

Mission To Remarry Chapter 1423-1457

Chapter 1423

The reason Roxanne did not wear the necklace was that it was indeed inconvenient.

When she arrived at the research institute, she took off the necklace and kept it in the pocket of her jacket.

After bustling around for the entire morning, Jack suddenly called during lunchtime, telling her something cropped up. He asked if they could meet at night instead.

Roxanne did not think too much about it and agreed.

When evening came, Roxanne exited the research institute to find Jack waiting for her by the entrance.

"I'm so sorry. Something happened at the company this afternoon, and I couldn't leave," Jack apologized as soon as he saw her.

Unbothered, Roxanne smiled. "That's okay. Work is more important. Are we still going to the restaurant we reserved yesterday? You go ahead. I'll follow behind."

With that, she turned and made her way toward her car.

The look in Jack's eyes turned gloomy as he watched her approach her car without hesitation. He said nothing and got into his own car.

Both cars drove off from the research institute.

The restaurant was nearby the research institute, and the two of them arrived within ten minutes.

Jack had already reserved them a table near the window.

Roxanne took off her jacket, and in the process, the necklace fell out of the pocket and landed right beside Jack's feet.

Jack picked it up and glanced at it before shifting his gaze to the person before him. His words seemed to insinuate a deeper meaning as he commented, "This necklace doesn't seem like your style."

Roxanne was taken aback.

Indeed, if she were to buy a necklace for herself, she would not have purchased such a lavish design.

However, she didn't see a need to explain to Jack where the necklace came from.

As such, she merely grinned and did not reply.

However, judging from her expression, Jack could already tell who gave her the necklace. His lips curled into a wry smile before he handed the necklace to her.

"This necklace attracts too much attention. As people in the medical field, we like to keep a low profile. No wonder you would leave it in your pocket instead of wearing it."

Sensing that he was implying something, she stared at the person before her, puzzled.

Jack did not comment more on it as he changed the topic to the new drug they were about to develop. "Most of the medicinal herbs we're using to develop the new drug are planted by the Damaris family. My grandpa also hopes we'll use the Damaris family's raw materials as the main ingredient as well."

Roxanne's focus was immediately diverted when they began talking business. She nodded in agreement and said, "That way, we can ensure better quality, too."

She was a little worried after finishing her sentence. "But if our research institute will be in charge of the drug's research and development, the supply of raw materials..."

I'm afraid the Damaris family would demand a hefty price for the raw materials.

Jack replied matter-of-factly, "The institute will only be responsible for the research and development. As for the medicinal herbs, we'll provide sufficient supplies."

Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief when she heard that.

After that, their discussion about the new drug became smoother.

Roxanne had to admit that as the leading family within the traditional medicine field, the Damaris family's research in this area was indeed much more advanced as compared to the market.

Many of their ideas and concepts coincided with Roxanne's.

The topic of the conversation between Roxanne and Jack gradually extended from the new drug's research and development to the entire traditional medicine market.

Before they knew it, it was already late.

The two of them finally stopped chatting when Roxanne's phone rang.

Benny was the one who called, asking when Roxanne would be returning home.

Roxanne quickly apologized to the boy and explained her situation. She then bid Jack goodbye before she got up and left.

Jack fumed in silence as he watched Roxanne's retreating figure.

Even though she didn't say anything, I could already guess that Lucian was the one who gave her that necklace! I can't believe she's taking it everywhere she goes. Just what in the world is she thinking?

Chapter 1424

It was already past nine at night when Roxanne reached home.

As she got out of the car, she felt anxious and guilty for leaving the children alone at home.

Hence, she hurried into the mansion, but as soon as she entered, she was greeted with the lively sounds of the children playing with each other and running around.

Roxanne stopped in her tracks and looked inside the living room, surprised.

Initially, she thought Madilyn had come over, but Lucian was sitting on the couch instead.

As if sensing her presence, the man turned around to look.

When their gazes met, Roxanne's shock intensified. "What are you doing here?"

Didn't we agree on meeting some other day?

Upon noticing her return, the children stopped playing and gathered around her, yearning for affection.

"Mommy, you came home so late! Daddy's been waiting for a long time!"

Roxanne ruffled the children's hair, but her gaze was still locked on Lucian.

Lucian sat on the couch, crossing his legs. The button on his collar was undone, and he seemed relaxed and comfortable.

Roxanne felt a strange but wonderful sensation surge within her heart when she thought of how he played with the children while looking like that.

Lucian got up from the couch and made his way toward her. His gaze swept past her neck.

His expression darkened when he noticed her bare neck. "Didn't you say your appointment was at noon?"

In the face of Lucian's gaze, Roxanne felt inexplicably culpable although she hadn't done anything wrong. "Mr. Damaris had something important this afternoon, so we had to change the time at the last minute."

Dissatisfaction flashed across Lucian's face when he heard that. "Is that how the Damaris family does their business? How can they change the appointment time just because they want to? If they're this casual when it comes to work, who would collaborate with them in the future?"

Roxanne did not know how to respond. She could only grin and change the topic nonchalantly. "Did you guys have dinner?"

Benny piped up, "We did! But I think Mr. Farwell hasn't eaten yet."

Linda had prepared dinner for the children before she left.

Lucian arrived while the children were eating, seemingly planning to freeload dinner.

Upon hearing that, Roxanne turned to look at Lucian for confirmation.

Lucian scrunched his eyebrows in tacit vindication.

Roxanne frowned and said with a sigh, "Why didn't you call me earlier?"

She patted the children's heads as a gesture for them to make way. Subsequently, she washed her hands before preparing food in the kitchen.

Verily, Lucian had lost his appetite after finding out that she and Jack had been out eating dinner until late at night.

He initially wanted to reject her offer of making dinner for him, but when he saw her getting busy in the kitchen for his sake, he swallowed his words.

Roxanne made some simple pasta.

Earlier, she had been engrossed in her conversation with Jack regarding medicine and did not eat much.

Since I'm preparing food for Lucian, I might as well make some for myself.

The children approached and demanded to have some when they smelled the pasta's delicious aroma. Roxanne could only scoop some pasta for each of them, too.

The sight of the family of five sitting around the dining table enjoying pasta at almost ten at night made for a heartwarming scene.

Only then did Roxanne remember to ask Lucian, "Why did you suddenly come over? Is there something wrong?"

Lucian glanced at her and replied, "I'm here to see Essie."

Roxanne nodded in understanding.

In the next second, Lucian spoke again. "Plus, I said I'll take responsibility. Since you haven't given me an answer, I can only take more extreme measures and court you a little more persistently."

1. Chapter 1425

Roxanne's ears turned red at the thought of what he was referring to when he mentioned the word "responsibility." Guiltily, she glanced at the children.

The children were in sync as they pretended not to hear the conversation and savored the food.

Roxanne heaved a sigh of relief and glared at Lucian, embarrassed. "I need more time to think about it!"

Lucian shrugged before flashing her a smile. "Then I'll just have to pursue you more persistently."

The children rejoiced inwardly when they heard their parents' conversation.

I wonder if Mommy has realized that her attitude toward Daddy has completely changed. With their fast progression, we'll become a real family very soon!

It was late after they finished dinner. Lucian did not stay much longer either. He said his goodbyes and left.

The smile on Lucian's face slowly disappeared and was replaced with an annoyed expression the moment he stepped out of Roxanne's place.

While eating, Roxanne had briefly told him about the collaboration between her research institute and the Damaris family.

The woman was all smiles as she told him about it, but he felt bitter.

Jack is obviously coveting my woman. But, just like what the elderlies had said, we're not working in the same industry. Even if I wanted to do something, I don't know how.

The more he thought about it, the more frustrated he got.

Therefore, he decided to pull over by the side of the road and took out his phone to call Jonathan.

Jonathan had just fallen asleep when his phone rang and woke him up.

Glancing at the caller ID, he noticed it was from Lucian and involuntarily recalled what had happened previously.

The last time Lucian had called him this late at night was to get him to take down Pearson Group, which cost him a good night's sleep.

I wonder what is it this time.

Jonathan was reluctant to pick up the call, but he was also afraid that Lucian would show up at his door. In the end, he had no choice but to bite the bullet and groggily answered the phone.

"Lucian, what's up?"

Jonathan could hear Lucian's deep voice and a few honks on the other end of the line. "I want to acquire the medicine company operating under the Damaris family. Do you know how I can do that?"

Jonathan froze. He was immediately snapped out of his groggy state before answering, "Is Farwell Group preparing to enter the medical industry?"

One thought popped into his mind. If Farwell Group ventures into the medical industry, won't Queen Group's status in the industry fall again?

Moments later, he realized the key point of Lucian's words.

He wants to take over the Damaris family's medical company!

Wide awake, he sat up in bed, his mind racing with various thoughts.

"Don't tell me you're doing this because of Roxanne. You're jealous of Jack, and in a fit of anger, you want to—"

Lucian interrupted his guess with displeasure, "Well? Do you have any ideas? Farwell Group doesn't have much experience in the medical industry, but the

Damaris family has a highly established foundation, so I can only ask you for advice.”

According to Roxanne, the Damaris family provides the medicinal herbs they need for the new drug. Roxanne will interact less with Jack if I acquire the medicinal herbs company under the Damaris family. In the future, I can provide her the medicinal herbs whenever she needs them. That way, we'll get to interact more with each other.

Judging from Jonathan's understanding of Lucian, he knew that his guess was correct although Lucian did not answer his question directly.

Naturally, he wanted to help his friend, but there was nothing he could do.

“It's as you said. The Damaris family's influence is highly established in the medical field. To be honest, I've also tried to acquire their company. However, no matter what I did, they refused to sell me the company. I've even tried raising the price five times higher and tried befriending them, but they just won't let go.”

Chapter 1426

The medicinal herb company owned by the Damaris family was mainly run by their own people, leaving outsiders nothing but envy.

Lucian went silent after hearing that.

However, that piqued Jonathan's interest. “Why? Is Roxanne working with the Damaris family again? Do you need my help with anything?”

Lucian managed to detect the hint of derision in his voice and snickered. “Go on and acquire the Damaris family's medicinal herbs company if you'd really like to help.”

Jonathan rubbed his nose sheepishly and said, “Well, anything but that.”

“Then there's nothing you can do. Bye.”

Lucian hung up the call right after that.

Jonathan's face was full of reproach as he watched his phone screen go dark.

That was the second time Lucian had woken him up in the middle of the night and hung up after dropping a bomb on him.

It had taken him considerable effort to finally drift off to sleep.

Great. It looks like I won't be able to sleep at all tonight, either!

Jonathan lay back down in bed, scrolling through his phone as he attempted to fall asleep.

However, a trending post on social media immediately caught his attention.

The post read: Breaking news! Roxanne Jarvis, the ex-wife of Lucian Farwell, was spotted secretly meeting up with the eldest son of the Damaris family!

Jonathan initially thought his eyes were playing tricks on him as he crawled out of bed. He stared at the post for a few more seconds to confirm what he had read before he finally believed what he was seeing. Then, he clicked on the post to find out more.

There were several pictures posted in the thread. In the photos, Roxanne and Jack were sitting face to face at a table by the window of a restaurant, chatting and enjoying each other's company.

There were even a few angles that captured the gleam in Roxanne's eyes.

Even Jonathan couldn't help speculating about Roxanne and Jonathan's relationship at the sight of the photos. Then, he read the comments on the post.

Netizen A: Roxanne Jarvis? Didn't she just get back together with Mr. Farwell?

Netizen B: She didn't clarify the rumors regarding her and Mr. Damaris back then. Now, it seems like there really is something between them!

Netizen C: I guess this is the perk of being a pretty girl. She can get two handsome, wealthy men falling head over heels for her at the same time!

The comment section was full of slanderous remarks about Roxanne and speculations about her relationship with Jack and Lucian.

Jonathan grew increasingly alarmed as he continued reading the comments.

No wonder Lucian asked me that question just now.

If it were another family, they would have collapsed like the Pearsons or the Hightowers.

I have to say, Lucian has met a formidable opponent this time. I wonder what Roxanne thinks, though.

Sleep eluded Jonathan after he saw the post, and he immediately sent Lucian the link to the post.

Meanwhile, Lucian just got back to the Farwell residence.

Confused upon seeing the link Jonathan sent him, he asked: What's this?

Jonathan replied: Just click the link. Otherwise, you're going to regret it tomorrow morning.

Lucian furrowed his brow when he read Jonathan's reply. He clicked on the link while washing up.

The title of the post made him stop brushing his teeth abruptly.

Following that, his face sank when he saw the photos inside the thread.

He had to admit that both Jack and Roxanne were excellent doctors, and he believed Roxanne when she told him that they only met up to talk about medicine. However, he had never imagined that Roxanne would be so happy while she was with Jack.

She had never smiled at him like how she did with Jack.

Grabbing a towel, he wiped his face dry and walked out of the bathroom before sitting on his bed, scrolling through the comment section with a solemn look on his face.

His face turned dark as thunder as he read the myriad of speculations about Roxanne's relationship with Jack.

Chapter 1427

Cayden was fast asleep in his bed when a phone call roused him. He glanced at his phone and noticed that it was a call from Lucian.

He immediately sprung up from bed and took a few seconds to regain his senses before taking the call. "Mr. Farwell."

Lucian's cold voice rang out. "Contact the Public Relations Department and order them to publicize my relationship with Roxanne. I want everyone to know about us!"

Shocked by Lucian's order, Cayden was wide awake.

What happened? Why does Mr. Farwell suddenly want to publicize his relationship with Mrs. Farwell? And in the middle of the night, no less?

In a shaky voice, Cayden uttered, "Mr. Farwell, Mrs. Farwell's two children's identities are unverified. I'm afraid that public opinion is not going to go easy on Mrs. Farwell and the Farwell family if you publicize the relationship."

Lucian's face turned grim on the other end of the phone when he thought about Roxanne's two children.

He knew he had Archie and Benny to thank for the current stage of his and Roxanne's relationship.

If their biological father didn't turn up, he wouldn't mind treating the two boys as his own.

Besides, they were about the same age as Estella.

With that thought in mind, Lucian told Cayden, "Validate their identities, then."

Dumbstruck, he asked, "Are you saying..."

"From today onward, they're the Farwell boys whom Roxanne took away when we got divorced back then," Lucian stated plainly.

His tone was flat and impassive as if he was talking about something inconsequential.

However, Cayden was flabbergasted.

He was aware of Lucian's feelings for Roxanne, but he never thought that Lucian would go so far as to acknowledge her children and even claim them as his own.

What in the world happened?

Before Cayden could respond, Lucian's voice sounded again.

"I want everyone to be informed about this by tomorrow morning!"

He hung up right after.

Cayden was caught in a dilemma as he watched his phone screen go dark.

Do I really have to wake everyone in the Public Relations Department right now? In the middle of the night?

Then again, it didn't seem like he had any other choice.

Cayden called the person in charge of the Public Relations Department first before checking his social media. He wanted to search for the rumors spreading online about Lucian and Roxanne.

To his surprise, Roxanne's name popped up right after he opened his social media.

After checking the trending posts, he finally understood why Lucian had ordered him to do such a thing.

That was the second time Roxanne was entangled in such a widespread scandal with Jack ever since her return.

Moreover, the public opinion on the internet was very much against Roxanne.

Cayden finally understood that Lucian was mainly trying to protect Roxanne.

Then again, he reckoned that Lucian might have the intention to do so a long time ago.

Upon realizing Lucian's aim, Cayden started to act more proactively.

The next morning, the public opinion on the internet did a one-eighty.

Farwell Group issued a statement in the middle of the night, stating clearly that Roxanne was the mother of the Farwell family's daughter. Besides, her two children were also born alongside Estella. However, out of consideration of the little girl's health issues, Roxanne decided to let the girl stay with the Farwell family and take care of the two boys alone.

The internet was abuzz with heated discussions following the statement.

One netizen commented: The two boys are Lucian Farwell's! No wonder Roxanne brought them back to the country!

Another commented: As expected, she's the legitimate wife. For Lucian Farewell to issue an official statement on behalf of the Farewell Group, looks like they're announcing their relationship to the public for real this time!

Chapter 1428

Soon, some recalled Roxanne's previous scandal after reading the statement.

One comment read: So what happened between Mr. Farwell and Aubree Pearson?

Another read: Isn't that obvious? Aubree is the homewrecker. She was the one who faked the rumors so Roxanne would give up on Mr. Farwell!

One netizen replied: But what about Roxanne and Jack? They had been involved in two scandals. Besides, they seem to be on good terms.

Another comment read: Isn't that obvious? They are both capable doctors. Besides, the recent medical consultations were all initiated by the Damaris family. It's normal for them to be on good terms!

Many online users expressed their disapproval of Aubree, while the rest offered their support and blessing to Roxanne and Lucian.

Now that Roxanne and Jack's relationship was clarified, everyone thought Roxanne and Lucian were the perfect couple.

One comment read: I heard that Roxanne had participated in various medical consultations recently. A while ago, someone ran into her at the nursing home in Jadeborough. Mr. Farwell was with her, too!

Another read: Really? Oh, Roxanne is such a kind and pretty angel. No wonder Mr. Farwell adores her!

One netizen commented: Oh, I believe in love again! They must live happily ever after!

The netizens' opinions were divided.

Roxanne and Lucian became the epitome of a perfect relationship for many, while Aubree, who used to be admired for her loving bond with Lucian, faced harsh criticism after her true colors were revealed.

It was only after reading the announcement that Jack realized he and Roxanne were secretly photographed yesterday.

After reading the comments praising Roxanne and Lucian's relationship, he threw his phone to the ground in a fit of rage.

I can't believe I didn't discover the perfect opportunity and ended up letting Lucian beat me to it. If I knew what happened last night, I would have used it to my advantage and manipulated public opinion to sow discord between Lucian and Roxanne! At the same time, I'll also be able to win Roxanne's heart!

Alas, it was too late now. Lucian had released the news to the public, and there was no way to turn back the clock.

Jealousy filled Jack's heart as he read the one-sided comments online, and a crazy idea soon popped up in his mind.

Even if Roxanne ended up choosing Lucian, I can figure out a way to make her stay by my side! They'd better not drive me up the wall!

Meanwhile, the boys discovered Roxanne and Jack's scandal online once it went viral. They also saw how the netizens criticized her.

Enraged, they stayed up all night, determined to stand up for Roxanne against the online haters.

At dawn, they were struggling to keep their eyes open yet still furious at the baseless speculations that had been made by those netizens about Roxanne.

Benny balled his hands into fists and asked, "Should I hack into the website and delete this post?"

I can then ban Mommy's name online so they won't be able to discuss her anymore. That way, Mommy won't be able to see the degrading comments. No one can criticize her online anymore!

Archie's expression was grim. "If you do that, people will only think Mommy is hiding out of guilt."

Hearing that, Benny harrumphed angrily and furrowed his brows to figure out another solution.

They were feeling helpless when they suddenly saw the notice released by Farwell Group.

Chapter 1429

Jonathan couldn't get a good night's sleep after reading the discussion online.

The following morning, as soon as he woke up, he grabbed his phone to check the public's reaction.

He nearly fell out of bed after reading the statement released by Farwell Group.

Am I dreaming? I've been aware for a long time that Essie is Roxanne's daughter, but what did I just read? Could it be true that the boys were born at the same time as Essie? It appears that they are the same age, and it would not be far-fetched to suggest that they were born together. Why didn't Lucian tell me anything? If this is true, why would Lucian have to work so hard to pursue her when they could just be together as a rightful family?

Jonathan was confused.

I won't be able to focus on work if I don't get answers.

With that thought in mind, he quickly washed up and drove straight to Farwell Group.

I must get answers from Lucian himself! If Lucian and Roxanne are indeed the parents of the boys, I am more than happy to present them with a generous monetary gift to commemorate the occasion. However, if that is not the case, Lucian is a lovesick fool. He accepted the boys as his own even though he isn't their biological father. This is highly commendable.

Soon, his car rolled to a stop before Farwell Group.

Jonathan hopped out of his car and strode into the building.

He stepped into the elevator and happened to bump into Cayden, who had just left the PR department.

Cayden's face appeared weary, with dark circles beneath his eyes indicating a lack of sleep. Despite his exhaustion, he managed to muster a polite smile as he greeted, "Mr. Queen."

Jonathan was busy thinking about the discussion online, so he merely gave Cayden an absent-minded nod. However, a thought occurred to him, and he spun around to give Cayden a perplexed look.

"What's with that statement that your company released last night?"

Lucian obviously didn't release that statement personally, so it could only be Cayden.

A wave of misery washed over Cayden when he heard the statement being mentioned.

He shook his head and said, "You should ask Mr. Farwell. I was just carrying out his orders."

Jonathan wasn't the only one who was curious, for the employees in the PR department kept asking the same questions last night.

Cayden could only tell them he had no idea.

Fortunately, Jonathan didn't make things difficult for him and patted his shoulder in recognition of his hard work. "Thank you for your effort."

Cayden exhaled a sigh of relief. "I was just doing my job."

They had only exchanged a few words when the elevator arrived at the top floor.

Jonathan waited outside for Cayden to report his arrival before he headed into Lucian's office.

Inside, he saw Lucian seated behind his desk, his face unreadable. It was almost as if the heated debates and controversy that had been raging online had nothing to do with him.

After he walked in, Lucian spared him a look and asked calmly, "Why are you here?"

Jonathan strode over to him and plunked himself down on the chair in front of the desk. "How dare you ask me that question? I want to know if the statement Farwell Group released last night was true. Are the boys yours?"

After asking that question, he stared at Lucian unblinkingly.

Lucian remained unfazed. "What do you think?"

Jonathan was baffled by his indifferent reaction. Carefully, he replied, "I don't think so."

"They aren't mine," Lucian answered at the same time.

Chapter 1430

Jonathan's jaw dropped open in disbelief.

If they aren't his, why does he look so calm in comparison to me, who is freaking out?

"What are you thinking?" He shot Lucian an incredulous look. "If you want to help Roxanne by stopping the haters online, then you can just publicize your relationship with her and issue warning letters through your lawyer. Why would you do this?"

If it was revealed that the CEO of Farwell Group had claimed to be the biological father of his ex-wife's children even though they were not his, no one would believe it. It sounded pretty ridiculous, but that was exactly what Lucian did.

"If I only did that, the netizens will still assume the worst about the boys' father." Displeasure flashed across Lucian's eyes as he explained, "The kids are innocent. If she's willing to marry me, it will only be a matter of time before the boys become mine, too."

Lucian knew very well that the last thing Roxanne wanted was to drag the kids into her mess, so he was more than willing to solve the trouble for her.

He meant what he said.

The only way to stop the public from making malicious assumptions about Roxanne was to clarify the boys' background.

Hearing that, Jonathan finally concluded that his friend was indeed a lovesick fool.

It looks like we've underestimated him. Lucian doesn't fall in love easily, but when he falls in love with someone, he'll do anything for her! Wait...

Jonathan soon realized something. "Who is the father of the boys? He has never revealed himself. If he were to come across this statement..."

Lucian had made himself pretty clear through that statement. If the boys' father discovers it, he might use the secret to threaten Farwell Group. What should we do if that happens?

A vicious look appeared in Lucian's eyes when the man was mentioned.

He knew Jonathan's unease, for he had the same concern before releasing that statement.

However, that concern paled in significance compared to Roxanne being the recipient of malicious comments.

If the boys' biological father dared to show himself, Lucian would take the chance to make him regret abandoning Roxanne and the boys.

A sense of murderous intent hung in the air around Lucian as he contemplated the matter.

Jonathan shuddered in fear as he stared at Lucian.

In an icy voice, Lucian declared, "No matter who he is, I won't let him harm my family. I'll make him regret abandoning them!"

Jonathan grew worried. "What if Roxanne regrets it?"

He didn't make it clear what she would regret, yet they both were aware of what it was.

Roxanne had two boys with that man, so they could still have feelings for each other.

If Roxanne regretted her decision and chose to return to that man...

A chill ran down Jonathan's spine when he considered that possibility.

The temperature surrounding Lucian dropped to a freezing point, but he refused to dwell on that matter. "Perhaps he's already dead."

Otherwise, why hasn't he made an appearance all this while? Furthermore, Roxanne appears to be hesitant when it comes to discussing him.

Compared to the possibility that Roxanne would return to that man, Lucian would rather believe that he was dead.

Jonathan was taken aback by the sight of the dark look on his friend's face, but he didn't say anything.

This matter was complicated, so he knew Lucian must've considered everything carefully before coming to a final decision.

Anything else he said would only serve to add more to Lucian's plate.

Chapter 1431

Archie and Benny had barely finished reading the discussion online when Estella arrived at their door, leaving them no time to even shout for joy.

“Archie, Benny, Ms. Linda is here to give us a ride to school!” she yelled as she rapped firmly on the door to get their attention.

Estella might be staying with them, but Roxanne worked long hours recently, which meant that the little girl didn’t get to see her after waking up in the morning.

Thus, Estella was dependent on the boys for companionship, eagerly looking forward to seeing them every morning.

This morning, however, the boys were still upstairs even after Linda arrived. Hence, Estella graciously offered to go up there and fetch them.

When Archie and Benny heard Estella’s voice, they quickly closed the laptop, but they were unable to restrain the grins that were spreading across their faces.

“Why are you grinning?” Estella was confused, but that didn’t stop her from grinning along with them.

Benny patted her head like an adult and replied secretively, “I won’t tell you! You’ll find out soon, anyway.”

I can’t believe Daddy released a statement saying we’re his children! Does that mean we don’t have to keep our identities a secret from him soon?

With that thought in mind, Benny turned to look at Archie expectantly.

Archie was well aware of what Benny was thinking. Despite the broad smile on his face, he wasn’t as naive as Benny and was certain about his guess.

It looks like we’re right to change our minds about Daddy. He loves Mommy dearly! I can’t believe he did that to protect Mommy.

Linda drove the kids to the kindergarten.

During break time, Benny dragged Archie to the restroom to avoid Estella.

The two boys whispered in the male restroom.

“Archie, how did Daddy find out about our identities?” Benny asked innocently.

He assumed Lucian published that statement because the latter had discovered the truth about their identities.

However, after asking that question, he realized that Archie didn't seem happy as he was. Rather, Archie seemed annoyed.

Benny was baffled.

Looking at his brother's foolishly innocent demeanor, Archie responded, "Daddy doesn't know that we're his children yet."

Benny furrowed his brows. "Seriously? But it must be Daddy who released that statement! If he doesn't know, then why did he say that?"

Archie told him solemnly, "Because of Mommy!"

Benny tilted his head in confusion.

"If he doesn't explain our identities, the netizens will assume Mommy had us with another man. They will then insult her."

Archie was indeed Lucian's biological son, for he understood his father's intentions like the back of his hand. "By acknowledging us as his own, Daddy is making sure that Mommy will not be subjected to the malicious words of the online community. He is doing so to protect us all from any possible hurtful remarks."

Benny listened with his eyes wide open.

It was not until he listened to the explanation given by Archie that he finally understood the situation.

He's right. Only we, Mommy, and Aunt Madilyn know that we're Daddy's sons. If none of us say anything, Daddy will never find out. Daddy only did that to protect Mommy.

Even so, the boys were satisfied.

At least we can be sure that Daddy loves Mommy sincerely. They will end up together one day! I wonder if Mommy had seen the statement...

Estella, on the other hand, was confused to see the boys beaming all day.

Chapter 1432

The boys were exhilarated for nearly the whole day after seeing the announcement in the morning.

When night fell, Roxanne had just stepped into the house when Archie and Benny flung themselves at her in excitement. "Mommy!"

She was slightly perplexed by their gleeful demeanor. "What's going on? Did something nice happen in the kindergarten?"

As soon as she ended her sentence, she glanced at Estella and was puzzled. If something did happen in the kindergarten, why isn't Essie acting the same way as them?

Upon detecting his mother's confusion, Archie said, "Didn't you see the news on the internet?"

That confounded Roxanne even further. What news on the internet?

Excitedly, Benny added, "Mr. Farwell claimed that we're his children, just like Essie!"

Did I hear that right? Lucian said Archie and Benny are his children? How's that possible? Roxanne was stunned.

He could tell his mother was befuddled, so he grabbed the laptop, clicked on a public forum, and showed it to her.

Farwell Group's announcement was still trending at the top of the website.

Roxanne clicked on the announcement and read its content.

When she finished perusing the announcement, she widened her eyes in shock. Lucian really did say that!

"Are we really Mr. Farwell's children, Mommy?" Benny feigned innocence as he stared at his mother, pretending he had no clue about his background.

If Mommy says yes, then we'll be able to call him "Daddy" in the future!

The little boy was over the moon at the thought of that possibility.

Roxanne looked away, avoiding her son's gaze. "There's a reason for him to say that."

She was indirectly answering in the negative.

Disappointment surfaced in Benny's eyes as he asked, "If that's not the case, why did he say that?"

Her line of sight landed on the screen again. After seeing that announcement and the netizens' comments, I'm absolutely certain Lucian doesn't know the boys' actual

background. Otherwise, he would've demanded an explanation from me, which he didn't. I have a pretty good guess as to why he said that, though. He just wanted to protect my reputation after seeing unsavory remarks about me. Still, I'm shocked he's willing to do this for my sake.

Roxanne had to admit that when Benny asked her that question, she felt the urge to reveal the whole truth to him. However, this matter had stayed hidden as a secret for so many years that she was afraid to tell him the truth. She didn't know if the boys would blame her when they learned the truth. Also, she had no idea whether Lucian would reprimand her for selfishly keeping this a secret all these years.

"Okay then." Since his mother didn't want to talk about the matter, Benny sensibly changed the topic instead of pressing on. "Mr. Farwell's saying that because he wants to help you, right?"

A wide, innocent smile returned to his face.

When Roxanne met his eyes, she nodded while wearing a complicated expression, for she couldn't bear to disappoint the boy by shaking her head in denial again.

His smile grew even more sincere. "Mr. Farwell treats you well, Mommy! It will be so nice if he's our daddy. You should accept his proposal, Mommy!"

Chapter 1434

Originally, Sonya did not intend to cause trouble for Roxanne at such an hour.

Yet she did not expect her son to release such a shocking announcement on the internet, and she only found out while she was having dinner.

Sonya was so incensed that she didn't even finish dinner. After throwing her cutleries in a rage, she set off and drove to Roxanne's house.

She was determined to make Lucian and Estella cut ties with Roxanne as soon as possible.

Now that Sonya saw how dependent Estella was on Roxanne, her anger was further fueled.

"Roxanne Jarvis, give me back my granddaughter," she uttered frostily as if Roxanne had snatched Estella away from her.

Sensing Estella's nervousness, Roxanne gripped the former's hand to soothe her anxiety. Next, Roxanne lifted her head to face the woman opposite her.

If this had happened in the past, Roxanne might not know how to respond to a demand like this.

However, things were different now. She was Estella's mother, so she had the right to keep Estella by her side and the confidence to face the unreasonable Sonya.

"Essie is my daughter who was separated from me for years. It's only right that she stays by my side. What are you trying to do, Mrs. Farwell?"

Roxanne maintained eye contact with Sonya, showing no intention of backing down.

Her words caused Sonya's expression to change. "So you're aware that you're Essie's mother? Then where were you all these years? It was the Farwell family who put in so much effort to raise her. What did you do? You proclaimed that you're her mother right after coming back and took her away from the Farwell family. Have you ever considered our feelings?"

Sonya spoke as if she was doing this solely for the sake of Estella.

Feeling a pang of guilt, Roxanne looked down at Estella apologetically.

The girl sensed her gaze and raised her head to flash Roxanne a bright grin. She showed no signs of resentment toward Roxanne as her eyes shone with a look of reliance.

That made Roxanne regain her confidence. She met Sonya's eyes firmly and uttered, "That's why I need to spend more time with Essie to make up for all those years I missed out on."

The air of hostility around Sonya grew at that.

Roxanne continued calmly, "If, like what you said, you put in a lot of effort and raised Essie, then her bond with you won't change no matter how long she stays by my side. You don't have to worry about that."

"If you really want me to stop worrying, then give Essie back! Just because you're her mother doesn't mean I'll allow you to join the Farwell family!" snapped Sonya with a steely look.

As she said that, she even stepped forward in an attempt to grab Estella.

Roxanne stepped sideways and shielded Estella. With an icy expression, she voiced, "If that's the case, we should listen to Essie and respect her decision."

She turned around and looked at Estella. "Essie, do you want to go back with Grandma?"

Estella shook her head without a second thought.

She had gone through so much to finally be with her mother. It was only natural that she did not want to part with Roxanne.

When Sonya saw how Estella rejected her without hesitating at all, her face turned grimmer than ever. She accused, "Who knows? Maybe you told her something while she was with you all this time."

After glowering at Archie and Benny once again, Sonya added, "What if Essie spends too much time with you and becomes like these two b*stards under your care?"

Immediately, Roxanne's countenance darkened instantly. "Please watch your attitude toward the kids. They can understand what you're saying!" she warned, a forbidding aura surrounding her.

Chapter 1436

"It was Lucian who let Essie stay with me. So, if you want to take her away, you'll have to get his consent first," Roxanne emphasized without a change in her expression.

The little girl in her embrace immediately chimed in, "I'll do what Daddy says!"

As Sonya watched the mother and daughter duo presenting a united front, she felt her temples throb.

After all, her son had already made such a statement. The answer she would get could not be more obvious if she made the call.

Roxanne's saying that because she has no plans to let me take my granddaughter away! Most importantly, my son is siding with her. Ugh! I can't do anything about it.

After waiting for some time and seeing that Sonya didn't take any action, Roxanne said, "If you don't want to make the call, then please leave now. It's getting late, and the children are hungry. I don't have the energy to prepare another person's portion."

With that, Roxanne put Estella down and gestured for the boys to take Estella upstairs.

Once the children had gone upstairs, Roxanne said, "Do as you please then."

Without waiting for Sonya's reply, Roxanne marched into the kitchen, completely ignoring the former.

Just like that, Sonya was left alone in the living room.

Glaring at the figure busy cooking in the kitchen, Sonya took a deep breath and hissed a warning, "Don't you dare think you can be a part of the Farwell family just because Lucian and Essie like you. It won't happen as long as I'm alive. Dream on!"

With that, she stormed out of the house in a huff.

Roxanne had her back facing Sonya the entire time. Though she looked calm on the outside, deep down, she was tense.

When she heard Sonya leave, she breathed a sigh of relief inwardly.

It was an ugly argument, but Sonya's appearance had reminded Roxanne that it was still not time for her to reveal the truth just yet.

Sonya's hostility toward the boys was obvious.

Even when Lucian had already declared to the public that the boys were his, Sonya still regarded the announcement as fake news without even bothering to clarify.

It was clear that she had never accepted Archie and Benny.

Even worse, the two boys weren't even considered decent children in her eyes.

That was all because of Roxanne's sudden departure back then, which gave Sonya a bad first impression.

With that thought in mind, Roxanne felt incredibly apologetic.

In fact, she began to regret not dealing with the situation properly.

I should've been more humble. After all, I wanted her to accept the boys.

Still, Roxanne could not think of another way to deal with Sonya when the latter kept pushing them into a corner.

Meanwhile, the children had been hanging out on the balcony the entire time. The second they saw Sonya's car leave, they ran downstairs and approached Roxanne.

"Mommy, are you okay?"

Roxanne recollected herself and sighed inwardly before forcing a smile and patting their heads. "I'm all right. Did I give you guys a fright just now?"

However, the children shook their heads and said indignantly, "Nope. We're just frustrated."

Archie and Benny then cast her a serious gaze. "We want to protect you!"

Roxanne was so moved that she pulled them into her arms. "Thank you, Darlings. Please don't take Grandma's words seriously, okay? You're all my precious darlings."

Nodding obediently, they responded, "We know. You're the best mommy on earth, too!"

The fact that they were so understanding made Roxanne feel sorry for them and at the same time guilty. She could not resist hugging them tighter.

Chapter 1437

Meanwhile, in the mansion on the outskirts, Aubree, too, saw the discussion on the internet.

Her hand that held the phone trembled with anger when she saw the statement made by Farwell Group.

Aubree could tell Lucian was basically informing the public of his relationship with Roxanne. In fact, he was close to revealing their marriage certificate.

At the same time, he was also responding to Roxanne and Jack's scandal, announcing to the world that Roxanne was his.

Lucian never announced our engagement in the past, no matter how subservient I behaved. And now, that b*tch made him do it so easily? And what's with those two b*stards?

Aubree did not believe they were Lucian's children, nor did she believe Lucian would acknowledge the identities of two illegitimate children just to protect Roxanne's reputation.

In the eyes of bystanders who were unaware of the truth, they might think that Lucian and Roxanne shared a loving bond.

However, those who knew them personally would think that Lucian had cheated on Aubree.

How could he do this?

No matter what the possibility was, Aubree refused to believe it.

Instead, she took out her phone to call Frieda for verification.

Similarly, Frieda was shocked when she learned about the truth from Jonathan and realized how important Roxanne was to Lucian.

Hence, Frieda was even more determined to stay away from Aubree.

Before she could even come up with an idea, Aubree called.

Frieda answered it reluctantly, hoping Aubree was only calling to ask for money.

If that was the case, Frieda could still fork out some. However, she would be at a loss for what to do if Aubree threatened her to harm Roxanne.

After reading Farwell Group's statement in the morning, there was no way Frieda would foolishly offend Lucian by messing with Roxanne again.

Unfortunately, Aubree still had dirt on Frieda, and the latter had no right to say no to Aubree.

Frieda was already uneasy before Aubree even uttered a word.

She even took the initiative to ask, "How much more money do you need, Aubree?"

When she finished speaking, Aubree's icy voice came through the phone speakers. "What's with the news on the internet? Are the two b*stards really Lucian's children?"

Even though they were only talking on the phone, Frieda could imagine Aubree's furious expression from the latter's tone.

She could also imagine Aubree's reaction after she had given her answer.

Hence, she gulped nervously as she racked her brain for a response that would not anger the person on the other end of the line.

Before she could even think of an answer, Aubree made a guess.

"It's not true, isn't it?" Aubree hissed.

Frieda's heart clenched. "Aubree, please calm down—"

Regardless, Aubree cut her off, "How am I supposed to calm down? I'm going to lose my mind from jealousy! What's so great about that b*tch? How is she able to make Lucian go to such lengths for her?"

Her words rendered Frieda speechless.

Nonetheless, Frieda could only pray and hope she would not be implicated because of Aubree's anger.

Thankfully, Aubree only spat out a few curses and ended the call.

Frieda sighed a breath of relief when she saw the phone screen darken.

Meanwhile, the more Aubree thought about it, the more frustrated she felt.

She scrolled through the phone for some time. Suddenly, her eyes gleamed, and she dialed the number at the bottom of her contacts list.

Chapter 1438

News about the Farwell family's two additional young heirs, who were given birth by Lucian's ex-wife, caused an uproar in Horington.

Of course, the journalists took action almost immediately. No one knew how they got the information, but they found and swarmed around Roxanne's research institute and mansion.

Roxanne was still asleep when she received a call from Linda telling her not to leave the house that day.

When Roxanne received that call, she was still in a daze.

However, the moment she got out of bed and saw the crowd outside, she panicked.

The crowd was clearly there because of Farwell Group's statement yesterday.

Noticing her room's curtains were pulled open, the crowd downstairs hurriedly focused their cameras in the direction of her room window and began snapping pictures.

Shocked, Roxanne hastily drew her curtains.

At the same time, her phone rang again.

She grabbed it to take a glance, only to see it was from an unknown number.

Suspicious, she answered it. The person on the other end of the phone asked, "Is this Ms. Jarvis? You and Mr. Farwell—"

Before the caller could finish his sentence, Roxanne hung up with rage swelling in her heart.

How on earth did they find my number and address? Are journalists so well-informed these days?

Just as Roxanne was feeling shocked and annoyed, Estella woke up in a daze.

She was happy to see Roxanne still in the room. With a smile, she stretched out her arms and said, "Mommy, I want a hug!"

Hence, Roxanne recollected herself and picked the girl up. As soon as she caught the latter's scent, she was instantly relieved of her frustration.

Nonetheless, Estella seemed to sense Roxanne was in a bad mood. She caressed the latter's face with concern. "Mommy, what's wrong?"

Smiling, Roxanne reassured, "It's nothing. Come on. Let's get you washed up."

Estella nodded and crawled into Roxanne's arms, curling up into a ball.

The weight in Roxanne's arms helped her calm down completely.

After all, she had to stay calm since the children were at home. If not, they might get a fright.

When Roxanne finished helping Estella wash up, she opened the room door, wanting to go down to prepare breakfast.

The moment she opened it, she saw Archie and Benny standing at the door.

Archie looked up at his mother, his expression tense. "Mommy, who are those people downstairs? Did Mrs. Farwell send them?"

That was their first time seeing such a scene.

Moreover, Sonya paid a visit yesterday. Naturally, they thought it was her doing.

Roxanne patted their heads to reassure them. "I don't think so. Anyway, you two better not go out today. I'll inform your teacher about this."

It was impossible for the children to go out when such a crowd was encircling the house.

The boys nodded. Their gazes were filled with wariness as they eyed the people outside who looked like they would barge in anytime.

In fact, the boys were already thinking of ways to protect Roxanne if they actually barged into the house.

In the meantime, Madilyn had just returned and saw the journalists swarming outside Roxanne's house.

She had been busy dealing with a major operation for the past few days and was unaware of the news that was spreading.

The first thing that came to her mind when she saw the crowd was that a medical accident had happened.

As a doctor herself, Madilyn knew how much fuss a medical accident could cause.

At that thought, she hurriedly pulled out her phone to get to the bottom of it. Instead of finding news about her best friend being involved in a medical incident, she found the latter's scandals.

Chapter 1439

Madilyn's eyes went wide when she saw the announcement made by Farwell Group.

What happened during the few days that I was away? Does Lucian know about Archie and Benny's true identities?

After taking a look at her phone and the journalists crowded in front of her, she began to understand why the journalists had gotten so worked up.

There are two new members in the Farwell family all of a sudden, so I can see why these journalists are freaking out. Honestly, even I'm a little shocked myself!

Whatever tiredness Madilyn had was completely gone at that point. With a frown on her face, she quickly gave Roxanne a call.

However, all she heard was a robotic voice that said, "The number you have dialed is currently busy. Please try again later."

She tried calling a few more times, but the outcome was the same.

Eventually, Madilyn put the phone aside in frustration and walked up to the crowd. She wanted to squeeze past the journalists and confront Roxanne about the situation, but she was no match for the journalists at all.

After a few failed attempts that resulted in her nearly being stepped on, Madilyn gave up and returned to the car.

I may not be able to see Roxanne right now, but I should at least be able to see Lucian. The fate of my godsons and my bestie are at stake here, so I absolutely need to get some answers!

With that in mind, Madilyn floored the accelerator and sped away from the mansion gate.

She got even angrier when she arrived at Farwell Group and saw no journalists outside the building.

Farwell Group was the one who made that announcement, so shouldn't the journalists be coming after Lucian for answers instead? Why are they swarming Roxanne and her kids? Are journalists these days cowardly pieces of trash who pick on the weak and fear the strong?

Madilyn was fuming when she stormed through the office building's entrance.

She was about to go upstairs when the receptionist at the front desk stopped her. "I'm sorry, but you will need to wait here if you don't have an appointment."

The receptionist had a conflicted look on her face when she found out that Madilyn was here to see Lucian.

It took Madilyn every ounce of willpower she had to keep herself from lashing out on the spot.

After taking a deep breath to calm herself down, she asked, "It was Farwell Group that made that announcement online, right? You know who Roxanne Jarvis is, don't you? Well, I'm her best friend, and I'm here to speak to her ex-husband! Why would you need me to make an appointment for that?"

The receptionist had nothing to say in response, but she didn't dare let Madilyn upstairs either.

Tension was starting to rise between them as they continued staring each other down.

Eventually, Cayden showed up and helped get the receptionist out of that awkward situation.

Madilyn had seen Lucian's assistant before, so she was able to recognize him instantly. "Cayden!"

As Cayden was acting upon Lucian's orders to help Roxanne out at the time, all he did was pause in his tracks to glance at Madilyn.

Huh? Who is this woman? She looks kind of familiar...

Madilyn then ran up to him, grabbed him by the collar, and dragged him toward the elevator. "Take me to Lucian right now!"

Cayden was still trying to recall who Madilyn was, so her actions caught him completely off guard.

By the time he snapped out of his dazed state, the elevator was already on its way up.

Having recalled that Madilyn was Roxanne's best friend, Cayden asked politely, "May I know the reason you would like to see Mr. Farwell, Ms. Xander?"

"To confront him about what happened to Roxanne, duh! Why else would I even want to see him?" Madilyn replied angrily as she stormed out of the elevator.

Not only did that scumbag hurt Roxanne badly in the past, but he also has the audacity to pester her after she returned from overseas!

Cayden was so intimidated by her that he simply kept quiet and followed behind her as she walked up to Lucian's office.

Madilyn opened the door and barged right in without even knocking.

Chapter 1440

Lucian had a gloomy look on his face as he stared at the screen of his computer.

He was looking at a video of the journalists swarming Roxanne's house and the research institute.

Lucian did not expect his actions to cause Roxanne so much trouble.

He was snapped out of his train of thought when the door to his office opened all of a sudden.

Lucian looked up at the door in displeasure. He was about to say something when Madilyn yelled, "Get over here, Lucian! You owe me an explanation for the announcement online!"

She then walked up to Lucian and slammed both hands down on his desk while glaring daggers at him.

Lucian frowned slightly as he stared back at her in confusion.

After taking a few seconds to recall that Madilyn was Roxanne's best friend, he suppressed his anger and politely motioned for her to sit down. "Please have a seat."

Naturally, Madilyn was not in the mood to sit down at that moment. "No, you explain this to me first! Since when have my godsons become your sons?"

She actually meant to ask Lucian when he found out about their true identities and how he won Roxanne's heart over.

However, Lucian's response caught her off guard and left her speechless.

"They may not be my biological children, but it's only a matter of time before they address me as their father. I will treat them as my own, so you don't have to worry about a thing," he said patiently while massaging his aching forehead.

Madilyn froze.

Huh? What does he mean by that? Does he still not know Archie and Benny are actually his children? Then, what's with the announcement from Farwell Group...

That was when Madilyn recalled the search results when she looked up Roxanne's name online.

Most of them were questioning Roxanne's relationship with Jack and the true identities of Archie and Benny.

Did Lucian make that announcement just to protect them?

Madilyn felt slightly better at the thought of that, but she wasn't about to let Lucian off the hook that easily. "What about the journalists gathered outside Roxanne's house, then? What do you plan on doing about them?"

After all, Lucian was the reason those journalists were there.

Instead of answering her question, Lucian simply shot Cayden a glance in response.

Cayden had a conflicted look on his face as he said, "I've already given the press a warning, but they..."

There was no way the media would sit around and do nothing after Farwell Group made such a shocking announcement.

It was only natural that the journalists would be fighting to get a scoop.

Nobody was willing to give up on that golden opportunity, and that mentality resulted in the crowd of journalists getting bigger and bigger over time.

There was nothing Cayden could do about it at that point.

Madilyn and Lucian understood what he was trying to say even though he didn't finish his sentence.

"What will Roxanne and the kids do? They can't just stay home forever!" she exclaimed anxiously.

"I'll go pick them up," Lucian replied with a grim expression as he stood up and grabbed his coat.

After taking a moment to recover from their shock, Madilyn and Cayden quickly stepped in front of him to stop him.

"Those journalists just want an answer, be it from me or Roxanne. They'll leave once they get it," Lucian said while staring at them with a straight face.

Cayden knew he couldn't let Lucian do that, but he didn't know how to talk the latter out of it, so he decided to let Madilyn do the talking.

"Do you really think an answer is all they want? Roxanne is the main focus of this incident, so they'd still continue to pester her even if you showed up!" Madilyn exclaimed.

Chapter 1441

It wasn't until Lucian heard Madilyn's words that he realized her point and stopped in his tracks.

"This whole incident might just blow over if you don't show up, but it will definitely worsen if you make an appearance. If that happens, they might even swarm Farwell Group along with Roxanne's house!" Madilyn reminded him.

She knew the mentality of those journalists all too well.

Lucian clenched his fists so tightly that his veins were bulging from underneath his skin. "What should I do, then?" he asked while trying to suppress his anger.

I wouldn't have acted so impulsively if I knew this would happen!

Madilyn rolled her eyes at him in response. Why is he asking us for a solution when he's the one who caused all this?

"Mr. Farwell, how about we send someone over to get Mrs. Farwell out of there?" Cayden suggested cautiously.

"How are you going to do that? There are so many journalists around!" Madilyn snapped at him.

Cayden fell silent and flashed her an awkward look in response.

"If you don't send enough men over, you might not be able to get through the huge crowd of journalists. If you send a lot of men over, people are going to say Farwell Group is throwing its weight around," Madilyn continued.

She knew all the dirty tricks that the press would use.

“Do you have any bright ideas, then?” Cayden asked as he had run out of ideas at that point.

“Hmm... Let me think...” Madilyn replied while stroking her chin.

The two of them then lowered their heads and racked their brains for an idea.

With a frown on his face, Lucian whipped out his phone and tried giving Roxanne a call.

However, her line remained busy no matter how many times he tried.

“Don’t bother calling her. I tried to do so earlier as well, but her line has been busy the entire time. I bet those journalists are bombarding her with calls as well,” Madilyn said.

Sure enough, Roxanne’s phone had been switched off when Lucian tried calling again.

She must have switched it off because she couldn’t stand those journalists calling her. I can’t believe I caused her so much trouble...

Right as Lucian was starting to regret his actions, he saw his chat room with Benny and realized he had another option.

The frown on his face eased up significantly as he tried calling Benny’s number.

Those journalists may have obtained Roxanne’s number, but there’s no way they could get the kids’ numbers!

The call got through after a few seconds, and Benny could be heard greeting him excitedly on the other line.

“Hi, Mr. Farwell! There are lots of people outside our house, and we can’t seem to get out at all! Could you come pick us up?”

Benny was leaning against the window and staring at the journalists outside the house.

Madilyn and Cayden froze in shock when they heard Benny’s voice.

“Don’t worry; I’ll figure something out and get you all out of there,” Lucian comforted him with an apologetic look in his eyes.

He then added after a brief pause, “Could you pass the phone over to your mommy? There’s something I need to speak to her about.”

“Okay!” Benny replied in an adorable voice as he hopped off the couch and handed Roxanne the watch.

Roxanne had a conflicted look in her eyes.

The kids may not be aware of it, but I know the journalists are here because of Lucian, and I’m sure he knows it as well. He must be calling to apologize or something. For some reason, hearing Benny address him on the phone set my anxious heart at ease. It’s as though I have stumbled upon a lifeboat while drifting around at sea...

Chapter 1442

“How are things over there? I’m sorry for what happened. I acted without thinking about the consequences.”

“How are things over there? I’m sorry for what happened. I acted without thinking about the consequences.”Roxanne heard Lucian apologizing the moment she answered the call.The kids were leaning on her thighs and staring at her as they waited to hear Lucian’s response.

However, Roxanne simply patted them on the head and made her way into the kitchen.

Realizing that she wanted to speak to Lucian in private, the kids knew better than to follow her.

After finding a quiet spot in the kitchen, Roxanne lowered her voice to a whisper as she said, “I know you did it to protect us, but that announcement was a little too sudden. Besides, Archie and Benny—”

Lucian cut her off, “It was my idea. Archie and Benny are going to become my children eventually anyway, so I figured I would grant them that identity right away.”

That was one of the reasons he made that announcement.

A lot of people would surely gossip about Roxanne when she married into the Farwell family with Archie and Benny.

Since nobody would dare investigate the Farwell family, Lucian decided to announce that they were his kids.

Roxanne found herself wavering a little when she heard that.

Instead of waiting for her to respond, Lucian continued, “Are the kids scared?”

Roxanne nodded. “It’s the first time they’ve seen something like this. I told them to stay indoors, though. As bold as those journalists may be, they wouldn’t dare force their way into the house. As long as we don’t step out the door, they won’t be able to do anything to us.”

"I'm the reason this whole thing happened, so I'll figure out a solution as soon as possible," Lucian said after a brief pause.

Noticing the self-blame in his voice, Roxanne comforted him, "I know you meant well. We'll be fine as long as we remain indoors, so you don't have to worry too much about us. Things are only going to get worse if Farwell Group makes another appearance now. I'll try to solve this on my own."

Madilyn shouted at her in the background, "Hang in there, Roxanne! I'll come save you right away!"

Roxanne froze when she heard that. "Madilyn? What are you..."

What is she doing with Lucian?

Lucian turned to look at Madilyn, who was standing next to him, as he explained, "She barged into my office demanding an explanation."

Knowing how aggressive Madilyn could be and from the way Lucian worded that sentence, Roxanne couldn't help but feel as though he was telling on Madilyn.

As though she were trying to calm an angry child down, Roxanne said in a gentle voice, "Madilyn is a little hot-tempered, so please don't take her words to heart. She's just worried about me and the boys."

Lucian simply remained silent after hearing that.

"Oh, I have an idea!" Madilyn exclaimed while slamming her fist into her palm.

She then snatched the phone over and said, "Hang in there, Roxanne! I'll come pick you up right now, so just stay where you are!"

Madilyn hung up the phone before Roxanne could even respond, much to Lucian's displeasure.

The look in Lucian's eyes grew increasingly colder as he glared at Madilyn.

Even Cayden was getting a little nervous as he watched from the side.

Did Ms. Xander just end the call between Mr. Farwell and Mrs. Farwell without his permission? I sure hope she has come up with a good idea to get Mrs. Farwell out of there...

As Madilyn had thought of a great idea, she ignored their expressions and began explaining her plan.

Chapter 1443

"Mommy, is Mr. Farwell coming to pick us up?" Benny shot her a look of anticipation. "Mommy, is Mr. Farwell coming to pick us up?" Benny shot her a look of anticipation. The children had gathered around Roxanne when they saw her emerge from the kitchen.

After returning the watch to her son, Roxanne reassured her children, "Mr. Farwell is thinking of a solution too. Don't worry. As long as I'm around, I won't let them enter."

As he put his watch back on, Benny looked at his mother earnestly. "Don't be afraid, Mommy. Archie and I will protect you and Essie!"

Roxanne kissed his forehead with a smile. "Thank you, boys."

After leading them upstairs, Roxanne peeked out the window to look at the swarm of reporters. What greeted her was a sight that filled her eyes with concern.

Before ending the call, Madilyn mentioned that she had a plan but didn't explain the details.

Worried that Madilyn would get herself in trouble again, Roxanne hoped to come up with a solution before the former did anything impulsive.

With that, Roxanne fell into deep thought.

All of a sudden, Benny looked up at the sky and gave her sleeve a tug. "Mommy, look out there!"

Roxanne quickly regained her senses and followed the trajectory of her son's finger.

Up in the sky, she saw a helicopter flying slowly toward their house.

Staring at it, she wondered if she was seeing things.

Nevertheless, the helicopter continued on its path and even seemed to be descending as if it was going to land nearby.

Roxanne couldn't help but be shocked by the scene.

As it was the first time the children saw a helicopter with their own eyes, all of them cheered in excitement.

"It must be Mr. Farwell coming to pick us up!" Benny's eyes glistened as he stared at the approaching helicopter outside the window. He was filled with the urge to rush outside to welcome it.

As for Archie, he watched the helicopter intently, secretly vowing to buy one with his own effort in the future.

No, I'll buy an even bigger one!

The baffled Estella clung tightly to Roxanne's sleeve. She tilted her head to look at the helicopter outside before returning her gaze to the boys and their contrasting reactions.

After hugging Estella in her arms to comfort her, Roxanne turned her attention toward the ground floor.

The closer the helicopter flew, the louder its rotors were.

Noticing the commotion above their heads, the reporters looked up at the sky one by one.

At the sight of the helicopter descending right above them, they quickly backed off when they felt the pressure of the swirling rotors against their skin.

"Mr. Farwell! It has to be Mr. Farwell!" someone in the crowd yelled.

Upon realizing what was going on, the reporters began snapping photos of the helicopter furiously.

Finally, the helicopter hovered in place upon reaching the same level as the balcony.

With her brows slightly furrowed, Roxanne got to her feet to get a closer look together with the children.

This must be part of Madilyn's plan. I wonder where she's going with this.

When they arrived at the balcony, they could see the helicopter hovering a single step away. The next moment, its door opened slowly.

Standing there was a smiling Madilyn, who waved excitedly at them. "Archie, Benny, I'm here to pick you up! Do I look cool or what?"

The sight brought a sparkle to the children's eyes as they exclaimed, "You're awesome, Aunt Madilyn!"

Chapter 1444

Meanwhile, Roxanne was still lost in a daze. "Madilyn, what..."

Meanwhile, Roxanne was still lost in a daze. "Madilyn, what..."

Cocking a brow, Madilyn stepped aside to usher them in. "Come onboard. I'm here to pick you up."

Roxanne was blown away by the words.

Is she asking us to get in the helicopter and leave just like that? We might be able to escape this time, but what about when the reporters come for us again?

When she saw Roxanne remaining motionless, the puzzled Madilyn urged her, "Hurry up! What are you still hesitating for? Whatever concerns you have, we'll discuss it on board."

She extended her hand while speaking.

With the helicopter hovering right before her eyes, Roxanne realized that Madilyn's effort would go to waste if she didn't get on.

Holding that thought, Roxanne took the latter's hand. Given how close the helicopter was, all she needed to do was take a step forward to board it.

After carrying Estella over, Roxanne turned around to do the same with the boys. Little did she expect them to be raring to go.

Reciprocating their enthusiasm, Madilyn grabbed the boys with one hand each and pulled them over.

Roxanne, who initially assumed they would be afraid, was surprised to see the excitement on their faces. Once they got on board, they scrutinized every inch of the helicopter curiously. It was as if they had forgotten the reason they were on it.

Since they were not showing any fear, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief.

While the helicopter gradually ascended into the sky, Madilyn stood courageously by the cabin door, whetting the reporters' appetite for pictures. She even gave them a delighted wave as if she was bidding them farewell.

"What are you doing? Come back in here. It's dangerous!"

Roxanne couldn't help but gasp at Madilyn's actions.

It wasn't until the helicopter was out of the reporters' sight that the latter closed the cabin door reluctantly.

"Is this the plan you came up with?"

Roxanne looked at her in disbelief.

She felt that the method was too dramatic and didn't solve the fundamental problem.

If the reporters were persistent in their pursuit, the helicopter would only help them to escape that one time.

Madilyn patted Roxanne on the shoulder to comfort her. "Don't worry. There's more to my plan than just picking you up."

Roxanne threw her friend a resigned look.

I wonder how a doctor like her gets all these outrageous ideas.

"To be honest, I was swamped with work the past few days. It wasn't until this morning that I saw the news on the internet. The fact that he has publicly declared all the children to be his has changed my perception of him," Madilyn lamented.

Even though she knew Archie and Benny were Lucian's children, Lucian didn't.

For a rich and powerful man like him to acknowledge another man's children as his own, he must love Roxanne a lot!

Now that Lucian had proven himself, Madilyn felt that she could strike his name off her list of jerks.

That said, she still needed time to consider whether she could hand over her best friend to him.

Upon hearing Madilyn's words, Roxanne felt her eyes twitch slightly, causing her to avoid Madilyn's teasing gaze out of embarrassment.

Nevertheless, Madilyn continued, "When I requested a helicopter from him, he provided one without hesitation. He's such a rich and generous man. Also..."

Pausing briefly, Madilyn leaned toward Roxanne's ear with an enigmatic smile. "It's quite clear to me that he's worried about all of you. He almost charged through the crowd of reporters to get you all!"

Chapter 1445

As Roxanne's ears burned, she pretended to stay calm and nudged Madilyn back before looking around.

As Roxanne's ears burned, she pretended to stay calm and nudged Madilyn back before looking around.

"Where is he?"

The “he” in her question was self-explanatory.

Madilyn flashed a meaningful smile. “It seems to me that you’re worried about him too.”

Jolted by her friend’s words, Roxanne lowered her voice. “It was just a casual question. Didn’t you mention that the helicopter belonged to him?”

Knowing Roxanne like the back of her hand, Madilyn could see how embarrassed the former was. Hence, she decided to stop putting her in a spot. “Don’t be anxious. I’m bringing you to see him, aren’t I?”

The frowning Roxanne retorted, “Who says I’m anxious? I—”

Madilyn burst out in laughter.

The three children, who were engrossed in examining the helicopter’s design, came over curiously upon hearing Madilyn’s laughter.

“Aunt Madilyn, what are you laughing about?”

The puzzled Benny tugged at Madilyn’s sleeve.

When she finally forced herself to regain her composure, Madilyn eyed her friend’s reproachful expression before changing the topic smoothly. “Nothing, really. So, are you enjoying yourselves on the helicopter?”

The topic quickly caught the children’s attention, to which they nodded vigorously. “We are!”

At the same time, they divulged Archie’s secret. “Archie says that he wants to buy us a bigger helicopter next time!”

Madilyn burst into laughter again at the children’s innocent words. This time, Roxanne couldn’t help but join her.

However, when she saw the rare expression of embarrassment on Archie’s face, Roxanne suppressed her laughter as she gave his hair a tousle. “You’ll definitely be able to do it, Archie. Don’t forget to let me ride in it next time!”

Roxanne’s encouragement brought a smile to Archie’s face as he nodded obediently.

Beaming, Madilyn suggested, “There’s no need to wait till then. Your daddy already has a bigger helicopter. It’s just not suitable to fly within city limits.”

When she asked Lucian for the helicopter, she had overheard Cayden asking the latter which model to deploy.

The children's eyes lit up while their faces glowed with anticipation after hearing Madilyn's comment.

As for Roxanne, she was shaken to hear the way her friend addressed Lucian. The words caused her heart to suddenly tense up out of habit.

Madilyn clarified, "Those are not my words. Mr. Farwell acknowledged the children on the internet himself."

Only then did Roxanne regain her senses and smile awkwardly at the children.

Truth be told, Archie and Benny were the first to find out about it.

That was why they weren't surprised by Madilyn's revelation.

Whenever Madilyn was around, the children were always in good hands, for they got along very well with her.

After a short journey in the air, the helicopter landed on the rooftop of a hotel.

Madilyn stopped fooling around with the children and led them down.

The moment they emerged from the helicopter, they spotted Lucian standing on the landing pad waiting for them.

He was dressed in a suit and leather shoes, while his hair was strewn all over his face from the gale emitted by the helicopter rotors. As he stared intently at the cabin door, his eyes were brimming with concern and guilt.

"I've brought them back to you. You had better not cause them any more trouble!" Madilyn warned.

However, her words fell on deaf ears, for all Lucian could focus on was Roxanne and the children.

"Are you all right?"

He strode up to her and scrutinized her quickly.

After throwing Madilyn a glance, Roxanne returned her attention to the nervous Lucian. She maintained an indifferent expression despite her embarrassment. "I'm fine. It's all thanks to Madilyn that we managed to make it here. However—"

"I just brought up the rough idea. It was Mr. Farwell who thought of all the details."

Madilyn didn't dare take any credit.

Chapter 1446

"Let's talk inside the hotel. It's getting chilly outside," Madilyn suggested tactfully, mindful that the two were too shy to say anything in her presence.

"Let's talk inside the hotel. It's getting chilly outside," Madilyn suggested tactfully, mindful that the two were too shy to say anything in her presence.

Roxanne nodded before circling around Lucian to walk ahead.

Just as she brushed past his shoulder, Lucian reached out his hand but retracted it at the last minute with a frown.

Given that he was the cause of her current predicament, he didn't want to burden her any further as she already had a lot on her plate emotionally.

Meanwhile, there was no need for them to make reservations because the hotel they were in belonged to Farwell Group.

Lucian had ordered the penthouse to be cleared so that they could live there for the time being.

Upon arriving at the suite, Madilyn led the children to another room, cognizant that the two adults needed some privacy to talk.

No sooner had Roxanne entered the room than she heard the door close behind her.

Turning around, she realized that she was alone with Lucian. Madilyn and the children were nowhere to be found.

Thereafter, the frowning Lucian approached her with weighty footsteps.

"Where's Madilyn and the rest?" Roxanne asked cluelessly.

Instead of replying, Lucian walked up to her and grabbed her hand in a domineering manner, preventing her from leaving.

"Are you guys all right?" Lucian repeated his question from the rooftop.

A warm smile gradually broke out across Roxanne's face when she sensed his concern for her.

"We're fine. The kids were frightened initially but calmed down after they learned that the reporters couldn't enter."

As she spoke, she glowered at him. "Instead, it was the sudden appearance of the helicopter that gave us a shock."

Brows knitted, Lucian explained helplessly, "I couldn't think of any other way. Besides, I sent the smallest helicopter we have in Farwell Group."

He, too, had his doubts when Madilyn first raised the idea.

It wasn't until he deliberated upon it that he decided rescuing the mother and children was the priority.

Even though Roxanne was just joking, the mention of the helicopter did frustrate her.

"I understand, but isn't sending the helicopter too dramatic? I'm not sure how this incident is going to blow up subsequently. I'm afraid..."

The distraught look on Roxanne's face caused Lucian's eyes to darken as he pulled her into his embrace. He reassured her, "Don't be afraid. I'll deal with this. I won't let them interfere with your life."

Roxanne, who was about to push him away, decided against it when Lucian's calming scent filled her senses. Thereafter, she hesitated for a few seconds before wrapping her arms around his waist.

Even though they ran into trouble today, Roxanne was touched by Lucian's acknowledgment of Archie and Benny as his own children, a choice he made without knowing the truth about their origins.

In that instant, a warm atmosphere descended upon the room.

The room door flung open abruptly, heralding Benny's childish voice. "Mommy!"

Behind him was an anxious-looking Madilyn. "Don't go in. Your daddy and mommy need to talk."

No sooner had she spoken than she saw the two adults locked in a tight embrace.

The sight caused Madilyn and the children to stop in their tracks.

The two groups stared at each other, the newcomers wondering if they could still back out of the room and pretend that nothing happened.

At the same time, the disruption caused Roxanne to freeze. Upon regaining her senses, she pushed herself out of Lucian's arms by reflex.

Chapter 1447

"We didn't see anything!" Madilyn smiled mischievously as she feigned ignorance.

The children nodded along. "We didn't either!"

Then, Madilyn attempted to sneak away with the kids as though nothing had happened.

Just as she turned around, Roxanne said, "Come over here. Let's talk."

Thus, Madilyn twirled around again and saw a resigned expression on her best friend's face.

Roxanne and Lucian, who was slightly displeased, proceeded to sit next to each other on the couch.

Upon hearing their mother's summon, the children rushed over to sit around her.

Only Madilyn was left standing at the entrance of the room.

Glancing at the family of five, she cleared her throat, stepped toward the single-seat couch, and plopped down.

Frowning, Roxanne questioned, "You said you've devised a way to handle the fallout. What do you suggest we do?"

In response, Lucian shifted his line of sight to Madilyn, too.

Madilyn could still sense the cold look in his eyes, so she did her best to ignore him and focus on Roxanne. "It's not that difficult. It just depends if you all are willing to spend some money."

A perplexed expression was set on Roxanne's countenance.

Meanwhile, Lucian asked, "How much?"

After a brief silence, Madilyn said, "Nowadays, news on the internet updates fast. While Farwell Group is an influential entity in Horington, the public still cares more about celebrities."

She paused and stared at the people before her.

The smart couple understood her intentions immediately.

"So you're saying we should buy and spread celebrity scandals on the internet to shift the public's attention?" asked Roxanne.

Smiling, Madilyn nodded. "That's right. Though the amount of money required to pull this off isn't little, I don't think it's considered plenty for Farwell Group." Since Lucian's

the one who caused the trouble, it's only fitting for him to bring an end to this matter. I doubt he'll refuse.

Upon understanding her plan, Lucian contacted Cayden to do as she suggested.

The internet was set on fire again that afternoon.

Scandals about various celebrities were exposed to the public. Almost every trending title started with the phrase "explosive news."

The public swiftly shifted their attention from Farwell Group to the celebrities.

Many reporters did the same as they promptly surrounded the celebrities with their cameras.

In just a short time, all reporters who previously encircled the research institute and Roxanne's house were gone.

Roxanne was stunned when she saw the drastic shift on the internet.

Glancing at Lucian, she remarked, "This... You must've spent a lot of money." Earlier, I saw plenty of scandals on the internet and even an official announcement of a high-profile celebrity's romantic relationship! No wonder the focus of the public changed so fast.

Lucian acted as though it was nothing noteworthy. "Money is never a concern for Farwell Group. Besides, not all matters can be solved with money."

Deals with celebrities more often involved resource exchange than money.

What they needed were fame, resources, and many more.

Thankfully, Farwell Group's contract with a product spokesperson had just expired. Therefore, when the high-profile celebrity proposed a collaboration, Lucian agreed.

"You don't need to worry about that for Mr. Farwell, Roxanne. Farwell Group is so rich that they won't even bat an eye at how much he spent! Moreover, minor celebrities would die for a chance to help Farwell Group!" Madilyn comforted.

Chapter 1448

Roxanne contemplated her best friend's words and thought it made sense. Thus, she stopped speaking.

Meanwhile, when Madilyn registered the point she made, she believed Lucian hadn't done enough to make up for the fright her best friend and the children endured.

In a concerned tone, she advised, "While the public's focus has been shifted away, it'll still be for the best if all of you stay out of the media's sight for the time being."

Roxanne nodded in agreement. "I don't think it'll be a problem. In my case, I'll only be either at home or at the research institute, so unless the reporters specifically sought me out—"

"That's what I'm worried about!" Madilyn interrupted. "I'm concerned some reporters won't give up!"

That outburst stunned Roxanne because she had more to say.

Lucian's expression darkened slightly while he gripped Roxanne's hand as though no one was around. "For now, you shouldn't go to the research institute anymore. Just in case."

Upon detecting his movement, she felt her heart clenching. As she glanced at her friend, she tried pulling her hand away, but he was stronger than her. Hence, she reluctantly and awkwardly allowed him to keep holding her hand.

Madilyn gazed at Lucian assertively. "Don't you think you should make up for the trouble you brought Roxanne, Mr. Farwell?"

In response, Lucian knitted his eyebrows and gave her statement some genuine consideration.

Resignedly, Roxanne clarified, "It's nothing serious. I can do overtime later to make up for the work I missed—"

Madilyn shot her a glance, silencing her, before turning to look at Lucian.

"You have a private plane, right, Mr. Farwell? Why not use it to bring her to Miralaea for a trip? You two can hide from the reporters there and use the opportunity to relax."

Lucian was moved by her proposal. I did tell Roxanne I'd bring the children out for a trip when we went to Jadeborough some time ago. However, after she returned here, she was busy with her work, so I never got the chance to fulfill my promise. I suppose now is an excellent opportunity to do so.

Hence, he turned to Roxanne and inquired, "How about we visit Miralaea, Roxanne? We did talk about bringing the children on a trip before."

Roxanne hesitated because the collaboration with the Damaris family to develop a new medicine had just been moved ahead of schedule.

Benny grabbed the hem of her shirt and asked excitedly, "Are we really going to Miralaea, Mommy?"

Estella blinked and stared at Roxanne with anticipation.

The children's stares were making Roxanne waver.

Still, she wondered, "What about school?"

Madilyn shrugged. "Just apply leaves for them."

Then she turned to the children. "Do you three want to go to school or Miralaea?"

Without hesitation, the kids answered, "Miralaea!"

"That's more like it." Madilyn nodded satisfactorily. "I've also been busy for a long while, so it's about time for me to wind down—"

Suddenly, she shut herself up after realizing something.

Roxanne narrowed her eyes at her best friend. "You just want to visit Miralaea without paying for the trip."

Realizing her intention had been exposed, Madilyn argued, "Since you all need to avoid the reporters, you may as well visit another country instead of hiding in your home. Besides, I saved you, so I don't think bringing me along on your trip is too much to ask for."

Roxanne wasn't sure what to do with her friend, so she turned to Lucian, asking for his opinion.

In response, Madilyn tacitly raised her hand and vowed, "I promise I won't disturb any of you!"

Chapter 1449

In the end, Lucian called Jeffrey and requested a week's leave for the children.

With that out of the way, the three adults took the three children on a trip to Miralaea.

Just as Jeffrey hung up the phone, a gentle-looking teacher entered the room.

"You're here, Ms. Smith," he greeted. "You understand the situation about the class, yes? Mr. Farwell's children are in it, and the assistant teacher is on leave. I'm worried Ms. Ward won't be able to manage the class alone, so you'll be helping her out for now."

Smiling, Ophelia Smith nodded. "I understand, Mr. Bauer. You don't need to worry a thing."

Jeffrey scrutinized her and thought she looked pretty gentle. "I'm leaving them in your hands, so don't mess things up."

"Should I greet them now?"

"They've just started their one-week leave. Once they've returned, Ms. Ward will introduce them to you."

When Ophelia heard that, the look in her eyes imperceptibly darkened for just a moment. "I see. If there's nothing else, I'll take my leave now."

Jeffrey told her a couple more things before allowing her to leave.

The instant she stepped out of the office, her smile was replaced with a glower.

She strode to a corner and called someone.

The other person picked up the phone quickly.

"How did it go? Have you come in contact with them?" questioned Aubree in a grim voice.

Apologetically, Ophelia answered, "I've just arrived at the kindergarten, and Mr. Bauer told me the children will only return after their one-week leave."

"What?" Aubree growled unhappily. I can't wait even a single second longer anymore, yet they'll only return after a week?

Ophelia explained in a whisper, "There's nothing I can do. I didn't expect things would be so coincidental. Once they return, I'll definitely..."

In response, Aubree pinched her palm to calm herself down. When she opened her mouth again, serenity had returned to her voice. "It's fine. They can't run, anyway. In the meantime, familiarize yourself with the kindergarten. Contact me again once they return."

She treated Ophelia rather politely because there weren't any benefits binding the latter to her.

Nodding, Ophelia assured, "I'll do that the moment they return."

Since Ophelia hadn't gotten a chance to interact with the children, Aubree had nothing much else to say and ended the call.

The latter then glanced at her phone, which was displaying her social media app.

When Aubree saw that news about Roxanne had been flushed away by a staggering number of celebrity scandals, she scowled. I thought the reporters this morning could cause Roxanne some trouble and force her to give up. To my bloody surprise, Lucian took her away via a helicopter! I recognized it in the pictures the reporters were taking of her! Also, it's evident these celebrity scandals are due to Farwell Group's intervention! I can't believe how much Lucian did for that b*tch. What about me, huh? The only thing he did for me was take away my house! No, I refuse to let that b*tch live a comfortable life!

Chapter 1450

Meanwhile, Roxanne and her family were having a wonderful time in Miralaea.

The boys clung to Lucian for practically their entire stay, but he didn't mind. In fact, he brought them to experience plenty of exciting activities.

As for Estella, Roxanne and Madilyn brought her along while they took plenty of pictures of the ocean view. They even helped her dress up like a cute mermaid.

They had a lot of fun during that week of vacation.

While the children wanted to stay for a couple more days, Roxanne had to return home for work.

Madilyn and Lucian couldn't stay for long as well.

Therefore, they all returned to their country when the week was up.

After a week, the public had forgotten all about Farwell Group's incident, and Roxanne was free of the reporters.

However, Lucian was still worried about his family, so he ordered a few bodyguards to watch over her and the children in secret.

The morning after they returned to the country, Roxanne sent the children to the kindergarten before heading to the research institute. I wonder how much the project has progressed during my week of absence.

Just as she stepped into her office, Linda approached her. "Dr. Jarvis."

Roxanne nodded. "Did the research institute face any troubles over the past week?"

She had been under Madilyn and Lucian's surveillance during the past week, so she had minimal opportunities to contact the research institute. Her concern that the

reporters would visit the research institute and negatively affect the researchers' work never left her mind.

If the reporters did that, she'd have no idea how to face the employees because she ran away after causing such a big mess and left the staff to fend for themselves.

Thankfully, Linda shook her head. "No. After that morning, the reporters were distracted by all the celebrity scandals. A few who wanted to interview us sent their requests through proper channels, but I rejected them."

Hearing that eased Roxanne up.

However, Linda was still grimacing.

"What's the matter?" inquired Roxanne, perplexed.

"Mr. Damaris has been visiting the research institute over the past week to meet you. It was apparent he was quite upset you weren't present."

It was something Linda should've reported as soon as possible because it was an official matter of the research institute. However, because of the news on the internet some time ago, she hadn't been sure if she should.

After all, Jack didn't reveal his intentions every time he visited. She didn't know if he came because of the project or because of the online discourse.

Roxanne was taken aback upon hearing that. Jack visited the research institute to meet me?

In response, she checked her phone but saw no unanswered calls from Jack. It would seem he wasn't looking for me due to an urgent matter.

Still, she called him out of courtesy.

The phone rang for a while before Jack answered the call.

"I didn't expect you to have the time to call me, Ms. Jarvis, since you're such a busy woman." Mockery was obvious in his tone.

It was the first time she heard him use that tone, so she was stunned for a few seconds before she apologized, "I'm sorry. I wasn't in the country during the past week. Linda just told me you visited the research institute to meet me. Is there a problem with the project?"

The mockery didn't subside from his tone as he spoke again. "Is that so? I wonder what you were doing overseas last week."

Of course, he knew why she was in another country and that she had gone there with Lucian.

Chapter 1451

While the reporters' photos depicted a woman standing at the helicopter door, Jack knew Lucian was behind it.

He thought the matter had ended when the celebrity scandals dominated the public consciousness that afternoon. Thus, the next day, he planned to meet up with Roxanne by using the project as an excuse.

To his surprise, her assistant told him she wasn't in the research institute.

In fact, he received the same answer over the next few days.

By then, no matter how stupid Jack was, he could still realize what was happening.

He knew Roxanne had left with Lucian, so he wondered how long it would take them to return.

To his surprise, it was a whole week, and that enraged him.

Jack was still upset as he spoke. "Even though the development of our project was about to begin, the person in charge of the research institute was nowhere to be found. What do you think I should say about that, Ms. Jarvis?"

When he brought up the project, Roxanne felt guilty and apologized further. "I'm really sorry. Due to a personal issue, I had to lie low for a while and inadvertently delayed the project. You've every right to be angry, Mr. Damaris. I promise that I won't disappear again after the project starts. You'll be able to find me whenever you want!"

Her answer satisfied him. Knowing where she went with Lucian or what she did during the past week doesn't matter. What matters is that I can win her over as long as she remains within my reach!

When his train of thought ended there, Jack complained with a softened tone, "Don't you think you should make up for all my wasted trips here, Ms. Jarvis? An apology isn't enough!"

Upon detecting the change in his tone, Roxanne sighed in relief in her mind and grinned. "Of course! Tell me when you're free, and I'll treat you to a meal."

"Sure, but I'll decide the location of our meal as well. You'll be spending quite a bit of money, Ms. Jarvis."

“As long as I can lighten your mood, I’m willing to spend as much money as necessary.”

“We’ll also use the opportunity to speak about the project’s progress. The research development was delayed because of your absence, after all.”

“I’m sorry.”

“Forget about it. There’s nothing we can do to regain lost time. I’ll be pleased as long as our collaboration is successful. I still believe in your research institute’s capabilities.”

After exchanging a few more words, they ended the call.

Roxanne turned to Linda and blurted, “You’re right. Mr. Damaris was a little angry at me. Were any other projects in the research institute delayed?”

Shaking her head, Linda answered, “Everything was fine.”

Then she stared at Roxanne carefully. “Dr. Jarvis, about the news regarding Mr. Damaris from a few days ago, I—”

Roxanne had already guessed what Linda was going to say and explained, “Don’t believe what you see on the internet. Damaris Group is an important partner of ours. Just treat him as you used to.”

Upon receiving a clear answer, Linda nodded.

After a while, Jack texted Roxanne the location and time of their meal.

She read the text, spared a few more words to Linda, and left the research institute.

Chapter 1452

The location Jack picked for his meal date with Roxanne was a café with a quaint flair. In fact, it had a vibe similar to the Damaris residence.

When she arrived, Jack was already waiting for her inside. Upon noticing her, he stood and gestured at her.

She quickened her pace and sat opposite from him.

Having learned their lesson from the last time, they sat at a table in the corner this time. A sandalwood incense was burning nearby them.

Roxanne felt strangely comfortable when she took in the scent of the incense, possibly because she was used to the smell of traditional medicine.

Hence, she didn't give it too much thought because she assumed it was the café's specialty.

"I'm sorry for being late again," apologized Roxanne with embarrassment after taking her seat. We're meeting up this time because I wanted to make up for the fact that my disappearance last week caused a delay in the project's progress. Yet, I'm late again. I feel so rude.

Jack smiled nonchalantly and poured her a cup of coffee. "It's fine. This café is quite far from the research institute, and I just happened to be near this area."

As he spoke, he casually fiddled with the incense burner.

Seeing that he didn't seem to mind her tardiness, Roxanne let out a sigh of relief.

"I should be the one apologizing to you," Jack abruptly said.

That puzzled her. Why is he apologizing to me?

"In the end, I was the reason the public focused on you." Gazing at her apologetically, he continued, "If I hadn't changed the time to nighttime, those reporters wouldn't have taken those pictures and said those things on the internet."

When he brought that up, Roxanne felt conflicted. I suppose he is right.

As though Jack had read her mind, he explained sincerely, "I really did have something I needed to attend to during noon that day. One of Damaris Group's companies that sells medicinal herbs had a bit of a problem that required my assistance."

Of course, she had no intention of blaming him. She merely thought what happened that night was too coincidental.

Thus, she replied, "I know you didn't change the time without reason. Neither of us would've expected reporters to be following us. Besides, the incident's over."

Out of nowhere, Jack sighed a little. "So, you've gotten back together with Mr. Farwell."

That dumbfounded Roxanne for a few seconds. What am I supposed to say to that? My relationship with Lucian can't be easily explained.

The look in his eyes darkened when she didn't immediately respond.

However, when her line of sight landed on his countenance again, he acted normal and questioned icily, "I'm assuming you spent your time away with him?"

Instead of denying it, Roxanne answered, "We needed to lie low because the media had their sights on us."

Jack was displeased that she didn't reveal where she went or what she did with Lucian. However, he didn't want to keep himself in a bad mood, so he changed the topic. "In the period you were away, I did some research related to the development of the new medicine. I feel like perhaps we can change the trajectory of the project. The market's been lacking in anti-cancer medicine, especially ones centered on traditional medicine."

In response, Roxanne pondered the issue with a grim expression. "I noticed that previously. However, it'll be difficult to pull off because the public prefers to rely on western medicine to combat cancer."

He proceeded to brief her about the result of his research and concluded, "Perhaps we can be the first to achieve that feat."

Chapter 1453

Roxanne was moved by his words but remained hesitant. "Perhaps, but I lack enough knowledge of cancer to support the research on an anti-cancer medicine."

Over the past few years, she had been more focused on researching how to treat patients through acupuncture. She simply didn't know enough about medicinal herbs to be confident in developing an anti-cancer medicine.

Sensing her worries, Jack said, "I won't lie. Only a few medical books kept in the Damaris residence touch on this research. However, the reason the research in those books was halted was due to technical issues at the time. It was also these books that inspired me."

Roxanne's eyes glinted upon hearing that. If I can take a look at those books, perhaps I'll get some inspiration, too. Then again, those books are properties of the Damaris family. I don't know if he's willing to lend them to an outsider.

"The books about traditional medicine I lent you in the past were a part of that collection. If you're interested, I can lend you the whole set."

Without hesitation, she nodded. However, she thought about something and inquired, "Is it really okay for me to read them? Don't those books contain content the Damaris family wants to keep confidential?"

Medical prestigious families tended to have a few techniques they wouldn't share with anyone.

It was why Roxanne was overjoyed when Jack taught her Root Thirteen and why she was skeptical about his proposal to lend her those books.

He grinned. "I can't hide anything from you, can I? Indeed, there's a condition you need to fulfill if you want to read those books."

"What condition?" She frowned. I have a bad feeling about this.

"As you said, those books contain secrets the Damaris family doesn't want anyone else to learn. If you want to, you'll have to sever your relationship with Dr. Lambert as his apprentice and join the Damaris family." As though he was afraid she wouldn't agree, he added, "The content of these books isn't something an ordinary apprentice can access. Old Mr. Damaris has to acknowledge their capabilities first before they can read those books. Only three members of this generation in the Damaris family have earned the right to read them. If you join us, you'll be the fourth."

Someone else in Roxanne's position probably would've accepted Jack's condition without hesitation after listening to his tempting offer.

After all, she had learned almost everything from her teacher. Even if she severed her relationship with Harvey at that moment, she wouldn't be negatively affected.

Yet, she rejected, "In that case, I'm afraid I'll have to say no."

The look in Jack's eyes darkened. "Why? Don't you want to read those books? Aren't you curious about the Damaris family's medical skills?" If I remember correctly, she joined the medical consultation because she wanted to take a glance at the Damaris family's collection.

Roxanne nodded. "Of course I do. However, a few books aren't enough to make me betray Professor Lambert, who has helped me multiple times in the past. He's more than a teacher to me."

An imperceptibly cold look flashed past his eyes. If she had accepted my proposal and become a member of the Damaris family that way, I could have settled for that as the next best thing. However, I didn't expect her to reject it!

"Since you're putting it that way, I'll seem despicable if I try to persuade you further." Suppressing his rage, Jack pursed his lips nonchalantly. "I hope you won't regret your decision, Ms. Jarvis."

Chapter 1454

Is it just me, or does Jack's attitude seem different from his usual? Stifling the strange feeling in her chest, Roxanne grinned at Jack. "I won't regret it. If you wish for us to research anti-cancer medicine, I'll still do my best."

He lifted his coffee cup at her. "In that case, let us toast to our collaboration's success with coffee instead of wine."

Without delay, she clinked her cup with his.

After the two of them briefly discussed the research progress, they determined the project's starting date. They also talked about when Damaris Group would provide how much medicinal herbs to the research institute.

When their meeting concluded, it was already evening.

Standing up to leave, Roxanne glanced at her phone and saw it was time for classes in the kindergarten to be dismissed.

Then Linda called her, asking her if she should pick up the children.

Roxanne said no because the children had been complaining about her occupation with her work and voicing their desire for her to pick them up.

Based on the result of my discussion with Jack, I'll be getting busy again in the next few days. I think I should spend my free time with the children when I still have some. As she thought, she drove to the kindergarten.

Upon arriving at her destination, she saw two teachers leading the children out of the kindergarten in a line.

Then she noticed an unfamiliar teacher standing next to Pippa. She looks gentle.

"Ms. Jarvis, this is our kindergarten's new teacher, Ms. Smith. She's taking care of Archie's class with me," Pippa introduced.

In response, Roxanne smiled politely. "Nice to meet you, Ms. Smith. I'll be counting on you to look after my children."

Silently, Ophelia scrutinized Roxanne.

Before returning to the country, I often listened to Aubree complaining about Roxanne on the phone and describing how Roxanne snatched Farwell Group's CEO from her. It's why I've been curious about what kind of person Roxanne is. Now that I've seen her for myself, based on her face alone, I think she does have the potential to be a vixen. When her train of thought ended, she greeted Roxanne politely.

Soon, the entrance was clogged with the parents of other children. Roxanne bade the two teachers goodbye and brought the children into her car.

"Do you like the new teacher?" she asked caringly on the ride home.

The children exchanged glances with odd expressions.

“What’s the matter? You don’t like her?”

Benny answered, “No, we just thought she was a bit weird because she kept staring at us.” Even during group activities, that new teacher constantly tried to approach us, but she was hindered by the other children.

In response, Roxanne glanced at the children through the rearview mirror apologetically. “I’m sorry. It’s probably because of what happened a few days ago and the fact Ms. Smith is a new teacher that she’s curious about you all.” When I returned to the research institute after Lucian announced the children’s background to the world, plenty of employees there stared at me with slightly different looks, too. I suppose the new teacher is just like them, curious about us.

She comforted, “If you all don’t like it, I’ll tell Ms. Ward tomorrow to remind Ms. Smith not to stare.”

The children nodded.

Chapter 1456

Sonya had never entertained the thought of her being in the wrong. She had always thought she was looking out for the Farwell family and that it was Lucian who was becoming more and more unreasonable.

With that, she glanced at her son expectantly. She only wished for him to understand her intentions.

However, there was no change in Lucian’s expression. “Farwell Group’s success is largely attributable to me. I’ll manage how I split my assets on my own.”

If Archie and Benny had the capability, he didn’t mind passing Farwell Group on to them.

Sonya was rendered speechless upon hearing this.

Lucian glanced at her. “Besides, they are still young. It’s too early for you to worry about this!”

Sonya wanted to say something, but Lucian interjected, “On the contrary, take a look at your age. You should stop meddling in such insignificant matters. I am capable of managing my own affairs. Why don’t you go out with my father and travel if you have so much time? It will be beneficial to your health.”

With that, he headed upstairs without giving Sonya a chance to speak.

Looking at her son's retreating figure, Sonya huffed in anger. "What do you mean by that? Stop right there!"

As if he hadn't heard her, Lucian vanished after making a turn on the stairs.

"Old Mrs. Farwell, calm down."

Catalina tried to pacify Sonya's anger by giving her a cup of coffee.

Seeing this, Sonya became even more agitated. "Even you are making a joke out of me! Do you want that Jarvis woman to come back as well?"

Catalina sighed quietly to herself. "Mrs. Farwell is—"

"Who told you to refer to her like that? She will never marry into the family as long as I'm alive!" Sonya uttered pettily.

Catalina remained silent. She knew Roxanne would soon be part of the Farwell family again, and Sonya's opinion of her would undoubtedly change eventually.

Sonya was in no mood to talk to her anymore. After sitting on the couch for a while, she took her bag and left the house in a fury.

Elias returned to the Farwell main residence at the same time Sonya did. Seeing her furious demeanor, he approached her with a puzzled look and asked, "What happened? Why are you so angry?"

His question jogged her memory of what Lucian had said to her. Her mood instantly soured, and she retorted, "Why are you asking me? You should go and ask Lucian!"

Elias sat beside her. "What did Lucian do?"

He had never gotten involved in Lucian's relationship matters because he was confident his son could handle them well. However, he was aware that his wife was constantly concerned about it.

Now that the marriage engagement with the Pearson family had been canceled, he felt Lucian's marriage was the latter's personal matter, so he didn't understand what Sonya was mad about.

Sonya glared at him. "Didn't you see Farwell Group's statement? Lucian must be insane! Shouldn't you do something about it as his father?"

Elias was dumbfounded upon getting scolded by his wife.

Naturally, he had seen the public statement, but he knew the two children would need to have legitimate identities when Roxanne and Lucian got together.

Compared to letting the children enter the family with unknown backgrounds, Lucian's method would spare the family a lot of trouble in the future.

Of course, this was on the pretext that Roxanne was going to marry into the Farwell family.

Sonya's expression turned darker when Elias didn't reply to her. "Do you also think that he has done nothing wrong?"

Chapter 1457

Elias frowned, and when he spoke, his voice was tinged with a hint of exasperation.

"I've long since told you to let Lucian make the decisions himself when it comes to his marriage. Everyone is free to live their own lives. Why must we meddle so much?"

Disapproval was written all over Sonya's face. "How could I possibly allow that? Is Lucian's marriage his business alone? Never mind if he wants to marry some other woman, but why must it be that woman?"

Why must it be Roxanne? Worse still, she comes with two little bastards!

Seeing that she was still dissatisfied with Roxanne, Elias patiently cajoled, "No matter who he wants to be with, that's his business. He matured into an adult ages ago. We can't interfere in everything."

But still, Sonya remained obstinate and griped, "If he had finalized his marriage with Aubree earlier, all this wouldn't have happened."

After saying that, she shot the man beside her a chagrined look. "You're no better. It's because you allowed him free rein in everything that he delayed the marriage until now."

"Reality has proven that Aubree is indeed unsuited to be the mistress of the Farwell family."

On the contrary, Elias felt that Lucian hadn't done anything wrong.

"Aubree only did something wrong out of her anxiety to get engaged with Lucian. If he had settled down with her earlier, she wouldn't have done all those foolish things," Sonya riposted.

Upon hearing that, Elias stared at her in vexation, his gaze probing.

Feeling a tad guilty from the way he was scrutinizing her, Sonya muttered, "I'm not saying she was right in doing all that. I merely feel that she's sincere in her feelings toward Lucian."

As she finished saying that, the wretched state of the Pearson family at present flashed across her mind. Melancholic, she heaved a sigh. "Ultimately, the Pearson family has been friends with us for many years, but they've now been reduced to a miserable existence by the Farwell family. It makes it appear as though we're too ruthless."

Elias was likewise aware of the Pearson family's current condition. However, he didn't find any problem with his son's actions.

Since Aubree dared to make a move against a member of the Farwell family, she naturally had to be taught a lesson.

As for the Queen family seizing advantage of the situation to pounce and take a bite out of the Pearson family, that was just the usual competition in business. There was no right or wrong.

"Elias, can you talk to Lucian about letting the Pearson family off the hook? They've already been punished enough. He won't listen to a single word I say, so you're the only one who can persuade him," Sonya ranted, grasping Elias' arm.

Lifting his hand, Elias placed it over hers in consolation.

"To put it bluntly, the Pearson family's current condition is a result of business competition. We can't be of any help. Furthermore, if word gets out that the Pearson family had walked all over us, yet we still helped them, is the Farwell family not going to be easy prey whom everyone can attack in the eyes of others?"

His voice was gentle, but it left no room for negotiation.

With the Farwell family's reputation coming into play, Sonya had no choice but to nix her plan.

Nonetheless, she was still loath about allowing Roxanne to marry into the Farwell family.

Sighing softly, she remarked in what appeared to be an unintentional manner, "Speaking of the Pearson family, I wonder how Essie is doing right now."

Elias also missed Estella then, so he replied, "Go and visit her if you're worried. It so happens that I haven't seen her in a while either. We'll go and visit her together another day."

Shifting her gaze to him, Sonya lamented in feigned helplessness, "How I wish! But Lucian has sent her over to Roxanne's place. I wanted to go and visit her, but Roxanne didn't allow her to approach me. It was as though I'd hurt her."