I'm aware of all this. Just give up. I'm the person in charge of the research institute. Even if we terminate the contract with Farwell Group, we will not work with you."

As for Lucian's fake marriage, Roxanne didn't plan to expose it yet.

"You got a death wish?" Jack was livid. "Roxanne, do you think Lucian got the real antidote yesterday?"

Roxanne uttered firmly, "Of course, I know it's not real, but I'll develop the antidote

with my own strength. My life will only be in my own hands!"

However, Jack felt as if he had heard a joke. He was dumbfounded at first, then broke into laughter.

"You will develop the antidote? Stop dreaming! Is the Damaris family's secret technique a joke to you? There's not a chance even if you ask Harvey for help!"

Roxanne's expression turned solemn when she heard him belittling her professor. "I'm Professor Lambert's student. If I can develop the antidote to your poison, so can he. I'm not asking him for help because I don't want to worry him. You'd better be more respectful!"

"Since you are so confident, then give it a try. If you don't get the second bottle of antidote before tonight, you will die from poisoning. Don't come crying to beg me," Jack snorted coldly.

Without waiting for Roxanne to speak, he hung up right away.

He didn't believe that anyone other than him could make an antidote to his poison.

Chapter 1710 Shocked

Lucian's expression froze slightly when the phone was hung up. He had a lot to say.

On second thought, he swallowed all his unspoken words.

Right now, now, all he wanted was for Roxanne to concentrate and find a way to develop the antidote.

Everything else did not matter.

At worst, he would beg Jack again.

Roxanne could sense his worry, so she comforted him softly, "The blood test results should be out soon. I will think of a way."

The look on Lucian's face eased up a little after hearing that. "I have faith in you."

Once again, a blanket of silence fell over the room.

Lucian knew Roxanne was occupied with thinking about the antidote again, now, so he didn't disturb her.

All of a sudden, someone knocked on the door.

Breaking out of her reverie, Roxanne looked at the door in confusion. She thought it was Madilyn.

Lucian stood up and opened the door.

He felt much more relaxed when he saw the person at the door.

"Lucian, Old Mr. Lomax might have found some composition of Jack's poison!"

Jonathan announced excitedly and then he thought of something, causing his expression to turn grim. "How is Roxanne doing? We aren't late, are we?"

He carefully observed Lucian's expression after he was done talking. Then, he began murmuring, "I don't think we're late, right? Otherwise, you wouldn't look like this."

As soon as those words fell, Roxanne's voice sounded from inside before Lucian could reply,

"Is that Jonathan? now, Why aren't you coming in?"

She heard Jonathan's voice at the door for a long time and felt strange since he wasn't coming in.

Jonathan sighed in relief when he heard her voice. Taken aback, he asked, "You're awake, Roxanne? You two got the antidote?"

He looked at Lucian in disbelief.

Lucian remained silent and nodded respectfully at Peregrine, who was right behind Jonathan. Then, he turned around and brought them into the ward.

Jonathan was overjoyed when he saw Roxanne sitting up on the bed.

“You’re finally awake, Roxanne. We were so worried for the past few days! I thought... Forget it. Let’s not talk about that. Everything is fine now that you have regained consciousness. How are you feeling? Do you feel unwell?”

Chapter 1711 Not Much Time

“You’re Old Mr. Lomax?” Roxanne finally snapped out of her shock and compared the person in front of her with the picture taken in his younger days.

Peregrine nodded and asked caringly, “How’s your body doing?”

Respectfully, she sat with a straightened back. “Thank you for asking. My body’s doing fine right now. nov.elxo I’m sorry for greeting you in such an impertinent manner.”

Then she tried to leave the bed.

In response, Peregrine waved his hand. “It’s fine. You’re a patient. There’s no need for you to mind your etiquette.”

He turned to Lucian. “How did Ms. Jarvis wake up? Did an expert create the antidote?”

Pressing on Roxanne’s shoulder to make her sit on the bed, Lucian replied in a deep voice, “I successfully took some from Jack.

However, the dosage I obtained wasn’t enough to expel all traces of poison in her body. I’m afraid your help is still necessary, nov.elxo Old Mr. Lomax.”

Peregrine nodded. “Of course.”

Obviously, he was going to do his best to treat Roxanne. It was why he came, after all.

“Jonathan said you’ve already figured out some of the poison’s composition. Is that true?” inquired Lucian somewhat impatiently.

As long as they knew what the poison was made of, it would be easy to synthesize an antidote.

Peregrine nodded and informed the two of his analysis.

Since Lucian knew nothing about medicine, he could only guess that the medicinal herbs Peregrine listed were rare.

As Roxanne listened to Peregrine, a look of awe settled in her eyes.

When the old man finished speaking, she couldn’t help but exclaim with admiration,

“You really do live up to your title as Merania’s King of Medicine! nov.elxo While these medicinal herbs aren’t particularly rare, people seldom use them because they are often ignored. I think only you could’ve thought of them, Old Mr. Lomax!”

If he hadn’t mentioned the names of those herbs, she would’ve forgotten that some of them even existed.

Peregrine shook his head. “Don’t celebrate yet. This is only one part of the solution. If we want to develop the antidote, we must find all the medicinal herbs.”

I believe the rest of the medicinal herbs are recorded in the Damaris family’s ancient medicine books, but even I have no clue what they are. Staring at Roxanne with anticipation, he said, “I recall you are Harvey’s student. In that case, your medicinal skills should be topnotch. Since you’ve woken up, you can help me devise a solution

together.”

Roxanne felt a little embarrassed to be praised by him. “I’m just an amateur compared to you. However, since it concerns my life and death, of course, I’ll do my best.”

Her tone grew more resolute and professional. nov.elxo “If you don’t mind, can you tell me what you’ve discovered over the past few days? I’m running out of time.”

Upon seeing how fast she got into the groove, Peregrine nodded with delight as he became even more impressed by her. I must say, she’s the only one who has seemed the most like a doctor over the past few days! Furthermore, even though she has been poisoned, she remains composed. Her future will be unbelievably bright!

Soon, the two began discussing the composition of the poison.

Occasionally, nov.elxo Jonathan would voice his opinion.

Meanwhile, Lucian could only listen to the conversation at the side. I should’ve found some time to learn a thing or two about medicine!

Chapter 1712 DevelopingThe Cure

“I believe I’ve seen the other medicinal herbs in the Damaris family’s ancient medicine books before.” In the end, Peregrine couldn’t recall the rest of the medicinal herbs.

Hesitantly, Roxanne said, “Give me some time. nov.elxo I believe I can figure them out based on the leads you’ve provided.”

When he realized she had read those ancient medicine books too, he was shocked but didn’t show it on his face. “The other medicinal herbs aren’t as important as the key component. I doubt Jack would’ve made it that easy for us to figure out.”

As long as they couldn’t ascertain that crucial ingredient, they wouldn’t be able to develop the antidote.

Carefully, Jonathan voiced his speculation. “I don’t think it’s just a matter of figuring out the medicinal herbs. Perhaps Jack was so sure we wouldn’t be able to create the cure because he used an unconventional method to synthesize the poison. That may be why it’s so difficult to discern the poison’s raw materials.” It would explain why someone as skilled as Peregrine and Roxanne still couldn’t make heads or tails of the poison after so long.

Silence ensued. nov.elxo The atmosphere in the room turned gloomy.

Both Peregrine and Roxanne were deep in thought with a frown.

Even though they were in deep water, none of them intend to give up.

“Will this help?” Lucian presented a bottle sitting at the side to the rest.

The other three glanced at the bottle, puzzled.

Thus, he explained, “This is the bottle that contained the antidote. Perhaps some residues of the antidote remain inside and can come in handy.”

After he fed Roxanne the antidote, nov.elxo he kept the bottle.

He didn’t give it too much thought back then, but he was glad he did it since it might provide a lead to the clueless doctors.

“You kept the bottle? Why didn’t you take it out earlier?” admonished Peregrine, though he was relieved to hear that.

That revelation visibly lightened Roxanne’s mood. “Lucian’s not proficient in pharmacology, Old Mr. Lomax. There’s no need to snap at him.”

Then she beamed gratefully at Lucian. “Thank you for being scrupulous! These few drops of the antidote may be immensely helpful!”

Jonathan added, "It's difficult to figure out the composition of the poison and the antidote in such a short period. However, we may find new leads if we can grasp part of the antidote's and poison's formula!" We may be able to identify the poison's formulae based on the partial formula of the antidote!

That idea excited Roxanne and Peregrine.

With a serious expression, Peregrine urged, "Let's not dawdle! Since we have the antidote, we can analyze it right now!"

Roxanne nodded. "The analytical equipment in the hospital is inadequate, so I'll head to the research institute right away."

As she spoke, however she attempted to leave the bed.

Lucian frowned as he watched her ignoring her condition. "You shouldn't be moving around right now." The more time passes since Roxanne consumes the antidote, the more ill she looks. Considering Jack's threat earlier, if Roxanne tries to act recklessly again, the poison may kick in before tonight! If that happens, even if they figure out the poison's formula, it may be too late for her!

"I'll go, Roxanne. I know a bit about pharmacology," proposed Jonathan.

Chapter 1713 Lower Head

A troubled look surfaced on Roxanne's countenance. "Are you even still familiar with the lab equipment?" However I'm certain Jonathan has been the person in charge of Queen Group for the past few years. It's likely been a long while since he touched anything related to Queen Group's research on medicinal herbs. I'm not willing to take risks at this critical moment.

Embarrassed, Jonathan rubbed his nose. "How about I ask a trustworthy employee in my company to do it?"

She shook her head. "No, I still want to do it myself. I can't trust others to pull it off. You understand me, don't you?"

Upon hearing that, he nodded. "I do. It concerns your life, after all. Naturally, you want to be meticulous about it. However..."

He carefully glanced at Lucian. Based on his expression alone, I can tell he won't let her go.

"Jack was confident no one could crack his formulae, which means he must've done something special when synthesizing it! I've been working with him for a long time, however so only I know how to figure it out!" Turning to Lucian, she pleaded sincerely, "If we submit to him tonight, there'll be a next time. We can't allow him to keep acting arrogantly like that! We must end this today!"

Of course, Lucian understood her reasoning.

However, he cared more about keeping her alive.

After staying silent for a long while, Peregrine spoke up. "Before we create the antidote, you should stay on the bed and avoid wearing yourself down."

In response, a dejected look swirled in Roxanne's eyes. "But..." Is there even anyone who can see through Jack's trick except me? No, I must go. There's not much time left.

"If you insist on tiring yourself, you may trigger the poison ahead of time. When that happens, there won't be enough time to save you, even if you ask Jack for the antidote." A serious expression formed on his face. "You should know you mustn't

move when your blood vessels are hardening!”

Lucian was astonished to hear that. Roxanne knew what would happen if she forced herself to leave the bed, yet she still wanted to follow through with her plan.

Upon pressing Roxanne’s shoulder with his hand, he stared at her with a resolute look. No matter what, nov.elxo I won’t let her leave the bed!

In response, she lowered her head in guilt. “I just think I can develop the antidote before the poison activates. That way—”

His cold voice interrupted her. “Did it occur to you that you’re gambling with your life right now?”

Resignedly, she raised her head to meet his eyes. “I don’t want us to live under Jack’s thumb.” I’m primarily worried about Lucian. He was always an outstanding mon, never submitting to anyone else. However, because of me, he’s witling to sacrifice his marriage. For six years, he never made any compromises on his marriage, yet... Just thinking about that makes me feel like I’m dragging him down. I can’t help but blame myself, and I don’t want to see him defer to anyone for any reason. At the same time, nov.elxo I don’t want any involvement with that two-faced Jock anymore!

“I rather submit to Jack than let you die,” uttered Lucian as he grasped her hand.

Chapter 1714 A Despicable Man

Roxanne had no choice but to abandon the idea of visiting the research institute due to Lucian’s insistence and come up with another one.

“Ms. Xander’s medical skills are great.” Knitting his eyebrows, Lucian proposed, “Maybe you can ask her to go to the research institute in your stead. Then you can tell her what to do on the phone.” If I remember correctly, Madilyn has always worked in the medical industry. She even treated Roxanne with a few experts during the past few days. Her skills are clearly extraordinary.

Hesitation flashed past Roxanne’s eyes. nov.elxo “Madilyn...” She may have excellent medical skills, but she’s not very good when it comes to pharmacology.

After a brief contemplation, she concluded that there was no other way and nodded.

“I’ll call her right now and ask her to head to the research institute.” At most, I’ll ask her to carry out the test before I read the results through a video call.

Promptly, she called Madilyn, and the latter answered. “I was just about to visit you, Roxanne! How are you doing right now?”

Roxanne went straight to the point. “Go to the research institute right now, Madilyn.

Mr. Queen will send the antidote over later. Please help me analyze the antidote’s components there. It doesn’t have to be thorough. Just do as much as you can.”

Upon hearing that, nov.elxo Madilyn felt her heart drop. Still, despite not knowing what had happened, she immediately stood and said, “I’ll head out right now. Contact me if anything comes up.”

“Call me once you reach the research institute.”

Then Roxanne hung up the phone and turned to Jonathan. “Please deliver the antidote to the research institute.”

He grabbed the bottle and assured her, “I’ll reach there as fast as I can. We’ll definitely develop a cure!”

In response, she smiled at him weakly.

Without delay, he dashed out of the room, then the building, and drove speedily

toward the research institute.

When he arrived at his destination, however, he saw Madilyn waiting at the entrance with Linda.

Roxanne had also called Linda for help.

"What's the situation right now, Mr. Queen? Why do we suddenly need to study the antidote's components?" After grabbing the bottle, Madilyn strode toward the laboratory.

Jonathan disclosed, "The antidote Jack provided yesterday didn't have enough dosage to remove the poison from Roxanne's body completely. So, we still need to synthesize our own antidote to save her."

That shocked Madilyn. "What? How can Jack do such a thing? That's so vile!"

"Yep. He's a despicable man!"

Worry bubbled in Madilyn's heart. If that's the case, then Roxanne...

Linda couldn't believe her ears. Earlier, when Roxanne called me, she only asked me to lend Madilyn a hand. I didn't expect the situation to be this dire!

Despite her apprehension, she cheered herself and the other two up. "Dr. Jarvis will be fine! She's a distinguished doctor. Even Dr. Lambert claimed she's his most outstanding student!"

At the same time, she prayed for Roxanne's safety in her heart.

When the trio arrived at the laboratory, Madilyn cleared her mind and called Roxanne

Chapter 1715 What To Do

Concurrently, in the ward, Roxanne and Peregrine discussed the methods to analyze the antidote's content.

"A single test won't be sufficient. However, we only have a limited amount of the antidote left. We need to come up with the most efficient and effective way to examine it," suggested Roxanne.

Her voice sounded weak due to her feeble body and her speaking too long.

Peregrine was worried about that problem, too.

After the two came up with a few possible solutions, Madilyn called.

Roxanne answered the call and heard, "I've arrived, Roxanne. What do you need me to do?"

Her tone sounds somber. Jonathan probably told her about what was going on with me. However, I don't have the time to comfort her right now. Without delay, she informed Madilyn of Peregrine's and her plan.

Madilyn listened attentively and voiced her opinion when she noticed something illogical.

Eventually, they came up with three tests to conduct on the antidote that wouldn't waste it and would ascertain its components effectively.

Although, Madilyn couldn't help but blurt, "Still, there's no guarantee it'll have the medicinal herbs you need."

Grinning, Roxanne comforted, however, "With how things have turned out, we can only do our best. I'll be counting on you."

With that, Madilyn began conducting the tests in silence.

Meanwhile, Jonathan held his phone for Roxanne and Peregrine to watch Madilyn's movements through a video call. It was just in case Madilyn got something wrong.

At the side, Linda clenched her fists nervously and prayed in her heart. There must be a medicinal herb within it that Dr. Jarvis needs! Considering how many people she has saved, I'm sure Lady Luck will smile at her!

"You can start the next test. I'll check the report later," uttered Roxanne upon noticing the conclusion of the analysis.

Just as she ended her sentence, she coughed twice. The pain was radiating from her body.

Still, she endured the agony and continued to watch Madilyn work.

Upon seeing her like that, Peregrine turned toward the instruments monitoring her status next to the bed.

When he saw the numbers on the screen, he peered at Roxanne with a complicated look. Her body's deteriorating fast because the antidote has run its course. Based on the values I'm seeing, she must be in excruciating pain right now. Yet, she's still holding herself together to keep going. Her willpower is really a rare sight. Although, I'm not sure how much longer she can hold on.

Similarly, Lucian had noticed the rapid decline of Roxanne's condition. He could feel his heart sinking.

However, he was aware of the importance of her work. Thus, he stood quietly at the side while his hatred for Jack burned brighter. That despicable man! How dare he make Roxanne suffer! Once she's recovered, I'll pay him back by a thousandfold! The trio in the laboratory didn't have time to look at the screen, but they could still tell Roxanne's condition had worsened through her voice alone.

As her voice grew weaker, now the trio became more despondent.

Madilyn's hands were even trembling.

Upon noticing her friend's expression, Roxanne lifted her spirit and comforted Madilyn with a smile. "Calm down, Madilyn. Just make sure you don't make any mistakes. I can still keep going."

Lowering her eyes, Madilyn nodded wordlessly and did her best to compose herself while holding back the lump in her throat.

Chapter 1716 Heartwrenching

Eventually, noon arrived.

Eventually, noon arrived.

Noticing that, Lucian asked Coyden to buy them lunch.

However, Peregrine and Roxanne were too absorbed in their work to eat.

"You should eat something." Lucian persuaded resignedly, "Even if you don't, Old Mr. Lomox should still do so."

In response, Roxanne reluctantly turned her attention to Peregrine for a few seconds.

"I heard from Lucian that you've been staying up all night for the past few days, Old Mr. Lomox. I bet you must be tired. You should eat something. I can still keep my eyes on the screen."

I am feeling quite tired. Peregrine sighed. "I suppose my body isn't as vigorous as it used to be. Very well, then. I'll eat while you keep watch." Then, he started eating at the side.

She nodded and returned to the screen to watch Madilyn work.

Furrowing his eyebrows, Lucian wanted to advise Roxanne to eat since she didn't

seem to do that. However, he swallowed his words when he thought about how she was soving herself.

Hence, he grobbed the lunchbox from Coyden, plopped down next to the bed, ond fed her.

Roxonne was so focused thot it took her o few seconds to reolize she was eoting. Eventually, noon arrived.

Noticing that, Lucian asked Cayden to buy them lunch.

She flashed an apologetic smile at him after detecting the heart-wrenching look in his eyes.

She fleshed en epologetic smile et him efter detecting the heert-wrenching look in his eyes.

“It’s fine if you work. Although, you still need to eet,” remarked Lucien with resignation.

Without hesitotion, she shifted her sight beck to the screen end sew Medilyn hed inserted the rest of the fluid into the testing instrument, weiting for the result.

When the test wes over, Roxenne recommended, “It’s noon elreedy, so ell of you should get some rest. Linde, please help buy lunch for Medilyn end Mr. Queen.”

Linde promptly egreed end left.

The other two took e breather.

As Peregrine ete his lunch, he witnessed how Lucien cered for Roxenne end commented, “Your reletionship with him sure is splendid.”

Roxenne was slightly taken ebeck by thet. Then, she reelized she was still being fed lunch by Lucien like e child.

Upon detecting the delight in the old men’s eyes, she lowered hers with emberressment end grebbed the lunchbox from Lucien.

Lucien went along with her wish, plecting the lunchbox end the cutleries on the teble.

Agein, Peregrine expressed his thoughts. “The Ferwell boy is much more cering then his cold epeerence suggests.”

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Roxanne could feel her cheeks burning as she beamed at Lucian. If it were six years

ago, I wouldn't have expected Lucian to care for me like this. Now that I finally have what I've dreamed of, I must hold on to it tightly. There's no way I'll lose what's most precious to me because of Jack!

"I'm fairly certain he won't forgive me if I fail to save you today, based on what I've observed of you two so far." The edges of Peregrine's lips curved upward as he put aside the lunchbox.v

Chapter 1717 Incomparable

Lucian nodded, which Cayden took as a sign to drive Peregrine to the research institute.

Only Roxanne and Lucian were left in the ward.

After Peregrine left, Roxanne spoke to Madilyn. "Old Mr. Lomax is heading there right now. Just follow his instructions when he arrives."

At the moment, the trio was speedily devouring the lunch Linda bought.

Upon hearing Roxanne's words, Madilyn nodded and inquired, "Are you doing all right, Roxanne?"

Even though it's only been a few hours, her face is already as pale as a sheet of paper. Not to mention how feeble her voice sounds. Madilyn couldn't help but get worried, despite not being able to know her friend's latest status through the screen. Smiling, Roxanne assured, "Everything's fine. I'm still holding on. Nothing will happen to me."

As she spoke, she grimaced due to the pain.

Spotting that, Madilyn became even more concerned but knew there was no point in speaking about it further. What's most important right now is figuring out the antidote's composition, using it to deduce the poison's key component, and developing the antidote.

With a heavy expression, she nodded. "I swear I won't let anything happen to you. I'll figure out the components that make up the antidote!"

"Thanks for your help." Roxanne beamed gratefully.

"I'm Archie's and Benny's godmother! Even if not for you, I'd still do it for them! If you keep acting courteous, I'm going to be mad!" Madilyn intentionally pretended to be enraged to lighten the mood.

The moment she ended her sentence, smiles formed on their faces.

"Even if an antidote can't be synthesized in the end, I won't let anything happen to you," stated Lucian resolutely.

He was preparing for the worst because Roxanne's deteriorating condition wasn't inspiring him to put all his hope in her.

Hearing that, Roxanne met his eyes and assured softly but tenaciously, "I won't let you submit to someone else. I will save myself today!"

The couple's conversation touched the people in the laboratory.

Lucian doesn't seem like someone who has ever conceded, considering his status.

Yet, Jack managed to push him to this state. It's obvious how much he loves Roxanne. It's hard not to feel pity for the two. They didn't do anything wrong. Roxanne was only poisoned because someone else was jealous of her talents.

Calmly, Lucian uttered, "I don't care about that. I'll find a way to get back at him even if I surrender. I only want you to stay by my side."

Roxanne was moved and began to relent. Indeed, that's such a minor issue now when I may lose my life soon. As long as I can keep on living, we'll find a way to get our revenge.

Peering apologetically at him, she speculated, "Well, I don't think he'll forgive you easily if you meet him again after what happened."

He hugged her comfortingly. "It doesn't matter what he wants me to do. As long as I can save you, I'll do it. Nothing is more important than your life."

Laying in his embrace, she eased up. "That'll be our only option if things come to that. However, it hasn't come to that point yet. We still have hope."

Chapter 1718 Wary

The couple continued to hug each other lovingly.

The people on the other side of the screen were emotionally moved by that scene.

None of them dared to make a peep.

Suddenly, Jonathan's phone rang.

In response, he stepped out of the laboratory and peered at the screen.

It was from Frieda.

He knew Frieda disliked Roxanne, and she only helped track Peregrine down because he asked her to.

Why is she calling me right now? Frowning, he hesitated for a few moments before answering the call.

"Are you at the hospital right now, Jonathan?" Frieda inquired the moment the call connected.

When Shawn didn't hear anything about or couldn't reach Peregrine for a few days after the latter reached Horington, he asked her to call Jonathan to ask about the situation.

When Jonathan heard her bringing up the hospital, he was rather confused. "What do you want to ask about?"

"How's Dr. Jarvis' situation right now? Has she woken up yet?" asked Frieda.

"When did you start caring about her?" He knitted his eyebrows. "Don't tell me you already changed your attitude toward her just because I told you off."

A look of disdain flashed past her eyes as she grumbled, "Isn't it normal for me to ask about her since I helped her find the King of Medicine? Even if I don't care about her, I still need to check on him. He hasn't contacted me for days."

She seems only interested in Old Mr. Lomax's situation. In that case, I don't think I need to be so suspicious of her. "You don't need to worry about that. Old Mr. Lomax is doing fine. Since you're the one who invited him here, he's considered our guest. I'll take good care of him. Everyone respects him a lot."

Still, she questioned, "What do you mean by that? How's Dr. Jarvis' condition? It's been so many days, yet the King of Medicine still hasn't treated her yet?"

Thinking about Roxanne's condition, he gloomily replied, "Old Mr. Lomax isn't omnipotent. Everyone's still figuring out how to treat Roxanne."

Chapter 1719 How Is She

Frieda was annoyed by Jonathan's lecture. Let's see what else he'll say when I become Mrs. Crawford!

"All right, all right. It's as if I've not done enough by bringing the King of Medicine here to help with the treatment. What else do you want from me?" Frieda started giving Jonathan an attitude when she thought she might become a part of the upper echelons of society.

Sensing her annoyance, Jonathan realized he, too, was giving her an attitude for no reason.

Though it was clear that Frieda had a dislike for Roxanne, Jonathan felt it was important to acknowledge that Frieda had helped them. I shouldn't have put her down like that.

At that thought, Jonathan toned down his voice. "I shouldn't have said that. You did Dr. Jarvis and Mr. Farwell a favor by bringing in Old Mr. Lomax. I'll tell Grandpa about it."

Hearing that, Frieda was pleased with his response. "That's more like it."

Jonathan heaved a helpless sigh. Being around his sister was like walking on eggshells, so he had to be cautious with his words and action.

"Hey, what are you doing out there?" Peregrine walked in and asked Jonathan when he saw him talking over the phone outside.

After ending his chat with Frieda, Jonathan hung up the phone. He walked over and greeted Peregrine. "I was talking to my sister over the phone. She called to see if everything was okay."

Peregrine could not help but frown when he thought of Frieda. "Your sister is not on good terms with Roxanne, right?"

Jonathan froze for a moment upon hearing that.

Peregrine only saw Frieda and Roxanne once, yet he could tell the two women did not get along.

Embarrassed, Jonathan bobbed his head in response. "Frieda is a little difficult to deal with, but she's changing for the better."

Despite his lingering doubts, Peregrine remained silent and decided not to pursue the matter further. Why would Frieda invite me over if Frieda is not on good terms with Roxanne? Even the man named Shawn has never shown up.

Jonathan and Peregrine then entered the lab.

Madilyn, who had just finished her lunch, started operating the machines again.

Upon spotting Peregrine in the lab, she stopped working and greeted him, "You're here, Old Mr. Lomax."

Peregrine nodded, gesturing for her to continue her work while he stood beside her and watched.

As time continued to tick away, a molecular formula began to appear on the screen. Some ingredients the system suggested even got Peregrine thinking about what other ingredients they could go with.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the phone, the experts brought in the results of the blood test. Roxanne looked at the thin paper and went deep in thought.

Peregrine and Roxanne examined the ingredients together, but they could not quite identify one specific medicinal herb.

The elderly man stared at the molecular formula on the screen and murmured, "It seems there's no need to neutralize the effect of the poisonous herbs that appeared in our analysis with that particular medicinal herb."

Clearly, someone had altered the molecular formula on the screen. It was unlikely for

anyone to use that medicinal herb to dispel the poison. Yet, Jack used it to concoct the antidote for Roxanne. Meanwhile, over at the Queen residence, Frieda began dressing up after ending the call with Jonathan. After spending an hour doing her makeup and another thirty minutes trying on clothes, she headed off to the mansion in the suburbs to meet Shawn. She could have clarified things with him over the phone, but she chose to meet him because she had an ulterior motive.

Chapter 1720 This Is Not An Antidote

Time ticked by slowly.

As the sky grew darker, more components of the antidote were known.

But alas, there was still no lead on the most crucial medicinal herb.

Roxanne's condition was worsening.

At noon, she could still sit up by herself. However, at that moment, she had to lean against Lucian to sit up. She had to clench her jaw all the time to prevent herself from groaning due to the severe pain.

"We're running out of time. I'm contacting Jack now!"

The sight of her in pain made Lucian feel extremely anxious.

Roxanne grabbed his wrist with great difficulty and said, "Let's wait a little longer. I can still hold on for a little while."

We still have hope as long as we're not at a critical moment.

Holding on to the last hope, Peregrine tapped on the molecular formula on the screen and said, "Let's do another test. I want to find out what this is!"

Without wasting any time, Madilyn poured the liquid onto the apparatus and did another test.

Before the results were out, Peregrine suddenly came to a realization and said in a deep voice, "I got it! The key is not the medicinal herb. It's a chemical added during the manufacturing process!"

The altered molecular formula was exactly the result of the medicinal herbs mixed with chemicals.

Upon hearing that, Madilyn, too, came to her senses and said to Roxanne excitedly, "Roxanne, did you hear that? Old Mr. Lomax has figured out the key ingredient. We can start creating the antidote right away!"

Creating the antidote was a piece of cake as long as they knew what the key component of the poison was.

Roxanne heaved a sigh of relief and forced a smile. "That's great."

Madilyn had been busy conducting tests the entire afternoon that she did not realize Roxanne's current condition.

The moment Madilyn noticed Roxanne's condition had worsened, the smile on her face gradually disappeared and was replaced with a look of worry.

"But we're running out of time. We've spent so much time figuring out the components of the poison..."

Judging by Roxanne's condition, she might not be able to hold on until we've created the antidote.

Roxanne assured calmly, "Don't worry. We still have time. You'll definitely create it in

time. Don't panic."

Madilyn's eyes were red with tears when she heard Roxanne's weak voice.

When she saw Peregrine still fumbling around for the formula of the antidote, her panic rose to new heights.

Moments later, Peregrine approached the phone screen and glanced at Roxanne with a grim look. "This isn't quite right."

Roxanne felt her heart sink a little. "Why would you say that?"

Peregrine shook his head slowly. "Based on my medical experience, this formula can slow down the effect of the poison, but it doesn't get rid of it completely. It doesn't work that way no matter how much you consume."

Just then, Roxanne thought of something, and she was shocked by Jack's viciousness.

With a frown, she asked, "Is it possible that this isn't an antidote at all? Instead, it only functions to slow down the effects of the poison?"

Jack wants to use this tactic to acquire Farwell Group and the research institute.

The thought of that sent a chill down Roxanne's spine.

She turned to look at Lucian and held his hand.

At first, she was open to the option of Lucian looking for Jack if they came to a dead end.

However, after realizing what Jack had been planning, she could not let Lucian meet Jack anymore.

Jack already knows we're trying to find the antidote. Who knows what he'll do to it when Lucian meets him?

Chapter 1721 Let Me Write It

Roxanne's speculation stunned Madilyn. "It's not an antidote? Then what do we do now?"

We've put in so much effort, yet the antidote's still unknown. Roxanne's already so weak. There's no way she can hold on until we discover the antidote.

Madilyn was at a loss for what to do. All she wished was to slip through the screen and stay by Roxanne's side.

Lucian was equally shocked, and his hatred for Jack rose to new heights.

That jerk. He really has a death wish.

"Let me think..."

Roxanne clenched her other hand so tightly that her nails sunk into her flesh, hoping to suppress the pain in her body.

I've got to calm down. We know the components of the poison already. I'm sure I can think of a formula to suppress the poison.

Just as she was racking her brains for a formula, her head began to hurt, and it grew increasingly painful.

"There's no time for that. The poison's properties will soon overcome the antidote."

Peregrine's voice rang out on the other end of the call.

Anxiousness flooded Peregrine's heart as he cast Roxanne a solemn gaze.

Although they had only met once, he could not deny he was impressed with Roxanne's perseverance and medical skills.

It would be a huge loss to the medical industry if they lost someone as talented as her.

That was why Peregrine was eager to find a way to cure her. Roxanne subconsciously gripped Lucian's wrist so tightly that her nails dug into his flesh. Lucian was in pain, but he still fixed his gaze on her, looking worried and conflicted. The same thought that crossed Roxanne's mind crossed his too. However, he could not bring himself to let Roxanne suffer so much. "I'm going to see Jack!" Lucian stood up with a grimace. Upon hearing that, Roxanne turned her head in pain and said through gritted teeth, "No! You mustn't see him! Even if he gives me the antidote this time, it'll only make it more difficult for me to figure it out." If we keep seeing him, he'll start to have full control over us. "Roxanne..." Lucian felt as if he was experiencing her pain. His heart ached so much that he found it hard to breathe. Forcing a smile, Roxanne turned to Madilyn and said, "I... I think I've figured it out. Tell Old Mr. Lomax to wait in the research institute. Archie will go over in a while to help him." Then she looked at Lucian. "Lucian, get me a pen and a piece of paper." Lucian knitted his brows. "Let me write it. I doubt you can even hold a pen in your current state." Roxanne shook her head. "People who don't have experience with traditional medicine can easily misspell the name. Besides, traditional medicines have many homophones. Even doctors can mishear it. Let me write it." Time was of the essence, so Lucian dared not argue. He had no choice but to quickly fetch the materials and placed them in front of her. Roxanne fell into a deep silence for some time before writing on the piece of paper. She was so weak she had to muster all her strength to hold the pen. No matter how focused she was, the writing still came out crooked. Lucian and the four people on the other end of the call could not help but feel worried when they saw that.

Chapter 1722 Contact Me Right Away

Roxanne was drenched in a cold sweat from the pain. When she was finally done writing the formula, she looked up at the screen and said, "Old Mr. Lomax, this is the formula I can think of for now. It might be incomplete. Please help me to check it later." Peregrine nodded. "Don't worry. I'll do my best." Roxanne flashed him a grateful smile before turning to Lucian. "Get someone to send Archie over. Be quick." "Okay." Just as he was about to give Cayden a call, Jonathan offered, "There's no time for that! I'll go!" "Thank you," Roxanne uttered weakly. Jonathan then rushed out of the laboratory. "Why are you sending Archie there?" Lucian pulled her into his embrace to distract her. Roxanne was trembling from the pain, but she still managed to answer, "A-Archie remembers the order of the medicinal herbs in the research institute. Only he can gather all the herbs using the shortest amount of time." Even Roxanne could not defeat Archie in that.

Meanwhile, Peregrine was confused about who Archie was. All he could gather was that Archie was a person with amazing memory based on Roxanne's description. While he was deep in his thoughts, he heard Madilyn shriek, "Roxanne!" From the screen, Roxanne could be seen curled up and trembling in pain. She could barely focus on what they were saying. A conflicted look fleetingly crossed Lucian's eyes when he saw how much pain Roxanne was in. No matter how torturous it was for her, she still snuggled against his chest instinctively. Realizing that, Lucian came to a decision. He held her tightly with one hand and used the other to hit the back of her neck with the right amount of force. Immediately, Roxanne stiffened and fell silent. Lucian hugged her for a few seconds before carefully placing her on the bed and tucking her in. "I'll go over and meet up with you guys," he said to Madilyn and the others. Madilyn nodded in acknowledgment. Her heart ached as she watched Roxanne's furrowed brows relax. Regardless, that was a better option, as Roxanne would not feel the pain when she was unconscious. It was better for her to be unconscious instead of enduring the pain in a conscious state.

Chapter 1723 Go With You

"Hello, Mr. Queen." As soon as Jonathan stepped into the house, Catalina greeted him with a troubled look. "The children are upstairs. I have no idea what happened these two days. Mr. and Mrs. Farwell haven't been back, and the children are in a bad mood." Of course, Jonathan was aware of the reason for their bad mood. He looked up at the second floor, only to feel worse. For a moment, he did not know how to break the news to them. However, time was of the essence. He had no time to hesitate. Nodding at Catalina, Jonathan said, "I'll go upstairs and check on them." Catalina murmured a response in acknowledgement. Jonathan strode upstairs. At that moment, the three children were sitting in the bedroom, looking dejected. Estella cast Archie an uneasy look. "Archie, I'm scared. What happened to Mommy? Why isn't she home yet?" Archie knitted his brows and comforted her, "Don't be scared. Mommy said she's just having a fever. Besides, Daddy will take good care of her. Don't you trust Daddy?" A look of hesitation flashed across Estella's and Benny's eyes. They trusted Lucian. However, Roxanne did not look like she was having a fever. Moreover, they had not been able to contact her for the past few days. Taking in his siblings' worried faces, Archie pursed his lips and racked his brains for a solution.

He had promised Lucian he would take good care of Benny and Estella, which included their physical and emotional health.

While his mind was racing, a knock sounded on the door.

Archie got down from the bed and opened the door, only to feel dejected at the sight of the person standing there.

"What's the matter, Mr. Queen?"

Jonathan's heart sank with worry when he saw how crestfallen the children looked.

Regardless, he still feigned nonchalance and said to Archie, "I have something to tell you. Come, take a walk with me."

Vaguely sensing it had something to do with Roxanne, Archie nodded without hesitation and walked out.

"I want to go too!"

Both Benny and Estella hopped off the bed and ran up to the door.

"You two stay at home. I just need Archie to help me with something," Jonathan said, looking troubled.

Chapter 1724 An Error In Judgment

With the children in tow, Jonathan set off from the manor.

The three little ones were very obedient along the way and remained silent.

Jonathan hesitated for a while before finally deciding to call Lucian, who answered the phone after just a few rings. "What is it, Jonathan?"

"Lucian, I... I went to pick up Archie, but Benny and Essie insisted on tagging along too, so I brought them all with me..." he said nervously. After all, he had made the call to bring Benny and Estella along without knowing whether it would end up causing more trouble.

He thought Lucian would have a few stern words for him, but to his surprise, the latter was quiet for a few seconds before calmly giving his consent. "Okay, got it. Put the call on speaker so I can talk to them."

Jonathan breathed a sigh of relief, then immediately turned on the speakerphone and said to the children, "Your daddy wants to chat with you."

The trio's eyes lit up when they heard that. They leaned forward eagerly as though they could see Lucian through the screen and said, "Daddy! How's Mommy?"

Their question sent a sharp pang shooting through Jonathan's heart. He clenched his jaw and stared straight ahead, studiously trying not to catch a glimpse of the kids' innocent faces.

On the other end of the line, Lucian also fell silent for several seconds before answering evasively, "Her condition has gotten a little bit more serious, but she has written out the prescription. We just need Archie's help to gather the medicinal herbs. You don't have to be too worried."

Lucian's response made Benny and Estella feel slightly more at ease. We're confident in Mommy's medical skills. Since she has prepared the prescription, everything will be okay!

"Will we be able to see Mommy when we're there?" they asked expectantly.

Lucian's eyes darkened. "She's waiting at the hospital. You need to come straight to the research institute."

The children were a little disappointed to hear that, but they knew it was not the time

to whine. They had no choice but to agree obediently.
“Remember to be good when you arrive so that you don’t cause trouble for Archie,” Lucian reminded them in a deep voice.
In their piping voices, Benny and Estella replied, “We will.”
Lucian did not say anything more to them after that. He merely said to Jonathan, “That’s all, then. I’ll wait for you guys at the research institute.”
Jonathan murmured an acknowledgment and ended the call.
Lucian put away his phone and strode into the research institute where Peregrine, Madilyn, and Linda were waiting for him.

Chapter 1725 Gather The Medicinal Herbs

Lucian smiled grimly at the mention of Roxanne. “I’ll just need your help to check that there are no mistakes with the medicinal herbs.”

Peregrine nodded and asked Linda for a pen. Then, he scribbled a few more medicinal herbs at the bottom. As he wrote, he clicked his tongue in admiration.

“She’s truly talented. What a genius! I can’t believe she figured out that the antidote from Jack was only a medicine to delay the effects of the poison and even managed to work out an antidote based on that. Impressive!”

His words of praise for Roxanne did nothing to lift Madilyn’s spirits. Even if she’s a genius, she still didn’t manage to escape from experiencing such pain.

Soon, Peregrine had finished tweaking the prescription.

Linda was so anxious that she stood up and suggested, “Since Archie isn’t here yet, why don’t I help prep some of the herbs first?”

“These medicinal herbs listed here aren’t very common, so you must be careful. Make sure not to take the wrong ones,” Peregrine cautioned while handing her the prescription.

She hummed in acknowledgment. When she lowered her head and glanced at the prescription, however, she was somewhat dumbfounded.

I assumed Old Mr. Lomax meant that only a few aren’t that common. This prescription contains over twenty medicinal herbs, but I never thought they’d all be rarely used herbs! Although I’ve worked at the research institute for some time, I’ve been handling more administrative matters for the most part. That’s why I’m not very familiar with where each medicinal herb is stored, and the ones I do recall aren’t even listed here.

Afraid that she would only create more of a mess for Roxanne, Linda had no choice but to abandon her good intentions and gloomily return the prescription to Peregrine.

“I’m sorry, Old Mr. Lomax. Let’s wait for Archie to get here first.”

Peregrine drew his brows together in confusion.

“Our research institute has hundreds of medicinal herbs. We had them sorted and categorized previously, but finding these twenty-old rare medicinal herbs is still a little difficult for me. Only Archie can remember where they are,” Linda explained.

The mention of Archie’s name again piqued Peregrine’s curiosity further. “Who’s this Archie?”

Linda’s eyes flitted to Lucian.

“He’s my and Roxanne’s son,” Lucian answered.

Peregrine nodded in understanding. “Ah, no wonder! Children of parents with brilliant minds usually turn out to be gifted as well.”

Madilyn's expression changed slightly, and she glanced at Lucian suspiciously. From his tone, it sounds as though he already knows Archie and Benny are his children. On second thought, that isn't very likely. Roxanne shouldn't have had the chance to tell him. He probably only said that because he has genuinely accepted them as his own. As that thought crossed her mind, she felt a wave of bittersweet sadness wash over her. It's the day we've finally been waiting for! Oh, I do hope nothing happens to Roxanne!

The group continued waiting anxiously for Archie to arrive.

Ten minutes later, a flurry of footsteps sounded from the corridor.

Everyone in the laboratory sprang to their feet in unison and rushed to the door.

There, they saw Jonathan hurrying toward them with the three children.

Jonathan was walking so fast that the kids had to jog to keep up with him, yet they did not complain about feeling tired.

"Daddy!"

Spotting Lucian at the door, Benny and Estella sped up and threw themselves into his arms.

Archie, however, restrained himself and hung back. He looked at Madilyn and said, "Aunt Madilyn, let's go and gather the medicinal herbs."

I haven't forgotten why I'm here, and I understand just how urgent the situation is. Otherwise, it wouldn't have been necessary to send Mr. Queen to get me in the middle of the night.

Seeing him put on a strong and mature front made Madilyn emotional, and she was quiet for several seconds. Then, she forced a smile and held out a hand to take his.

Chapter 1726 The Bond

Linda led the way while Peregrine trailed behind the trio, staring at Archie curiously.

This little thing can't be more than five or six years old, but he's already amazing. Sure enough, the apple never falls far from the tree!

While on their way to the warehouse, Archie asked glumly, "Aunt Madilyn, is my mommy very sick?"

At the sound of his voice, she stopped walking and lowered her gaze to glance at him, only to see him looking up at her with worry etched across his innocent, little face.

Patting his head, she sidestepped the question. "As long as you can help us, your mommy will be fine. There's nothing to worry about."

He did not say anything. I can tell from Aunt Madilyn's expression that Mommy is seriously ill this time. I've got to do what I can to help!

His question made Madilyn even more anxious to the point where she could not stop herself from leaning over to pick Archie up in her arms and continue walking at a quicker pace.

Instantly understanding what Madilyn was thinking, Linda also sped up in front of them.

The four of them hurried all the way to the warehouse.

Referring to the prescription Peregrine gave him, Archie began reciting the locations of the medicinal herbs according to the list. "Second warehouse, third row, fifth compartment. First warehouse, topmost row, third compartment from the left. Fifth warehouse, last row, first compartment."

He gave clear and precise locations for every medicinal herb needed. Linda and Madilyn were in charge of searching for the medicinal herbs while Peregrine was responsible for weighing them out. Thanks to their seamless teamwork, they succeeded in gathering all the medicinal herbs after one hour. Then, Peregrine checked through each one of them again. After making sure there were no mistakes, he stroked Archie's hair and sighed in relief. "My child, you're so smart!"

The boy looked up at him. "You're a very skilled doctor, aren't you?" Peregrine's expression softened when he heard Archie's cute voice. "Your mother is also a very skilled doctor."

"But Mommy's not well now. Are you able to cure her?" Archie asked, gazing at the elderly man in earnest. Those words touched a chord in Peregrine's heart, and he vowed solemnly, "I'll try my best!"

Archie bowed to Peregrine politely. "Thank you." Peregrine gazed at the boy affectionately. He was now even more determined to cure Roxanne.

After checking the medicinal herbs, Peregrine wasted no time in leading a team to start researching the antidote. Archie sat in a corner and waited restlessly. Meanwhile, Lucian and Jonathan stayed with Benny and Estella in the laboratory. They were all feeling downcast.

"Daddy, what's the matter with Mommy?" Estella grew impatient and turned to Lucian with a pitiful expression, hoping to get an answer. Lucian lowered his gaze, and his eyes darkened. Nonetheless, he maintained a calm and collected demeanor. "She's fine. Don't you trust that her prescription will work?" Knitting her brows, Estella thought about it carefully. She nodded at first, then shook her head.

"I trust Mommy's capabilities, but I still have a bad feeling here," she replied, pointing at her heart while looking upset. Lucian widened his eyes when he saw that. Jonathan, on the other hand, could not help averting his gaze. So, that's the bond between a mother and her children. Despite everything we've done, it's still difficult to hide from these kids that Roxanne is in critical condition. However, who would have the heart to tell them the cruel truth?

Chapter 1727 Thank You For Your Help

"She's going to be fine," Lucian said. Even he was at a loss for how to break the truth to the children. If Roxanne were conscious, she wouldn't want the kids to worry about her. Although he did not really answer the question, his answer confirmed what Estella said. The little ones vaguely guessed that something serious had happened to their mother. Estella bowed her head, too disconsolate to talk. Benny was also upset, but because Roxanne had been the one who brought him up

all this while, he was used to being strong.

"I'm sorry. If I'd put in the effort to pick up some medical knowledge from Mommy, I wouldn't be so powerless to help now," he uttered softly, blaming himself.

At least Archie can help with finding the medicinal herbs. However, all I can do is sit here and wait.

When Lucian heard Benny reproach himself, he frowned and patted his head comfortingly. "Waiting here quietly like this is already the biggest help you can give Mommy and Daddy."

Benny's eyes reddened. Bowing his head in embarrassment, he said softly, "I wonder how Mommy's doing. In any case, Archie is very capable. I'm sure he'll be able to help Mommy."

Lucian's heart ached as he crouched down and hugged Benny. Roxanne is in critical condition, and the children are worried sick. Now, Benny is blaming himself. I really don't know how else to comfort them.

Held in Lucian's arms, Benny finally shed his strong front and revealed his vulnerable side. He rested his head against Lucian's shoulder and secretly wiped his tears.

"I want Daddy to hug me too!" Estella rushed over to Lucian pitifully with reddened eyes and nose. She made for a heart-rending sight indeed.

Stretching out his other arm, he wrapped the little girl in a tight embrace. "Don't be scared. I'm here. I won't let anything happen to Mommy. You have my word."

Leaning against him, the two children nodded while sobbing.

The pair had been in tense spirits the past few days. Now, they could finally release their emotions and bawl their eyes out. The crying eventually exhausted them, and they fell asleep in Lucian's arms.

Even though they were asleep, their tears kept flowing, and they would let out choked sobs from time to time.

Lucian lifted a hand and carefully wiped away their tears.

"Roxanne will surely be fine," Jonathan murmured. Even he, a grown man, could not help tearing up, and his voice sounded a little hoarse.

Lucian gave a slight nod, then raised his head abruptly to look at his friend. "Thank you for your help with this whole situation."

Jonathan frowned and did not look too pleased. "How many times have I told you? We're practically family. There's no need to thank me. Moreover, Roxanne is my family's benefactor, so I'm only doing what I should be by helping her."

"If you hadn't helped to find Old Mr. Lomax, I'm afraid there wouldn't have been anyone else who could help Roxanne develop the antidote. And even if someone else were to do it, I wouldn't be comfortable with it," Lucian continued in a low voice as though he had not heard a word Jonathan said. Jonathan has been following Old Mr. Lomax around tirelessly ever since the latter got here.

Those words triggered a frown from Jonathan. "If Roxanne hadn't saved my grandfather back then, he would've passed away already. Anyway, now isn't the time to be talking about all that. Calm down, Lucian. Roxanne is going to be okay."

Having grown up with Lucian, I understand him all too well. He wouldn't be so easily affected if it wasn't because he's in extreme emotional turmoil.