

The Secret 491

[Chapter 491 Fix The Relationship](#)

At the Fariña residence, Luciano stood for a long time in front of Estela's room after hanging up the call. With an expressionless face, his mind was absorbed at the thought of Roxana with another man.

Ha! That hard-hearted woman left without thinking six years ago; meanwhile, I've been tracking her for six years! —Now that Roxana had returned, Luciano would not allow her to approach other men; he had already exploded after seeing how she interacted with Leandro several times. No way am I letting that happen! I can't let Roxana keep avoiding me!"

Due to Jonatan's first-hand information, Luciano was left puzzled, wondering how he would fix his relationship with Roxana. He was already taking Estela from school with the hope of meeting Roxana and talking to her. Unexpectedly, he did not appear for the next few days.

Then, Luciano despised himself for such a ridiculous idea of his: «I already lost count of how many days she has been hiding from me; Estela even accepted the fact that she may not be able to see her again. Why am I still waiting to meet her here?

"Daddy," Estela's sweet voice sounded in the car when Luciano was distracted. He frowned as he regained his composure before looking at her quizzically. Seeing that she got her father's attention, he added sweetly, "Miss Garcia told us that there will be an anniversary celebration.

"And what do you have?" Lucian agreed. Of course, he was aware of it. Because he had invested in the school, management asked his permission to host an event. However, he did not understand why Estela suddenly brought up the subject.

"Miss Garcia told us that everyone has to make a presentation during the celebration," Estela said with a glint of anticipation in her eyes. Our parents also have to participate. She looked at her father impatiently.

Luciano understood what he meant: «If they ask the parents to join, surely Mrs. Jerez will come too! Even if she avoids us and refuses to talk to me, it's good enough that I get a chance to see her!"

-Alright! She nodded nonchalantly. Luciano's eyes darkened at Estela's expectant look. I know.

Hearing this, she Estela tilted her head with a disappointed face. At first, she expected Luciano to share her feelings; it never occurred to her that she would reply so nonchalantly, "Does that mean Daddy doesn't like Miss Jerez anymore?"

Not knowing what Estela was thinking, Luciano merely nodded, nonchalantly, and looked away. Still, he couldn't ignore the frustration he held inside of him. He knew perfectly well that Estela was looking for the opportunity to meet Roxana, but he wanted that more. He wasn't satisfied with seeing her, so he promised himself to find a way to fix her relationship.

With this in mind, Luciano's temples throbbed. He was very sure that Roxana would not turn to see if they crossed paths on that occasion: «Ha! After all, she is determined to keep her distance from us ».

He had no choice but to hold back; otherwise, the situation would worsen. Afterward, he and Estela each had something on their mind, but neither said a word on the way home. Back at the Fariña residence, Luciano noticed that Estela seemed to be in a bad mood. Taken aback, he frowned: "Wasn't she in a good mood in the car a while ago? Why did she get angry all of a sudden? ».

[Chapter 492 The Play](#)

Noticing Estela sadly having lunch, Luciano couldn't help but ask her:

—What's going on, Ela? Why are you sad?

Estela pouted and complained:

"You don't like Miss Jerez anymore."

Luciano was stunned and didn't say anything for a few seconds before asking desperately:

—What makes you say that?

Estela looked at him with low spirits and said,

"We finally get to see Miss Jerez during the anniversary celebration, but you don't seem excited about it at all."

Luciano's eyebrows moved uncontrollably while he refuted:

—It's not true.

Estela gave him a doubtful look.

"Daddy didn't look excited in the car. He's in denial now, but he doesn't look happy. He's lying! "

When Luciano noticed that Estela looked doubtful, he frowned with resignation and said:

—It's just that I can't help thinking that we can't continue like this.

Estela tilted her head in confusion. Luciano caressed her head affectionately. Deep down, he knew that he needed her help to fix her relationship with Roxana.

"Oh! Why didn't he set the record straight with her right now?"

—Ela, you like Miss Jerez, right? Since she's not paying attention to us, don't you think we should take the initiative? Luciano said patiently.

Estela nodded fervently in response.

"Ela, if Miss Jerez shows up during the celebration, go find her, okay?" asked Luciano.

Estela was more than willing to do it, so she agreed without thinking twice. Luciano nodded slightly as well, racking his brain to think of an excuse to get close to Roxana that day. Just as he started to get a headache, the screen of her phone on the table lit up. Luciano took it instinctively to take a look at it. It was a message from Pilar in the group chat of the parents.

«Dear parents, our kindergarten is preparing presentations for children during the anniversary celebration. We hope that all of you can attend and view the presentations. Apart from that, we are planning a play that the students will perform with their parents to strengthen the relationship of the children with their parents. Therefore, we expect everyone's cooperation»

Luciano felt his heart flutter when he read that message. At that point, one of the parents responded with a question:

“Is it mandatory for everyone to participate in the play? How are those who are going to present themselves confirmed?»

"We hope everyone can participate. However, parents who are unable to participate can contact me directly. As for those who can participate, we will divide them into groups. I will send the list of the groups here once the participating parents confirm»

Luciano raised his eyebrows when he realized that everyone would be divided into groups, as if he had thought of something. After responding to Pilar's message in the group, he called Camilo immediately. He had just finished eating when his phone rang and Luciano's name flashed on the screen. He took the call right away and said:

"What can I do for you, Mr. Fariña?"

—Communicate with the director of the kindergarten and tell him to convince Roxana to attend the anniversary celebration this time. Also, ask him to make Ella and her two children on the same team.

Camilo had no idea about the activities of the kindergarten anniversary celebration. Even so, he didn't dare waste time carrying out the mission his boss told him to. As soon as Luciano finished the call, Camilo called the director of the kindergarten to communicate Luciano's instructions. The director accepted without hesitation.

[Chapter 493 The Same Team](#)

Meanwhile, Roxana hesitated when reading the message in the group chat. She had just closed a deal with the Dorante family and she was expected to adjust her schedule according to the Dorante family's requests. So she wasn't sure if she would be busy right now. Besides, she had to attend the anniversary celebration, which meant that she would inevitably run into either Luciano or Estela; maybe both. While Andrés and Bautista were discussing the anniversary celebration with her, they saw Pilar's message in the group chat. Noticing the concern on Roxana's face, they asked cautiously:

"Are you going, Mommy?"

The tone in her voices put Roxana in a dilemma.

—If I don't go, will they be able to attend the event on their own?

—We want you to be there, mommy!

The children exchanged glances and shook their heads vigorously.

Actually, the two children had no problem if she was absent. However, they thought about the possibility that he would meet Estela if she attended the celebration.

"It's been a long time since Mommy visited Ela. We really want to cheer Ela up»

Roxana frowned instead of answering immediately. Bautista put on a pitiful expression and looked Roxana in the eye to say:

—Mommy, this is the first time we're going to perform on stage.

At that moment, Andrés added:

“We really want you to see our presentation. Little kids like us panic if our mommy isn't there.

Roxana was amused to hear Andrés express his fear so seriously, but she recognized his desire to want to be there. Although she wasn't sure if they were up to something, she didn't want to miss her first introduction.

"Fine, I understand." I'll accompany you to the celebration —Roxana accepted, after reflecting on it for a long time.

After that, Roxana left the chat with Pilar. At first, she wanted to let him know that she would be absent on the day of the event. However, the enthusiasm of her children made her change her mind. She had no heart to disappoint them. When Andrés and Bautista heard her mother say yes, they cheered with emotion. Then, they hugged Roxana at the same time that they said affectionately:

—Thank you, mommy! We love you more than anyone!

Roxana smiled and caressed her head. Then her phone vibrated. She glanced at it and noticed that it was a message from Pilar that said:

"Miss Jerez, is she coming to the anniversary celebration?"

Roxana was stunned for a moment by the teacher's question and wondered why she sent that message to her.

«During the last event where they planted trees, Miss Garcia only assumed my presence. I don't remember her sending me a message personally to find out.»

She was still confused by his strange gesture and it seemed that Pilar could perceive her discomfort. Therefore, she added another message to explain:

«This upcoming event is very important. For this reason, the school director asked the teachers to confirm with all the parents».

That answered her question and Roxana did not worry anymore.

"Don't worry, Miss Garcia. I will be on time for the event and will actively participate. Thanks for asking"

Pilar sighed when she received a favorable message from Roxana. After a brief conversation, Pilar left the chat and sent a screenshot of her conversation with Roxana to Jorge, the director of the kindergarten. He had instructed her to get confirmation from her. In case she refused her invitation to the celebration, he had asked Pilar to persuade her accordingly.

When Pilar contacted Roxana, she was worried that she would say no. If that happened, she had to think of an excuse for her to change her mind. Fortunately, none of her worries came true. After informing Jorge, Pilar received an answer instantly:

"Put Estela Fariña on the same team as her two children."

Pilar did not dare to question Jorge's intention. She thought that Estela had asked to be on the same team as the boys. Therefore, she agreed to do it.

[Chapter 494 Waiting For It](#)

The next day, when Roxana was having lunch, she saw a message from Pilar in the group chat. It was about the grouping of children's activities. Upon entering the link, she immediately noticed her name at the top of the list. After her name, there was Luciano's. She was stunned. She checked it again and even asked the teacher,

“Ms. Garcia, are you supposed to read the list horizontally or vertically?”

Oh no, it's Murphy's Law! If the list was made horizontally, I will be in the same group as Luciano. Everything that can go wrong will go wrong»

«Hello, Miss Jerez. Please, read the list horizontally» Pilar replied immediately

Roxana's expression froze when she saw the message. She refused to give up and resubmitted another question to try her luck.

"Can I switch to another team?"

Meanwhile, Pilar was helping other parents to regroup her children. When reading Roxana's message, she felt bad for not being able to do her that favor.

"I'm sorry, Miss Jerez. The groups have already been fixed and we can't change them again. In addition, the list has already been delivered to Mr. Bernal. If there is any reason to modify it, we would need to consult with him."

Pilar thought that since Jorge was the one who gave her such a specific indication, it was better that she mention his name when things didn't go as planned. When reading Pilar's answer, Roxana frowned and there was a small trace of resistance in her eyes. Shortly after, she Pilar sent another message:

“We have considered several aspects before grouping the children together. Among her classmates, Ela is the closest to Andrés and Bautista. If we let her work with other families, I'm afraid she won't want to participate in the play. Thank you for understanding her »

Roxana's heart softened at the mention of Estela. As much as she rejected the idea of being in the same group as her and Luciano, she agreed with Pilar's logic. She couldn't imagine how little she could feel comfortable with other families.

After doubting it for a long time, Roxana thanked Pilar and ended the conversation, despite feeling very worried about it. She had already prepared to meet Luciano and Estela at the anniversary celebration, but she didn't expect to be on the same team as them. Suddenly, she had lost all appetite for her. She took a few bites, turned off her phone, and left. She still had a bit of hope, thinking that there would not be many intimate interactions with Luciano and Estela, since it was a kindergarten play.

"Surely it's just a fairy tale or a fable"

When she returned home in the afternoon, her children had already returned as well. Noticing them, Roxana's smile became rigid. She couldn't help but remember her upcoming collaboration with Luciano in the school play.

On the contrary, the children, who were aware of the groups, were in the clouds, but also felt nervous. Although they anticipated showing up with Estela, they were reluctant to confront Luciano, knowing that Roxana had no intention of crossing paths with him. Even so, there was only one way for

them to perform with Estela, which was to be on the same team as Luciano! They feared that Roxana would change her mind as soon as she found out about the group and not go to the celebration. Thinking about it, the boys fell silent and said nothing about the event. Roxana thought it was strange and tried to guess:

—Have you heard about the groups yet?

His question made their hearts stop. The children looked at each other nervously, and no one said anything in response. After a few moments, Bautista casually asked a question:

"Have you seen them yet, mommy?"

Roxana nodded firmly and replied:

"Miss Garcia sent me the list this afternoon."

[Chapter 495 Petition To Make A Group Change](#)

Upon hearing his answer, Andrés and Bautista became concerned.

"So do you still want to go, mommy?" they asked.

Roxana knew what they were thinking and shook her head slightly. Both boys thought that meant she wasn't going, so they started pulling her nervously while complaining,

"Mommy, you made us a promise, you can't go back on your word! If you don't want to talk to Mr. Fariña, we'll keep him away from you!

Roxana was amused by her reactions. She lovingly messed up their hair and assured them,

"Don't worry. I already gave you my word, so, ultimately, I'm going to keep it. Also, Miss Garcia is done making the groups, so mommy can't bother her to make changes, can she?"

Both boys sighed with relief upon hearing her. However, Roxana's heart sank at the thought of who she would have to work with.

"Do you know what play we're going to do?" Her," she inquired.

Roxana had heard from Pilar that the children cast lots to see what play they were going to do, so she was sure they would know the answer. When Bautista heard her question, he ran to his backpack and rummaged around for a while. Afterwards, he returned with a crumpled piece of paper, probably the one he had obtained by casting lots earlier. Taking a look at the paper, Roxana froze in her place. On it, the words "Sleeping Beauty" were clearly written. For the children's benefit, the teacher even added phonetic alphabets under the words. Bautista looked at Roxana curiously and asked curiously:

"Do you know this story, mommy?"

Roxana had not created the habit of reading stories to her children at night. On the rare occasions that she did, she also didn't choose fairy tales about princesses and princes for them. For this reason, "Sleeping Beauty" was unknown to Andrés and Bautista. Roxana had run out of words and she didn't know how to answer Bautista's question about the story. Her mind was filled with the play. He could imagine her roles and it was likely that the prince and princess would be her and Luciano. Knowing how the story was going, she began to get nervous. If she had known in advance that the play would be "Sleeping Beauty," she would never have agreed to participate. But, unfortunately for her, it was too late to take it back. After contemplating it for a moment, Roxana looked at the children and said:

"Mommy's going to make a call, so you guys stay still and don't make too much noise, okay?"

The children nodded obediently. Roxana took the phone from her and called Jorge Bernal, the director of the kindergarten. In the afternoon, Pilar had told him that only Jorge could make changes to the groups in the play. She was desperate to switch to another group. If not possible, she would ask for a change in the play.

Roxana received a busy tone and frowned before ending the call with disappointment. After waiting a bit, she was about to call back when Jorge called her back.

"Hello, Miss Jerez. I'm sorry I didn't take the call from her. How can I help you? George asked.

—I'm very sorry to call you at this hour, Mr. Bernal. He wanted to know if it was possible to make changes to the groups for the anniversary celebration performances.

On the other side of the line, a guilty expression appeared on Jorge's face upon hearing his request. Immediately, he calmed down and explained patiently:

—As you know, our kindergarten is a little different from the common ones, where all the parents are busy professionals. Groups for presentations were finalized after several rounds of consultation and discussion with parents. If we make changes, we would have to do another tedious round of coordination with all the parents. I'm afraid it will be difficult... Also, our activities for the celebration are about to start next week. If we make any changes now, we may not have enough time to rehearse... I can predict that it will affect the play...

Jorge gave Roxana the impression that her request would make things difficult for everyone. After the discreet rejection, Jorge asked out of concern:

Is there a particular reason why you want to switch to another group?

[Chapter 496 RSVP](#)

Since her request was going to make things difficult for the others, Roxana couldn't keep insisting. She smiled resignedly and said,

"In that case, don't worry about it. We'll leave it as it is.

—Thank you for your understanding, Miss Jerez. If there's nothing else, I'll end this call for you. Other parents are trying to contact me too, so I'll respond to them," Jorge said almost immediately. He was desperate to end the call, worried that Roxana would change her mind.

After finishing the call with Jorge, Roxana looked at the crumpled piece of paper that said "Sleeping Beauty", expressionless. The children noticed her reaction and called her cautiously:

—Mommy.

Roxana looked at them with downcast eyes. Seeing that her mother looked discouraged, the children asked nervously:

"Don't you like the play, Mommy?"

Roxana agreed, which made the children curious.

-Because? Is it a horrible story? Can you tell us?

Roxana frowned slightly and bit her lips, feeling a little uncomfortable.

"I'll... I'll tell you the story on another day," she finally answered.

Roxana had many suspicions that she and Luciano would have the main roles in the play. She was terrified by the idea of being sleeping beauty and having Luciano be her prince, so she got discouraged and was in no mood to tell tales. She hoped that the kindergarten would make a modification to the story so that it would appeal to an audience of younger children.

Roxana's reaction aroused interest in Andrés and Bautista about "Sleeping Beauty". They knew that Roxana didn't want to tell them, so they decided not to insist. They only asked:

—Mommy, you are going to continue participating, right?

Roxana agreed with great regret. She kept checking her phone, waiting to see if Pilar would give more updates regarding the play's script. After a few minutes, she received a notification. It was a message from Pilar in the group for parents. Roxana pursed her lips nervously and read the message. Pilar had sent an attached document. It was a document with a list of the participants of each group and their respective roles.

«Miss Roxana Jerez and Mr. Luciano Fariña will make the story of 'Sleeping Beauty'»

The other works were also fairy tales, such as "The Little Match Girl" and "Little Red Riding Hood." It was obvious that the kindergarten had put a lot of effort into choosing stories with a variety of themes. It was just a misfortune that she had been touched by a love story. Roxana felt worried. Taking a look at her children, she deep down she regretted her bad luck for having obtained "Sleeping Beauty" as her work. Then another message from Pilar arrived.

«Dear parents, please join us tomorrow in the kindergarten to discuss the scripts for the plays»

The other parents began to reply to Pilar's message to confirm their attendance. Although she felt discouraged, Roxana responded attentively:

«I know. I'll be there»

«Aware»

The next message that arrived just after Roxana's was a short message from Luciano. Although he didn't say much, he attracted a lot of attention, as he rarely responded to messages in the group chat. A curious parent asked:

"Will you be joining us for the anniversary celebration activities this year, Mr. Fariña? What play is he in and who is his partner? »

The person even tagged Luciano in his message.

[Chapter 497 Anticipating](#)

"Sleeping Beauty, with Miss Jerez"

Luciano responded and tagged Roxana in his response. Her message caused quite a stir in the group, as she was usually a ghost in the group chat. Roxana was about to continue with her day when she saw the notification. She was surprised and returned to the group chat to read Luciano's message. There was a long period of silence after Luciano's message and activity in the group died suddenly. Roxana had no idea if the rest of the parents were stunned to learn that Luciano was involved or were just waiting for an answer from her. Roxana watched Luciano's message for a long while, frowning slightly as there was speculation about Luciano's intention. She felt worried and confused; in the end, she decided not to pay attention to that group chat and went offline.

Andrés and Bautista were sitting silently next to Roxana, watching her. They were nervous when they detected the change in her mood, worried that she would decide not to participate in the play.

"We're sleepy, mommy. Can we go back to our room?"

The children pretended to yawn as they secretly watched Roxana's expression. Roxana's mind stopped wandering and her attention turned to the children. She caressed her head affectionately and said:

-Clear. Let's go to bed early today. Mommy will take them to school tomorrow.

The children's eyes lit up upon hearing that and they nodded excitedly. Roxana forced a smile and took them to her room to put them in bed. When she left and the children heard her close the door to her room, they cautiously opened their eyes and sat on her bed.

—Andrés, do you know the story of "Sleeping Beauty"? Bautista asked curiously as he watched Andrés in the dark.

The children had noticed Roxana's mood change during the afternoon. When she heard that they were in the same group as Luciano, she got a little uneasy, but she accepted without complaint. But, after realizing that the play they would do would be the story of "Sleeping Beauty", Roxana looked very worried. Besides, she refused to tell them the story.

Andrés thought for a moment and got out of bed. Then he turned on her computer and said,

"We can go online and look it up!"

Bernal's eyes lit up and he hurried to Andrés's side, who immediately wrote down each word and in an instant they found what they were looking for. They were both watching the screen intently, reading about the story. At the end of it, there was an illustration. Sleeping beauty was lying on the bed, wearing a cute dress, while the prince was leaning over her, giving her a kiss.

Both children blinked as their little minds processed the information. At that moment, they knew that they had discovered the reason why Roxana refused to do the work. They knew that Roxana and Luciano would have the main roles in the story. Roxana didn't like Luciano, so she definitely wouldn't want to act out the kiss scene with him. The children felt bad for her. They wanted her to participate with them so that Estela could spend time with her, but they also understood her doubts about receiving a kiss from Luciano in the play.

"A kiss from daddy and mommy..."

The children turned to look at each other, their eyes bright with anticipation. Even though they didn't like Luciano, deep down in their hearts, they wanted to see their family together. They began to anticipate seeing their parents together, especially their intimate interaction.

[Chapter 498 Very Unusual](#)

That night, neither Roxana nor the boys could sleep well. She couldn't stop thinking about Luciano's response in the group chat and also about his collaboration for the play. As for the children, they stayed awake because of the concern that their mother would get out of the play.

The next day, Roxana left her room and saw two little "pandas" at her door. She was surprised to see the dark circles around her eyes and she frowned and teased,

"Where did these two pandas come from?"

The children looked up and smiled awkwardly. Roxana shook her head and asked with concern:

—What happened? Didn't you sleep well last night? How did they get such big dark circles?

Roxana felt pain in her heart. She leaned down and stroked the area around her eyes gently. They closed their eyes, but there was worry on her face.

"Mommy, you're still going to accompany us to the anniversary celebration, right?" they asked, seeking reassurance from her.

When remembering the anniversary play, Luciano's face appeared in Roxana's mind. She felt her heart sink, but she put on a brave front to say,

"Of course! Mr. Bernal told me that the groupings are final and we can no longer make any changes.

Both boys nodded in relief, but never took their eyes off Roxana. She wondered if it was her imagination when she thought that Andrés and Bautista looked remorseful. She felt confused by her unusual behavior, as she didn't remember them doing any mischief or anything that hurt her. During breakfast, they were very attentive to Roxana, filling her plate with food and her glass of milk. After a while, Roxana could no longer contain her curiosity.

"Okay, let it go!" What did they do behind my back? Roxanne asked.

The boys froze for a moment and looked around nervously before turning to Roxana and shaking their heads at her. She eyed them suspiciously and said, "

Then why are you so attentive to me this morning?"

The boys' guilty expressions betrayed them instantly. After reading the story of "Sleeping Beauty", they felt that they had betrayed their mother. They had the good intention of helping Estela, but they accidentally put Roxana in an uncomfortable situation where Luciano had to kiss her. They couldn't tell her mom the truth, so they both pressed their lips together and refused to say a word.

Although Roxana knew something was wrong, she decided not to insist, because she also knew she couldn't make them talk. Andrés and Bautista secretly sighed with relief and finished their breakfast in silence under the restless gaze of her mother. After breakfast, Roxana took them to school and stayed to attend the parents' meeting to discuss the scripts for the plays. It had been a long time since the last time Roxana accompanied them to school, so Andrés and Bautista were very happy. However, they still felt guilty about their 'betrayal', so they contained their emotion and kept quiet during the trip. It was very unusual for them to be so still and subdued. They usually talked non-stop on the way to kindergarten, especially if her mom hadn't taken them long ago. They should be excited, so their

restrained behavior was making Roxana uneasy. She knew something was wrong, but unfortunately, she couldn't make them talk.

[Chapter 499 How Long](#)

Pilar was already waiting at the entrance when Roxana arrived with the children. She smiled and greeted them:

"Hello, Miss Jerez." How long!

Roxana smiled kindly and answered:

—I've been busy with work lately. Have Andrés and Bautista caused you problems?

Roxana suspected that perhaps the children had done something wrong at school and that is why they behaved strangely that morning. But, to her surprise, Pilar shook her head and said:

—Not at all! Andrés and Bautista are very good children. In fact, sometimes they help me take care of others. I owe you thanks for bringing up such sensible children!

Roxana looked down and observed both boys who were next to her. They both looked at her with their eyes wide and full of innocence, leaving her even more confused. Ella Roxana knew they weren't going to tell her secret, so she gave up and looked away.

"Miss Sherry!"

A sweet and childish voice sounded behind Roxana. She turned and saw Estela running towards her as fast as her small legs would carry her. Her plump face was flushing red with the effort. Little her was wearing an adorable dress and had a head full of curls. Roxana was surprised to see her hair, so she leaned over and asked doubtfully:

"What happened to your hair, Ella?"

She remembered that Estela had naturally straight hair and wondered who had done her hair. Estela pulled her own hair and said innocently:

—My grandmother! She said that all princesses have curly hair!

Sonia knew about the kindergarten anniversary celebration. She had heard that Estela was going to participate in a play, so she excitedly took the little girl to the beauty salon to have her hair styled. Luciano didn't want to argue with her mother over something so insignificant, so he let her do it. When Estela mentioned Sonia's name, Roxana felt a heaviness in her heart and, instinctively, she got up from her and walked away from her. Estela could feel the change in her attitude, so she tilted her head in confusion and looked disappointed.

It hurt Roxana to have to distance herself from the little girl, but she had to. Realizing that she had overlooked something, Roxana looked behind Estela and, indeed, saw Luciano walking towards them. He was dressed in an expensive suit tailored for her as he stalked toward her, his gaze fixed on both of them. Roxana looked away immediately when her eyes met Luciano's. Then, she took her children's hands and turned to enter the school premises. Although she knew that she would have to work with Luciano and Estela for the play, she wanted to delay her interactions for as long as she could.

"Hello, Mr. Farina!

As they passed through the entrance, Roxana heard Pilar greeting Luciano respectfully. He was going too slowly, as Luciano had already caught up with them. He responded to Pilar's greeting by nodding and after her, her gaze diverted to Roxana, who was turning her back on him as she walked quickly. Roxana felt a tingling in her back and she could feel that Luciano was looking at her.

"How long, Miss Jerez," Luciano greeted her at the same time that he walked next to her along with Estela.

Roxana's heart stopped when she heard her voice. The scene of them sadly parting after her last meeting juxtaposed with her kiss scene in "Sleeping Beauty" flashed in her mind. She got nervous and didn't know how to deal with it.

[Chapter 500 Intimate Gesture](#)

"Miss Jerez," Estela said, gingerly tugging on Roxana's clothing.

Roxana looked down and saw the little girl looking at her sadly, with her big, round eyes. She seemed like she was asking why she was ignoring her. Her puppy dog eyes touched her, but she could only force a smile back. Luciano noticed his concern with Estela. He frowned, but immediately hid her emotions and said:

—We count on her support to make the play a success, Miss Jerez. This will be the children's first performance, so I hope you can put your personal feelings aside for their benefit.

Roxana's expression froze. Her heart was fluttering, but she put on an indifferent front. She nodded casually and replied:

-Don't worry. I will do that.

When Luciano looked at her, he could see that she had pursed her lips and looked indifferent. It was very obvious that she had no intention of interacting with him. After her, Luciano turned to see Estela and exchanged a significant look with her. The little girl took the hint, approached Roxana and clung to her to ask:

"Are you still very busy, Miss Jerez?"

Roxana could not bear to continue ignoring the little girl. She hesitated for a moment and then she replied:

"Miss Jaraz," said Estala, cautiously tugging on Roxana's clothes.

Roxana lowered her gaze and saw the paqueta looking at her from the shape of the blanket, with her large, round eyes. She seemed like she was wondering why she was wondering why she was ignoring her. Her puppy dog's eyes touched her, but she could only force a scratchy smile. Luciano noticed his concern with Estala. She frowned at the pipe, but anxiously she hid her emotions and said:

—We count on her support to make the play a success, Miss Jaraz. This will be the first presentation of the children, so she hopes that she can put aside her sanctimonious personalas for the benefit of them.

Roxana's expression froze her. Her heart was agitated, but she put on an indecent facade. She nodded casually and replied:

- Don't worry. I will do that.

When Luciano looked at her, he could see that there she had pursed her lips and looked indifferent. It was very obvious that she had no intention of interacting with him. Later, Luciano turned to see Estala and exchanged a significant look with her. The paqueta took the indirect hint, hugged Roxana and clung to her to ask:

"Are you still very busy, Miss Jaraz?"

Roxana could not bear to continue ignoring the paqueta. She doubted it for a moment and then replied:

"Yeah, I'm still busy. But, since we promised to participate in the anniversary celebration, I will make time to accompany you in your rehearsals.

Estela's eyes lit up instantly when he heard her, his face full of happiness. Roxana noticed her change in her and her heart melted. She could no longer be cold to her.

On the way to the living room, Estela talked with Roxana, who entertained her tenderly. Once in the living room, Roxana felt that everyone was looking at her. Roxana was perplexed and stopped short before turning to Andrés and Bautista to ask:

"Are we in the wrong room?"

"No, this is our room," they answered while shaking their heads.

Roxana nodded and then looked up, realizing that other parents were giving her strange looks. She felt confused. She had met them before, so she couldn't understand the trace of envy she detected in the air.

"How long, Miss Jerez."

Roxana was trying to convince herself to ignore the unwanted attention when a woman approached her and greeted her. That took her by surprise. She was a mom to one of her children's classmates. He had already met her during her excursion to the botanical garden the last time, though she didn't remember telling him about her. Later, Roxana found out that the woman was Cristina Cano.

Cristina glanced at the man behind Roxana before walking over and snuggling up to her. That alarmed Roxana, so she, out of inertia, took a step back and collided with a muscular chest, losing her balance. Immediately, a hand of hers took her waist to help her balance. Suddenly, the whole room fell into a sinister silence and Roxana realized that all her attention was on her. After being stunned for a moment, she quickly realized what had happened. Then she freed herself from Luciano's arm, took Andrés and Bautista by the hands, and walked away from Luciano.

At that moment, Roxana wanted the ground to open up and swallow her. She had tried at all costs to keep her distance from Luciano, but he made such an intimate gesture in front of everyone. Roxana's heart continued to beat uncontrollably and she did not realize that Cristina was following her.

"It seems that Miss Jerez is indeed very close to Mr. Fariña," said Cristina, looking at Roxana from head to toe with an enigmatic expression.