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Chapter 444

Unaware of Jonathan's intentions, Roxanne merely regarded it as a joke. She calmly countered, "Don't make such a joke, Mr. Queen. Mr. Farwell already has a fiancée. Besides, I don't have any plans for a romantic relationship."

"Then, will you consider him if he doesn't have a fiancée?" Jonathan pressed.

Roxanne was startled for a moment. The smile on her face gradually faded, and she ended the subject coldly. "It's late. I've got to hurry home. You should also go back in quickly, Mr. Queen."

After saying that, she climbed into her car straight away.

Before Jonathan could gather his wits about him, the car in front of him had already sped away.

It wasn't until after Roxanne's car had disappeared from sight that he snapped back to his senses. Recalling her reaction earlier, he couldn't shake off the strangeness of it.

I asked whether she'd consider Lucian, but her first reaction was that he had a fiancée...

After she left the Queen residence, a mix of emotions brewed within Roxanne on a rare occasion.

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She had been busy with matters pertaining to the Damaris family recently, so she had tossed everything about the Farwell family into the back of her mind.

Only occasionally did she hear Archie and Benny speaking about Estella when she went home.

Lucian, on the other hand, seemed to have vanished from her world.

Earlier, Jonathan had mentioned the man before her out of the blue and even proposed a question she had never once considered.

If he doesn't have a fiancée...

Roxanne wavered for a while before she gave a self-deprecating chuckle.

How would he possibly allow such a possibility when he had been obsessed over Aubree for so many years? On top of that, the lesson I learned six years ago was sufficient to have me give up on him. I don't want to repeat the same mistakes again.

By the time she arrived home, Archie and Benny were already home. When they saw her stepping into the house, they docilely trotted over. But then, they weren't as enthusiastic as they were in the past.

Ever since she started avoiding Estella, they appeared despondent every time she came home.

At the sight of them, Roxanne was inexorably reminded of Estella.

"When will you be finished with work, Mommy?" Benny queried in curiosity.

Roxanne patted them on the head in consolation. "I'm not sure either, but this matter is really important to me, so the two of you have got to behave. When I'm done with work, I'll bring you out to have fun, okay?"

The Damaris family would be choosing a collaboration partner after the medical consultation concluded. She didn't want any mistakes at any point in the process.

Archie and Benny were clearly not quite eager to go out and have fun, for they merely nodded woodenly upon hearing that.

Chuckling in exasperation, Roxanne led them both to the dining table.

After dinner, Archie and Benny weren't in the mood to play either. They retired to their room early.

Roxanne dithered for some time before she followed them into their room.

When Archie and Benny saw her coming in, they obediently sat on the edge of the bed side by side.

With a smile on her face, Roxanne sat down beside them. "Are you both unhappy because Essie isn't happy?"

Archie and Benny kept their lips pressed into a thin line in silent admission.

Seeing that, Roxanne lifted her hand and stroked them on the head. "The two of you have always been very smart. But why are you so silly this time?"

Archie and Benny tilted their heads in puzzlement.

"I like Essie a lot, too. But because of some reasons, I can't have too much contact with her. You should be understanding. If she's unhappy at the kindergarten, you've got to take good care of her on my behalf and make her happy."

Roxanne then continued explaining patiently, "She doesn't just like me. She also likes the two of you very much. As long as you treat her better, she'll definitely cheer up."

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Speaking of Estella, Roxanne couldn't help feeling somewhat distressed. The smile on her face turned a touch forced.

Estella was unhappy because of her, yet she could only have Archie and Benny mollify the girl on her behalf.

As Archie and Benny clocked her expression, their eyes dimmed. Self–reproach was written all over their faces. "We're sorry, Mommy."

Roxanne's brows furrowed in bafflement when they apologized all of a sudden.

Benny muttered weakly, "We shouldn't have thrown a tantrum with you because of Essie. You must also be very tired every day, Mommy. Don't worry. We'll do our best to make her happy henceforth!"

"Just focus on your work, Mommy. We'll take good care of Essie!" Archie echoed.

Roxanne beamed in gratification. "Thank you, Darlings."

"But it'll be far better if you can go and visit Essie, Mommy," Benny added in a whisper.

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After saying that, he was afraid that Roxanne heard him, so he smilingly announced, "It's okay even if you can't visit her. We'll help take good care of Essie on your behalf, Mommy!"

Roxanne smilingly patted him on the head. She watched as the two children went to bed before she stood up and returned to her room.

Meanwhile, at the Farwell residence, Estella had been down in the dumps ever since she came home from kindergarten.

Lucian's brows knitted together.

Her mood has improved significantly after learning that Roxanne isn't going abroad so soon, but she's abruptly depressed again today for some inexplicable reason.

"What's wrong?" He regarded her in bewilderment.

"Ms. Jarvis..." Estella admitted sullenly.

Sure enough, Roxanne is the only person who can cause her such emotional turmoil.

Lucian's gaze darkened a shade. "Isn't she no longer going abroad? Why are you still sad?"

Pouting, Estella glowered at him in displeasure. "I haven't got to see her!"

She had thought she would have the opportunity to see Roxanne when the latter wasn't going abroad, but Roxanne had never once appeared in the past few days.

Every day she went to kindergarten and back, she was hopeful beyond words. Alas, she ended up disappointed each day.

After a few days, she couldn't help feeling dejected to the point that she was irate about seeing Lucian.

It's because of Daddy that Ms. Jarvis is avoiding me!

Lucian had no idea about her thoughts. It merely occurred to him out of the blue that the look in her eyes as she gazed at him was somewhat similar to Archie's and Benny's.

Ever since Rozanne's showed up, all three kids seem to detest me.

At that realization, he felt a headache building. Nonetheless, he patiently mollified her, saying, "You'll get to see her eventually since she isn't going abroad."

Conversely, Estella shot daggers at him, making it evident that she didn't believe him.

Lucian massaged his temples. "I'll figure out something for you. Now, go and sleep, okay?"

Estella eyed him skeptically for a long time. Then, she slowly extended her little finger at him and urged in a sweet voice, "Pinky promise."

Lucian stretched out his hand and hooked pinkies with her before she relented.

He sent her back to her room, but recalling her relentless wails when she had a nightmare back then, he didn't dare leave immediately. Instead, he waited until she was deep in slumber before getting to his feet and leaving.

As he stood at the door, his expression was frightfully grim.

She's so dependent on Roxanne, yet that woman is so cruel to her that she's unwilling to visit her even once. If she were to know what Roxanne told me that morning, she'd probably cry buckets.

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Early the following morning, Roxanne saw the message Larry had sent last night as soon as she awakened. It read: Are you free tomorrow? How about a meal together?

She mulled over her work that day before texting back: At noon, then. We'll have lunch near the research institute.

On the other end of the phone, Larry promptly agreed.

As soon as it was noon, Roxanne received a call from Larry.

"Have you finished your work? I'm waiting for you at the research institute gates." Larry's voice rang out the instant she answered the call.

Roxanne happened to be discussing a recent project with Colby. When Colby saw her taking the call, he timely halted the conversation and waited at the side.

Hearing that Larry had already arrived, Roxanne reflexively glanced at Colby, who was standing across from her. Then, she murmured apologetically, "Please wait for a while, Larry. I've got something to wrap up on my end. You can come in and wait."

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Larry declined with a chuckle. "It's okay. I'll just wait for you at the gates. Take your time."

Roxanne murmured in acknowledgment. Subsequently, she hung up the phone and continued speaking to Colby about the project.

In the few days to come, she wanted to concentrate on preparing for the Damaris family's medical consultation. Furthermore, the work at the research institute had long since stabilized, and the issue with the medical herb suppliers had been resolved. Therefore, she planned to entrust the matters at the research institute to Colby.

After they talked for quite a bit, the handover of the work at the research institute finally came to an end.

Roxanne still wanted to remind Colby of a few other things, but the man commented with a chuckle, "I've been with the research institute for a long time, and I've also been handling things with you all this while. You don't have to worry. Just leave everything here to me. Someone is waiting for you, no? Hurry up and go!"

Upon hearing that, Roxanne hesitated for a second before she nodded smilingly.

Speaking of that, he has been working at the research institute even longer than I have. And ever since I came over, we've been handling things together. Indeed, I don't have to worry.

"In that case, I'll stop rambling. You should be going to lunch as well. Let's go out together!"

She snagged her handbag and waited for Colby.

While there was a cafeteria in the research institute, few ate in the cafeteria. Instead, they mostly patronized restaurants outside. Colby was no exception.

Colby dithered for several seconds, knowing that he would inevitably see Larry if he went out with her.

Since Roxanne was waiting for him, he ultimately fell into step with her after a brief hesitation. The two of them exited the research institute together.

As Larry said, Roxanne caught sight of him waiting at the gates when she arrived at the entrance of the research institute.

It was as though he was afraid that she couldn't see him, for he deliberately waited outside the car. The moment he spotted her coming out, he waved at her, signaling her over to him.

Roxanne took her leave from Colby and strode over.

As Colby gazed at her retreating back, his eyes dimmed, but they reverted to their usual calmness in the next heartbeat, and he inclined his head at Larry courteously.

In turn, Larry flashed him a warm smile.

That was the two of them greeting each other.

When Roxanne reached him, Larry lifted his eyes and stared at Colby, who had turned around and gone a distance away. "Who's that?" he inquired, curious.

Smiling, Roxanne explained, "That's Colby Galloway. He's a colleague of mine at the research institute, and he's also an outstanding doctor. I've collaborated with him abroad, but I don't know whether the two of you have ever met."

Larry nodded in acknowledgment. "Get in the car."

I'm not sure whether I'm imagining things, but the look in his eyes when he regarded her earlier was seemingly strange. But then, I can't pinpoint what exactly bothered me.

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Roxanne knew absolutely nothing about the two men's thoughts.

During the drive to the restaurant, she smilingly asked Larry, "Why did you suddenly decide to ask me out for lunch today? And did you just return from Summerbank?"

Larry nodded nonchalantly. "I just returned last night. I only boarded the flight after secing Mr. Lynch off. It was already midnight by the time I landed."

Recalling the time he sent her the message, Roxanne surmised that he had texted her mere moments after disembarking the plane.

I wonder what important matter he has to tell me.

"Mr. Lynch told me to convey his regards to you and asked whether the issue at the research institute has been resolved," Larry stated.

The smile on Roxanne's face widened when she heard that Gerald remembered her. "It's all thanks to you and Mr. Lynch that night. Those medicinal herb suppliers were

initially hesitant, but they respected Mr. Lynch, so they readily agreed after he said a few words."

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Larry inclined his head a fraction. "I'm glad to hear that the matter has been resolved. I'm just worried that Mrs. Farwell will make things difficult for you again in the future."

Throughout it all, he had found things very much unfair on her behalf.

He could somewhat guess the reason Sonya was targeting Roxanne, reckoning that she resented the latter for leaving without a word back then and getting so familiar with Lucian at present.

In his opinion, however, Roxanne was the victim. Furthermore, she wasn't the one who wanted to have so much contact with the man right then.

Rather than wasting her time on Roxanne, he felt that Sonya would be better served

to keep a closer eye on Lucian.

He really wanted to help Roxanne, but he wasn't the head of the Morrison family. Besides, the Morrison family was no match for the Farwell family, so his hands were tied even if he wanted to help.

Fortunately, the matter had been resolved.

At the mention of Sonya, Roxanne's heart felt heavy. "I don't know either, but I've already done my utmost best to keep myself out of her line of sight. Hopefully, she'll

forget all about me."

It's particularly true at present when I've got a rare chance to attend a medical consultation with the Damaris family. Later, I still want to compete for the opportunity to collaborate with them. If I were to lose the chance because of her interference, I really wouldn't know what I'd do in retaliation.

When Larry glimpsed the worry on her face, a flash of regret flitted across his eyes. He felt remorseful for bringing up such a sore point.

The car plunged into a brief silence.

A while later, Roxanne composed herself and changed the subject nonchalantly. "Oh yes, Larry, is something the matter that you asked me out for lunch all of a sudden today?"

After all, the last time we dined together was when he invited me to Bellridge to attend the medical conference together back then. I wonder what it is this time.

Hearing that, Larry put away his wandering thoughts and went straight to business. "You've been staying abroad all these years, so I don't know whether you've heard of the Damaris family. It's considered the leading prestigious family in traditional medicine, but it has recently retreated behind the scenes and rarely made any appearances. On the whole, it's a very mysterious family."

Hmm, it's the Damaris family again. This is the second time I've heard someone speaking of ti Damaris family lately.

Roxanne was a touch puzzled. "I've heard of it previously, and I've always had much interest in the Damaris family's ancient medicine books. When I was abroad, I had hoped that I'd be so fortunate to have the opportunity to visit them, but I never had that opportunity. But I heard that they'll be having a medical consultation soon."

The instant her words rang out, Larry arched an eyebrow and glanced at her in surprise. I wonder where she got that news.

"This is precisely what I want to speak to you about today."

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As Larry and Roxanne conversed, the car arrived at the entrance of the restaurant,

After Larry parked the car, the two of them entered the restaurant and sat down by the window.

Larry nad made a reservation long ago, so the food was served no sooner had they taken their seats.

While eating, they talked about the Damaris family's medical consultation.

"News of the Damaris family's medical consultation is usually circulated within closed circles. How did you learn about it?" Larry couldn't resist querying.

Roxanne had nothing to hide, so she admitted, "I initially had no idea about it and was already planning to go abroad. But when I went to the Queen residence to thank them two days ago, Old Mr. Queen suddenly brought it up to me. That's why I decided to stay a bit longer in Chanaea."

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When Larry heard that, he frowned "Go abroad?"

In response, Roxanne chortled airily. "As you can see, the research institute is targeted by Farwell Group with me here. Rather than staying in Chanaea and dragging the research institute down with me, it's better that I go abroad. I can't afford to offend Farwell Group, but I can at least stay away."

Larry sighed soundlessly, finding it all truly unfair for Roxanne.

"But now that I know about the Damaris family's medical consultation, I'm not going to leave even if Mrs. Farwell wants to give me the boot." Roxanne flashed him a casual smile.

Larry regarded her in exasperation, but all he saw on her face was anticipation for the medical consultation. Thus, he didn't mention Sonya again, lest he wreck her good mood.

Instead, he uttered gently, "That's also why I asked you out today. The Damaris family's medical consultations have always been done in collaboration with doctors in the field. Are you interested? If you are, we can contact Mr. Lynch right now. If he recommends you to the Damaris family, you'll be able to participate for sure. I've got a spot for a member of the Morrison family, so we can attend together at that time."

Roxanne's eyes lit up. "You're also going to attend, Larry?"

She had been worried that she would feel awkward then, but that wouldn't be an issue if Larry would also be there.

At that, Larry quirked an eyebrow. "Also? Your attendance has already been confirmed?"

Roxanne nodded with a grin. "After Old Mr. Queen told me about the Damaris family's medical consultation, he said he'd recommend me to the Damaris family. I've been making preparations for the medical consultation these few days, afraid that I'd make some blunder then and embarrass him and my mentor."

"With your medical skills, you definitely won't embarrass anyone as long as you perform as usual," Larry asserted.

Hearing that, Roxanne smiled modestly.

Larry then continued, "That's also a good thing. With Old Mr. Queen recommending you, we don't need to trouble Mr. Lynch, though the spot on his end was also prepared for you."

At his remark, a hint of mystification flashed across Roxanne's eyes.

"Mr. Lynch hasn't accepted mentees for many years. He admires you greatly since he met you back then. When he learned about the Damaris family's medical consultation this time, he thought of you right away. Hence, he had me return to ask you about your plans. If you'd like to attend, he'd recommend you to the Damaris family personally," Larry explained with a smile.

Following his words, Roxanne felt very much flattered. She hastily replied, "I really appreciate the sentiment. I'll thank him profusely if I have the opportunity to meet him again next time. Please tell him that I'll do my best during the medical consultation this time without disappointing him."

Larry agreed smilingly.

After lunch, Larry drove Roxanne back to the research institute.

"I'll pick you up after the location of the medical consultation has been decided in the next few days, and we'll go together," he suggested when Roxanne was getting out of the car.

Roxanne assented with a smile.

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Just when Roxanne walked over to the entrance of the research institute, she spotted Colby standing by the gates.

The man was deep in thought, for he didn't even see her coming in. He was leaning against the wall in a trance with his face devoid of expression.

Curious, Roxanne called out to him, "What are you thinking about, Dr. Galloway?"

When her words rang out, Colby was evidently shocked. His brows furrowed, and he snapped back to his senses. Straightening, he swung his gaze at her. "The two of you have finished talking so soon?"

Roxanne nodded with a smile. "Larry is also planning to attend the Damaris family's medical consultation. We merely chatted briefly and agreed to go together."

At that, a flash of desolation flitted across Colby's eyes.

When he saw Roxanne with Larry at noon, he had no appetite during lunch. He merely took a few bites before driving back and waiting for Roxanne at the gates.

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As he was waiting, he subconsciously thought of the gap between them.

Further hearing that Roxanne would be attending the medical consultation with Larry, he found the distance between them increasingly vast.

Colby suppressed the misery within him and nonchalantly flashed Roxanne a smile. "It's good that the two of you are going together. You can keep each other company."

Roxanne didn't think much of it, merely presuming that he was disappointed because he couldn't attend the Damaris family's medical consultation. She patted his arm in consolation. "Don't overthink things. You're very outstanding as well. It's just that there are limited spots available on the Damaris family's end. Otherwise, we could go together."

Colby flashed her a forced smile. "It's okay. We're both working at the research institute, so it makes no difference which of us attends."

After saying that, he hurriedly took his leave from her without waiting for her response and went back to the office himself.

Roxanne was utterly bewildered at the sight of his quickly retreating figure.

Nonetheless, she didn't pay it much mind but went back to her office with her handbag

When they met at the research facility in the afternoon, Colby was clearly much less

talkative than usual. He was also somewhat distracted when he conducted experiments.

Roxanne didn't pressure him into staying focused but silently took over his duties.

By the time they got off work in the evening, Colby finally gathered his wits about him. Remembering his performance earlier in the afternoon, he apologized to Roxanne. "I'm sorry I was a bit out of it in the afternoon. Give me a night, and I'll compose myself."

Roxanne flashed him an understanding smile. "It's okay. Everyone has a time when they're preoccupied with something else. If you need it, you can also talk to me. I'm free anytime."

Colby was stunned for a few seconds before he pursed his lips, his thoughts indiscernible. "Got it. I'll seek you out if I need it."

As they spoke, they left the research institute together.

Roxanne glanced at the time.

The kindergarten probably hasn't let out yet. If I rush over to pick Archie and Benny up, I can make it in time. Besides, I really want to see Essie. I wonder if her condition has improved these days.

However, on second thought, she remembered that the medical consultation would be held in two days. Therefore, she truly didn't dare take the risk.

After turning it over in her mind, she decided to give Lysa a call.

Lysa was just about to leave to pick Archie and Benny up when she suddenly received the call. Puzzlement inundated her. "What's the matter, Ms. Jarvis? Are you going to pick Archie and Benny up?"

She couldn't think of any other reason Roxanne would call at such a time.

Roxanne was taken aback for a moment. "No, I just... wanted to remind you to pick them up."

Chortling, Lysa chided, "I've been picking them up for a few days now. How could I possibly forget such an important thing?"

Roxanne found herself rather ridiculous. I don't know what I was thinking when I phoned Lysa!

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After hanging up the phone, Roxanne hesitated before driving toward the kindergarten

The kindergarten ended at five o'clock in the afternoon, and the teachers led the children out of their respective classrooms uniformly, waiting for their parents to pick them up.

Archie and Benny accompanied Estella at the back of the line. As the boys watche her look at the crowd expectantly, they looked at each other with concerned faces

"Look at me, Essie. I can turn into a bird!" Benny tried to attract Estella's attention he spoke, he shaped his fingers into the shape of a bird and showed it to Estella.

Alas, Estella merely glanced at his hands absent-mindedly before turning her gaz toward the crowd again. She seemed to be looking for someone.

It could be her imagination, but she could feel Roxanne watching her. However, s couldn't find her.

When Archie and Benny noticed that Estella didn't bother to look at them, they weren't discouraged. Instead, they still tried their best to cheer Estella up.

Even when Lucian arrived to pick Estella up, the girl was still looking for Roxanne the crowd.

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Looking at Estella's actions, Lucian couldn't help but frown.

He knew who Estella was looking for, but that was the first time he saw her this persistent.

"Ms. Jarvis..." Estella grabbed onto Lucian's hand and followed him to the car whil her eyes were still scanning the crowd for Roxanne.

When he heard Estella's voice, Lucian stopped walking and bent over to look at th little girl's face. "Essie, Ms. Jarvis isn't here."

Estella pouted and shook her head while wearing a serious expression. "She's here

She could clearly feel Roxanne watching her. Lucian frowned and looked around the crowd with suspicion.

However, there was no sign of Roxanne.

"I looked. Ms. Jarvis didn't come. Let's go home," Lucian explained to Estella

patiently.

However, Estella stubbornly refused to get in the car.

Lucian had no idea what to do, so he could only hold her hand and wait next to her by the car.

At the same time, Roxanne was standing in the corner. Her heart was thumping wildly.

In the past few days, Archie and Benny wouldn't stop talking about Estella, and she couldn't help but worry. Hence, she decided to come over and take a look at Estella from a secluded corner.

Unexpectedly, Estella seemed to have noticed her. After searching through the crowd for some time, their eyes nearly met a few times. Fortunately, Roxanne reacted quickly enough to prevent the girl from spotting her.

Moreover, she almost got discovered by Lucian.

Luckily, Lysa arrived in time to pick Archie and Benny up.

"Ms. Lane is here." When Lucian saw Lysa, his expression turned grim, and he looked down toward Estella next to him.

Estella pursed her lips unhappily. She glanced around the crowd for the last time before slowly getting into the car.

When Lucian's car slowly drove away, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief and returned to her own car.

Lysa brought Archie and Benny to the side of the road to wave down a taxi, but Roxanne's car stopped before them as soon as they arrived at the curb.

"Mommy!" Archie and Benny jumped in excitement.

Roxanne smiled at them and got out of the car, wanting to help them into the car.

However, the boys stopped smiling and looked in the direction where Lucian's car went.

Mommy is finally here to pick us up, but Essie didn't get to see her.

Looking at their behavior, Roxanne could roughly guess their thoughts.

She saw how hard the boys tried to cheer Estella up and immediately felt mixed feelings in her heart.

Chapter 451

Fortunately, Archie and Benny's sadness didn't last long.

They knew that Roxanne would be unhappy if they were upset.

After a few seconds of feeling disappointed for Estella, the boys began smiling again and opened their arms to Roxanne.

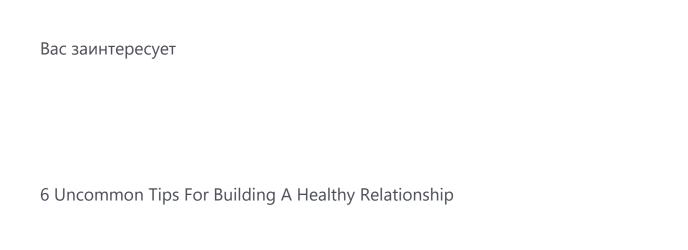
Roxanne put away her thoughts and beamed. She carried the boys into the car one after another, and Lysa sat with them in the back seat.

"Mommy, why didn't you tell us you were coming to pick us up?" Benny asked gingerly.

While starting the car, Roxanne thought of her suspicious actions before and couldn't help but feel a little guilty when she heard Benny's words. "Well, it was a spontaneous decision."

Benny tilted his head in confusion. "Aren't you busy with work today?"

"I finished my work early today, so I suddenly decided to come and pick you guys up." Roxanne tried her best to sound normal so that the boys wouldn't suspect her.



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As she spoke, Archie responded in a childish tone, "Mommy's a liar."

Roxanne was stunned when she heard that.

Benny also looked at Archie in confusion, wondering why he said that.

"You've been here for a long time, right?" Archie looked at Roxanne's face reflected in the rearview mirror sternly.

Roxanne didn't expect Archie to notice her and wanted to brush off the matter. "I saw you guys as soon as I arrived."

However, Archie ignored her explanation and said, "If you wanted to pick us up, you should've informed Ms. Lane not to come. But Ms. Lane came, and you were late. You even said that you got off work early today. You must be hiding something from

us!"

Additionally, when Lucian came to fetch Estella just now, Archie heard her calling out to Roxanne.

At that time, he thought Estella only called out to Roxanne because she missed Roxanne too much.

Now that he thought about it, Roxanne must have been secretly keeping an eye on them from a hidden corner.

Roxanne didn't expect Archie to make such a sharp deduction and felt slightly embarrassed. "I'm not hiding anything. I really just arrived—"

Benny finaliy realized what happened and exclaimed innocently, "So Estella kept looking for Mommy because she knew Mommy was here!"

Archie nodded. He had the same thought as his brother, but he didn't know why Roxanne refused to admit it.

Roxanne felt quite helpless when the two boys acquiesced to the fact that she had arrived a long time ago without bothering to verify with her.

Lysa knew what was going on. Without hesitating, she asked Roxanne with a smile, "No wonder you called me in the afternoon. You must have gotten off work by that time."

Her words seemed to imply that Roxanne came early but never showed up.

Roxanne smiled wryly and nodded in acknowledgment.

Archie and Benny looked at Roxanne accusingly from the back seat.

"Mommy, since you were here, why didn't you come and see Essie?" Benny couldn't help but ask.

Roxanne was at a loss for words. She couldn't tell the boys about the grudges she had with Sonya.

However, at the same time, she didn't have a good excuse to explain herself.

Just when she was racking her head to come up with an excuse, Benny said, "Mommy, you didn't want to see Mr. Farwell, right?"

Otherwise, why would she wait for Mr. Farwell and Essie to leave before showing up?

Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief and glanced at Archie and Benny silently as a sign of acquiescence.

After all, Lucian was also part of the reason why she didn't show up before Estella.

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Chapter 452

The boys thought they guessed it right and stopped being angry. Instead, they comforted Roxanne, "Mommy, if you don't want to see Mr. Farwell, then don't. We will take good care of Essie!"

Since Lucian was cruel enough to leave the boys and Roxanne behind, they didn't want to see him either.

Proud of her two sons, Roxanne smiled gently and said, "I know you will. I saw."

When the boys heard her, they took the credit proudly.

The atmosphere in the car became lively.

Roxanne's mood also became relaxed. She would respond to the boys patiently no matter what they said to her.

After they got home, Roxanne even cooked with Lysa, which was considered a rare occasion, and prepared a sumptuous dinner for the children.

After dinner, Roxanne played with them for a while. Then, she returned to her room when the boys were fast asleep.

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6 Uncommon Tips For Building A Healthy Relationship

These Strange Ways Will Keep Your Relationship Strong Day To Day

Her emotions ran wild when she thought of the look on Estella's face when she saw her in the afternoon.

When Estella came to see me before, she was full of joy. However, when I wasn't around, Estella seemed visibly depressed. No wonder Archie and Benny were so moody in the past few days when they came home.

She wanted to go over and give Estella a hug, but she didn't want to lose her chance for the medical consultation.

After all, she wouldn't know if Sonya was secretly keeping an eye on her.

When she was deep in her thoughts, she received a text from Jonathan that read: My grandpa has written the letter of recommendation. I'll send it over to you whenever you have the time.

After reading the text, Roxanne returned to her senses and replied: I'll go and get it. Is tomorrow afternoon a good time?

Jonathan raised his eyebrows and responded with a yes. Then, he immediately switched to his chat history with Lucian.

The last message was two days ago when he told Lucian that Roxanne had agreed to go for the medical consultation.

Jonathan casually tapped the screen and sent a message: Lucian, how long has it been since you last visited my grandpa?

At the Farwell residence, Lucian watched as Estella fell asleep. As he walked out of her bedroom, he received Jonathan's text and couldn't help but frown, wondering if Alfred had been complaining about him not showing up.

He replied: How is his health recently? I was busy for the past two days.

Lucian went to Summerbank two days ago and as a result, there were a lot of matters piled up at the company, waiting for him to deal with them. In addition to the new projects, he was completely swamped with work for the past two days. He even had to squeeze out some of his already limited time to pick Estella up from kindergarten. After she fell asleep, he still had to work in the study for a while.

Jonathan replied shortly after: He's in good health. However, Dr. Jarvis is coming over to collect his recommendation letter. Are you sure you don't want to visit him tomorrow?

The look in Lucian's eyes darkened when he read Jonathan's text.

After all, he hadn't seen Roxanne for a while.

Their lives had nothing to do with each other at all. Not to mention that she had been deliberately avoiding him.

She even refused to meet Estella.

When he recalled the way Estella was thinking of Roxanne in the afternoon, he felt conflicted for a moment.

On the other side, Jonathan waited for a long time and didn't receive a reply from Lucian. Hence, he sent another text: Grandpa had been talking about you for the past two days.

After sending the message, Jonathan pondered to himself. I've paved the way for him, and it's up to him to walk the path.

After a long while, Lucian finally replied: I'll visit him tomorrow. Please let him know.

Jonathan acknowledged his request and sighed helplessly.

He even had to rack his brains to find a way for his friend to court a lady.

If it weren't for Estella's sake, he wouldn't have put in the effort.

Mission To Remarry Chapter 453

Chapter 453

There wasn't much work to do at the research institute on the following day. After having lunch, Roxanne took care of some work matters and brought some supplements produced by the research institute over to the Queen residence.

Jonathan was already waiting for her in the living room.

When Roxanne noticed that he was alone in the room, she asked in confusion, "Where's Old Mr. Queen?"

Pointing toward the upper floor, Jonathan replied, "He's currently having his afternoon nap. We didn't expect you to come this early."

Upon hearing that, Roxanne nodded and subconsciously reduced her volume as she said, "There isn't much to do in the research institute today, and since Old Mr. Queen had helped me a lot recently, I wanted to check on his condition."

Jonathan nodded. "Let's just wait downstairs until he wakes up, then."

Without thinking much, Roxanne placed the supplements on the table and sat on the single couch next to Jonathan. She then started chatting with him about Alfred's condition.

After talking for a while, the butler's voice sounded from outside the door.

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"Old Mr. Queen is currently resting upstairs. Please wait for a moment, Mr. Farwell."

When Roxanne heard that, she immediately stopped talking and instinctively looked toward the entrance of the mansion.

Lucian, in an expensive suit, walked into the mansion.

Probably because he was listening to the butler, Lucian's head was slightly tilted downward. Once the butler finished speaking, Lucian nodded in acknowledgment. "All right."

Upon speaking, he looked back up and glanced into the living room.

When he noticed who was sitting in the living room, he furrowed his eyebrows

slightly, seemingly slightly surprised.

Roxanne, too, frowned. She did not know how to react to his sudden appearance.

Jonathan was stuck in the middle of them as he looked between the frowning duo. Although he felt exasperated at the sight, a surprised expression crept up his face. "Lucian? It's been ages since you last visited. Why did you come here today?"

Lucian gradually pulled his gaze away from Roxanne and looked at Jonathan. "I've been busy at work recently, but there wasn't much to do today, so I decided to come over and pay Old Mr. Queen a visit. How is he?"

Jonathan's eyebrows twitched as he nonchalantly tossed the conversation over to Roxanne. "You should ask Dr. Jarvis about that. She's the one who's been taking care of him. She recently came over to check on him as well."

Roxanne felt weirded out by the turn of events.

She wasn't entirely sure if she was overanalyzing the situation, but she felt that today's encounter with Lucian seemed too much of a coincidence.

Moreover, she felt that Jonathan had been intentional with his choice of words.

On the other hand, Lucian's gaze had settled on Roxanne once again. Even so, he did not say anything. It was as if both of them were strangers who had nothing to do with each other.

Roxanne had no choice but to suppress the weird feeling in her heart. She tried as much as possible to meet his gaze calmly and smiled. "Hello, Mr. Farwell."

Lucian's lips twitched mockingly. "Dr. Jarvis, please explain Old Mr. Queen's condition to me."

Roxanne was once again taken aback.

Ever since her return to the country, Lucian's attitude toward her had been vastly different from how he treated her six years ago. Most times, he was either ambiguous with her or furious with her.

It was rare for her to see him act so coldly toward her.

For a split second, she actually felt uncomfortable with it.

Once she realized her own thoughts, she clenched her fists and forced herself to calm down. She then explained Alfred's condition to Lucian professionally.

Alfred had almost fully recovered. It was just that he was bedridden for many years, and his bodily functions had more or less regressed. Thus, he would need to exercise a lot before his body could finally return to its original condition.

After listening to her explanation, Lucian nodded his head emotionlessly and sat down next to Jonathan without uttering a single word.