Chapter 5 You're Finally Back!

"You'd better not be lying."

Lucian averted his gaze a while later and turned to Cayden. "Did the police get back to you?"

Cayden's voice was grim. "Not yet."

Lucian's gaze turned as dark as thunder. "Increase the manpower and expand the search area. I want to see her by the end of today!"

"Got it!" Cayden responded loudly.

Lucian had just spun on his heels to leave when his phone rang.

A female voice rang out. "Hello."

Hearing that, Lucian narrowed his eyes suspiciously.

Why does this sound just like her voice?

The figure he spotted that afternoon at the airport flashed across his mind.

"Hello? Is anyone there?" Roxanne repeated dubiously after a while.

Lucian came back to his senses and replied, "Yeah."

Roxanne heaved a sigh of relief after hearing his response. "Hello. I've run into a little girl who gave me your phone number. You must be her father, right? Are you free to pick her up now?"

It's her! It has been years since we last met, but there's no way I'd have mistaken her for someone else!

Chandria Evans, you're finally back!

Lucian lowered his voice deliberately and asked, "Where are you?"

"We're at Drunken Fairy Restaurant. We'll wait here with her. Will you come to the restaurant to pick her up?" Roxanne answered at once.

"Okay. I'll head there right away."

BACK TO THE RESTAURANT

"Aren't you hungry?" Francine asked.

After all, they had been waiting outside for some time. She continued, "I'm starving. Let's head in for dinner. We can bring her out when her father arrives later."

Roxanne shot her a grin. "All right. Let's go in."

The little girl stared at her for a few moments, seemingly reluctant.

"If you don't want to come in, I'll wait here with you," Roxanne added patiently.

Francine slapped her forehead in exasperation.Little girl, we're not bad people. No bad person will treat you to a meal in an expensive restaurant!

Everyone's gazes fell on the young girl.

As Blaze and Easton were also hungry, they stared at the little girl expectantly.

Biting her lip, the little girl came closer to Roxanne and reached out to tug at her sleeve. She then gave a careful nod.

"You don't have to force yourself," Roxanne told her gently, seeing through the girl's thoughts.

The little girl shook her head yet again.

Seeing that, Roxanne patted her head affectionately. She took the little girl's hand and led her into the restaurant.

Francine held the boys' hands and watched as the little girl trotted beside Roxanne obediently. She teased, "She was wary of us just a while ago, but she's gotten close to you now."

With a sigh, she lamented, "Indeed, good-looking people are always favored."

Drunken Fairy Restaurant was one of the best private restaurants in Manhattan. Every dish served was exemplary, and the place only accepted the most high-profile clients. Reservations also had to be made at least one month in advance.

Francine had managed to book a table yesterday using her connections.

The small group made their way into the building and seated themselves at a corner table.

It wasn't long until the waitstaff arrived with their food.

Worried that the little girl would feel uncomfortable, Roxanne gave her all her attention, feeding her and wiping her mouth at every opportunity.

Blaze and Easton sat next to them. Seeing Estella indulge in the food melted their hearts, and they tried their best to peel as much shrimp as they could for her.

Estella never stopped chewing as she kept her focus on the growing pile of food before her.

"Did you hear what happened? The Farwell family's princess has gone missing! The family's scoured the entire city for her, but they still can't find her."

Suddenly, a voice could be heard coming from the table next to them.

The next person to speak sounded warier. "She couldn't have been kidnapped, could she? Whoever's done it sure has nerves of steel. Who would ever dare lay their hands on her? She's Lucian Farwell's precious little girl! They must be tired of living."

Roxanne's movements slowed down visibly at the mention of Lucian's name, and she began to space out.

The conversation resumed anyway. "Right? The little princess might be mute and has never said a single word, but she still gets to live the best life. How lucky of her!"

Mute?

A look of suspicion flashed in Roxanne's eyes as she stopped moving.

Lucian's precious little girl is mute?

This child I picked up hasn't spoken a word.

Judging from her behavior and clothes, she does look like someone from the Farwells.

And that man over the phone! His voice...

At the thought of this, Roxanne suppressed her astonishment as she turned to the child on her left.

"This kid... She can't be Lucian's daughter, could she?"

Francine put down her cutlery and stared at the child for a few seconds. "That'd be too much of a coincidence, wouldn't it?" she asked hopefully.

As Roxanne's best friend, she knew everything the former had gone through for the past six years.

This girl looks like she's around five or six, which means she's about Blaze and Easton's age.

If she really were Lucian's daughter, that means he would've had a child with that first crush of his right after Roxanne divorced him.

That guy just couldn't wait, huh?

Roxanne really deserves someone better than him.

Roxanne recalled all the events that had ensued after she met this child. The more she thought about it, the more certain she was that the little girl seated next to her was Lucian's daughter.

"I'd say we've hit the jackpot this time," she remarked with a grimace.

Seeing how sure the woman looked, Francine felt her heart sink as she gazed at the confused-looking child. "What should we do, then? Lucian's probably on his way now!" she whispered.

Roxanne began to panic.

A brief moment later, she handed her phone to Francine. "Take my phone and act like it's yours. I'll get Blaze and Easton out of here. We'll be waiting for you at the parking lot."

Francine nodded in understanding.

Still, seeing the little girl remain perplexed made Roxanne's heart ache. "I'll leave this little one to you."

She then turned to her own two children. "Let's go."

The two boys followed her obediently without question.

Upon walking past the little girl, Roxanne felt a soft tug on her sleeve.

Looking conflicted, she turned to the child, only to see the latter gripping onto her sleeve tightly, looking extremely flustered.

Seeing the girl's distraught expression really tugged at Roxanne's heartstrings.

Regardless of whatever had happened between her and Lucian, she knew this child was never to be blamed.

Eventually, she comforted the little one, "I have to go now. This lady here will take good care of you, so wait right here, okay? Your daddy will be here soon."

With that, she forced the child's grip off of her and strode out of the private room, never looking back.

At the same time, Francine hastily instructed the staff to take the three used sets of plates and cutlery away.

Not long after the waitstaff had done as told, the wooden door was pushed open.

A group of bodyguards dressed in black stood in two rows, making a path in between them.

Then, she watched as a frosty-looking Lucian made his way into the room.